

storehouse, and Fridjon had his living quarters there. He was responsible for the distribution of the food supplied by the government, and also had a store of his own. This building was quite long with an extension along the side. In this side building the first school was conducted by Miss Taylor. Here also the people met when necessary for meetings and entertainment. Here also the church services were conducted on Sundays, by the missionary Mr. Taylor.

My purpose in writing this is to emphasize and to show that from the very beginning of the New Iceland settlement, the building of houses and the establishment of a school, church and an independent self-governing organization, was all a part of one common undertaking of which any civilized nation could be proud."

Much has been written and is still to be written about the Gimli colonists, but as this story is mainly concerned with the large group that settled at the Icelandic River the following summer, we will not comment further on the settlement of Gimli in 1875.

THE ICELANDIC RESERVE

There has been considerable reference in this account to the Icelandic Reserve, set apart by the Federal government for the exclusive settlement of Icelandic immigrants. It would be proper at this time to locate it precisely and define its dimensions. Actually it was not a large tract of land to accommodate the hundreds of people that might be expected to flow into its boundaries, but it was considered satisfactory to the applicants.

The southern boundary was the northern boundary of the province of Manitoba, which at that time, lay between townships 17 and 18, and was marked on the map as coming to Boundary Creek, just north of present day Winnipeg Beach. It was not thought advisable to advance the boundary farther to the south because there were, at that time land entries in Township 17 and some squatters along the lake shore at what is now known as Matlock and Whytewold.

The western boundary ran in a straight line to the west of Tps. 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23 and 24 in Rge. 3E. This was a distance of 42 miles and when continued eastward along the north side of Tp. 24, came to Lake Winnipeg, just north of what is now known as Hay Point. The eastern boundary was the irregular contour line of the west shore of Lake Winnipeg past Tps. 24, 23, 22, 21, 20, 19 and 18, to the point of origin of the southern boundary. The eastern line passed at irregular distances east of Rge. 4E., at times 2 miles and up to 5 miles to the west in places.

In addition, the whole of Hecla Island was added. This island was 18 miles long and at its widest fully 6 miles. It was reckoned as containing 60 square miles. This island was undoubtedly requested because its eastern shore line was close to the navigation course of ships going