

We were married in 1916. After a few years farming, Emil discovered that he could not get rid of the stones on the land. He picked stones each year, there still were more the next year. He was very discouraged, and decided then to sell out. Soon after, a young man from River-ton came along, looking for property in which to invest his money before joining up in the First World War. He bought our place, and paid us cash for the farm and machinery. This gave us a good start in our new business. Besides farming, Emil was interested in cattle dealing, and butchering, supplying not only ourselves, but the neighbors as well with fresh meat.

Mr. H. Hoffman, a store keeper, and Mr. Bill Whit-taker, the owner of the livery stable at that time, heard about Emil butchering cattle and selling meat on the farm. They came out many times encouraging Emil to open a butcher shop in town, which Emil did after leaving the farm. Emil was a very hard working man, and with a lot of help from some good friends — experienced butchers, he established a good business. He also did a lot of buying and shipping cattle.

In 1925 Mr. Fyfe, owner of a little confectionery store in town, borrowed money from Emil to carry on his business, but he went broke and had to sell out. He told my husband that he could not repay the money he borrowed, and if Emil did not want to lose his money he should buy the store from him. Emil thought this over, and decided he would buy it. He paid Mr. Fyfe the balance of money he wanted.

We now owned a little store which we rented out for some years. Later on, Emil rebuilt the store and opened it as a general merchandise store which he ran himself. With the help of his brother Bill, they carried on with this store and the butcher shop until 1939.

We were blessed with three healthy children. Her-man, who lives in Burlington, Ontario with his wife Moreen, and two daughters, Kelly and Sandy. He is supervisor with the Sovereign General Insurance Co. Alice is married to Lloyd Collett, they also live in Burlington. Lloyd is in administration in the Burlington Hospital, and has two children, a son Barry and a daughter, Patt. Barry lives in Burlington, Patt is married to Mike Eringi, they live in Boston, Mass., and have three children. Olga married Frank Anderson. They still live in Ashern, and have three sons, Ron, Reid, and Ran-dy, they are all married and live in Ashern. One daughter, Lynne, is married to Jake Rempel, they live in Winnipeg. Jake is manager of Gibson Labels Ltd.

In our pioneer days we did not have radio television or phones. No roads, only trails. The children's biggest excitement was meeting the daily train. Everybody was happy. There were many good dances and card parties. People did a lot of visiting in those days, they would just come any time and we were always glad to see them.

In 1939, Emil was not feeling at all well, he had planned on going to the city for a medical check-up just as soon as the roads dried up and were fit, however, he took a heart attack and passed away very suddenly. It was very hard for us to carry on without him. I have Frank Anderson, my son-in-law to thank, and with the help of good clerks we managed to carry on the store business, which is now in the hands of Frank and his three sons. The store business has grown and is more than double the size.

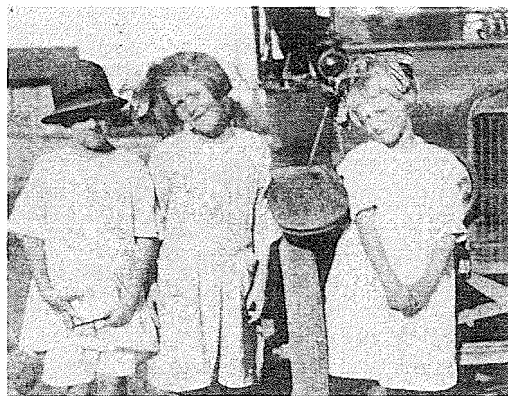
I gave up my home in 1965, as I found it too lonely living alone. I have a suite in the Pioneer Manor in Ashern and am very happy living there.

## "Memoirs"

by Babs Lumb (nee King)

I have jotted down a few events that come to mind, as I recall the early days in Ashern. I also enclose a few snap shots which I hope will tell a story.

I recall Mr. A. W. Kirvan, who was our member of Parliament (Provincial) came to Ashern for the July 1st celebrations. Baseball was THE big event. Mr. Bert Hyde, who was one of our first settlers, had the post of- fice and a general store — the building still stands today. Mr. Hyde always played Santa Claus at the annual school Christmas concerts. There was a masquerade dance held in the hall, Miss Eagleton made me a clown outfit in black and white. At this dance I took a fancy to a lady dressed as an English flower girl — I can recall ad- miring the flowers which were made of colored paper, on



Left to right: Babs King, Helen Johnson, May O'Connell.



Bill Sutherland, Fred King, Partridge Crop Lake, 1921.



Mr. and Mrs. Phil Lyon and friends.