

HAENEL, Charles And Lily

Charles Haenel was born in Germany in 1864. Before the turn of the century he immigrated to the United States and went to Denver where he got a job on The Herald, a German language newspaper. He got five dollars a week and, by the time he paid room and board, he had about fifty cents left. After three months, his wages were raised to nine dollars a week with room and board included. Eventually he 'quit' the newspaper and came to the badlands of the international boundary with fifty-five hundred dollars in his pocket. In 1906 he moved over to Saskatchewan with eight hundred head of sheep.

The first summer he was well off but the next summer he didn't have any money. The winter of 1906-07 was hard and there was still snow on the ground in June. He lost seven hundred head of sheep during the winter when they were buried in the coulees during a snow storm. When spring came and the snow melted Charlie, undaunted by failure, skinned his dead sheep, sold the sheep hides and started over again.

Until the 'opening' of the land for homesteading in 1909, Charlie Haenel and three other ranchers 'squatted' on as much land as they needed for the grazing of their sheep and cattle. Charlie's shack was the stopping place for many new settlers and his ready smile welcomed them all to share his food and shelter.

When the land was 'thrown open' for homesteading, Charlie filed on the quarter section where Rockglen is now situated.

In 1927 he married Lily McGowan and in 1928 he had a new house built. This was a large house, compared to other homes in the area. It is located half a mile south of Rockglen. Here Charlie and his wife worked hard to grow a fruit orchard and a bountiful garden, which was irrigated from a spring about three hundred yards away. During the dry years of the thirties, the spring did not furnish enough water for the orchard but it did keep the vegetable garden producing fresh vegetables which were eagerly bought by the neighbours in Rockglen and district. When rains came again Charlie Haenel's orchard was unique in a land of cattle and wheat.

A July 18, 1939 issue of the Rockglen Review, in an article on Charlie Haenel, stated, 'Things look much better down here this year. Water is back in the rivers, wheat is back in the fields and Charles Haenel is back in his orchard. Even fruit is growing.

Last year and for some years before, Haenel's beloved fruit trees and bushes didn't amount to much.

They gave up the ghost in their fight against drought and grasshoppers and dust. One or two of the dead ones are still there. The bare branches stick up in the air like the gnarled fingers of a witch which has performed some dirty deed and is about to flit, cackling "Heh! Heh! Heh!" Mr. Haenel couldn't see anything funny about it.

But today he laughs.

His orchard no longer looks like the business end of a well-worn shaving brush. It has lush foliage, and growing there are his plums, cherries, currants, raspberries, applies, crabapples and other fruits.'

Charlie also had a herd of fine, registered Hereford cattle which he saved from the slaughter house in 1937 by driving them down to Manitoba for summer pasturing. While others in the area were forced to sell all their cattle for five dollars or seven dollars per head, Charlie and some hired men camped and herded his cattle on Manitoba grass.

Because the town of Rockglen was situated on what had been Charlie's land, he was extremely interested in its growth and development. He contributed widely to many community organizations over the years and was an active participant in many of them.

Although Charlie and Lily had no children of their own they were very fond of young people and instituted an annual outing for the entire school. Every fall when the big, juicy, golden ears of corn were ready; the school children were invited out to their farm for a corn roast.

After an active life, Charlie passed away in 1953. Lily soon left the Rockglen area and moved to Ontario where she spent the remainder of her life living near her sister.

HANSEN, Axel And Lily

Axel Otto Hansen, was born in Tjarbourg, Denmark, in 1889. He and his brother Niels came to South Dakota, U.S.A. in 1911. They moved to North Dakota, where their brother-in-law, Niels Gording, had eighty acres of land. They worked on threshing crews. A man got two dollars for a day starting at 5 a.m. to 11 o'clock p.m. A man with a team got five dollars for a seventeen hour day. There was no place to sleep, except under wagons, in a stook, or a building such as a pig or hen house. If the weather became rainy many men became ill. The food also made many ill, as there was no way of keeping meat from spoiling.

Nick Hansen and Niels Gording went to Canada to file on land, while Axel took care of the farm. Two weeks later they came back but had no land for Axel. When he came, much of the land he wanted was already filed on. He took the land next to his brother, Niels, so they could use the same oxen. They broke the land and planted what was broke to flax, which they bought from Gosselins around Willow Bunch. It was not unusual to finish plowing in the field, bed the oxen down, and then carry the plowshares on his back, all the way to Willow Bunch to be sharpened. After they were sharpened, he carried them back to the homestead, to start plowing the next day. The oxen couldn't be used for transportation, as they must be saved for the next day's work. The grain was cut with Niels Gording's binder and Frank Walters or Kaczmariskis threshed it.

Rabbit was one of the main meat dishes. They mined their own coal, and in summer used cow chips to burn, to save coal. They also dug their own wells by hand.

Much of their buying was done in Scobey. Grain was also hauled there by horse and wagon for many years. Axel was very proud of his horses. They could pull more than any others around. Later he bought his new Samson truck. In 1926 he bought a brand new Buick ear.

In 1927 he married Elizabeth Rainey, who came to this country in 1926 at age 21, from Agwey Aghadoughy, Ireland. She came to Assiniboia, where she worked for a druggist until she married Axel, on March 6, 1927. They lived in an old house on the homestead, until their new house was completed in 1928. The house has now been remodeled but is in excellent condition. Together they faced the dirty thirties, hail storms, army worms, grass hoppers, a cyclone that demolished their barn and hen house, and the many other hardships these brave pioneers faced in their effort to settle this land and make it a good place to raise their families.

Axel helped with the building of Wheat Bench School and was always ready to help anyone needing help.

Axel and Lily have four living children. Niels married Marie Farnham and lives on a farm three and one-half miles west of Rockglen. Ernest married Clara Lenee and lives on the homestead which is a few miles south of Rockglen. They have four children, Cory, Vanessa, Ward, and Marny.

Walter married Dora Edwards and farms nine miles south of Rockglen. They have six children, Anna, Murray, Lorelee, Lorne, Maureen, and Otto.

Inez married Glen Leflar, who runs the Shell Bulk Station in Assiniboia. They have three children, Deriek, Shannon, and Twila.

Axel and Lily retired to Moose Jaw in 1958. They came to the farm to help with seeding and harvesting every year until 1972. They celebrated their Golden Anniversary this year and are still enjoying fair health.

HANSEN, Karl And Jean

Born November 7, 1894 in Tjoreberg, Denmark, Karl is the youngest of a family of nine – six boys and three girls. He was raised on a dairy farm which grew its own feed. Schooling lasted from age seven to fourteen years with large doses of catechism. Upon completion of school, he worked at home and at neighboring farms.

Because of compulsory army service, neighbor Niels Gording, sister Martha, brothers Axel and Niels had already left for the new world. In the spring of 1914, he decided to leave for Canada. He was met twenty-one days later at Verwood by brother Niels. From there they proceeded to Yellow Grass, a more settled area for summer work. That fall he was to stay with Axel and Niels so caught a ride with local residents. Incidentally, 1914 had so much snow, Tom Montcalm had a tunnel in the snow leading from his house to the barn.

In 1915, he returned to Yellow Grass. After that he worked locally, breaking land with oxen for neighbors and on his own homestead. He also built himself a bungalow type house, sixteen by twenty feet, in 1917. Ironically, in 1918, he was conscripted into the Canadian army in Regina. The war ended just before his regiment was to be shipped overseas.

In 1919, he acquired his first horses, built a barn and broke more land. In 1924 he bought another half-section and decided to move his house and barn approximately four and a half miles. To move the house required sixteen horses with the front end of the house on wheels and skid ding the back. The barn moved easier as they could put wheels under it. He also put up a windmill.

In 1925, he bought the first closed-in car that he can recall, in this area. In 1926 for one hundred forty dollars he bought and planted five hundred poplar trees and numerous caraganas. Water was faithfully hauled to these trees and every one grew.

Grain was hauled to Scobey until about 1921 and then to Assiniboia by horses. Needless to say he suffered all the hardships other pioneers encountered on these trips but the worst traveling conditions, he recalls, was a trip he and Axel took to Wood Mountain; country strange to both of them. A blizzard came up while they were en route. They were refused accommodations at the first place they came upon. (This man was later jailed for his actions, as the R.C.M.P. deliberately set up a situation after hearing of his continual refusal to help people in need.) They finally came upon a second place, nearly frozen by this time and received help for themselves and their horses.

Surveying for the railroad started as early as 1913 or 1914 but didn't come to Valley City until 1926. In 1926, John Braun and Karl loaded one of the first carloads of wheat to be shipped. They shoveled the wheat from the wagon to the railroad ear from the C.P.R. platform.

In 1929, Karl ended his days of bachelorhood when he married Jean Rainey, an Irish lass, from Agivey Aghadowey Northern Ireland. She came to Canada in 1928, following her sister Lily (Mrs. Axel Hansen) with ideas of staying awhile and going home.

Things were looking bright and prosperous and then the 30's came. On May 22, 1931, Elmer, their second child was born. That year a dust storm blew out the crops so they had to reseed. About 1936, Jean got sick and this cost one hundred eighty-five dollars of the two hundred dollars they had managed to acquire. There were no land payments made from 1929 to 1939. There was no danger of repossession as no one wanted the land.

All these years, they mined their own coal from various coal mines in the community; mostly open pit type, but Kelly Livingstone had the only underground mine close by. On one occasion while helping Kelly blast coal, the miners' cap Karl was wearing struck a projection cutting his head in a right angled cut, several inches long on either side, clear to the skull. Infection set in. There were a few anxious moments over this.

On October 7, 1963 Karl and Jean retired to town leaving their son Victor the farm. Two weeks later he was killed in a tractor accident. This necessitated selling their beloved homestead as the rest of the family were already established.

They enjoy good health – have three children, Isahelle (Schmidt). Elmer and Elsie (Knoss). and eight grandchildren.

Karl appreciates the changes he has seen taking place; converting this area from almost raw prairie to its present day modernization, but would not like to do it over again.

HANSEN, Niels Jenson AND Nannie

Niels Jensen Hansen was among the First pioneers of the Rockglen district.

He was born in Tjarhourg. Denmark, Sept. 3. 1890.

He came to Canada in 1911, couldn't speak one word of English, therefore it was very hard.

In 1911 he homesteaded in the Rockglen district on SW. quarter of Sec. 10, Township 2, Range 30. West of the 2nd Meridian.

He had many hardships. One example was ploughing the prairie with oxen all day, then at night, after work, he'd take the plough shares in a sack on his back and walk to Willow Bunch to get them sharpened. By the time he got back to plough again it took a couple of days.

Nannie Kleininger was born in Hungary and came to this country with her parents from Winnipeg in 1910. They lived in a tent on the prairie, till they built a sod house, They used oxen to do their farming with. They cured rabbits and prairie chickens in a barrel for their summer meat. There was a great fear of prairie fires as there was such a large area of prairie. When the sun would go down at night it was sometimes red. They really were concerned then because they were sure another prairie fire was coming over the hills.

In 1917 Niels married Nannie and they had five children, Eva (Mrs. John Kleinfelder), Nannie (Mrs. Floyd Bloom), Dan, Lily (Mrs. Mike Zopf) and Rose (Mrs. J. Taylor).

They had quite a chore hauling their wheat to Scobey, which was the closest elevator. They hauled with a wagon and four horses. Sometimes they couldn't get back for two or three days as the weather was stormy and forty degrees below zero. Horses got very tired and had to stop and rest. They came home with coal and food enough to last till they hauled another load.

Then the dirty thirties hit which was a terrible time. There were a few years when they couldn't grow a spear of anything, couldn't see for days. This lasted off and on for seven years, some a little better than the last.

After this period it greatly improved. They farmed till 1959, then moved to Rockglen to retire.

Niels passed away in December, 1962; Nannie is now at the Ross Payant Nursing Home in Assiniboia.

HANSON, Nels And Margret

In 1892, when Niels Hanson was twenty-one years old, he emigrated from Norway and homesteaded in Summit, South Dakota. Eighteen years later, in 1910, Nels and some friends shipped all their belongings to Morse, Saskatchewan. Nels homesteaded in the Kincaid district.

Margret Jensen and her young son, Alex, came to Kincaid in 1917. Margret was a native of Oslo, Norway. She married Nels in 1918.

They farmed in the Kincaid area until 1926, when they sold out. In the fall of that year, Nels' nephew, Nils Hansen, the hired man and Alex moved their horses down to Quantock and wintered them on Charlie Webster's place, a couple of miles southwest of Quantock.

The next year the remainder of the family, with children Alice and Roy, moved down to the farm. The move was made with horses. Nels pulled the threshing machine with a Waterloo-Boy tractor. They ate in the open air and slept under the wagon on the journey.

Their last child, Melvin, was born in 1929.

Mr. Hanson was a very industrious worker until the time of his death, at age eighty-one, in 1952. Mrs. Hanson will probably be remembered for her handicrafts; not only did she embroider, crochet, and knit, she had a lifelong hobby of working Hardanger embroidery. Mrs. Hanson passed away in 1975, at the ripe old age of eighty-three.

The Hansons leave four children, four grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

HARKNESS, Edith (Heagy)

In October of 1907, Miss Edith Harkness came from Sharewood, North Dakota, to the Willow Bunch district with her father, mother and four brothers Herb, Tom, Leonard and Russell. It took them about a week to make it from North Dakota. Her older brothers rode horses and Edith and her mother drove in the buggy. Altogether, they had three wagons on the trip. They had to take along supplies to last the trip including salt pork (a whole pig), along with bread, beans, coffee, sugar and salt. While they were on the trip they spent the nights in tents and Edith can still remember the coyotes at night and how they kept her awake.

When they arrived at their homestead, just south of Willow Bunch, they found a country that was still wild and yet beautiful. None of the land around Rockglen was broken except for the odd spot. Very little land anywhere was surveyed. Six years before they came, in 1901, only eight townships of land were surveyed. Even when they came, in 1907, only the even numbered townships were up for homesteading. The odd sections were saved until later years when more settlers moved into the country.

The country itself was very lush and had many types of wild berries growing on it. The grass was about a foot and a half tall all over and you could part it almost anywhere and find wild strawberries growing. The grass made it excellent for raising cattle and, because of the scarcity of people, you could run a large number of cattle. This encouraged ranching.

The first winter they were here it was very mild with hardly any snow. The next winter though, in 1908, there was a great deal of snow. If the horses happened to step off the packed-down path they were up to their stomachs in snow.

In the year 1909, a prairie fire swept through most of southern Saskatchewan burning everything in its path. The fire spread from Lethbridge to Estevan. The ranchers had to plow fire guards around their buildings just to protect them.

Edith never had any schooling after they came up to Canada, because her mother was crippled, and she had to stay home and look after her. Her two younger brothers, Leonard and Russell, attended the Lautier School.

Before the railroad came in, all the supplies they needed came from Moose Jaw or Rouleau. The round trip took about a week and only the men went. The women hardly went anywhere then. Edith didn't go to Willow Bunch until she was here for about five years.

The railway came to Willow Bunch several years after it had come to Viceroy and Assiniboia. At Viceroy, a ferry crossed the lake to Willow Bunch. It ran people back and forth across the lake so they could meet the train to get supplies.

In 1916, the Spanish flu epidemic hit Willow Bunch along with most parts of Canada. Many people died and many others were seriously ill.

In 1944, Edith moved to the Rockglen district where she kept house for Arthur Heagy. They were married and lived at the north end of Fife Lake where Rodney Heagy now lives. Later she and Arthur bought an old store in Constance, tore it down and built a house in Rockglen.

In 1969 they celebrated their twenty-fifth anniversary. Arthur died in 1971 and Edith now resides in Rockglen.

HAUGEN, Peder And Johanna

Pete Haugen was born in Bardo, Norway. He came to New York when he was nineteen years old. His wife, Johanna, whom he married in Winnipeg in 1905, was also born in Norway and had immigrated to Canada. They lived at Bemidji, Minn. for a while where Mr. Haugen did some farming, logging and carpentry.

In April of 1909 he filed on a homestead in the Little Woody district. They lived at Pangman until 1911 when they moved to their homestead. They had two sons, Elmer and Manley. Mr. Haugen was a good carpenter and worked in Assiniboia from 1911 to 1914. He was an avid reader. He read papers from Norway, periodicals and many books. He could intelligently discuss any topic and the Bible. He was a good story teller and loved to talk about his early days in Norway.

Mrs. Haugen was a lover of animals and was surrounded by many cats and dogs. She also enjoyed quilt making and had a lot of house plants. She died in 1961 while Mr. Haugen died in 1969 at the age of ninety-five years, six months.

HAYCOCK, Frank And Mary

Frank was born in 1890, and raised in Napanee, Ontario. His father was a butcher and owned a butcher shop. Frank went to Alberta when he was young, and worked for Pat Burns. Frank married and had one son, Bill. They then moved to Shaunavon.

While Frank was in the dray business, his wife died.

He then filed on his homestead in 1914. He moved onto it in 1915. He married Mary Scarrow, a sister of Wes Scarrow. They had one son, Dan.

Frank farmed in the Lacordaire district, and he and Mary ran the Post Office for many years.

Frank also butchered for the Country Beef Ring. Twenty people formed the beef ring. Each farmer furnished a beef. Frank did the butchering, and cutting up of the meat. Each farmer got a different cut of meat every week.

As payment for the butchering and cutting the meat, Frank got the hide, which brought a good price in those days.

In 1927, Frank and Mary moved to Rockglen, where he operated a butcher shop. Ben Osborne worked for him in the shop.

He was also well known as a cattle buyer, and bought pigs and turkeys as well.

He remained in Rockglen until his death in July, 1949. Mary Haycock is now living in a Nursing Home in Calgary.

HAYTER, John and Marie - By Arlinda Hayter Johnstone

Mr. and Mrs. John W. Hayter, born and raised in the United States, first came to Canada in 1914 with three children, Marvin, Johnnie, and Arlinda.

They returned to Scobey for the winter and while there Orville was born.

The family returned in 1915 to become permanent Canadian Residents, taking up a homestead in the Lacordaire district. They underwent many hardships but the kindness of neighbours made fond memories.

Mr. Hayter broke land for farming, worked at any available jobs for neighbours and mined coal to provide for his family.

They spent their first two winters with a friendly bachelor, Mr. Stibbard, in the Little Wood area, moving back to the homestead for the summer months.

Marvin and Johnnie started school at the Fife Lake School (more commonly known as Smith's School).

As the years passed Bob, Leona and Raymond were born.

The rest of the family took their education at Lacordaire School. The boys with to school early in the cold weather to light the fire and get the school warm for the rest of the pupils.

Mr. Hayter died in 1943 and Mrs. Hayter stayed on the farm until 1945 at which time she moved to Rockglen. Later she moved to Moose Jaw where she lived until her death in 1962.

HEAGY, Andrew And Florence

One of the early pioneers of the Kanten district was Andrew Jacob Heagy. Andrew was born in Pennsylvania, U.S.A., of Pennsylvania-Dutch parents who were devoutly religious people similar to the Quakers. As a child he moved with his parents to Illinois and then to Minnesota where he later learned the blacksmithing and masonry trades.

It was in Montevideo, Minnesota, that her married his childhood sweetheart, Florence Adella Faus. Here most of their children, seven boys and four girls, were born. After living in Minnesota for several years, Andrew and his family moved to Twin Brooks, South Dakota, in 1892; then to Bryant, South Dakota in 1905.

Of their eleven children, six eventually came to live in Canada. Jay was the eldest of Andrew's sons and was born in 1877. Arthur arrived in 1885. On a cold winter day in 1888, Frank was born, followed by Cecil in 1896. In addition to his four sons, two of his daughters, Clara, born in 1900, and Ruth, born in 1891, also became Canadian pioneers.

The children received most of their education in the towns of Twin Brooks and Bryant. It was in Bryant that Frank and his brother Arthur apprenticed in the masonry trade under the instruction of their father who was a journeyman mason.

In 1906 Jay, who was a licensed engineer, left for Canada and the newly formed province of Saskatchewan. With his wife, the former Elsie Forsythe, and their son Earl, he homesteaded in the Little Woody district. Arthur joined him in 1910 to homestead in the Kabrud district, close to where the Grand Valley Lutheran Church now stands.

One cannot but admire the courage it took to come alone to a new country in a vast, empty prairie and attempt to wrest a living from the soil. But the excitement and adventure of going to a new country and receiving land, simply by settling on it, was a real enticement to the young men and women of that day.

Frank joined his brothers in Canada and homesteaded about one mile north of where Lisieux now stands.

About 1914 the three brothers bought a steam engine threshing machine and a twelve bottom plow. Jay was the engineer and Arthur hauled the fuel. Later Frank acquired his engineer's papers. With this equipment they broke most of their own land and numerous acres for other people. The threshing outfit employed quite a number of men and teams hauling bundles. Many tales were told of the fun they had on the threshing rig, for although it was hard work there was a great comradeship among the men. Rainy days were spent boxing, wrestling and doing a lot of "horsing around". Frank, although he only weighed one hundred and sixty-five pounds, could usually "out box" anyone on the crew.

On March 15, 1915, Frank married Helen Marie McCabe, whose family homesteaded six miles southwest of Willow Bunch.

In October of that same year, Cecil arrived in Canada to join his brothers, bringing with him his youngest sister, Clara, who was just fifteen at the time. He homesteaded near the Little Woody School. In 1917 Cecil married Leila Farnham.

In December of 1915, although he was about sixty years old, Andrew decided to join his sons and daughter in Saskatchewan. He, his wife, and daughter, Ruth, arrived in Verwood early in 1916 and flied on a homestead on the north side of the lake. His grandson, Rodney Fleagy, and family still farm there today.

For approximately two years Andrew and his family lived in a two-room shack on the homestead of his son, Jay. Although the winter was long and cold, they were happy because they were together as a family once more. The following year they erected a three-room house on Andrew's homestead. The house was constructed of cement blocks made with a machine they had brought with them from the States. A year later they added two more rooms to this house. It still stands today and attests to the fine workmanship of the craftsmen of that day.

In 1918 Jay sold his share of the steam engine to his brothers and moved, with his wife and family, to Assiniboia. There they operated a garage for two years. Jay returned to his profession of fireman on the C.P.R. In 1926, Jay and Elsie returned to Rockglen and had the Rockglen Hotel built. They operated it for some time, then sold it and moved to Moose Jaw where Jay again resumed his fireman's trade with the railroad.

In 1928, Frank and his brother, Arthur, formed a partnership. Frank and Helen and their family left their homestead and went to live with Arthur who had lived with his parents on their homestead. Their father, Andrew, and their mother, Florence, had both passed away, in 1926 and 1928 respectively, so Arthur was living alone.

During the thirties Cecil and his family spent some time in northern Saskatchewan but returned to the South in 1938. Cecil farmed by the narrows on the lake until 1950 when he moved to British Columbia. He has since passed away.

Frank passed away in 1936 after a lengthy illness, leaving Helen to raise their large family of ten, alone.

In 1942 Arthur moved to Constance where he managed the Co-op Bulk Station. He married Edith Harkness in 1945 and two years later the couple moved to Rockglen. Arthur passed away in 1971 at the age of eighty-seven.

Stories are passed down, in the Heagy clan, of horse trading and how the young fellows would get together on a Sunday afternoon and race their ponies or hold impromptu rodeos. People of that day must be envied for their spirit.

During their lives Andrew and his family proved themselves to be men of conscience and honour, whose word was as good as a bond; their aim was to do their duty at all times and under all circumstances. We, of this generation, owe a great debt to our ancestors and the pioneers of this country.

Many of the descendants of the large Heagy clan include Jay and Elsie's sons; Earl (Minnie Dighans, Grace Kirby), Scott (Marcia Ford), Ray (Dorothy Moore),

Frank and Helen's children; Esther, Clarence (Bernice Borgerson), Doris (Anthony Cardinal), Erwin (Emma Zopf, Mary Jacobs), Floyd (Elsie Jenson), Ruby (Harvey Chute), Rodney (Anna Spagrud), Francis (Arnold Reimer), Clare (Evangeline Baron), Vincent (Selma Goertzen).

Cecil and Leila's children; Raymond (Muriel Belbeck), Fay (Hal Belbeck), Merle, Mary (Ken Freeman), Gladys.

Ruth and Bill Barrett had three children; John, Bruce and Bessie.

Clara married George (Bud) McCabe and they had nine children; Florence (Donald Speer), George (Buster), Isobel, Evelyn (Harold Shannon), Vivian (Robert Felme), Shirley, Kenneth, Janet, David.

HENRIKSON, ARNE AND ELSIE

Arne Henrikson was born in the district of Gravik Presteyeld, Norway, on April 22, 1889 on the farm named Sanveik.

Elsie was also born in the same district, but her farm was called the Roëd farm. The school that Elsie attended was an upstairs room of the Roed farm.

Arne came to Canada, in 1910, with an uncle. The uncle lived at Amulet, but Arne filed for his homestead in the fall of 1910 at Lisieux. Lumber was hauled by horse and wagon from Viceroy to build a shack for living quarters. Arne homesteaded in the Lisieux district for seven years and then returned to Norway for three years. During his absence, the land was rented to William Miller. A delay in Arne's return also meant that he escaped the sinking of the Titanic.

Elsie and Arne were married in Viceroy, the 6th of June, 1920. The first child was tended to by a vet but, unfortunately, the baby did not survive. Agnes and Oscar were born at Lisieux, with Mrs. Borgerson acting as midwife. In 1925 Arne sold his land, moved to Amulet for a while, only to find himself back at Rockglen in 1927. Land was purchased at Quantock, with a shack for living quarters. When Agnes was of school age, the family moved to Rockglen, taking up residence on the corner lot where they now reside.

Arne, at one time, owned eleven acres of land which now hosts much of Rockglen. Due to outstanding taxes Arne paid ten dollars an acre for the purchase of this eleven acres, which extended from Mary Heagy's lot to the water tower and over to the area around the old hospital and the Grant-Mylymok residences. Much of this property was sold to present residents of Rockglen, but the hill for the water tower was given to the town by Arne. Rockglen's first outdoor skating rink was the lot the Pook Henrikson's house is built on. Mr. Ernie Lawrence, Floss's father, more commonly referred to as "The Father of the Rockglen Skating Rink", got his hot water for flooding from the light plant, which was then situated where Arne's garage is located today.

Many of Rockglen's citizens will recall Arne's days of practical joking, story-telling, family singing, card tricks, feats of magic (yea-moner-hort) and fishing experiences. Arne took his family by model-T to Waskesiu in the year 1928. Elsie salted down the fish caught, placed them in crocks and safely transported them back to Rockglen with NO SALMONELLA POISONING!

In 1928 Arne had a livery barn where the Co-op now stands. One stall was converted into bunks. Many a traveling citizen brought blankets, heaping them on the bunks, and spent a comfortable night in the livery stable. Dogs were known to accompany the travelers, and in turn were fed raw oats and water.

Skiing with a child on his back, was a great feat for Arne. Many such runs were made from the water tower hill right down to the C.P.R. Station. Arne was known to have traveled from Lisieux to Amulet, cross country on skis.

During the depression years, Arne was known to be the only man in Rockglen that could turn the dried cod fish into a scrumptious dish of lutefisk. In spite of hardship, Arne, with his heroin companion, lived through the dirty thirties and coped with the pioneering era through "thick and thin".

As late as 1962, Arne took six of his eleven grandchildren to the lake for an afternoon of rowing. Rowing was often preceded by an outing at Poplar Creek and Lisieux Bridge, whereby the family members tried their luck at fishing with a willow rod and a bent pin for a hook. Doodle oil was the No. 1 bait.

“Kom en snilda-ve ne vilda”, with guitar accompaniment will ring many a memorable note with the children and youth of Rockglen.

Today, air strip service is possible because of the twelve acres of the quarter section of land, east of Rockglen, released by Arne for a very nominal sum.

At age eighty-seven, Arne has decided to join the S.O.R.'s (Sons of Rest) whereby he spends most of his time in bed. He certainly has been a man of adventure, generosity and stoicism. Elsie's perseverance and her courageous traits have made both Mr. and Mrs. Arne Henrikson a pioneer couple to remember.

HOCHLANDER, Joseph and Eva

Joseph Hochlander was born in Hungary on November 18, 1900. He came to Canada with his parents, two brothers and a sister in 1903. They settled at Winnipeg until 1911, when they moved west to homestead on land south of Rockglen.

When Joseph was seventeen he went to work on a threshing outfit run by Franz Walter Sr., a homesteader in the Lacordaire district. He continued to work for various farmers in the district for several years.

It was in this community; he met and later married Eva Walter. Eva was born in Gretna, Manitoba on October 25, 1905. She came here with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Franz Walters, when they homesteaded in the Lacordaire district. She recalls that they came in a covered wagon drawn by two horses, and that their first home was a shack with windows covered with gunny sacks and bunk beds made of poplar poles with straw mattresses. As children she and her sisters spent their time playing dolls, catching frogs and other games children played. As a teenager she played ball, horseshoe, danced, and trained horses to square dance. Lacordaire was a friendly community where she went to a little one-room school and attended church services held in various homes.

After Joseph and Eva married they moved to Raymore, Saskatchewan, where they worked for two years. They then returned to Lacordaire where they worked for Eva's father, Franz Walter.

They then moved to the Anton Kaczmariski's farm and worked for Anton and Emil for a number of years.

Joseph worked for most of the farmers in the district and also in the Dauphinais and Kaczmariski Coal Mines, which paid wages of fifty cents to one dollar a day.

Joseph and Eva had four children, Katherine, Walter, Violet, and Kenneth.

In the early thirties Joseph moved his family to Constance, where he had a shoe repair business and worked for Louis Tindall.

In the early forties he bought the Sam Ruffo farm, about twelve miles southeast of Constance.

Here they started mixed farming. In those days it was hard. There was not much money and very little machinery to work with. Joseph seeded his own crop, then he worked for neighbors who would then harvest his crop for him in return. In this way he eventually was able to purchase his own combine and other machinery. He farmed until 1958 when he passed away. Eva continued to farm until 1961, then it was taken over by their youngest son Kenneth, who is still farming it.

Eva now resides in Rockglen.

HOSTIN, George And Marie

George Hostin was born in 1897, at Libramont, Belgium. He came to Canada with his parents in 1912, and settled southeast of what was to become Rockglen.

Their first house was of sod. It was replaced in 1916 by the house which is still on the farm.

For several winters during the depression George worked with his father in the coal mines. George became a mixed farmer with skills in carpentry and blacksmithing.

On November 16, 1923, George married Marie Liban of Swan Lake, Manitoba.

Marie was born in Jeekonville, Belgium and came with horses and wagon to Willow Bunch with her family in 1910. She learned the English language by working out and by reading newspapers, cookbooks and catalogues.

As a young lady she worked as a telephone operator in the St. Boniface Hospital in Winnipeg.

During the first years of their married life they experienced the depression in the thirties with its dust, hoppers and worms.

The Hostins have four children, Albert, Rene, Rachelle and Roger.

In 1948, they moved to Mission City, British Columbia but returned to the farm two years later.

They retired to Rockglen in 1957 when their son Albert took over the farm. George died in 1965. Marie lived with her son René until her death in 1975.

HUTCHINSON, Stanley And Lillian

In 1911 Lillian and Stanley were married in Peterboro, went to school there and later attended the Toronto Conservatory and passed her grade twelve in music. She started teaching piano in 1910 and taught until her death.

The Hutchinson family arrived in Assiniboia with their two children Lorna and Maxwell on the Settlers Train in 1917.

In 1916 the first school was built in Scout Lake and in 1917 Lillian was asked to teach there. She taught for ten years until the new school was built in 1927. Miss Loken was the teacher then for fifteen years and boarded at Mrs. Hutchinson's home.

The family were discouraged at first, because they had been led to believe they could make a good living here.

Stanley hauled wheat to Assiniboia by wagon with six horses in the winter. This took two days as roads were just prairie trails.

In 1924 Hutchinson's got their first car, so it was easier to go to Assiniboia for groceries and supplies.

Stanley homesteaded in 1925 on two parcels of land in this area. It was that year the town of Scout Lake started on the four corners. Part of the town was on the corner of Stanley's land. One of the memories was the butcher shop. It was newly built and tar paper was put on the inside. All the meat tasted from the paper.

In 1926 Stanley had the first threshing machine in that district and the entire season was spent threshing. He had a horse that could tell the time of day. At twelve and six o'clock she stopped and would not go any further.

Mrs. Hutchinson taught piano lessons for thirty years. She always had the tea pot on for the mothers who brought their children for lessons.

Mr. Hutchinson passed away in 1967.

Mrs. Hutchinson died in 1975.

