



Norman and his mother, Mrs. Emery.

sat me down in the corner of the wagon box. That was no joy ride, my chin hit the edge of the box at every stone and bump and I didn't have sense enough to say anything or even cry.

Then there were the days going to the Allenby school, with a pony on the buggy. The teacher boarded with us, so was with me at all times, something I didn't like at that age.

We had a big toboggan slide on the lake bank. The neighbors would get together in the evening, the Bednareks and Nachtigals, and have some great times. We would slide down on shovels or anything available.

The teacher at the time was Bessie Johnston later Mrs. Ed. Nachtigal. After World War II, I came back to the farm. In 1949 Wallace Emery passed away. Mother and I carried on together, till her death in 1970.

### **Vigfusson, Thorolfur and Olafia**

Thorolfur was born in Iceland, March 18, 1858. He operated a stopping place and supply shop for fishermen, close to the coast of Iceland. He married and had a daughter Gertie. Then tragedy struck, when his wife was killed by an avalanche. Later he married again, and after a few years left for Canada with his wife, Olafia, a young son Stoney and daughter Gertie. They went down to Gimli, leaving Gertie with some relatives in Winnipeg, where she grew up.

Thorolfur fished on Lake Winnipeg for a number of years, then he and Stoney, who was only about twelve years old at that time, went with 5 other fishermen from Gimli, to try their luck at winter fishing on Lake Manitoba. They built a log shack close to the lake, at the very end of Weedy Point, there the 7 fishermen lived and fished through the ice during the winter of 1911.



Thorolfur Vigfusson, blind.

Next summer, Thorolfur took up a homestead by the lake, close to where they had been fishing, and he and Stoney, helped by Helgi Finsson, built a log house on the place. Later his wife Olafia joined them.

They lived there for many years, fishing in winter, and keeping a good sized herd of cattle and about 50 sheep.

Then Thorolfur's sight began to fail. He consulted doctors in Winnipeg, but they could do nothing. He kept on fishing as long as he could, but finally had to give it up, but still managed to look after his cows and sheep. He strung a rope from the kitchen door to the barn and guided by that, was able to look after his animals, who seemed to sense his blindness, and co-operated with him. He loved his animals and was very good to them.

Then in May 1934 tragedy struck again, when his wife Olafia, drowned in the lake while coming home from Steep Rock. He then left the farm to Stoney and went to live with his friends and neighbors, Stoney and Lina Gislason, staying with them, until he passed away in December 1942.

### **Vigfusson, Stoney and May**

After his mother drowned and his father moved away, Stoney continued ranching and fishing. He married May Fikk and they lived there until Stoney passed away in 1952. May then sold the place and moved to Winnipeg. They had no children.

Stoney had at one time, a fast riding horse that he took great pride in. He took him to picnics in Steep Rock and other places around, and raced him against the local horses. He was a very wild horse, and Stoney had to fight him every time, before he could get on his back. His chief opponents in these races were, Kenny Aitken, Ted Deighton, Fred Middlestead and later Cliff Cook and Earle Bush.