

she resided until her sudden demise in October, 1968. She left an infant son, Rodney.

Mike first started to work for Mr. Prygrocki in Fisher Branch in 1930, loading cordwood into box cars for fifty cents per day. These early days in Canada were very trying, mainly earning his keep as he worked for various farmers and business men peeling pulp certainly was not an easy task! Mike went to work for Elsie's parents as a hired hand in 1933.



Mike and Elsie Chmil and family.

Mike married Elsie in 1935 in the Fisher Branch Ukrainian Catholic Church and they have lived in the Kilkenny district all these years, where Elsie's parents first settled in 1915. They have nine children, five girls and four boys.

Mary married William Shewchuk of Sylvan and still resides there. They have no children.

Peter and Annie are twins.

Peter married Janice Kowalchuk of Foam Lake, Sask. They have two children, Shawn and Shannon, and live in Winnipeg.

Annie married Ted Kon of Kilkenny and resides in the Kilkenny area. They have eight children: Joyce, Lucy, Kenny, Ronnie, Karen, Debbie, Allan, Elaine; and three grandchildren: Marcel, Michelle, and Derryl.

William resides in Edmonton, Alberta.

Joe lives in Winnipeg and is self-employed.

Olga married Leon Twerdun of Shoal Lake, Man.

They live in Winnipeg. They have two children, Jeffrey and Valerie.

Pauline married Daniel Byra of Arborg and resides in Winnipeg. They have three girls and a boy: Yvonne, Tracey, Daniel and Angela.

Nellie married Murray Milligan and resides in Winnipeg.

Michael married Carol Lopatynski of Edmonton, Alberta, and resides in Winnipeg.

Mike and Elsie have lived through many hardships. Living through those dirty thirties, and raising such a large family was not easy. They also had their home destroyed by fire in 1937. This made life even harder to cope with because at that time they did not have their house insured. They had hydro service in 1958 and the telephone in 1964.

All in all, Mike and Elsie survived, leaving the past as just a memory. They have been married for forty-seven years and are still in good health. They have nine healthy children, seventeen grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, and still live on the same homestead that was started by Elsie's parents in 1915.

JOHN CHOPEY FAMILY

John came to Canada in 1922, from the village of Duba in the Ukraine. With him came his stepsister Mary Melnyk, who in 1924, married Paul Kolbuck.

In 1910, John's sister Anne came to Canada with a friend, and in time she married Peter Juryn in Winnipeg, where they lived all their life. Anne and Peter had three sons; Bill, Frank and Michael, and three daughters; Pauline, Ollie and Vickie. Anne was born in 1892 in the Ukraine, died in 1972.



John Chohey's 75th birthday in 1976.