

lonely place. All we had was a team of horses, a dog, and a borrowed cow.

We started work, plowing a garden, building fences, plowing a field with a walking plow, then seeding it to oats.

Bill's Dad gave us some cows and heifers. My folks (Deerings) gave us a cow and some hens, lent us a pony and a turkey hen. We lost the turkey to the wolves. The pony I used to take the cream to town while Bill was working with the team.

That fall about September we started the basement foundation of a new house, built from stones. Bill's Dad being a stone mason helped us build it. It took a lot of stones, but we had plenty. The basement walls were finished in November. We waited until spring to start the house. By June we moved in, it was far from finished but it was livable. We've been finishing it ever since.

In February 1939 our first daughter, Shirley, was born. She was small but healthy and made quite a difference to our home. That spring and summer were dry and hot. We had a hard time finding hay for the cattle. The next year 1940, was worse, Bill hauled logs got them squared and built a barn — and we couldn't get enough hay so we sold most of the cattle, Bill went to work at Spearhill for part of that summer.

In April 1941 our first son Lorne arrived and Shirley helped us look after him. Bill went to work at Spearhill

for the whole summer except for two weeks in July when he put up hay.

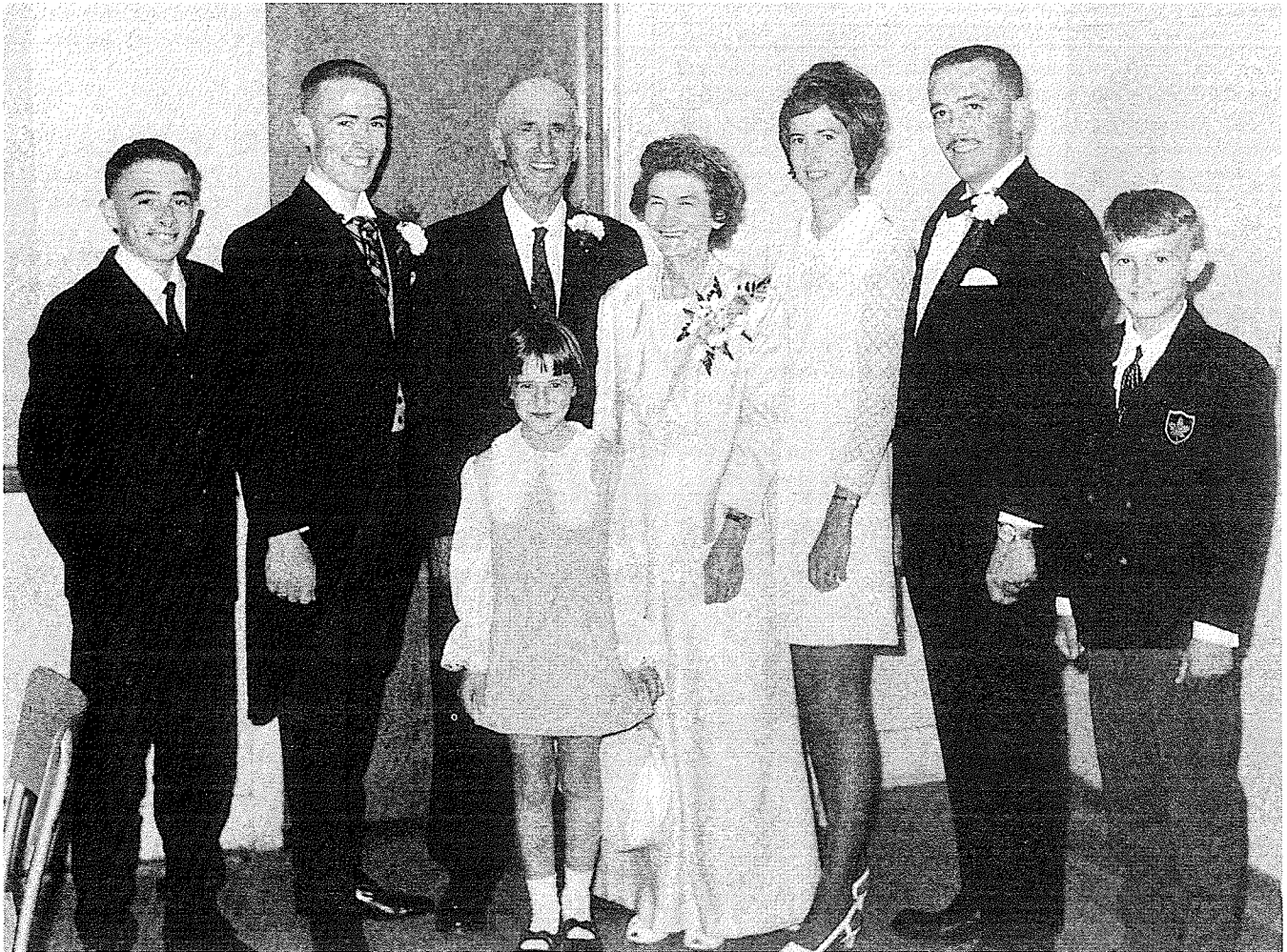
In 1945 Shirley started school at Idylwild. We had to take her as it was 3½ miles and not a good road. We took her on horseback in the spring. Lorne started two years later. What a job driving them to school and trying to get the work done as well. School was very irregular as part time there would be no teacher.

Our second boy Glenn arrived in May of 1949. That year we took the children to Ashern School where schooling was more regular. Those were busy years but I cannot think of any events that took place. The winter of 1955-56 was the year of the deep snow. Our third son Douglas arrived in February 1956. At that time the snow banks were piled high at the side of the road. The doctor missed the road, got stuck and walked half a mile over snowbanks. The nurse was with him and froze her legs. It was quite a winter.

In August of 1957, Shirley left home to train for a nurse at the Winnipeg General Hospital.

In December 1958, our fourth son Bruce arrived. He was a happy little fellow. On October 10, 1959 we had a foot of snow and it didn't go away all winter.

In the spring of 1960, Shirley graduated, Bill and I went to her graduation in Winnipeg. In October she married Dick Turner of the Free Press Weekly. They now live in Lethbridge. Dick is Editor of the Canadian



*Bill Stark's family at Glenn's wedding. Left to right: Doug, Glenn, Bill, Lily, Shirley, Lorne, Bruce, Kathy (in front), 1970.*