



# VERTICAL DEVELOPMENT

A NEW  
GENERATION  
OF  
UKRAINIAN  
CANADIANS



MICHAEL  
EWANCHUK



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VERTICAL DEVELOPMENT:

A New Generation  
of  
Ukrainian Canadians

Michael Ewanchuk

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Dedicated to  
My nieces and nephews

# Vertical Development: A New Generation of Ukranian Canadians

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Michael Ewanchuk

## Introduction

This first volume of Vertical Development: The New Generation of Ukrainians in Canada purports to show the life and progress of the new generation of children and grandchildren of Ukrainian pioneers. In this sample we have included those who through hard work, and iron determination acquired higher education and entered professions; and those who, though unable due to lack of finances to progress in professions, became good independent Canadian citizens.

The life of the Ukrainian pioneers in Manitoba was difficult. This was due to the fact that they settled on inferior lands in the Parkland regions of Manitoba – land difficult to clear and bring under cultivation.

The farmlands did not originally provide the pioneers with more than subsistence living; nevertheless, they were eager to organize schools and instilled in the young generation that success depended on "education, education and more education". Those in city centres, some competent tradesmen, found it difficult to find work as the depression years set in, and found it difficult to help their children attain university training.

Many of the children from pioneer homes first went into teaching. As teachers they encouraged their pupils to go to high school and many did. As the young went into professions and tried to get "better jobs", they were confronted with the prejudicial attitudes of the Anglos. This proved discouraging.

However, when WWII came, young women and men possessed with good preparation in Ukrainian language, tradition and culture had also acquired the love of their native land, Canada. With other young Canadians they enlisted, as soldiers, airmen and sailors; and thousands gave their all.

After WWII, condition changed and discrimination decreased, opportunities developed, and hence we see a new generation of successful farmers and tradesmen, and new generations of professionals with higher university degrees. Of these we write in this volume.

However, we realize that this sample is small. To those not included go our apologies. Next volumes may tend to include many more.

We hope the readers profit from this volume. We hope this book will add to the records of Canadian history the names of those who strived, reached out and succeeded as Canadian citizens to contribute to their own well-being, and to the cultural and economic growth of Canada.

# Part I

## Reaching for the Heights

The descendants of Ukrainian pioneers seemed to have the pioneering spirit in their educational pursuits. Those that entered universities did not stop on attaining first degrees: they worked hard to achieve Ph.D's. Some women returned to university while raising a family or after the children grew up. Many men and women were interested in their Ukrainian heritage and culture; and, since, under the Russian Communist overlordship access to the universities in Ukraine was restricted, they took the opportunity to attend the Ukrainian Free University in Munich and several received their doctorates there.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Dr. Borislav N. Bilash, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., Ph.D. F.C.C.T.

Borislav is the older son of the late Nicholas and Mary (née Waroway) Bilash. He followed in the footsteps of his parents – both teachers. Mr. Bilash was his father's pupil in rural schools and then completed his high school in Dauphin Collegiate. He was a successful "permit teacher", north of Grandview. Then he attended the Winnipeg Normal School and in 1949 started teaching in the St. Vital area as teacher and principal transferring to Winnipeg School Division in 1954.

Ambition, ability and determination made it possible for him to continue with postgraduate work in education after receiving his B.A. degree in 1956; consequently, he was awarded his B.Ed. (1957) and M.Ed. (1960) both by University of Manitoba. He also became keenly interested in Ukrainian language, culture and history. After taking graduate classes in Slavic studies at the Universities of Manitoba and Ottawa, Borislav had still a greater vision and desire. He was encouraged by his mentor, Professor J. B. Rudnyckyj to transfer to the Ukrainian Free University in Munich and continue his studies toward his Ph.D. which he was awarded in 1965. He continued his postgraduate studies there and in 1971 received his Doctor Habilitatus, thus attaining the official status of professor.

Teaching and studying was not an easy task, but he received fine support from Mrs. Bilash his Normal School classmate. Appreciating Borislav Bilash's keen interest in Ukrainian, Dorothy Bilash is one of very few with a fine mastery of Ukrainian language.

Dr. Borislav while employed as Administrator and Coordinator of Modern Languages also researched and published books: *Ukrainian with Ease, Vol.1 Bilingual Public Schools in Manitoba 1897-1916* and *Canadianisms and their Stylistic Functions in the Language of Ukrainian Canadian Writers*, several other Ukrainian language textbooks and many essays and articles.

His service record in education is impressive: 32 years employee of the





Fig. 1.1 Dr. Borislaw and Dorothy Bilash

School Division of Winnipeg. During those years he was Assistant Coordinator of Modern Languages, seven years as Consultant, Multiculturalism and Modern Languages lecturer at the Faculty of Education and Professor at Munich.

His interest and activities are many and varied and did not ease with retirement. They are some of the following: languages, multiculturalism and etymology, onomastics, genealogy and Ukrainian Canadian history.

Borislaw and Dorothy Bilash (née Ukena) have four children: Radomir (B.A., M.A. University of Manitoba in Anthropology) ethnographer, Senior Research Officer, Alberta Culture; Luba (B.Ed. University of Manitoba), Early Childhood Specialist, teacher of bilingual Ukrainian kindergarten classes in Winnipeg (Transcona) and Edmonton and is known internationally as a vocalist with a Ukrainian repertoire. Daria, teacher, music specialist and director of Bilash-Watkin School of Music (completed B.Ed. and M.Ed. degrees, University of Manitoba); Borislaw, the younger (B.Sc. University of Manitoba and M.Ed. – Rutgers, N.J.) teacher, science supervisor, author of science textbooks, New Jersey.

### Ivan S. Bilash, B.Sc., M.A., Ph.D.

Dr. Bilash has distinguished himself as one of the leading clinical psychologists. He is the second son of the late Nicholas and Mary (née Waroway) Bilash.

While some of his relatives went to Brazil Nicholas Bilash, on the other hand, came to Canada at an early age and took a homestead in the Swift Current area of Saskatchewan. While there, he wrote articles to the Ukrainian newspapers to encourage Ukrainians to take up land there, but didn't succeed. Then he came to Manitoba and took teacher training.

Mrs. Bilash related her life as a teacher as follows:

On the other hand I grew up in Dauphin where my father worked in the railway roundhouse. His salary was better than average and we had our own home. My dear mother was busy bringing up eleven children. I finished high school and took my teacher training in Dauphin. I must say that going to school in Dauphin has some negative aspects: the children the teachers and even the normal school principal, though a former preacher, did not give us students of Ukranian heritage a chance, or encourage us to interact socially with the "anglos". Nevertheless, through hard work, we made it.

I met my husband, Nicholas, in the Lemberg School where we were both employed. After we were married we lived in Zelena north of Dauphin and my husband taught school and took university courses to be one of the earliest, if not the first teacher of Ukrainian extraction in Manitoba, to hold a B.A. degree.

When my children were born I took time off from teaching and later when I taught in another school away from Zelena, Ivan lived with me and Borislav stayed with his dad. I am proud that both our sons are holders of doctorate degrees.

Dr. Ivan is the younger son of the early Manitoba teachers. He has had a rich career in the field of psychology while his older brother attained success in education and specialization in Ukrainian language with studies at European universities.

Dr. Ivan Bilash is the present Head of Anxiety Disorders Clinic, Department of Psychiatry, Health Sciences Centre where he has been serving over twenty-five years.

He has also had a rich teaching experience prior to that: lecturing to nurses, being a lecturer at the University of Manitoba, Department of Psychiatry, where he is now an Associate Professor.

He has been co-author of four studies in international journals and as guest lecturer has made presentations in Dallas, Texas, San Francisco and Los Vegas, Nevada where he discussed hypnosis.

In 1962 he received his Ph.D. degree from the University of Ottawa.

He is now a member of no fewer than six psychological associations having served as president of some.

His scientific research competence was recognized early and he earned a bursary and three research grants; one a Federal Mental Health Grant of \$10,879.50

Dr. Bilash is a fine example of an outstanding success story of a son of a Swift Current pioneer Ukrainian homesteader and a pupil of both his parents as his school teachers.

This observation on his early years and education makes good reading:

I began sitting in on grade one classes at the age of three going on four. At that time my mother taught at Small Creek School and I lived with her in the adjoining teacherage. When I was almost six, I was ready to be formally enrolled and my mother asked the school inspector (Mr. Henderson) whether I should start again in grade one. He indicated that I should simply begin at grade three. From grades five to eight, my mother taught me at the Zelena School. Subsequently, I accompanied my mother to the Mink River School for my grade nine. I took my grade ten at the Mossey River School where Mr. Drebnicki was the principal. My father finally taught me in grade eleven at the Purple Bank High School in Gardenton.

I attended the St. John's High School in Winnipeg and graduated at age fifteen. Next I obtained my B.Sc. from the University of Manitoba where I took the pre-med course. I was accepted into Medical School; one of the references coming from my father's friend, Dr. B. Dyma. My father wanted me to be a doctor and I obeyed. However, once I got into medicine, I was lost. I really had no motivation. I wasn't ready for this leap and never had any major interest in this area. As a result I dropped out after a half year. I had no plans and considered engineering, honours maths, honours geography and finally psychology. The Head of the Psychology Department provided some encouragement and I realized that at last I had found my niche. The psychology courses helped me grow personally as for years I was very shy and had an inferiority complex. I eventually graduated from the University of Ottawa. I now truly feel that I have the greatest job in the world. To have a complete stranger come into my office and share his (her) most intimate secrets is truly a special experience and when I can help steer people into better lives, it adds to the satisfaction. I have met many wonderful people who have astounded me at times with their resources and who have taught me as much as I have passed on to them.

In 1960 while employed as a psychologist at the Winnipeg Psychopathic Hospital, I married Margaret (née Kuzma). We have three children. They are Mark, who is a police officer, Matthew, who is a stockbroker and Andrea who is in the film industry and presently works for the Discovery Channel in Toronto.

### **Dr. Leonora Hawirko (Mrs. A. J. Yaremovich)**

Dr. Leonora Hawirko is the first woman of Ukrainian extraction in Manitoba to graduate as Doctor of Medicine. She is to be proud of her background and success in life: she was a practising physician. Her vertical development depended on the success of her forebears and their coming to Canada – a land of promise. She outlined her background in detail.

\* \* \* \* \*

I am the daughter of John and Anna (née Juba) Hawirko. My grandfather's name was Senko. Senko had two brothers, Yaroslaw and Alexander, Yaroslaw died in Ukraine of T.B. and Oleksa and his son, John came with him to Canada in 1902. Being from the village of Buchiw in the Yaroslaw area northwest of Lviv, he joined other Ukrainian pioneers and settled in the Elma area, post office Medikka. His son John left for the USA and worked in a foundry for a year.

John returned to Canada and in 1906 he became a student in the Brandon

Teacher Training School. Among others J. W. Arsenych was in his group. Having completed his course he taught school for a short while in Venlaw, Manitoba and then settled in Winnipeg. On becoming a member of the Conservative Party, he, consequently, got a job as clerk with the post office and stayed in Winnipeg at Station B. In 1918 he married Anna Juba. During the Winnipeg strike of 1919 he lost his job. Later he was reinstated with the post office.

- Q. How many children were there in John and Anna's family?
- A. Well, there was my sister and myself. Roma was younger. She obtained her Ph.D. in Science from McGill and was professor at the University of Manitoba from 1951-1985. She now lives in Victoria having retired as professor of Microbiology in 1987.
- My grandfather having settled in the Elma area lived there nearly all his life. However, he died in Winnipeg at the age of 86. He was a very healthy man until that time - he never saw a doctor or had a pill in his life.
- Q. You grew up in Winnipeg. What elementary school did you attend?
- A. Strathcona, then I went to Isaac Newton and St. John's Tech. for high school.
- Q. Who was your best teacher?
- A. Miss MacGregor in Grade 1. I was happy in school.
- Q. Was there anything like discrimination that some people talk about?
- A. If there was, I paid no heed to it. When I went to medical school there was some, but I paid no attention to it either.
- Q. What induced you to go into medicine?
- A. When I was in high school I wanted to go into medicine, and when I went to enrol the Dean interviewed me and asked me some questions and to my surprise I was enrolled. In my class there were four students of Ukrainian extraction Yabolnytsky, brothers, Michael and Sam, and



Fig 2.1 Dr. Leonora Hawirko

Tony Wachna; and four from the Jewish group. That was the quota out of 34 students. There was also a quota for women; we were four, too.

Q. Where did you do your internship work?

A. At St. Joseph's Hospital which is no more. I tried to get my internship at St. Boniface and was interviewed by a little Sister smaller than I. She said they were full: the quota was two women. When I graduated I went to Moose Jaw Hospital where I was a house physician. After 6 months I got ill and had to go to the San. Later I spent four years in Edmonton. I was in Edmonton during the war when many doctors enlisted. There was a shortage of doctors and I worked very hard and decided to return to Winnipeg. In Winnipeg I practised medicine from 1948-1989. After the war I married a WWII veteran, a lawyer, Anthony J. Yaremovich. Our only daughter, Patricia, graduated from Osgoode Hall and is practising in Vancouver since 1981. Anthony got sick and left me too soon. He grew up in Saskatchewan.

Q. Did you know that his parents were 1898 settlers in Stuartburn, Manitoba where Anthony was born? Then they moved to Saskatchewan.

A. I wasn't aware of that.

In Winnipeg I belong to the Alpha Omega and also Quota Club International and was awarded a 50-year pin recently. I keep in touch with my lawyer-daughter and friends I still have. I am also happy to be able to drive a car.

### **The Honourable Chief Justice Benjamin Hewak**

The first profession the young people of the new Ukrainian citizens in Manitoba entered was teaching. Then a few using teaching to acquire the requisite finances went into law. One of them was the late J. W. Arsenych, consequently, he was appointed the first Justice in Manitoba with headquarters at Dauphin. Following his premature passing at the age of 66; the second to be appointed to the bench was J. R. Solomon a Manitoba-born lawyer. Then Michael Baryluk served as Provincial Court Judge. In 1971 Benjamin Hewak was appointed judge of the County Court Winnipeg.

Judge M. Arsenych was a member of the first immigration in Canada. Judge Solomon was the son of a Gilbert Plains farmer, and Michael Baryluk's father helped him become a teacher, and he later went into law. Justice Hewak was a son of post WW1 arrivals in Canada. His father, Michael, and mother, Stephania née Kokowska were married in Winnipeg. His father was a labourer, variously employed and finally an employee of the City of Winnipeg.

Justice Benjamin Hewak attended Norquay School for his elementary education, where Mrs. Anne Smigel was program co-ordinator. She remembers him as "a fine, studious well-mannered pupil".

He completed his high school at St. John's where he was an active participant, and a good football player.

His parents encouraged his academic interests and gave him an opportunity to attend classes in Ukrainian language and dancing. His Ukrainian connections he has retained.

Benjamin Hewak enrolled in Arts, University of Manitoba in 1956.

During summer months he found employment as a labourer with the City of Winnipeg and worked to get the requisite resources to be able to attend university. He was physically able and worked with several digging and street paving gangs.

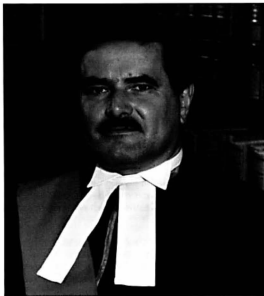


Fig. 3.1 Chief Justice Benjamin Hewak

Working with cement is not an easy assignment. He, therefore, learned to understand the labourers and appreciate the problems they faced. In 1956 after he was awarded a B.A. degree, he enrolled in law and was articled with a law firm. However, the stipend for a law student was not high enough and Benjamin Hewak again returned each summer to become a member of the Winnipeg street paving gang.

In 1960 he received his L.L.B. degree and was admitted to the Bar.

### **Legal Experience**

For five years Benjamin was Crown Attorney, Attorney-General's Department of Manitoba, (1960-1965) what gave him a wide experience in dealing with various and difficult cases. Then he went into private practice becoming a partner in the law firm, Pollock, Nurgitz et al. Six years later he was appointed Judge of the County Court of Winnipeg. His advancement at the Bench followed in close succession.

- In 1971 appointed Judge, County Court of Winnipeg;
- In 1947, he was appointed Judge, Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba;
- Judge of the Court Martial Appeal;
- Since 1985 he is serving as Chief Justice of the Court of Queen's Bench of Manitoba;

- In 1994 he was also appointed Deputy Judge of the Supreme Court of the Northwest Territories;
- Now he is Chairman, Manitoba Courts Executive Board;
- Member Canadian Judicial Council;
- Member Canadian Bar Association;
- Member, Canadian Institute for the Administration of Justice and
- Member, Canadian Judges Conference.

Before appointment to the Bench he was elected Alderman of the City of West Kildonan, and served as chairman of the Seven Oaks Hospital Foundation thus gaining understanding of community needs. Justice Hewak continued to be actively interested in community affairs.

### **Ukrainian Connections**

He continued his church membership and membership in Ukrainian organizations which sought and profited from his counsel.

Justice Hewak has visited Ukraine when he was a CIDA representative and appraised the judicial system. He maintains contact with other Ukrainian organizations:

- Member, Policy Council of the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies;
- Member, Advisory Board of the Holy Family Nursing Home;
- Board Member, Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Centre;
- Board Member, Osvita Foundation and
- Member, Hoosli Ukrainian Folk Ensemble.

The Hewaks have three daughters: Deborah, is in business, Donna, an x-ray technician and Darcy, a court reporter in the Caribbean. He loves reading and travel and guided the Rusalka Dance Group to the Ukraine and, at that time, visited his mother's village.

He is highly respected professionally as a kindly gentleman who knows how to meet people.

### **Caroline Haydey, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., Ph.D.**

Caroline grew up in the Andrejowich home, where her parents settled on a 20-acre farm in the Cook's Creek, Manitoba area. There she attended Zora School, Grade 1-VIII. Her father was a furrier working in Winnipeg. Caroline wanted to attend high school, however her parents' financial resources were not adequate.

Finally I came to Winnipeg and I worked in home found for my father by a druggist. I was a nanny and attended Machray School for my Grade IX. I started St. John's Tech., but it was too far for me to walk. I got sick and returned home.

Next year I took a train and returned to Winnipeg, but I was penniless. At the CPR station I saw a sign that "Sisters" were willing to help women and girls in need. They had an office at the station so I went. They arranged for me to work for board and room on Arlington Ave. and attend Daniel

MacIntyre School. I did well but had no money to go to Normal School. Arrangements were made for me to work in Brandon.

Back to Winnipeg I worked for my board and room and attended Normal School. My thanks go to Miss Marjorie Brooker of the Department of Education who came to the school to help me and others to improve our oral English.

I was fortunate to learn music and went to teach the junior room at Zora School (attendance some 55). I studied and got my 1st class certificate.

When I visited my sister inonor, I met and then married Peter. Life was good, but Peter, a returned serviceman died suddenly and I was left with two children.

Returning to teaching I became a music teacher in Rockwood School where I remained for five years. When I got my university degree - through evening and summer school - I went to teach in Grant Park junior high. By then I had my B.Ed and B.A. degrees. My children were studying; my son became a Doctor of Haematology and my daughter is married.

On retiring in 1980 - on the suggestion of Dr. Rudnytskyj of the Slavic Department - I went to Munich, Germany for three years and was awarded a Ph.D. degree. Now I am spending my retirement years happy that I strove to get an education. My life would have been different otherwise.

### Semeon Hrushovetz Ph.D., M.D.

His father came to Canada in 1907. His mother spent her early years on the farm in the Interlake area, district of Foley. Mr. Hrushovetz senior worked as a labourer, and then became a section foreman. Eventually, the family moved to East Kildonan where Semeon received his elementary and high school education.

Being capable and ambitious - and encouraged by his parents - Semeon enrolled at the University of Manitoba. He distinguished himself as a student and received his advanced academic training in three universities. His university achievements are most impressive:

#### Academic Training

- B.Sc. (Hons) in Biology, 1949, University of Manitoba.
- M.Sc. in Biochemistry, 1952, University of Alberta.
- Ph.D. in Cytogenetics, 1955, University of Toronto.
- M.D. 1960, University of Manitoba.
- Rotating Internship and LMCC in 1961.
- CCFP, 1973 (Certificate, College of Family Physicians).
- FCFP, 1983 (Fellow, College of Family Physicians).
- FAAFP, 1991 (Fellow, American Academy of Family Physicians).

While improving his academic qualifications, he also received university employment to continue with his research:

- He was an Associate Plant Pathologist with the Department of Agriculture in Edmonton, 1949-1955.



- For four years he was Associate Professor in the Department of Cancer, University of Saskatchewan.
- He was Assistant Professor, Department of Anatomy, University of Manitoba, 1966-1968.

Dr. Hrushovetz was president of the Winnipeg Medical Society 1974-1975, and 1989-1991 was President of the Catholic Physicians Guild of Manitoba. Through the years while living in Winnipeg he was actively associated with the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club.

He has lectured organized medical seminars and conventions, and hosted a monthly educational program on T.V.

Before retiring he was a Medical Officer of the Workers Compensation Board in Winnipeg.

Specializing in the field of gerontology, he is still a staff physician at the Holy Family Home.

Dr. Semeon Hrushovetz is married to the former Margaret Dolhun, who at one time, served as secretary to the minister of Education. The Hrushovetz and their three children, Semeon, Stephen and Mary Margaret are all graduates of the University of Manitoba.

### **Kondras: Three Generations of University Professors**

Dr. Zenon P. Kondra is the son of Rose (née Zubrak) and Dr. Peter Kondra, Professor Emeritus, University of Manitoba. Peter's ancestors, grandfather Roman, came to Canada in 1898 from the village of Hushtin, Western Ukraine to settle on a homestead north-east of Yorkton, Saskatchewan; and his son, Alexander and wife Ewdochia came with them. All were virtually dumped on a homestead at Crooked Lake. The Canadian government was generous to give them a tent, half sack of flour, an axe, a grub-hoe and bucksaw to start life in the Canadian wilderness. Oleksa Kondra, during the harvest season, walked one hundred and fifty miles to the Shoal Lake area in Manitoba to earn some money to help him make a start. They raised a large family and Peter graduated from the University of Manitoba in 1934 with a B.S.A. (Hon.) and continued with his studies attaining a Ph.D. degree and retiring as professor emeritus of the Animal Science Department, University of Manitoba.

When Dr. Peter A. Kondra was on the staff of the University of Manitoba, on behalf of his university and the National Research Council he lectured in Russia, Ukraine, Czechoslovakia and Thailand.

In addition to his academic contributions he has been active in Ukrainian organizations serving as National President of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, and has served on boards and as chairman of others.

Rose (whose forebears came in 1899) and Peter raised three children. Marusia, B.Ed. a high school teacher and now an established potter with Stoneware Gallery is married to Robert Foster, M.Eng. Marusia is President Manitoba Branch of the Ukrainian Museum of Canada, and a community worker. Peter is an M.D. and Zenon, the oldest, is a plant science specialist.

### **Zenon P. Kondra**

Zenon is the second Kondra to be awarded a Ph.D. degree and become a University professor. He graduated with a B.S.A. (plant science) from the University of Manitoba in 1962, got his masters in 1964 and his Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Saskatchewan in 1967.

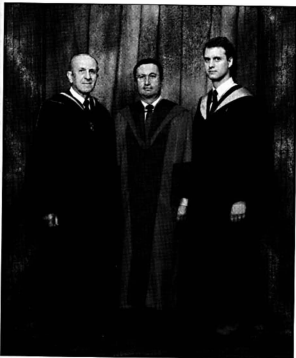


Fig. 4.1 Three Generations of Kondra Professors and Ph.D.s

#### **Zenon's Employment Record**

- Postdoctoral research Fellow, Plant science, University of Manitoba. 1967-69
- Professor of Plant Science, University of Alberta. 1969-86
- Associate Chairman, Department of Plant Science, University of Alberta. 1982-86

#### **Research**

- Genetic and Physiological analysis of agronomic and seed quality traits of rapeseed/canola.
- Crop management.
- Development of canola cultivars.
- Thirty-two scientific publications.

#### **Achievements**

- Co-developer of the first canola cultivar ouhivar, Tower, Licensed in 1974.
- Received the Agredex International Award for Plant Breeding 1978.

#### **Teaching**

- Plant breeding, agronomy, and general plant science at graduate and undergraduate levels.

#### **Administrative**

- Co-Chairman, Department of Plant Science.
- Administration of research grants. Budget preparation, Budget control, supervision of research staff and graduate students.
- Administration of facilities: Edmonton and Ellerlie Research Stations, and Plant Growth Facilities Unit, Department of Plant Science. Budget preparation and control and staff supervision.
- Associated with the Canola Council of Canada since its inception in 1967, resulting in a comprehensive knowledge of the development of the canola industry in Canada.

#### **Consulting**

- Agronomy and Plant Breeding - rapeseed mission to Iraq, Iran and Egypt; canola mission to Japan.
- Federal Department of External Affairs and the Canola Council of Canada - Market Development.
- Agronomy and Plant Breeding - Celanese Canada, Dupont USA, Elanco, Alberta Wheat Pool, Cen Alta Seeds, Biotechnical International Canada, Agriculture Canada Grains 2000, Rhone-Poulenc USA, crop management, seed production, seed marketing, plant breeding and biotechnology.

#### **Membership**

- Agricultural Institute of Canada, Alberta Institute of Agrologists and Canadian Society of Agronomy.

### **P. M. Kondra, M.Sc., M.D., F.R.C.P.C.**

Dr. Peter M. Kondra is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. P. A. Kondra. Unlike his father and his older brother who went into plant and animal studies, Peter chose medicine. He was awarded his first three degrees by the University of Manitoba: B.Sc. (honours), M.Sc. in the Division of Human Genetics and his M.D. He proceeded to McMaster University and attained a Diploma in Psychiatry. In 1985 he started as a Clinical Lecturer in Psychiatry and in 1988 was appointed Clinical Professor, Department of Psychiatry, McMaster University a position he now holds without annual review. Consequently, he became the third Kondra to hold a professorship.

Dr. Peter M. Kondra is an active member of professional organizations; Ontario Medical Association, Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons, and in 1992 became a member of the Hamilton Academy of Medicine.

Dr. Kondra's administrative responsibilities are many and varied. He has no fewer than four publications to his name; three as joint author. He has been in demand to make presentations in various centres.

### **Ukrainian Connections**

Following in the footsteps of his father, an erstwhile principal of St. Andrew's College, he served as a member and Vice-Chairman, Board of Directors, St. Andrew's College. He has also served as member of the Board of Directors of St. Vladimir Institute, Toronto.

Peter is married to Dr. Marilyn Korzewka who is also on the staff at McMasters and is a master swimmer. They have three boys.

### **Dr. Alexander Z. Kondra**

Dr. Zenon Kondra's son, Alexander, did not pursue higher academic pursuits in science but chose Business Administration. In 1989 he was awarded a B.Com (Distinction) degree from the University of Alberta. From 1989-1995, he did post-graduate work at the same university writing his major thesis on Industrial Relations and received his Ph.D. (Business Administration).

At present he is assistant professor, Acadia University, Wolfville, Nova Scotia. Before graduating he received two awards: Business Ph.D. award and, Graduate Assistantship, both at the University of Alberta.

Dr. Alexander Z. Kondra has been engaged in research activities and has authored and co-authored no fewer than twenty-four refereed journal publications and related publications.

A century has past since the Kondras arrived in Canada; the vertical development of their descendants appears beyond compare.

### **Tony J. Kuz, BSc., M.A. Ph.D.**

Dr. Kuz was the first Gimli-born of Ukrainian extraction to earn a Ph.D. degree. He is the son of a pioneer farmer John Kuz who came to Canada in 1902 as a teenager, and managed to develop his farm in the sub-marginal area west of Gimli and helped his children attain success. His son Tony, as did the other children, helped with the farm work from the early years. He received his elementary education at Felsendorf N. School and graduated from the Gimli High School to become a teacher. But he continued with his studies.

He attained his BSc. and M.A. degrees from the University of North Dakota specializing in the field of Geography, Municipal Administration and developing competence in Statistics.

Though he received an appointment on the staff of Fort Garry School Division; however, on attaining his master's degree, he accepted placement as lecturer at the University of Winnipeg in 1965.

On being awarded a Fellowship from the Canada Council, Tony Kuz continued with his post-graduate studies at the Pennsylvania State University and attained his Ph.D. in 1972.

Dr. Kuz received permanent appointment to the staff of the Geography

Department and took his turn on serving as head of the Department at the University of Winnipeg.

While serving as professor, Dr. Kuz carried out several projects. His professional competence was recognized and Dr. Kuz was recommended by the Manitoba Department of Industry and Commerce to assume general editorship of a publication, Winnipeg 1874-1974: Progress and Prospects a volume that recognized Winnipeg Centennial. In 1976 he co-authored with V. Smith of the University of Manitoba a paper titled, European Energy and Elastics. This paper was accepted for publication.

Professor Kuz was ably assisted by his wife, Lillian née Domaschak. (Lillian's brother Leonard retired from the University of Manitoba. He was an engineer with a Ph.D. from Georgia Tech.) Lillian looked well after their three children – now university graduates – Kimberley a Certified Business Accountant, Brian, B.A. in the research field in the U.S.A. and Evan an honours graduate in Fine Arts and now most successful in the field of Graphic Arts.

Tony Kuz spent two years at the University of Alexandria, Egypt lecturing to instructors and teachers in the faculty of Arts and worked on the application of computers and statistics in research work. Then he did research in the Key Garden's public repository office researching the subject of famine in the Ukraine in the thirties. His monograph on the subject was published by the Ukrainian Studies Department, University of Alberta. His success and academic contributions has made his people and his university proud.

### **Dr. Harry Messel CBE, B.A., B.Sc., B.M.Sc., Ph.D., Hon.D.Ss., HDHI**

It is not known how many distinguished academicians of Ukrainian extraction have been recognized with a CBE, Commander of the British Empire, but the distinguished scientist Dr. Harry Messel was. Of the Ukrainians who left their native Ukraine and came to Canada, none attained the same honour in their new land nor did those born in Canada, but a Canadian-born scientist who emigrated to Australia had a chance to demonstrate his ability, and was so honoured.

The Ukrainian pioneers who came to Canada in 1896 and after helped develop the Canadian west, in the first place, as farmers and railway workers. It was in a home of a railway worker that Emeritus Professor Harry Messel had a humble start. We quote from the Rivers, Manitoba newspaper:

Born at Levine Siding on the C.N. main line – educated in Robinville School (a one-room country school), then when his father became Section Foreman living in Rivers, Manitoba, Harry finished High School there.<sup>1</sup>

It was a surprise to the locals when young Harry a son of a Ukrainian labourer outstripped children from homes of the older Canadian group and was awarded a scholarship to the Royal Military Academy in Kingston, Ontario. The WWII came and he served in Europe with a paratrooper unit on discharge he obtained a Ph.D.

<sup>1</sup> Beth Smith, Gazette-Reporter, Rivers, MB, June 16, 1982



Fig. 5.1 Dr. Harry Messel

at a university in Dublin and became a senior lecturer in Mathematical Physics at Australia's Adelaide University.<sup>2</sup>

In Adelaide he distinguished himself as an outstanding lecturer and, when 30 years old, was asked to join the science staff at the University of Sydney where he demonstrated exceptional leadership and scientific competence. Here his academic rise was meteoritic.

### **Science Research Foundation**

In March 12, 1954, in the inaugural address of the establishment of the Science Research Foundation, the vice-chancellor of the Sydney University, Sir Stephen Roberts said:

It was Professor Messel's idea that industry and university could combine within a Research Foundation with great mutual benefit, and it was his energy and enthusiasm that has been responsible for the setting up of the Foundation. Never before has the University needed so much the active cooperation of the community it serves, and I venture to suggest that never before has the community needed so much the services of the University.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> Biographical Notes.

<sup>3</sup> *The Nucleus*.

After being elected Director of the Science Foundation, Harry Messel also carried a heavy load as a lecturer. The science Foundation for Physics became the first and most successful such organization in the Commonwealth. New programmes were soon added to the university curriculum. The construction of the first electronic computer and solar energy research attracted students and leading scientists to the university.

In Australia...it was realized that the education problem was linked with the survival of the country as a free and prosperous nation.

The number of students coming for degrees in physics was small and those interested in postgraduate work went overseas.<sup>4</sup>

Next important step was the organization of the Science High Schools to attract and encourage the best young minds into the field: To make the high school programme a greater success, Professor Messel set up a committee which produced what is believed to have been the world's first science text book for high school students.

Enrolment in the high schools increased and gained international attention. In 1962 the Prime Minister donated \$100,000 to the foundation. The solar energy research attracted a grant of 1.08 million dollars from the State of New South Wales, and a 5 million grant from King Khalid of Saudi, Arabia.

In 1962 with the organization of the first Science School for high school students only students from New Zealand and Australia were enrolled. A few years later it assumed an international character with students from UK, Japan and U.S.A. in atten-



Fig. 6.1 President Lyndon Johnson, Dr. H. Messel and Sir Walter Leonard

<sup>4</sup> *The Nucleus*.

dance. Recently they include students from Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand and in 1999, China<sup>5</sup>, but none from Canada! (In 1999 the 30 science schools were in operation and were to be known as the Professor Harry Messel International Science Schools).

In 1966 the President of the U.S.A. and Mrs. Lyndon Johnson visited Sydney and ten science students were sent to the school in Australia. Dr. Messel did visit at the Whitehouse to further discuss the science project with the President.

### Silver Jubilee Dinner of the Science Foundation

In 1979 twenty-five years after Dr. Messel came to the University of Sydney and a Science Research Foundation was established, a Silver Jubilee dinner was held at which the "academia" and governmental officials and their wives were present, and so were Dr. and Mrs. Messel.

The Chancellor, Sir Herman Black in his address to those assembled observed:

I have very great pleasure in informing this audience that to mark the 25 anniversary of this Foundation there will be established a research fellowship in physics that will be named The Harry Messel Post-doctoral Research Fellowship in Physics.<sup>6</sup>

This was a great recognition for the great scientist. On this occasion Dr. Cecil H. Green's letter was read. (Dr. and Mrs. Green endorsed the Foundation with a gift of \$200,000). In his letter Dr. Green stated:

As you may know...Mrs. Green and I have the highest regard for Professor and Mrs. Harry Messel - a friendship which goes back to our first meeting in Sydney in 1955, that is almost 25 years ago! Also I am proud of the Honorary Doctorate in Science which I received in 1961.<sup>7</sup>

Dr. Green grew up in British Columbia and amongst others was a graduate of the University of British Columbia. In Australia two prominent Canadians found an area where they could cooperate. Dr. and Mrs. Green's gift helped Dr. Messel establish the Science Foundation.

When the Science Foundation for Physics was organized in 1954, it was:

...the first and most successful such organization in the British Commonwealth - was inaugurated at a formal dinner in the Great Hall of the University of Sydney on March 12, 1954.

It was born out of the need of the times as the brain-child of a young Canadian physicist...

Since then the Foundation has been inseparably linked with Professor Harry Messel who has guided it so remarkably through the past 25 years.<sup>8</sup>

### Dr. Messel's Response

#### MESSEL SAYS PLANS FOR SCHOOL OF PHYSICS' FUTURE FIRMLY SET

During the 25th anniversary of the Science Foundation, in his speech, Dr.

<sup>5</sup> The University of Sydney News, 23 September 1999

<sup>6</sup> The Nucleus, p.2

<sup>7</sup> The Nucleus,

<sup>8</sup> Ibid., p.10





Fig. 7.1 L-R H.R.H. Prince Philip, Professor H. Messel and Sir Walter Leonard.

Messel stressed that the future of the school of physics was secure:

Some people seem to go throughout life with a great deal of good fortune, but somehow, I'm never that lucky. I have been placed in a most unenviable situation this evening: first, I have to follow one of Australia's great orators and scholars, His Excellency the Governor-General, and then following me is another great orator and famous Australian scholar, Sir Hermann Black. And I have to address you in my broken "Canadianese", and I am not allowed to use any of the adjectives, I am told tonight, which I normally use, so I undoubtedly must be very restrained.

Your Excellency, I don't think that I need to stress how much I agree with and applaud what you have said in regard to excellence, this Foundation and myself. My whole life has revolved around that.

At the present moment, in this University, we are conducting the 20th International Science School for High School Students – meant to honour excellence. And we have with us in this audience some of the most famous scientists in the world who have seen fit to honour excellence and the students.

There can be no greater tribute, and I think that it is interesting to note that ever since the very foundation of these Science Schools every one of them has been televised. I think the nation will be privileged to watch during the next few months throughout all the cities of Australia, the lectures which are being presented by this eminent galaxy of talent – world experts who have seen fit to honour these students with their lectures on the very important topic of "Energy for Survival".<sup>9</sup>

As a new Australian citizen and scientist Dr. Harry Messel had the ability to always keep in touch with the community and hence establish a firm support in the country for the Institution of which he was a director.

The Canadian-born WWII paratrooper retired in 1987 after establishing 30 International Science Schools.

To honour the man who had the vision to establish these schools, from 1999 the Science Schools will be called Professor Harry Messel International science Schools.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid, p.10

\* Messel, originally, Mandziuk

And to insure perpetuity for the schools The Messel Endorsement has been established.

### **In Review: Professor Harry Messel: The Man**

- Grew up in a home of Ukrainian pioneers\* in Canada in Rivers, Manitoba and area.
- Enjoyed playing with Indian children.
- Scholarship student in high school.
- Paratrooper during WWI
- Graduate of Queens University.
- Ph.D. from Dublin.
- University Lecturer at Adelaide.
- Professor of Physics and Head of School of Physics at the University of Sydney.
- Introduced computers in Australia.
- Known for famous science text the Blue Book.
- His motto – the pursuit of excellence.
- Harry Messel was, and is, an institution.

### **Ukrainian Connections**

Though he has been long removed from the Ukrainian-Canadian milieu, Dr. Messel has not distanced himself from his people. This is very evident in reading his interview with Adrian McGregor. "When he pestered his Ukrainian parents (What am I supposed to do?) they answered him that education, education was the key..."<sup>10</sup>

Professor Messel informed the interviewer that he was,  
"A pure-bred Ukrainian born in Canada – such ethnics were branded...he came to Australia aged 30 retains a nasal Canuck twang, but is now more Aussie than Australians."<sup>11</sup>



Fig. 8.1 Harry and Patricia Messel

<sup>10</sup> Adrian McGregor, *The Trouble with Harry*, *The Australian* December 9-10, 1995, p.13

<sup>11</sup> *Ibid.*, p.16

(Photos in Fig 5.1-8.1 Courtesy of the Nucleus)

While studying at the National University in Dublin, Ireland; Harry Messel met and married an English nurse, Patricia Iona Pegram. They were both interested in Australia where they have raised three daughters; Naomi, Wendy and Iona. The Messels have nine grandchildren.

### **Ted Mosquin, B.Sc. (Hons.), Ph.D.**

A successful Environmental Consultant, Theodore Mosquin was born in the R.M. of Brokenhead where he attended the Brokenhead School and later Beausejour Collegiate. His parents, William and Anastasia (née Kushnir) came to the area north of Beausejour from Ukraine and were pioneer farmers.

I was one of the lucky ones from our area around Beausejour to get a higher education: but I was fortunate to have good teachers like Mrs. Kozyra and John Chalaturmyk, who encouraged me to go to University of Manitoba where, in 1956, I obtained a science degree. Then I attended University of California to get a Ph.D. degree in Botany.

On return to Canada I was Assistant Professor (Botany) with the University of Calgary and then became Research Scientist, Agriculture Canada, in Ottawa as plant evaluator.

When I returned to Canada Linda came with me. We were married in 1962. She was California-born who after our children started school, became a teacher. Both our children are working for their Ph.D. degrees, Alexandra in Canadian History at York University, and Paul Lucien at Penn. State studying Population Genetics and Statistics. Both are scholarship students.

Dr. Mosquin has had a rich experience as a scientist; among other achievements he developed Ontario's Wetland Evaluation System.

Through the years he served as editor of scientific publications; authored scientific papers and publications. In 1984-1987 he served as trustee and vice-president of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society.

### **Growing Up on the Farm**

Whenever Mom and Dad went shopping to Beausejour, my older brother and I climbed to the top of the roof of every building (we had 14 or so) and jumped down. Of course, I did a few good things too, over and above duty. I pretty well grew up with a .22 in hand and a dog, vanishing into the wild country to the west on every occasion possible, especially during hunting season. I remember one fall day, bringing back 12 snowshoe hares, which I cleaned out and Mom cooked up or put away in sealers for winter. I ran a trapline starting at age 12, and will never understand why my parents let me go on Sundays all winter for most of the day alone to check the traps. Snowshoe hares in particular were very abundant in the early '40s. One year I snared 95 and got about ten or 12 cents per pelt. My older brother John sent in some money for a taxidermy course by correspondence and I was soon stuffing various birds and animals, a few of which I still have. From the money obtained from the provincial bounty on crows, kept myself supplied with bullets and bought Taverner's "Birds of Canada" (from the Eaton's catalogue for \$4.25), and learned my birds, including warblers from it, having studied it from cover to cover many times over. It brings back nostalgia every time I open it up, with all its notes and smudges (mainly from dead mosquitoes).

I was so active in amassing a complete plant and insect collection (using the current methods of the time), that the curator of plants from the National Museum at Ottawa (Dr. Homer Scoggan, now

dead) came to visit when I was a teenager (I was around 18 then) to find out who it was out there in the Brokenhead boonies that was sending in all those plants for identification (duplicates; I kept one set in my own herbarium). I remember my mother's surprise when he showed up one morning at the farm. Dad was so pleased that he allowed me to be freed of farm chores and "Dr. Scogan" and I went off together to the "sandhills" in his field truck to see where all these rare plants were found. My mom cooked up the most splendid supper for him and the family that day, about which he always reminded me in later years when I would meet him at meetings.

I kept Angora rabbits, built their pens, raised young and sold them and recall making \$28.00 one year from the sale of fur. I was 13 then. My father, while strict, always ensured that throughout childhood we had the Winnipeg Free Press, Star Weekly, Country Guide, Western Producer and he, himself, received Hansard of which there were enormous stacks in our parents' small bedroom.

I was called "Taras" by my parents and "Teddy" at school and by my 3 sisters and 3 brothers. But after getting my birth certificate in 1954 I found that I was just plain Ted. It was the principal at Beausejour (Mr. Chalaturnyk) who said I can't go through life being called Teddy or Ted and he suggested I use Theodore. Which I did thereafter for 35 years, but lately everyone has gone informal, so it's back to Ted, even on my driver's licence and scientific papers.

Dr. Ted Mosquin also states that he did not have a chance to master the Ukrainian language, which would help him serve as a Canadian scientific advisor to Ukraine. Regrettably, too, he states that he can't converse too well in his Brokenhead Ukrainian language, but understands it to a degree.

His achievements as a scientist have been remarkable, considering that his forebears were agriculturists in Ukraine and in Canada worked hard to develop their Beausejour area homesteads.

### **Evan M. Ostryzniuk, Ph.D. Cambridge**

The early Ukrainian immigrants who settled in cities mainly Winnipeg often moved west in search of employment. That was also the case with their descendants. For example, Jerry and Natalie Ostryzniuk lived in Winnipeg where in 1968 their son Evan Michael was born. Then when he was eight years old, they relocated in Regina where Evan Michael completed his high school. His hard-working parents sent him to the university at Saskatoon. In Saskatoon the Ukrainians organized a residence where students from rural and other areas could live and receive high school education, teacher training to take university work. The P. Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon played a significant role in encouraging and often helping financially hundreds of boys and girls from Ukrainian homes to go into professions. In the Institute they also received training in Ukrainian culture and traditions. Evan was one of them.

Evan's father taught Ukrainian folk dancing and Evan started to dance at age six. Later, he, himself, taught dancing. There was emphasis on the Ukrainian language and culture in his home and while still in high school he took classes in the Ukrainian language at Regina College.

He left his Regina home to start university studies in Saskatoon where he was awarded a B.A. (Hon), specializing in Russian History and proceeded to work and obtain a M.A. in Russian Studies.

While attending University he resided in the Mohyla Institute for six years. His academic courses and continued interest in Ukrainian culture has to be credited to the Mohyla Institute; Evan is an example that the Institute is still able to attain its original objectives.

Evan was a member of the Ukrainian Youth Organization CYMK both in Regina and Saskatoon and what he learned he passed on to the younger generation by teaching classes in Ukrainian and dancing in Ukrainian summer camp.

Having distinguished himself as a scholar he proceeded to Cambridge, England where he was awarded several scholarships to do research work in Kyiv. In May 2000 he was conferred with a Doctor of Philosophy, Ph.D. degree at Cambridge.

In 1992 he married Wendy Hiebert whom he met while they were both in residence of the Mohyla Institute. They now live in Kyiv Ukraine.

Evan is fluent in Ukrainian and Russian and is the managing editor of an English language weekly paper, *Eastern Economist*. Wendy teaches sciences and physical education at an English language school in Kyiv, the International Pechersk School.<sup>1</sup>

Evan and Wendy are a credit to their homes, Mohyla Institute and the University of Saskatoon. He is likely the first of Ukrainian-Canadian heritage to hold a Ph.D. from Cambridge.

### **Mary Pankiw, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., Ph.D.**

Mary Pankiw is a retired school teacher and administrator. She is the daughter of the late Peter and Irene (née Charna) Hrynczuk. Her father came to Canada from the Western Ukrainian village of Michalkow in 1903; and her mother was a post WWI immigrant of 1921 from the village of Cwitowa. They lived in Brooklands, and her father was a labourer. Mary was born in Brooklands, Manitoba and she had one sibling, Anne, a B.Sc. H.Ec. (1961).

Mary attended Brooklands School grades I-IX, and her high school at St. Nicholas School. She took Normal School training in 1941, was the first from the labouring class people in Brooklands to go into teaching.

Mrs. Pankiw had a 42-year teaching career. Of these years four were in rural Manitoba – Donald (Narol) and Lac du Bonnet Schools. Then she became a member of the Winnipeg staff.

In 1950 Mary married a WWII R.C.A.F. retired pilot, Alexander Pankiw, who was a Winnipeg teacher. While engaged as a teacher, Mary Pankiw started to raise a family and continued with her university education. Hers is a record of a woman of ability, ambition and determination: 1946-51 Teacher Florence Nightingale School; 1951 Maternity leave; 1952 Teacher Robertson School; 1953 Maternity leave; 1957 Grade IV teacher Lord Nelson School; 1958 Maternity leave; 1962

<sup>1</sup> *Ukrainian Voice*, Winnipeg, Manitoba, July 3, 2000, p.4

Teacher Victoria Albert School; 1964-65 Sabbatical leave for study purposes; 1965 Maternity leave; 1966-70 Music teacher Isaac Newton Junior High; 1968 Mr. Pankiw died; 1970 Principal's Assistant; 1973 Principal's Assistant Grant Park, and in 1974 Principal Ashland School.

As a widowed mother of five children and teacher, Mrs. Pankiw continued to improve her educational standing. This was not an easy task. Her academic reward is as follows:

- B.A. (65); B.Ed. (69); M.Ed. (72) – all degrees from University of Manitoba;
- Ph.D. (78) from Ukrainian Free University, Munich.

Dr. Mary Pankiw gained competence in music and contributed greatly as a music teacher, instructor and in preparing choirs for radio and TV programmes and musical festivals.

### Professional Development

- Mary Pankiw was conducting a Music Therapy Program for children with special needs.
- Prepared and entered 13 choirs in Manitoba Music Festival 1986.
- 1978-80 Scholarship Chairman for Delta Kappa Gamma, Beta Chapter.
- June 1980 – appointed to the Senate Committee on Instruction at the University of Manitoba for a three-year term.
- June 1980 – Chairman of Communications and Publicity of Delta Kappa Gamma, Beta Chapter, for a two-year term.
- 16 October 1981 - President of the Manitoba Modern Language Association; MMLA's representative to the Special Area Groups (SAG) Council of the Manitoba Teachers' Society; Conference Chairperson; editor for Ukrainian Chapter of MMLA.
- 1982-84 – Member of Minister Hemphill's Ad Hoc Advisory Group re Heritage Languages.
- 1983-84 – Member of Archives Committee of Canadian College of Teachers, Manitoba Chapter.
- June-September 1984 – Member of Planning Committee for Manitoba Heritage Language Symposium.
- 30 November 1984 – Elected for a two-year term on the Advisory Board (Language of Study: Ukrainian) of Manitoba Association for the Promotion of Ancestral Languages (MAPAL); elected for a two-year term on Board of Directors (MAPAL).
- 24 April 1986 – President of Canadian College of Teachers, Manitoba Chapter; member of Manitoba Education Memorabilia Committee with the Canadian College of Teachers, Manitoba Chapter.

### Ukrainian Connections

- In schools she was connected with the English-Ukrainian Bilingual Music program at Ralph Brown School.
- Conducted a choir on radio (Hydro Carollers) - Conducted the Ukrainian youth choir. St. Andrew's College during the summer school session
- Associated with the Aleksander Koshetz choir
- Conductor of children's bilingual choir in Canada's first Global Telebridge to Ukraine, 1988

As children of a single mother all five of Dr. Pankiw's children have done well – all have married:

- Maureen Alexa, B.A. Hons, York University; M.A. and B.Ed., University of Toronto – teacher received Award of Excellence, Leduc, Alberta

- Rosemary Irene, RN, Winnipeg
- Alexander Myron, Health Consultant in B.C.
- Paul Eugene, Engineering Technology (Hons) Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta
- Andrew Peter, advisor with Federal Department of Agriculture, Winnipeg, Manitoba

Dr. Pankiw has received several awards and profiled in "Chatelaine", Who's Who of Canadian Women, 1998. She has good leadership qualities and her vertical development has been commendable. That same year she was a recipient of the YM-YWCA Woman of Distinction Award.

### Harry Pinuta, B.A. M.A. Ph.D.

Harry Pinuta, a Manitoba-born school teacher, had been successful at the high school level in Manitoba, later transferring to Ontario. Harry, however, also developed an interest in writing, particularly in history. His study toward his master's degree at the University of Ottawa and later his post-graduate work and the earning of a Ph.D. degree in Munich, Germany helped to develop further interest in history. His magnum opus became a well-documented book: Land of Pain, Land of Promise. The book is a translation of first-person accounts of Ukrainian pioneers.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Writing and Ukrainian Authors in Manitoba

It is interesting that though the majority of the Ukrainian pioneers lived in the rural areas of Manitoba, Manitoba-born writers and poets seemed to make a head-start in the city of Winnipeg. A labourer and sewer digger, Fedyk, published his collection: "Songs about Canada". Though later there were many good writers and poets in Winnipeg, few were Canadian-born. In 1904 a talented writer, Sava Chernetsky, wrote fine poetry about Canada, but left for the U.S.A.

Canadian-born writers were inspired by Dr. C. H. Andushyshyn and W. Kirconnell, though Cundy's and Dr. Hunter's translations of Ukrainian poetry were stimulating factors, too. Peter Chaykowsky, Honore Ewach and Katria Novosad contributed much to the early Canadian-Ukrainian letters. The appearance of The Men in Sheep Skin Coats by a talented Winnipeg University of Manitoba graduate, Wasyl Pauluk's Canadian Cossacks and Myra Lazechko's poetry were recognized from the beginning of their publication. They inspired others to write.

However, it is regrettable that the trend that soon developed among writers was to shift to history. There were wonderful materials for good novels, but the Ukrainians have not produced creative material to the extent that the Mennonites, in Manitoba, have recently. At the present time, they have out-stripped the Ukrainians in the creative literary field.

\* \* \* \* \*

Nevertheless, though in the field of history in Manitoba, Dr. Pinuta was pre-

ceded by a Ukrainian-born writer, M. Maranchak, Saskatchewan-born Paul Yuzyk, and the Manitoba-born writers Michael Ewanchuk and Dr. B. N. Bilash, he made a very creditable contribution.

Harry Pinuta's book is a fine collection of articles written by settlers, labourers, clergymen and teachers who recorded the difficulties and experiences of the pioneer Ukrainians who worked hard to establish themselves on land as they helped to develop the new land, Canada. These articles were found in Ukrainian newspapers and different almanacs. Thus Pinuta brought to light and made available to the Canadian readership stories and anecdotes which, in time, may be lost or left to remain in permanent dormancy.

Translation from Ukrainian is not easy; but Mr. Pinuta accomplished his task masterfully.

Some of the stories merit mention, particularly, Story Number Five. This is a story about an immigrant Ukrainian family of 1899.

The family tried to reach the homestead area some 120 miles east of Edmonton and built a raft to be able to sail with the current along the Saskatchewan River. The moving of their effects from the railway station to the raft presented a problem, particularly the moving of a 400-pound chest. Unable to carry it the family rolled it along the street to the raft as many people congregated to watch and laugh, but none to help. This was "Pain". However, there was also "promise" as a man drove up, helped to load the chest on the wagon and reload it on the raft and bade the family "good-bye" as it sailed away; and then again when during a snow storm when the raft got stranded on the sand-bar the swarthy Indians helped to push it off, gave food and directions. This was "Promise".

Harry Pinuta was born in Elephinstone, Manitoba where his parents homesteaded. Here he started school, but had to experience his first sadness in life. His mother died when he was nine years old. His father, however, provided him an opportunity to attend high school, but it was a struggle for him to get adequate finances to attend Normal School, yet he managed. After teaching in several rural schools, the young lad who attended Prince of Wales rural school became principal of Sandy Lake High School.

He attained his B.A. degree from the University of Manitoba and his M.A. from the University of Ottawa. Being proud of his heritage and interested in Ukrainian culture, his M.A. thesis of 1952 dealt with The Organizational Life of Ukrainian Canadians. He then proceeded to the Ukrainian University in Munich, Germany and earned his Ph.D. cum laude.

Through the years Mr. Pinuta received support and encouragement from his wife, Mary (née Bachor). They raised three children, Myron, Ivan and Leon. His second sadness was when Myron drowned when out fishing.

After his retirement, the Pinutas continued to live in Fort Frances where they were active members of their Ukrainian Orthodox Church and provided leadership in cultural organizations. Their son Leon was in business in Toronto and Ivan recently retired as a teacher in Winnipeg.

Harry Pinuta died in 1990 at the age of eighty and Mrs. Pinuta two years later. Before her passing, Mrs. Pinuta provided the following information:





Fig 9.1 Mary and Dr. Harry Pinuta  
(On their 50th Wedding Anniversary, 1986)

I've been going through Harry's library and filing cabinet for several months this past winter. I recorded every book, folders of material and scrap books; and was surprised that there was close to 3000 books, folders, etc. What a chore for me – it was mind boggling! Some of the books went to the local library, others to friends and family. A box of old material and books went to Oseredok in Winnipeg, and 19 items of Harry's writings, letters, his book, a manuscript of anecdotes of early pioneers, "Tell Us Another One" that never got printed, his B.A. term paper – "Cultural Adjustments of the Ukrainians in Manitoba" – 1950, his M.A. thesis for Ottawa University "The Organizational Life of Ukrainian Canadians with Special Reference to the Ukrainian Canadian Committee" – 1952, and even his memoirs "Memories – Mostly Golden" – a manuscript of 204 pages went to the National Archives in Ottawa. In 1982 Harry had then donated some of his works to the Archives so I just added to his collection. Harry donated his Doctoral thesis to St. Andrew's College when he was still alive. The bulk of his Ukrainian books and material will eventually go to St. Andrew's College also. It will take some time to dispose of the library.<sup>1</sup>

### **Alexander W. Pressey, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.**

In 1905 Theodosy Prysiazniuk, left his wife and four children in the Borschiw district of Western Ukraine to seek land and freedom in Canada. What induced him to come were the letters that arrived in the village from people who emigrated to Canada earlier and told that there were vast stretches of unoccupied land available.

He first found work around Prince Albert, Saskatchewan with a construction crew building a bridge across the North Saskatchewan River. He worked there all summer.

<sup>1</sup> Mary Pinuta, Fort Frances, Ontario, letter to Michael Ewarchuk, June 02, 1991.

In the fall he came to Pine River, where he had relatives, walked eight miles east and selected a homestead NW<sub>1/4</sub> of 4-33.21 in Pulp River. On this homestead he built a house close to a river. The house had a "Ukrainian Central Heating System"; a peech, that was used for cooking, baking bread, and a platform for a warm bed.

In 1906 his wife, Maria, arrived with four children. They helped clearing land and got married at an early age. Theodosy walked to do harvest work south of the Riding Mountains.

Theodosy and Maria's son William married Anne Kunka and they acquired land in the Vimy Ridge area where they raised a family of seven children. However, they induced and encouraged them to acquire higher education. And they did. Michael became a dentist in Toronto; Orest practised law in Portage la Prairie; the girls got business training and married. Maurice took over the family farm. Alexander, on the other hand, chose a different route to finally become a university professor.

Alexander Pressey was born in Ethelbert, Manitoba in 1939, attended Vimy rural school and completed Pine River High School.

While working on his B.A. degree he joined the army and became a Commissioned Officer, Lord Strathcona Horse, 1958, but continued with his studies. In 1961 he was awarded a M.A., University of Manitoba. While a member of the armed forces he was promoted to the rank of captain and then retired to specialize in the field of psychology and was research psychologist at Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan. Having been a lecturer in psychology University of Manitoba, he proceeded with his postgraduate studies obtaining a Ph.D. degree from University of Alberta in 1961.

Dr. Pressey had a rich professional experience:

- 1964-68, Assistant Professor Psychology, University of Manitoba
- 1968-73, Associate Professor
- 1973, Professor of Psychology

While engaged as professor he co-authored a book, Readings in General Psychology and has written and co-authored more than sixty articles published in various psychological journals.

Professor Pressey's contribution in his field of speciality has been extensive and widely recognized. He was a visiting scholar in England, U.S.A., Germany and Italy; and was invited to give addresses at universities and colleges: Milan, Georgia, Tennessee, Kansas, Frankfurt and others.

Since 1959 he has been interviewed on CBC radio and T.V., and also on CKND.

That Alexander Pressey's academic competence was also recognized in the field of psychological research is attested by no fewer than ten grant-awards he received; and some amounted to as high as \$25,000. In 1980-83 he researched the

subject: "Spatial discriminability and attention deployment in visual distortion".  
Honours came his way, too:

- Elected Fellow of Canada Psychological Association
- Member Visiting Scientist Program of American Psychological Association
- Listed in American Men and Women of Science
- Listed in Who's Who in America, 1976.
- Listed in Canadian Who's who in 1985.

Though Professor Pressey dedicated time to his profession, he found time to golf, curl and travel.

He is married to Joyce Hedison. There are three children in the Pressey family; Cindy Dawn married in Sydney, Australia, Heather Lynn in Winnipeg, also Christopher.

Professor Pressey who grew up in Pine River, Manitoba, and along with his siblings assisted in clearing land, picking roots and herding cattle would expect that he would go into the agricultural field; and he did to a degree. He and Mrs. Pressey own a farm in the Starbuck, Manitoba area.

He belongs to the Ukrainian Canadian generation that had a start in the bush country on the Eastern slopes of Duck Mountains where children worked hard to help their parents: they milked cows, cut wood, cleared land, picked roots, picked wild berries for sale and watched herds of deer in spring. They also listened to stories of adventure: how Mr. Wasyl Kunka carried a bag of flour on his back all the way from Neepawa or how he shot a buffalo one moonlight night. Besides the buffalo there were also elk and moose.

It was such a background that seemed to impact Alexander W. Pressey to succeed to be an army captain and then become a leading psychologist at the University of Manitoba: Wonderful Vertical Development.

### **Dr. Peter T. Smylski**

In selecting personalities of Ukrainian extraction who have reached the zenith of the vertical development in their professions and made an outstanding contribution to society and the betterment of physical well-being of people in need - individuals who had a crying need for help - the name of Dr. Peter Smylski is at the top of the list. Dr. Smylski was one of the great dental specialists in his day.

Dr. Peter T. Smylski was born in Dauphin, Manitoba in 1915. He completed his high school education in Gilbert Plains, took Pre-med work in Winnipeg and graduated with a D.D.S. degree from the University of Alberta in 1940. He went into general practice in Hamilton, Ontario, but W.W.II interrupted his practice and he became a member of the Canadian Army Dental Corps serving in Canada and overseas.

In 1942 he married Doris Puchalski and they have raised two boys Thomas and Peter and two girls, Doris and Nadia.

On return from overseas service Dr. Smylski did post-graduate work in oral

surgery at the University of Toronto. Then he returned to Hamilton to carry on with oral surgery practice from 1947-1964, and was on active staff of most Hamilton hospitals. Among other functions, he was a member of the Medical Advisory Board, Toronto General Hospital for 16 years. He became chairman of the oral surgery department, University of Toronto.

Dr. Peter Smylski was engaged in corrective processes for oral deformities, most common types he corrected were termed prognathism, retrognathism and apertognathia: lengthening of the jaw, underdeveloped lower jaw and "over bite". In 1973 the Toronto Star devoted a full page to the work he was accomplishing as an oral dental surgeon. Then in 1974 the same Toronto paper stated:

While Smylski stresses his work is functional rather than cosmetic, the psychological benefits of oral surgery are of prime importance and Smylski would like to see more teenagers get oral surgery they need.

One, Frances Harding, who had corrective surgery done is quoted:

I had become extremely self-conscious about my appearance...Now every time I smile I bless (Peter Smylski) who changed my life.

Now retired Dr. Smylski lives in Toronto and participates actively in Ukrainian cultural organizations, as chairman of St. Vladimir's Institute and his



Fig 10.1 Dr. Peter T. Smylski

Ukrainian Orthodox Church. The son of Ukrainian pioneers of the Dauphin area he really reached great heights in his profession, and merits most hearty congratulations. The Ukrainian Sifton settlers who came to Canada brought not only capable hands to develop the country, but also high IQ's to use their hands to contribute to the common physical need of people suffering from dental deformities.

### Three Interlake Ph.D.'s

#### Dr. Margaret Owchar, B.A. M.A. Ph.D.

One of the early women university graduates from the Interlake area of Manitoba was Margaret Owchar. She was a descendant of the early Ukrainian settlers in Canada, and grew up in a remote area of the Interlake, some twelve miles north of Riverton where she attended Shorncliffe rural school. There she completed Grade IX by correspondence. Margaret then left home to attend Teulon Collegiate and graduated as a gold medallist and was awarded the Isbister Scholarship what helped her to start the University of Manitoba Program. She was a gold medallist when she graduated.

At the University of Minnesota she earned a Masters Degree and lectured while working on her doctorate. Then she received a teaching position at Lakehead University.

The educational progress of a girl from the submarginal area of the Interlake area was outstanding. Her success was a credit to her parents and the wider community. Her academic brilliance secured her a professorship in a larger university south of the Border and she left Canada.

#### Dr. Donald Onysko

Two other students from the Interlake area distinguished themselves academically. One, Donald Onysko, born in the Riverton area of Manitoba where his parents were teaching attended Riverton High School.

He was a gold medallist at the University of Manitoba graduating with a B.Sc. degree and was awarded an Athlon Fellowship. On return from England, he received his Ph.D. at the University of West Virginia. On return to Canada he became a civil servant doing research work in forestry.

#### Dr. Tony Klym

Tony Klym was another academician from the Interlake area. He was born in Gimli. He graduated as gold medallist and received his B.Sc. and Masters in Civil Engineering at the University of Manitoba. He was awarded a doctorate from Queens.

The Federal Government sent Tony to Thailand under the Colombo Plan. On return to Canada he received employment with Ontario Hydro.

**Dr. Odarka Trosky-Politzer (née Hrycyna) B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., Ph.D.**

Dr. Trosky has had a rich and varied educational experience as public school and university teacher. After teaching for 14 years in Winnipeg, in 1965 she became a staff member of the Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba. In preparation for her university teaching, she majored in psychology and specialized in reading and language teaching. The University of Toronto granted her the Ph.D. Degree.

In 1974 Dr. Odarka Trosky obtained the rank of professor. She served as Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Curriculum Studies and was consultant for Reading Assessment in the Manitoba schools. She has also been in demand across Canada to conduct workshops.

Through the years she authored three books, and authored and co-authored over forty-three articles.

Dr. Trosky never abandoned contact with the Ukrainian culture. While a high school student in Dauphin where her father was clergyman of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church she organized the junior branch of SYMK. After the establishment of St. Andrew's College at the Fort Garry site she maintained close contact with the Institution; in 1986-87 Dr. Odarka Trosky was acting Principal of St. Andrew's College, University of Manitoba.

Early in her university career she was nominated for Excellence in Teaching and the Alpha Omega Alumnae also nominated her as the YMCA "Woman of the Year". The Phi Delta Kappa award: Outstanding Researcher in Education came in 1987. During her term as Professor of Education, she was supervisor of no fewer than sixteen students in the Master of Education Thesis Programme. From 1979-82 she was visiting professor at the University of Winnipeg, University of West Indies and University of Brandon.

Toward the end of her professorial tenure, Dr. Trosky did post-doctoral studies in England.

Odarka Trosky-Politzer had an active career. Her contribution to education has been outstanding. Through the years she not only created a proper attitude among her pupils to excel, but also inspired them to succeed. Always a lady, she had the faculty to engender a feeling of good will.



Fig 10.2 Special Ukrainian course for teachers, University of Manitoba, 1924



Fig 10.3 Three summer school students, L-R A.W. Ewanchuk, John Ewanchuk and Michael Ewanchuk. (University of Manitoba Science building at rear.)

## Part II

# School Teachers

The pioneer teachers, many graduates of the Ukrainian Training School in Brandon, and those who followed them made a very significant contribution among the Ukrainian communities in rural areas. They provided leadership by organizing libraries, the building of community halls and thus provided a place where cultural enrichment took place. They, therefore, assisted the parents in providing and maintaining Ukrainian culture and heritage among the young.

The most significant contribution, however, was that they provided guidance to and encouraged the young people to go to high school and enter into the professions; law, medicine, engineering and others. Consequently, the successes of the first few impelled others to follow. The ranks of the school teachers were highly increased.

Then a change came when after WWII more and more teachers from Ukrainian homes received placement in town and city schools, and did well. In this part, therefore, we shall deal with the "vertical development" of this new generation of teachers.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Sonja Bejzyk, B.A., B.Ed.

Mrs. Bejzyk is the daughter of Nykola and Maria Mandziuk. Nykola grew up in the Ashville area around Dauphin and Maria in the south-eastern part of Caliento. Nykola Mandziuk was a teacher and then studied law.

Sonja was born in Winnipeg and grew up in Oakburn where her father practised law. She took her elementary and high school in Oakburn. On graduating with a B.A. degree she taught in Angusville for two years then attended the Faculty of Education for her B.Ed. degree. She received a position as secondary school mathematics teacher in River East School Division; became Department Head and taught in the same school (Miles MacDonell) for 30 years.

In her youth she was an active member of CYMK (Association of Ukrainian Youth in Canada). In her home her parents instilled in her great love for her culture, church and heritage.

During her adult years besides maintaining close touch with her professional associations, Ukrainian cultural and religious issues have always been of prime importance to Sonja. Some of her involvements include:

- Assisted at Kyiv Pavilion during Folklorama.
- Was Vice-president and secretary of the parish council of Holy Trinity Cathedral.
- Chair, Board of Directors, director and committee chair of St. Andrew's College.



- Presently a member of the Board St. Andrew's College.
- Dean of the girls' residence St. Andrew's College during summer.
- Ukrainian language teacher during summer courses.

A member of UWAC Lesia Ukrainka Branch, Winnipeg, Manitoba for 30 years, and is:

- Past president of that branch.
- Past president of the Manitoba UWAC provincial executive – 2 terms.
- Presently a member of the Manitoba UMC the museum UWAC.

Sonja is also the past vice-president of the national executive UWAC and chair of the Personnel committee as well as chair of many conventions and conferences planning committees.

Sonja is immediate past president of the national executive of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Women's Committee, and:

- Past vice-president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, national.
- Past chair of the Education committee UCC.
- Presently a member of the Executive.

Sonja has received many awards for her active and dedicated volunteer work – among these are:

- Ukrainian Canadian Congress Centennial Award of Excellence;
- And an award from the National and Provincial Association of Ukrainian Self-reliance League. (She is National President UWAC.)

She is married to Oleh Bejzyk also a retired school teacher. They live in Winnipeg. She has one sibling, Darcia a retired school teacher.

Sonja is enjoying her retirement years by being active in various Ukrainian associations and the Ukrainian Women's' Museum.

### Nadia Evans

Nadia was born to Mary and Peter Onysko in Gimli, Manitoba April 10, 1943.

She was raised and attended school in Riverton. After graduating from Riverton Collegiate in 1961, Nadia headed to Winnipeg to attend the University of Manitoba and Manitoba Teachers' College. Later, she obtained a B.A. from the University of Winnipeg and then completed a Pre-Master's of Art Education at the University of Manitoba.

Nadia's first teaching position was in Seven Oaks School Division. Throughout her career she also taught in Glasgow, Scotland, St. John's Newfoundland and upon her return to Winnipeg, Transcona School Division, St.

Vital School Division, and the University of Winnipeg Collegiate at the Winnipeg Art Gallery.

Nadia married Dr. William S. Evans in 1966. They have two children, Shauna Marie who is working as a graphic artist in B.C. and David Stuart in the communication field. Both have graduated from the University of Winnipeg.

Nadia retired from teaching in 1908 and Bill, who was a Full Professor in Biology at University of Winnipeg, retired in 1999. Together, Bill and Nadia continue to be involved in the arts and in research, but make time to enjoy travel and other leisure activities.

### Alexander W. Ewanchuk, B.A., B.Ed.

The family of Wasyl and Paraskeva Ewanchuk pioneers of 1902 was divided into two parts: the older three children, and the two younger boys. Their father called them "Little Boys". Time came and the older three left home: Nettie got married and John and Michael went to Detroit. Peter and Alexander, known as Alec, were home. They both attended Dnister School and took part in activities of The National Home. Alec learned to do Ukrainian dances. Then they attended Gimli High School and for Grade XII went to Teulon.



Fig 2.1 Alexander W. Ewanchuk

On completing Grade XII, Alec went into teaching and Peter left for Windsor, Ontario. In his high school years Alec became a very good baseball player. During the summer some good players came from Winnipeg; one was Douglas Chevrier. Everybody claimed that Alec had the potential to become a major league player.

Alec's first school was Sky Lake. Though he did well there, he moved to Lilac School. Alec took two extra courses - Physical Education and Shops. Both Peter and Alec were good carpenters having learned the skills from their father. Alec taught:

- Junior High in Gimli;
- became physical education teacher in West Kildonan and coached a champion junior hockey team with Andy Bathgate as a player;
- taught in St. Vital;
- transferred to do Junior High teaching in Winnipeg.

During WWII, Alexander was F/O, R.C.A.F., cadet training officer in Winnipeg.

However, he got restless and wanted adventure, and got to be Social Studies and Physical Education Teacher in Forest Hill Collegiate, Toronto where, when coaching his school's team for a field day, and suffering from flu, he contacted pneumonia and died.

Alec was a kindly generous person, a good community worker, and also worked hard to improve professional standing. He was very good and kind to his parents.

### **Luba Fedorkiw, B.A., B.Ed., M.A.**

Ms. Luba Fedorkiw's parents were born in Ukraine: Father Andrij in the Stryj district and mother Magdalene (née Gural) close to Sambir. They came to Canada from England in 1957. Here Luba and her brother Ivan attended elementary schools: St. Nicholas and Strathcona, Isaac Newton Junior High, and St. John's.

Both the Fedorkiw children were interested in improving their education: Ivan graduated with a B.Sc. and M.Sc. in Agriculture and is now in business. Luba, also encouraged by her parents, attended University of Manitoba obtaining: B.A., B.Ed. and M.A. degrees specializing in languages, English, Ukrainian, French and took courses in Italian and Greek.

Luba obtained a teaching positioning West Kildonan and continued with her postgraduate studies attending the following universities:

- Grenoble, France
- Laval, Quebec City
- Thessaloniki in Greece
- Francesco Petrarca, Rome, Italy

Ms. Fedorkiw was able to continue with further studies being employed at the Senior High Level. She specialized in teaching Ukrainian, French, ESL and Family Studies. Her teaching ability was recognized and for four years she was a lecturer at the Faculty of Education, University of Manitoba.

In addition to her teaching she was interested in politics, ran and was elected trustee of the School Division of Winnipeg #1, serving during the terms 1977-1983 and 1994-1998. She also served as Vice-Chair of the Board.

During her tenure as trustee and teacher:

- She was instrumental in introducing and piloting the Ukrainian Bilingual Program at Ralph Brown School.

- Spearheaded the introduction of American Sign Language at the Senior High Level.
- Organized two student tours to Ukraine, 1975 and 1977.

A parent of one son, Andrij, Luba has been able to be an active member of her church, the St. Vladimir and Olha Cathedral, and served on the school directorate there.

She is proud of her Ukrainian heritage and as a citizen, teacher and mother has throughout the years made a significant contribution to society and the city of Winnipeg. She is a member of:

- Alpha Omega Women's Alumni
- Ukrainian Professional and Business Club
- Plast
- Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers
- Has done considerable volunteer work

### Ollie Hawryluk, Teacher

Ollie Hawryluk grew up in Winnipeg where her father Nicholas Ewashkiw, an immigrant from Bily Potik, Western Ukraine was employed as a boiler room maintainer in a brewery. He was preceded to Canada by his father who came in about 1898. When Nicholas was of age he was called for three years military training in the Austrian army. Early in 1914 when on leave he and his friend left for Canada. When WWI broke out they were employed with the CPR as labourers. His friend stayed. After WWI Nicholas established residence in Winnipeg where he married Katherine Zdebiak, and they became members of "Mala Tserkva", the St. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral where Ollie was christened and remained a member until the present.

Mrs. Hawryluk grew up in the Ukrainian sector of Winnipeg – North End and received her elementary and junior high education in William Whyte School and high school in Isaac Newton.

Then she attended the Winnipeg Normal School and became an elementary school teacher – specializing in music.

She was employed in the following elementary schools: Isbister School, Dugald, Manitoba; Bredalbane School and Virden Elementary School.

In Winnipeg Ollie started in Sir Sam Steele, was transferred to Kent Road then to John M. King and, finally, Faraday from which school she retired.

Through the years Mrs. Hawryluk continued to improve her professional competency by taking courses at the University of Manitoba in education and music. She also took courses to improve her competence in Ukrainian and attended night classes taking language, culture and history courses.

Besides studying at the University of Manitoba, Ollie attended two universities in Europe: The Ukrainian Free University in Munich, Germany and the Taras



Fig 2.2 Ollie Hawryluk

Shevchenko University in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Ollie was married to the late John Hawryluk, the first teacher of Ukrainian descent to become principal of an East Kildonan School. John was elected M.L.A. for the constituency of Burrows in Winnipeg, but passed away early in life.

Mrs. Hawryluk has been a prominent member of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club, serving as Second Vice-President. Her work was recognized by the Club and she was an Honoree, 1998-1999. On that occasion the Club summarized her educational and community accomplishments as follows:

Music has always been Ollie Hawryluk's passion and she prepared choirs for Music Festivals and trained students to play various musical instruments. Her love of Ukrainian music led her to become a member of the Oleksander Koshetz Choir. She also directed the Church Choir at St. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral for 32 years.

In 1988 she assisted as Choir Director of the Ukrainian Millennium Choir. At the St. Vladimir & Olga Cathedral, she served a three-year term as President of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada. The spirit of volunteerism propelled her into involvement with the Holy family Nursing Home where she was both a member of the Advisory Board and of the Nursing Home Ladies' Auxiliary. Ollie Hawryluk was very prominent on the Executive of the Ukrainian Canadian Women's Committee and later on the Executive of the Ukrainian Canadian Women's Congress.

In the larger community she has maintained an interest in women's issues and was Membership Secretary of the Council of Women of Winnipeg for six years. Ollie Hawryluk belongs to the

Ukrainian Catholic Women's League was well as to the Ukrainian National Federation. She has been a member of the Ukrainian Curriculum Committee for the Department of Education and an Executive Member of the Manitoba Modern Language Association since its inception.

### Michael Huska, B.A., B.Ed.

Michael Huska is a retired teacher. He and this wife, Irene, enjoy retirement in their lovely home.

M.E. Mr. Huska, what can you tell me about your parents?

M.H. Of my background I know this: my father, Wasyl, came to Canada in 1905 from the Selo of Babynets. He was fifteen years old, and somehow got a job on a boat that was crossing the Atlantic, and that helped him come to Canada. He came to Winnipeg and got work clearing land for a farmer north-west of Tolstoi. In winter he went to school to learn English. A couple of years later he went to Drumheller, Alberta and worked in a coal mine where he had two accidents, once he was totally covered with coal and they had to dig him and others out. Leaving coal mining he took a homestead in the Vegreville area, but that didn't work out. He worked his way to Winnipeg where he married my mother, Anne Stephaniuk, and they took a homestead in the Sclater area north of Dauphin. In our family there were four children. Two girls, one older than I and a boy and a girl younger. My sister Pauline also became a teacher.

M.E. Where did you go to school?

M.H. I was seven when I started and attended a country school for one year. Then my parents built a small house in Pine River and I finished Grade IX there. It so happened that my sister married a Mr. Kohut of Souris and I went there, worked for a farmer and attended school finishing Grade XI. Then I joined the army for two years. On discharge I took 1st year at University of Winnipeg.

M.E. Did you go to Normal School then?

M.H. No. My parents moved to Souris and operated a half-section of land. My father, as a result of the accident in the coal mine, got ill and I went to Souris to help run the farm for two years. In the meantime I worked on a train selling newspapers. Then for two years I was a Blue Cross representative working out of Dauphin. Having saved some money I decided to go into teaching. I attended Winnipeg Normal School.

M.E. Where did you meet Mrs. Huska?

M.H. I met Irene Oliver at Normal School and we got married at Easter before the end of the school year.

M.E. Mrs. Irene Huska, did you come from the Souris area?

I.H. No, I was born in the Melita area and went to a rural school. Times were hard; my mother was ill so I went to town and did housework for my board and room: It was not only Ukrainians who lived through difficult times. I finished my high school, got a permit to teach at Dand and then went to Normal School.

M.H. My first school was Kirkfield Park and Irene's was Shaughnessy Park. Then I got on the Winnipeg staff and taught for six years at Principal Sparling, five years in Cecil Rhodes Junior High and then went into guidance work.

We raised three children; our oldest daughter, Miranda, became a teacher - she has her B.A. and M.L.Sc. Myra our second daughter has her B.A. and teacher training, and our son Mark is in business.

We have taken trips to Europe, Australia, New Zealand and various places in Canada and USA. I retired in 1986, and though I like bridge, curling and golf, we devote much time to church work. I sing in the choir and I am a member of the Mentors Club.



Fig 2.3 Michael and Irene Huska

**Walter Manulak, B.A., B.Ed.**

Walter Manulak was born on April 18, 1935 in the Oakburn District (Seech). He is a retired science and mathematics teacher. His great grandparents Maksim and Malanka (née Zosiuk) came to Canada in 1899 from the selo Harasymiw in the Horodenka region of Halychyna (Western Ukraine). They arrived with a group that was quarantined at Patterson Lake due to an outbreak of scarlet fever and children died before they reached Strathclair, Manitoba. Malanka being with child and as children were dying in the quarantined zone urged her husband to escape from the tents. Two other couples came with them and they dug into a side of the hill and made a makeshift home where they wintered and their third child was born. They wintered safely and then moved to their homestead where they had six children. Their youngest was Steve. Steve's son, Michael, married a Tokaryk girl and their second son, Walter, is the subject of this essay.

Walter grew up on the homestead farm (he had six siblings) and attended St John's school from grade one to eight. He attended Oakburn School for grades nine to twelve. After completing his senior matriculation he enrolled at the Normal School in Winnipeg to become a teacher.

By profession he was a classroom teacher, in the Manitoba school system for thirty-five years. His teaching career took him from the rural schools of Braddock and St. John's to High school in Oakburn, to Lockport, and then to Winnipeg. The last twenty years he taught in the St. Vital School Division #6 retiring in June of 1989. His experience spanned from nine grades in rural schools, to grade nine and eleven in high schools, and 24 years in junior high schools teaching mathematics and science and six years in intermediate grades where he encouraged and tried to foster the Ukrainian language and culture to the youth.

A firm believer in multiculturalism he taught classes at the junior high level for many years and taught and administrated the Parochial church school at the Holy Trinity Cathedral for ten years.

His youngest son and granddaughter are the products of a bilingual program (English – Ukrainian), grades one to eight in the Manitoba School system.

He also served as president of the Ukrainian Self Reliance League of Canada (the Winnipeg branch for five years). Presently he holds the position of assistant secretary and chairman of the committee.

He attended the University of Manitoba during the winter and summer school sessions for a period of ten years, and attained a Bachelor of Science (major mathematics/minor zoology) and a Bachelor of Education degree. He started a pre-masters program in the field of mathematics then decided to devote more time to his family as he was missing their growing-up days. He firmly believes that parents should place more emphasis today on family life centred on the church and the community. Too many children are unsupervised and uncontrolled which leads itself to the court and criminal avenues.

On August 22, 1959 he married Evangeline Slon of Oakburn. They have both taught school in the Lockport area for two years. They then decided that Evangeline would become a homemaker and raise their family rather than continue with her teaching profession.

They raised four children: Eugene who has been employed for Maple Leaf Meats for twenty years; Wesley who is a instrumentation technologist for the Canadian Pipe Line; Lisa who has a degree in Interior Design; and Daniel who is an aerospace manufacturing technician, who graduated from Red River Community College.

Walter is very active in the Ukrainian community. He has served on the board of Directors at St. Andrew College, University of Manitoba Campus for several years. He is involved with the order of St. Andrew's at the local and national



Fig 2.4 Walter and Evangeline Manulak



levels serving various positions on the executive level. He is also a member of the Ukrainian National Home where he served as treasurer and corresponding secretary. Presently he is serving his fifth consecutive year as president of the Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity. He has devoted much time and effort to the church.

### **Ukrainian Connections**

Walter Manulak, a great believer that the parents should inform their children in their heritage and become good church members. He himself has an impressive record:

- A firm believer in multiculturalism he taught Ukrainian classes at the junior high level for many years.
- Administrated and taught in his church school.
- Prepared a "Shevchenko" teaching kit and "Ukrainian Songs", part of the kit was published by the department of Education - a cassette with music of the songs is available from the School Board Branch.
- Has served on the Board of Directors of St. Andrew's College, University of Manitoba Campus.
- Member of the Order of St. Andrew Church.
- Served as a president of the Winnipeg chapter of Self-Reliance League.
- Was secretary of Ukrainian National Home Organization.
- Serving his Fifth term as president of the Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity.

Walter and Evangeline are active members of their church. They were also active in organizing the Manulak family reunion in August 2000, a "Clan" of 622 members and 205 from Vancouver and Toronto and points in between came to attend the grandparent's memorial service in Olha, and visited the two Seech cemeteries.

### **Michael A. Negrich, B.A. B.Ed. M.Ed.**

In 1897 Michael Negrich's father along with many settlers from the sub-Carpathian region of Kolomyja village of Lower Bereziw came to Canada. His grandfather settled in the R.M. of Ethelbert, where with the help of the Presbyterian Church the community built a school and called it Nahoda, (Opportunity); but in time the Department of Education changed the name to Mink Creek. His father, however, took up land in the R.M. of Gilbert Plains. The Negrich group north of Gilbert Plains established the school district of Kolomyja, post office of Venlaw where one of the early teachers was J. W. Arsenych, also from Bereziw. Mr. Negrich's mother, née Justina Dzamga was from the Ternopil area.

The Negrich's made a good start on their homestead SE\_ 15-27-22W. Mr. Andrew Negrich not only operated his own threshing outfit to do custom work, but he also had a sawmill and was a horse and cattle dealer.

Young Michael started Grade 1 in Kolomyja and then attended Wycliffe School in Sifton living in the Presbyterian Mission residence operated by the church to assist with the education of Ukrainian rural school children. Michael's father was

a founding member of the Independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church that was a branch of the Presbyterian church.

Michael took his grade five and six in Dauphin, but for grade 7 he went to Brickburn School in Gilbert Plains. Here he experienced miserable bullying until he took steps to fight back; and succeeded.

His parents were financially able to send him to the Dauphin Collegiate for high school grades and he took his teacher training at the Winnipeg Normal School.

During the dirty thirties Michael sought employment away from home and the province, and even had to resort to "riding the rods".

He taught in the following rural schools: Lynnville, Riverbend and Borden. Then he worked at the post office in Portage la Prairie.

In the districts he taught he prepared school concerts and picnics, and helped to organize the farmers to help them attain better prices for livestock and wheat. He was also active in the teachers' organization and tried to organize the teachers to obtain a uniform salary schedule.

In 1964 he enrolled in a pre-med course in Saskatoon, but due to "a quota" imposed on Ukrainian students he could not continue in Manitoba so he earned his B.A. and B.Ed. courses in Saskatoon.

His high school teaching experience was unique. For two years he was Science, Mathematics and Physical Training teacher in the Selkirk Collegiate and then went to Montreal for a year. From Montreal he went to Miami, Florida where he received his Master's degree in Guidance. For ten years he taught in the Miami area and attended the University at Coral Gables.

On return to Winnipeg Michael Negrich served as acting principal of St. Andrew's College for one semester. Then he got on the Winnipeg staff and taught at Sisler and Daniel MacIntyre high schools, and then he returned to the U.S.A. to teach in Seattle, Washington. Returning to Canada, he resumed work in the field of Guidance in the Winnipeg School Division.

He married a Winnipeg-born Home Economics teacher, Miss Nadia Skremetka and they have established their home in Winnipeg. On retirement they travelled in Canada and the U.S.A. and cruised the Baltic Sea area travelling from London via the Kiel Canal as far as St. Petersburg, Helsinki, Stockholm and Oslo. He and Nadia befriended the artist William Kurelek, bought his paintings and helped him during his visits to Manitoba.

They are both church members and Michael Negrich served as treasurer of St. Andrew's Society and the Canadian Foundation for the Free Ukrainian University in Munich.

Life is never dull for Michael A. Negrich as he always found enough things to "fix" or build. A kindly individual he knows how to get along with people.

### **Nadia Negrich (née Skremetka) B.Sc. (H.Ec.), B.Ed., M.Ed.**

Nadia Negrich was born in Winnipeg, Manitoba, the daughter of the late Tatiana and Michael Skremetka. She received a B.Sc. (H.Ec.) in 1937 from the

Faculty of Home Economics, a B.Ed. in 1958 and a M.Ed. in 1972 from the Faculty of Education, all at the University of Manitoba.

Since graduation, Mrs. Negrich has been teaching Home Economics at various Winnipeg schools. She was Department Head of Home Economics at Elmwood High School. She has travelled extensively in parts of Europe, Asia, the Middle East, South America, and the South Seas.

Nadia Negrich has been associated with the Ukrainian National Home since early childhood, beginning with Ukrainian school, the adult choir and girl's club, until the advent of World War II, and has continued to this day as a member of the Lesia Ukrainka Women's Club. Her parents, active lifelong members of the Ukrainian National Home, nurtured in her a lasting interest in education, in all forms of Ukrainian culture, and in organizational activities. As a student, she was a member of the Ukrainian students' club "Prometheus" and later the Ukrainian Teachers' Club. She acted on the Board of Directors of the Alpha Omega Credit Union Society and the Ukrainian Theatre. At present, besides her Home Economics associations and the University of Manitoba Alumnae, she is a member of the Holy Trinity Greek Orthodox Cathedral and an active member of the Alpha Omega Women's Alumnae since its inception.\*

Nadia is married to Michael Andrew Negrich.

### **Peter J. Olchowecki, B.Sc., B.Ed.**

I grew up in the Sandilands area where my father was the first man on the railroad maintenance crew. He came to Canada in 1906 from the village of Perimylyv, in the Western Ukraine, and my mother, Frances three years later. My father finally became a section foreman and moved to Ontario. There were eight siblings in our family; two of us are university graduates.

I got my elementary education in Lonesand School and came to Winnipeg, staying in the Ukrainian P. Mohyla Institute for students for six years. I planned to go to engineering but the depression made it impossible for my parents to help me financially. As a young lad I worked as a section hand to earn some money during July and August.

Subsequently I became a teacher, after taking my teacher training at Brandon, I taught in the area north of the Indian Reserve in the Interlake, and also in the Lac du Bonnet. Then I moved closer to home, became principal at the St. Andrews, Purple Bank and for 10 years in Shevchenko school, Vita MB.

Having learned to play the mandolin, I organized school choirs, and led the church choir in Vita.

In Vita I married a schoolteacher, Anne Mary Dykun. We have one daughter, Mary Anne living in Vancouver.

When I was in Vita and Gardenton I organized SUMK and prepared the members for jamborees. I take pride in the work I did in my music. The Gardenton people enjoyed the high school students' choir I organized, and loved to come to our concerts and said so. I am proud of my contribution to enrich the quality of

\* From Ukrainian Women Graduates, University of Manitoba.

social life of the community, and particularly for convincing the Vita school board to admit non-resident students to high school, and the school became a Collegiate.

I think life in the P. Mohyla Institute prepared me to do community work. For one year I went to Teulon as a science teacher and then got placement in the River East School Division from where I retired.

### **Dan Stasiuk, B.A. B.Ed.**

Nykola Stasiuk came to Canada in 1900, from the village of Zaluche in Ukraine. In 1906 he married Mary Basaraba and they started farming in the Valley River, later moving to the Halicz district northwest of Dauphin. They raised twelve children; among them there were three sets of twins. Dan attended Halicz School, took high school in Dauphin and normal school in Brandon.

Dan Stasiuk started teaching in rural schools, Halicz and Drifting River. Then he improved his academic standing and was principal of Happy Thought (East Selkirk) and Tolstoi high schools; moving to East Kildonan and then Cecil Rhodes School in Winnipeg.

He enlisted during WWII and served with the R.C.A.F. On discharge he took farther training obtaining his B.A. and B.Ed. degrees.

He married a teacher Elise Korotash who grew up in the Stuartburn area, and they make their home in Winnipeg. Of his siblings two were farmers and one was a dentist. Most of the others have passed away.

Dan is a member of the Ukrainian Sons of Ukrainian Pioneers Club.

### **William E. Zborowsky, B.Ed.**

William Zborowsky's parents came to Canada just before WWI, to settle in Winnipeg. His father, John, was born in the "seto" Hostiw, and Mother, Mary (née Borysyk) in the Kalush district. They raised four boys, three went into business and one, Walter, became a social worker and lecturer (Cleveland, U.S.A.).

William was employed as a hardware retailer and did office work. He also did well in sales and contract work before he decided to go into education.

*"I lived in Winnipeg all my life and attended Strathcona, Faraday and Isaac Newton High School. My life and church connections were in the northern sector of Winnipeg."*

William has been an active member in several organizations and recently retired having served very competently as president of Mentor's Club.

Early in life he married Olga Petrushak who attended Isaac Newton School at the same time he did. Olga tried to go into teaching but after a one-year teaching experience in a one-room rural school, enrolled in Success Business College, taught Pitman Shorthand at Red River College and in Kelvin evening classes. She also worked in the Monarch Life Office. She did take time off to raise Patricia, now an elementary school teacher, and Gerald a Junior High teacher.

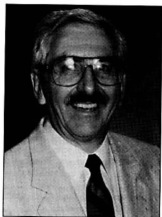


Fig 2.5 William E. Zborowsky

From 1967-1979 I taught at the R. B. Russell Vocational School teaching Retailing and Merchandising. In 1979 I was asked to introduce a new marketing programme at Maples Collegiate and taught there until retirement in 1990.

In 1958 I became a Member of the Knights of Columbus. I have always been a good member of my Ukrainian Catholic Church and organizations associated with it, serving as president of St. Joseph's Church in 1962. In 1972 I helped arrange for the first Ukrainian Catholic Christmas Eve Mass in January on CBC T.V.

Olga and I have enjoyed retirement travelling extensively throughout Canada and the United States, motoring from coast to coast. Now we fly either to Florida, Nevada or Hawaii.

I am glad that I got interested in art as a hobby for my retirement years. I started oil, acrylic and watercolour painting and have had displays of my art at art shows at Assiniboine Park Conservatory, the Legislative Building, Gimli and Selkirk.

We have acquired nice property in West St. Paul where we enjoy visitors, particularly, our grandchildren Karly (age 8), Braden (5) and Dayna (3).

## Part III

# Educational Administrators

When the Ukrainian pioneers settled on their homesteads in Manitoba, there were three pressing needs that faced them. The first was to build a home; the second to clear enough land to grow vegetables and the third was to provide education for their children. They organized to build a public school. Fred T. Hawryliuk was one who arrived with his parents in the Foley district at the early age of seven managed to finish the elementary school at Foley. Then due to the leadership of Dr. Hunter a high school and living quarters were organized in Teulon where Fred and other boys from the homes of Ukrainian pioneers were able to complete high school grades. On completing high school Fred became a teacher. Then he left Manitoba to teach in Saskatchewan. In 1925, a holder of B.A. and B.Ed degrees, he was appointed Inspector of Schools – first among the Ukrainian Canadians in Canada. His appointment was an inspiration to many: It demonstrated that in Canada, a person of Ukrainian extraction with ability and higher education could reach the top range of progress.

Significantly, it was into the teaching field that most early Ukrainian students tended to gravitate. However, many using teaching as a means of acquiring requisite finances went into law, medicine, dentistry, engineering and agriculture.

In spite of F. T. Hawryliuk's appointment, only one inspector was appointed in Alberta in the pre WWII period and none in Manitoba. After discharge from R.C.A.F. F/O Isidore Goresky, a Manitoban was appointed in Alberta and F/L Michael Ewanchuk was the first Manitoba-born teacher to be appointed to the Inspectorial staff in Manitoba. Then others followed, some becoming superintendents of School Divisions.

Such appointments and the success of Ukrainian born professionals encouraged the younger generation to attain higher qualifications at the university level. It is with these people that we shall deal in Volume I of this study; to show that they succeeded academically and many attained their Ph.D.'s and M.D. degrees.

### Isidore Goresky M.A. M.Ed.

Isidore Goresky was born in the village of Barbiwtsi, county of Vashkitstsi, (now Kitsman) Province of Bukovyna, Ukraine on 25 November 1902 to Basil and Victoria (née Eustafiewich) Goruk. His father was a journeyman blacksmith who, as a young man, changed his surname to "Goresky" as he believed that having a name ending in "sky" would indicate that he was at least distantly related to gentry, which would enhance his prospects of obtaining work. Basil travelled throughout Bukovyna and across the border through the Russian empire and into Bessarabia in search of work, but concluded that he could never improve his lot in that part of the world and began to consider emigrating to Canada.

Consequently, in 1905 Isidore's father, Basil emigrated to Canada and settled in Stony Mountain, Manitoba, where there was work to be found in the limestone quarries. In 1906 he brought his wife, Victoria, and their two sons, Isidore and Victor, over to Stony Mountain. Only later was Basil able to obtain employment in his trade as a blacksmith, for in those days an immigrant could hardly aspire to such a position in Canadian society until having paid his dues as common labourer for some time!

In 1918 Basil purchased a farm six miles northwest of Stony Mountain, in what was known as Victoria school district, and moved his family with him, but Isidore left home in that same year. Isidore completed elementary school and grade 9 in Stony Mountain, grade 10 at Central Collegiate in Winnipeg and grade 11 in Stonewall. His high school career was undistinguished, partly because he interrupted his education to work for farmers as well as a result of his desire to enter the army in 1917-18. In the fall of 1918 he was awarded a permit to teach school and he began a four-month stint at Tarno School, nine miles northeast of Arborg (Ledwyn P.O.). After Christmas Isidore was transferred to a school twelve miles east of Arnaud, where Rosa post office had been established to teach at Baskerville School, where he met his future wife, Anne Paley. In the fall of 1920 he returned to Winnipeg to attend the University of Manitoba, enrolling in Arts, but he was forced to leave university early because of financial difficulties and had his examinations postponed until summer. Isidore returned to Baskerville School to teach in the spring of 1921. Isidore and Anne were married in Rosa on 19 June 1921.

In 1922 he attended the Normal School in Brandon, graduating with a Second Class Certificate. He taught at Baskerville, Happy Thought School in East Selkirk and Willow Plains School in Sano. While in East Selkirk he also attended evening and Saturday morning classes, so that he not only completed his Bachelor's degree in 1926, majoring in English and History, but also obtained a First Class Collegiate Certificate.

Aspiring to become a high school teacher, he responded to two positions advertised in "Ukrainsky Holos" - one in Ethelbert, Manitoba and the other in Smoky Lake, Alberta. Though he was accepted at both schools, Isidore decided to go to Smoky Lake with some enthusiasm because he had relatives near Andrew, about twenty miles south of Smoky Lake. He continued his studies at the University of Alberta and completed his course work successfully and obtained his M.A. degree in 1929.

In 1930 he easily won election to the provincial legislature, as member of the United Farmers of Alberta defeating the other contenders, George Szkwarok of the Liberal Party and the Conservative, Anthony Suwala. His election was due to the strong support he received from teachers, his senior pupils and the many Ukrainians who felt that a man of his education and command of the English language would be of great help in making other Canadians cognizant of the needs of Ukrainian Canadians in that district.

Consequently, he did not go to Cambridge for his doctoral studies, since his political career was launched at an unfortunate time: Canada plunged into the deepest economic depression in its his-

tory. The bitterness people felt as they suffered the effects of this worldwide catastrophe was directed at the politicians, and Isidore could not escape defeat in his bid for re-election in 1935. Following his defeat, he served as rector of the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Ukrainian Institute in Edmonton for a year, and during the next decade, worked as a teacher for the Edmonton Public School Board, and as a school superintendent in Consort, Alberta, and on discharge as F.O. of the R.C.A.F. in 1945, Isidore completed his thesis for his M.Ed. degree. On discharge from the Air Force he returned to Consort, and after two more years in Consort was appointed superintendent of Thorhild School Division, a new division located fifty miles north of Edmonton. He remained in Thorhild until 1966, when he became Director of Curriculum with responsibility for the elementary grades. He also was chairman of the High School Committee to introduce the Ukrainian language as a high school course of studies.

Following his retirement, Isidore has spent much of his time pursuing his interest in history, chiefly in the collection of biographies of early Ukrainian settlers to Canada. Most of this research has been published in the two volumes of Ukrainians in Alberta (vol.1:1975 and vol.2:1982) which he edited in association with other members of the Ukrainian Pioneers Association for Alberta. The remaining unpublished research has been stored and catalogued at the Provincial Archives of Alberta and the Ukrainian Archives and Museum in Edmonton. His research was also very useful in supplementing the work of Dr. V. J. Kaye (Kysilewsky) of Ottawa. After Dr. Kaye's untimely death in 1976, Isidore continued to work on the project with the assistance of Mrs. Grace Kaye and in 1984 the Dictionary of Ukrainian Pioneer Settlers of Alberta, 1891-1900 was published. Isidore has also translated into English Julian Stechishin's History of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada, which was published in 1987.

Isidore and his wife, Anne, have travelled widely, chiefly in the company of their children: first with Dennis, through Poland, Romania, Ukraine, Greece, Turkey, Germany and Switzerland; with Walter, to Austria, Ukraine and islands in the Aegean Sea; with Donna and Orest, to Oregon, Florida and Mexico. They now regularly visit their three children, Adelaide, Walter and Donna, who live on the West Coast, and their son, Dennis who recently returned to Ottawa after an extended period of service in Canadian embassies overseas. Their other daughter, Natalia is married to Professor Manoly Lupul of Edmonton, who has recently retired from his position as director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies to resume his post as Professor of Educational Foundations at the University of Alberta.

After at the age of 84, Isidore began to scale down his activities, but continued to attend the Ukrainian Orthodox Church where he and his wife socialized with their friends. Although his eyesight deteriorated and caused him great hardship in trying to read his beloved books, he still enjoyed the company of family and friends and kept up his correspondence using his old typewriter.

After the passing of his beloved wife, Anne, Isidore Goresky received care from his daughter and son-in-law. And to his last days was in contact with his good friend, Michael Ewanchuk of Winnipeg.

A son of a pioneer blacksmith from the Ukraine F.O. Isidore Goresky had the requisite ability to make a fine contribution to the Canadian society and to hold dear and respect his Ukrainian heritage. His vertical development was outstanding. In recognition for his work as a scholar and citizen, he was awarded the Shevchenko Medal in Winnipeg and that was his last visit to his Manitoba.



### Victoria Adams (nee Seniuk) B.Ed.

Victoria's great grandparents, the Beykos came to Canada in 1897, and her parental grandparents, the Seniuks, in 1901. The Beykos were from the Skala region, and the village of Tshyhany in the Borschiw District.

Vicky was born in Ethelbert, MB. where she received her elementary and high school education; and she attended the University of Manitoba to complete her teacher training.



Fig 3.1a  
Vicky Adams

She taught school in Mink Creek, Portage la Prairie and in The Winnipeg School Division No. 1. Since 1988 she has been Principal of Ralph Brown School, in The Winnipeg School Division No.1.

Mrs. Adams has worked in curriculum and professional development, and conducted many seminars for teachers and parents. She has taught Ukrainian language classes for adults as part of the Department of Education Evening Extension Service. In the past ten years she has sponsored and coordinated the visit to the school of eight artistic directors from Ukraine in the fields of Ukrainian dance, music and theatre. She has brought various dance ensembles from Ukraine to work with students and facilitated the Telebridge satellite exchange between Winnipeg and Lviv. She was instrumental in bringing the Dudaryk and Strumochok Ensembles from Ukraine, and has organized tours, dance

workshops and cultural exchanges with Ukraine. In 1997, she herself taught ESL methodology to teachers in Ukraine and in 1998 delivered courses to teachers and school psychologists at the Pedagogical Institute in Lviv, Ukraine.

Vicky began teaching catechism at the age of thirteen and has continued ever since. She has organized donations of clothing to orphanages and residential schools for homeless children in Ukraine, the donation of toys, clothings and medication to the hospital of Children in Chernobyl, and the donations of books and supplies to schools in Lviv, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil and Muzychy.

In 1987, she received the School Administrator Award for distinguished Service to Manitoba School Libraries. In 2000 Alpha Omega recognized her as their Women of the Year and nominated her for the YM-YWCA Women of Distinction Awards. Also in the same year she was the 2000 honoree for the Osvita Foundation.

Vicky is married to Brian Adams, whose great grandparent, George Adams came to Canada with the Selkirk settlers in 1815. Brian's maternal grandparents, Kiprian and Paraskevia Wawrynchuk came in 1912 from Sokal, Ukraine. Vicky and Brian, have three children, David, Kathryn and Allison and three grandchildren, Kari, Joel and Dayna.

### Peter Drosdowech, B.A., B.Ed.

Peter Drosdowech tells his story:

My grandparents Oleksander and Anna (née Hrynchuk) arrived in Canada in 1899 to settle on a homestead in the Ethelbert area. My father, one of four children attended Volodymyr School and then went to work. In 1921 he married Anastasia Mymko. First they lived in Gilbert Plains and owned a store, then went into business in Dauphin. They were active members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Enduring, but eventually overcoming years of toil and hardship, my grandparents bestowed better lives upon their children. In turn my parents with considerable sacrifice, willingly provided the means whereby their children achieved their goals.

- My older sister, Ellen is a graduate of normal school.
- My younger sister, Phyllis is a retired from the retail business and from managing Clear Lake Lodge.
- My youngest Sister, Leona is a registered nurse.

I was born in Dauphin in 1927 and grew up in Gilbert Plains.

I completed Grade XII in Brickburn School, and then graduated with an Arts degree from the University of Winnipeg in 1950 and an Education degree from the University of Manitoba in 1957.



Fig. 3.1 Peter and Norma Drosdowech

During my growing years, I fondly remember summer holidays on my grandparents' farms, helping cultivate, disc, cut and rake hay, stook, milk cows and make butter. Later, I was a house painter, an apiarist, a long distance truck driver and a radio announcer at CKDM in Dauphin. I taught at Kelwood for a year before spending the next 38 years in the St. Vital School Division where I taught high school students for six years followed by appointments as vice-principal and executive assistant to the superintendent.

I married Norma Johnson in 1961. She graduated with degrees in Arts and Education from the University of Manitoba, worked in the St. Vital School Division as a teacher and a Family Life Consultant. Obtaining a Masters degree in Education, she continued as a school counsellor. In addition, Norma was a sessional lecturer at the University of Manitoba.

We have four daughters. All attended Hastings School and Dakota Collegiate in St. Vital and all have Bachelor degrees from the University of Manitoba.

- Laura worked in Winnipeg in retail and a small business owner. After obtaining a Law degree she worked for the Federal Department of Justice. Later she obtained a Masters degree in Law from the University of Miami.
- Linda began working with the mentally handicapped adults and continues to do so in Vancouver. She is actively involved as a writer.
- Sandra worked in Winnipeg in retail and Winnipeg Harvest. In 1996, she opened "Mondragon", a bookstore and coffee house.
- Carol after graduating with an Education degree, taught elementary school children in St. Vital. Subsequently, she obtained a Masters degree from the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and continues to teach in an independent school in Toronto.

### **George Heshka, B.Sc., B.Ed.**

Mr. George Heshka is a principal of one of the largest high schools in the province with 1696 students enrolled, 85 teachers and 10 members on support staff. To assist him he has three vice-principals. Sisler High School in the Winnipeg School Division No. 1 is located in the north-west sector of the city and, according to the student population could be classed as a veritable League of Nations.

George Heshka is the son of Ukrainian pioneers. In 1912 his father arrived in Canada from the village of Stavchan, and his mother from Ternoshan in 1922. His father was an itinerant labourer until he got steady employment with the CNR. During the depression years he became unemployed and the family had to go on Relief, Welfare now. However, George was encouraged to go to school. He attended Argyle Elementary, Norquay Junior High and St. John's High. Having decided to become a teacher he had to earn money for his university tuition. He, therefore, had to work as a sewer digger, a section-hand on extra gang in southern Saskatchewan and do other jobs.

Living through the depression years and working as a labourer, he gained an understanding of the problems of the working-class people and their children. Consequently, he observes:

I have been seconded to the Department of Education on two separate occasions to work on issues related to poverty and its impact on children.

He states further:

I have been involved in social issues. This includes starting breakfast and lunch programs for young children, subsidized housing of the poor, as well as playing a prominent role in stopping a major irrigation project called Garrison Diversion from polluting the Red River.

Life was not easy, yet George Heshka studied at the university level earning a B.Sc. and B.Ed. degrees from the University of Manitoba gaining qualifications to serve as a teacher and principal. He has been in education for 35 years: of this time, in administration for 25 years; as principal of Dufferin and Argyle Alternative High School, and the past 20 years as principal of Sisler High School. In this school he organized a program to meet the needs of children in his community; hence he is now recognized as an outstanding educator.

In recent years Sisler High School has been holding an "Open House" to make it possible for the parents to meet the teachers and become acquainted with the programs offered to their children, and to inform the parents that Sisler High School has a program for:

### Preparing Today's Students for Tomorrow's Challenges in a Safe Learning Environment

The Sisler High Graduation Program foreword listed the success of its students in physical education and devoted another full page to:

Sisler, School of Excellence 1999-2000

- that Prime Minister Jean Chretien awarded the Excellence in Teaching

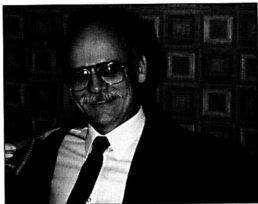


Fig. 3.2 George Heshka

Award to Mr. Dennis Mogg, who is the sixth Sisler staff member to win such an award;

- that Sisler produced a dance extravaganza entitled Dancing into the Millennium in conjunction with the Royal Winnipeg Ballet, the first ever such joint effort in Canada, and that the costumes were sewn by Sisler home economics students;
- that two Sisler students, Chris Porter and Michael Brzezowski, have been accepted as participants in the four-week-long world-class science/technology Shad Valley Program to be held in eastern Canada;
- that Sisler students pursue secondary education and training at nearly twice the provincial average;
- that Sisler was the first high school to develop the Senior Years Apprenticeship Program;
- that Sisler students received scholarships totalling \$25,000 from the University of Manitoba and Winnipeg, and student access awards totalling \$10,000 from Robertson College;
- That Sisler is one of two schools, the other being St. John's Ravenscourt, that prepare students to challenge the first year University of Manitoba calculus exam, and that the entire class had an A average;
- That Sisler is one of two schools, the other being Vincent Massey, that offers the University of Winnipeg 1st year English course with 1/3 of the class getting an A+ on the exam, and the lowest mark being a B;
- That Sisler will partner with the University of Manitoba to offer psychology and computer science at the first year level;
- That Randell Baldonado and Colin Repchinsky represented Winnipeg School Division No. 1 at the Canada-Wide Science Fair, were awarded a bronze medal and a \$2000 scholarship each from the University of western Ontario;

George Heshka is the father of two children, Kirsten, a lawyer with the Ministry of Labour in Ontario, and Jonathan, a well-known mountain climber. Like their father's their vertical development has been laudable.

### **Metro Kozak, B.A., B.Ed.**

Metro is a retired superintendent of schools of the School Division of Dauphin; where he served from 1969 – 1979. He is a descendant of Ukrainian pioneer settlers Michael and Helen (née Konowalchuk). They came to Canada in 1899 from Kociw and took up land in Mink Creek. They stayed on the farm until 1920, the year he was born, then his father built a brick building in Ethelbert and became a merchant.

Moving to Ethelbert gave me a chance to attend the elementary and high school in town where I completed grade XII. J. W. Sarchuk was the principal regretably the former principal who became an assistant since he did not have a university degree, did not like the change.

I took my teacher training in Winnipeg and became teacher of Doroschenko School. I taught for two years and then in 1940 I joined the army; during the war, in 1944 I married Nancy (Natalia) who had been away in the Windsor-Detroit area. She was from the Boyan School District and came home for a visit –all dressed up to kill – love at first sight. After my discharge I taught for two years in Rhodes School. We lived in a teacherage and then we joined my uncle in a store business in Winnipeg. When he died suddenly I returned to teaching at Henderson School in Dauphin.

I liked teaching and started working on my university work through summer schools and gained a B.A. B.Ed. degree and became an English-French teacher in the Collegiate.

M.E. You made a change again did you not?

M.K. Yes. In 1967 I was appointed Inspector of Schools with headquarters in Gimli, Manitoba. I liked the work, but it entailed a lot of travel. Then I made a change.

M.E. What was the change?

M.K. I accepted a Superintendency of the Dauphin Division and stayed on the job for ten years. It was demanding, but interesting work.

M.E. Did you through the years maintain your Ukrainian connections?

M.K. Yes, I did. While teaching in the rural one-room schools, I prepared concerts, had a dramatic club organized and with the young people in the district we staged plays. I have always maintained my connections with my church and while in Dauphin Nancy was an active member of the women's organization and a choir leader for many years.



Fig. 3.3 Metro and Nancy Kozak

- M.E. Mrs. Kozak where did you acquire competence in Ukrainian Church music, and music in general  
 Mrs.K. While working in Detroit and Windsor I learned much about business and music. Originally, however, I learned music from my father who was a qualified church deacon and a church choir leader.
- M.K. Nancy was a very good community worker and to gain greater competence as choir leader she travelled to the university at Brandon and took music. Call it ambition if you will. She's helped me with community work through the years.

In 1996 to the 80th anniversary of our Dauphin Parish "a Parish Hymnal has been compiled and printed. It contains the various hymns that have been used and sung over the years in the Ukrainian Catholic Church. The parish printed it hoping it will continue to bring solace and pleasure to many in the years to come. In a foreword page to the publication it states:

Mrs. Nancy Kozak, the Church Director, undertook the task of selecting and compiling the various hymns, along with the musical scores and lyrics."

- M.E. How many children did Mrs. Kozak have to look after in addition to her community work?  
 M.K. We have two daughters. Both became teachers and taught in River East School Division. Velma-Jean married a doctor and now lives in Portland, Oregon; Janet Lynn married a dentist, Dr. Watson, who practised in Dauphin and is now in practice in Dauphin. Nancy had to be busy. She took a Dental Hygienist's course and worked with Dr. Watson for fifteen years.
- M.E. And how is retirement?  
 Mrs.K. I am still busy with church work, but had to take time off: I hurried down the porch steps, fell and crushed some bones.
- M.K. For a while I had to take over some additional duties; - yet do play golf and belong to the Dauphin retired teachers association.
- Mrs.K. I would like to write my life story as a 10th child in the Mink Creek Burdeney family there are interesting things to record.
- M.K. Nancy maintains precious family albums. They are well organized. Nancy has to do things neatly. She has co-authored and published a church music songbook.\*

### **Walter Nowosad, B.A., B.Ed.**

Walter Nowosad is a retired school principal and a veteran of WWII R.C.A.F. with an overseas radar unit. He is the son of Michael John Nowosad and Irene (née Lapka). His father came to Canada at the age of thirteen with his older brother from the village of Ilavche in Western Ukraine. He started as a cow herder and his employer was so mean to the young lad that he ran away to become a cookie with an extra gang crew. Later he was a labourer, and then a student at the Sheptytsky Bursa in St. Boniface, becoming a teacher, and later went into business in Oakburn. The Nowosads retired in Winnipeg. They had five children: Boris, Myra, Walter, Jean and Olive. Walter became a teacher.

Walter Nowosad got most of his education in Oakburn, but took grade 12 in St. Joseph's College Yorkton, Saskatchewan. In Oakburn he was a member of the youth choir and SUMK. He was a player in the local orchestra; he played the banjo and mandolin. After receiving his Normal School training in Brandon, his first school was Jack Fish Lake, the school where his father was a teacher ten years before.

During WWII he enlisted with the R.C.A.F. radar squadron and saw service overseas. On discharge he received employment with the Biggar School Unit in

\* Interviewed at Dauphin, 03 August 2000.

Saskatchewan as an audio-visual technician for the school unit.

Walter attended University of Winnipeg and Manitoba where he graduated with a B.A. and B.Ed degrees. He taught one year in the Goose Lake Collegiate at Roblin, Manitoba, and then received placement in the School Division of St. Vital.

In St. Vital he served:

- Four years at Glenlawn Collegiate.
- One year was principal of Varnes School.
- Appointed principal of Norberry Junior High, then the largest Junior High School in Manitoba.
- In 1967 promoted to principal of Dakota Collegiate where he served fourteen years until retirement in 1982.
- One-year leave of absence to serve as president of the Manitoba Teachers' Society.

The vertical development of a son of a lad of thirteen who succeeded in life on his own and gave his children a chance to become teachers, nurses and dietitian is noteworthy to say the least.

Walter married Jean Forestell of Biggar, Saskatchewan. They have two boys: Daniel who is a lawyer in Port Hardy, British Columbia, and Neil is a captain and senior pilot of the Cathay-Pacific Air Company flying out of Hong Kong, China.

After retirement, Walter Nowosad spent two semesters teaching English at a university in China.

The Nowosads live in Winnipeg. They attend church in Fort Garry. Walter is a member of the Ukrainian Canadian Legion #141, and also a member of the Sons of Ukrainian Pioneers (SOUP) club.

### Anne Smigel, B.A., B.Ed.

Anne Smigel is a Winnipeg-born teacher, principal and artist. She is the eldest daughter of the late Frederick and Maria (née Malicz) both born in the Syniawa area of Western Ukraine. Her father was seventeen years old when he came to Canada in 1907; her mother came in 1912. Frederick Smigel worked variously, and finally was a mechanic for CPR and then worked for a foundry company. Her mother was a proficient sewer and baker.

Miss Smigel attended some Winnipeg schools in which she later taught or was principal. She completed St. John's High and attended Winnipeg Normal School.

Anne started teaching in rural Manitoba - taught in Oakburn, grades 3 to 5 for three years, then at Poplarfield and Fraserwood. Returning to Winnipeg, she substituted and studied. Then for four years she was at Florence Nightingale; Norquay for six, and Earl Grey (resource teacher) for four years.

Anne Smigel was appointed elementary school principal of Ashland - the first woman of Ukrainian background - remained for four years, and six and eight years in other schools - what suggests that her supervisory and administrative skills were exemplary.

Miss Smigel obtained her B.A. and B.Ed. degrees studying at the University





Fig. 3.4 Anne Smigel

of Manitoba and University of Winnipeg. She took special courses at the University of Minnesota in library science, music, children's literature and sewing and clothing design that prepared her for her role as principal. During her first year of teaching she took a choir to the Music Festival at Hamiota, winning first prize. Of the 44 years in education she held principalship positions for twenty-five years.

Anne Smigel was involved in many service-oriented organizations:

- Was founding member of Altrusa International and served as first Governor in District Seven;
- Board Member of Age and Opportunity;
- Board Member of Council of Women of Winnipeg;
- Board founding member of Creative Retirement;
- Received the Y.W.C.A. Woman of the year award;
- Was president of Alpha Omega Alumnae;
- In 1967 received the Centennial Award for teaching excellence;
- In 1980 City of Winnipeg Service Award.

Anne recalls the 1947-48-49 immigration flood. As an adjustment teacher, she registered 84 children age 6-19 arriving from many European countries, South America and Asia. Special materials developed by her became the working curriculum. She shared her knowledge and expertise and used her professional judgement when placing them into the regular stream. "I believe the lawyer, the author, the artist, the engineer and the pathologist in the Winnipeg community can recall

their introduction to the Canadian education system; and I also believe that every teacher should have some teaching experience in core area schools."

### **Contribution to Educational Organizations**

Professionally, Anne contributed to various educational groups during her teaching career. She chaired Elementary School Conferences, gave papers and workshops in Winnipeg and in rural Manitoba. She taught teacher-training courses for the Department of Education for two consecutive summers. Anne was a Board Member of the International Reading Association and served as secretary for the Faculty of Education Alumni. She spoke at Parent-Teacher meetings. In 1967 she was appointed to the Language Council of Manitoba.

Throughout her colourful career with the Winnipeg School Division Anne met the challenges and numerous demands with a willingness and confidence that brought her success and personal satisfaction.

She expressed her opinions about teaching thus:

- Focus on the effect of various teaching methods on the learning process of the child;
- Strive for excellence;
- Remember there is always room at the top, and
- Always room for self-improvement.

### **Ukrainian Connections**

Anne Smigel is a member of her church and has maintained contact with Ukrainian organizations, being a volunteer at the Ukrainian Cultural Centre. She was a member of the Ukrainian Curriculum Committee. She has maintained contact with relatives in Ukraine and has assisted them very generously, having made trips to her parent's native village. In Manitoba she has contributed generously to help with Ukrainian language courses.

Miss Smigel has travelled to Ukraine, South America, Australia and other places.

On retirement, the outstanding school administrator did not rest her oars. Influenced by her mother's love of fine clothing and design she took art lessons and began to do oil painting with success:

- In 1990-91 had an exhibit of paintings in the auditorium of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church.
- In 1993 at the request of the Fleet Gallery had an exhibition of her art at the Gallery's premises.
- In 1996 entered one watercolour at the Red River Exhibition, coming first.

Anne Smigel merits high praise for her work as teacher and administrator and her contribution to the Canadian society.

### **William P. Solypa, B.Sc. B.Ed., M.Ed.**

William Solypa was born in Pleasant Home, Manitoba in 1931, the son of Joseph and Modesta, who came from Western Ukraine to settle in Manitoba. William received his elementary education in S. Felsendorf school six miles west of Gimli, took his grades 9-11 in Gimli high school walking the distance of five miles,

and matriculated from Teulon Collegiate to which he travelled by train from Fraserwood.

On receiving the J. B. Hales scholarship, William attended the Provincial Normal School in Winnipeg and taught in rural points: N. Felsendorf, Donald School where he was principal, Polson Junior High in East Kildonan and then received placement in the School Division of Winnipeg, where he started in River Elm School teaching grade five. His progress in the Winnipeg Division was remarkable. He taught science and mathematics, was Mathematics Department Head, 1965-68 at St. John's High School. Then he held vice-principal of two schools was principal of two larger elementary schools, Somerset and Shaughnessy Park and then became principal of Sisler High School with an enrolment of 1300 students.

In 1980 William Solypa was appointed Superintendent of Elementary Schools. This position he held for nine years and introduced some significant instructional and administrative changes:



Fig. 3.5 William P. Solypa

- Developed a process for evaluation of school administrators based on educational goals and objectives.
- Contributed to the development of a uniform process of teacher evaluation.
- Assisted in the development of student assessment policy.
- Involved in developing a better student report form for parents.
- Brought about the re-establishment of a 5 1/2-hour school day.
- Was responsible for the management and operation of a nutritional program in the Division.

He took an active part in the field of multiculturalism and the teaching of heritage languages, and was instrumental in the establishment of bilingual programs in Ukrainian and Hebrew.

In 1987 he received the Canadian Council for Multicultural and Intercultural Education National Award.

Through the years Mr. Solypa maintained contact with Ukrainian organizations and served:

- As member of the presidium of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee.
- As secretary of Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation.

As a teacher, William Solypa authored, Metric Actuaries, grades 4-6, a handbook for teachers, and was editor of New Dimensions in Mathematics and the Mathematics Newsletter.

William Solypa had a rich educational experience. He not only improved his academic and professional competence, but also through the years took an active part in conventions, lecturing at conferences in the U.S.A. and maintaining membership in Canadian professional organizations. He did extensive research work that helped him provide guidance to teachers under his supervision. He is a kindly person who has also been willing to help those in need.

While engaged as a teacher in the Felsendorf School he married Bernice Jaworski. They have two children, Brian, a B.Sc., and Beverley. She is married, but continues with employment with the Provincial Government, Insurance Department. Through the years Bernice was a successful bank employee.

After spending his young years on a farm where he worked with his siblings to help his parents, he developed a determination to improve his education. His vertical development is remarkable.

### Evhan Uzwyshyn, B.Sc., B.Ed., B.A.

Evhan Uzwyshyn is the retired Inspector of Schools and science consultant of the Department of Education. He is the son of John and Ol'ha Uzwyshyn who came to Canada in the post-WWI period, 1926 to settle in St. Boniface.

John Uzwyshyn was born on January 21, 1905 in a village called Radymno, part of Western Ukraine.

Ol'ha Uzwyshyn was born on April 12, 1907 in Staromischchyna in Western Ukraine. Her main concerns and reason for her strenuous endeavours were focussed on the education and cultural upbringing of her children, grandchildren



Fig. 3.6 Evhan and Sylvia Uzwhyshyn

and great-grandchildren. They had a daughter, Halie, and sons Taras and Evhan.

Evhan graduated from the University of Manitoba with three degrees. He worked as a science teacher for 11 years and then was appointed School Inspector in 1973. He then became Science Consultant at the Department of Education and received an award in Washington, D.C. in 1987 as International Science Educator of the Year, the first Canadian to have received this award. During his last five years at the Department of Education, he was responsible for the provincial testing exams for math. His awards and leadership positions are too numerous to mention but some of the most prominent are: CYMK Provincial President of the Canadian Association of Science Educators, Chairperson of the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium, President of the Science Teachers' Association of Manitoba, President of the Youth Science Foundation of Canada, President of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Winnipeg, Board of Directors of St. Andrew's College and Folklorama - Kyiv Pavilion. He has been involved in provincial, national and international science organizations for over 30 years and has attended conferences in England, Australia and Cypress as well as Canada and the U.S.

Evhan took many leadership roles as a public school and university student. Besides professional organizations he was an active member of the community and

his church and still made time for family and friends. Evhan retired from the Department of Education on March 31, 1998 after 25 years. He has since become president of his own company, Record E. Publications Inc., producing and selling educational materials for teachers, students and parents.

### **Sylvia (Bilyk) Uzwyshyn, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.**

Sylvia is the daughter of Roman and Katherine Bilyk (née Sajewich) who came to Canada in 1938 from Lapatyn, Western Ukraine. For two years Katherine lived in Alberta while Roman worked as a tailor. After a year and a half Katherine joined him. Finally he established his own tailor store, Ray's Tailors. Katherine helped in the store, while their daughter, Sylvia, was babysitting her brother Terry.

Sylvia grew up and attended public school in Winnipeg. After finishing grade 11, Sylvia, age 17, was sent to the University of Manitoba where she completed her Bachelor of Arts and Education and her Master of Education (B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.). She began her teaching career at the junior high level as a physical education, social studies and language arts teacher. After a couple of years, she changed to teaching French and language arts. After marrying Evhan on August 6, 1966, Sylvia moved to teaching French at the high school level. Her teaching career was interrupted with the arrival of Ray and Mira. In 1980 she returned to teaching at the junior high level until 1987.

During and after her teaching career, Sylvia was involved in many community activities and took many leadership roles. She was chairperson of her children's youth organization, CYMK, at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, chairperson of the church organization and representative to the Manitoba Council of Women where she worked on the resolutions and environmental committees. She was involved in the centennial project of "One Hundred Years of Ukrainian Settlement in Canada". The project involved a display of Ukrainian pioneer fashions and artefacts at the Kyiv Pavilion during Folklorama and a contribution of a statue at the Leo Mol Gardens on behalf of the Ukrainian Women's Organization of Canada. She is a member of Alpha Omega, an alumni organization of university women graduates of Ukrainian descent, and has been on the executive in every capacity, including president.

### **Mira Uzwyshyn**

Mira received her Bachelor of Science degree at the University of Winnipeg in 1991. In 1995 she graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago as a Doctor of Optometry. Mira practised as an optometrist in Boston for three years, then moved to New York where she is now practising optometry on Staten Island and in the Soho district.

At age 16 in grade 11, Mira won a three-week all-expense paid trip to the Science Symposium in London, England (1987). Also, that same year, she flew to Toronto for the first Science Olympics and was on the western team who placed first.

She continues to volunteer her time as a professional optometrist and has

spent two weeks in two different years working with a group of medical practitioners to help the poor in the Dominican Republic.

### Ray Uzwyszyn

Ray completed an Advanced Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Manitoba and in 1991 left for New York City where he enrolled in the Cinema Studies program at Tisch School of the Arts, one of 14 schools at New York University. He completed his Master of Arts degree in 1992 after a summer in Quebec City where he completed an independent study of Quebecois Cinema. He completed his doctoral dissertation in December 1999, passed a defence of his dissertation on Feb. 11, 2000, and graduated with his Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) in May 2000.

In 1986 he attend the Youth Science Fortnight in London, England.

Ray also took lessons in Ukrainian dancing, piano and swimming, and his first jobs were as a lifeguard in several hotels and parks. In his youth group, CYMK, he held various leadership positions.



Fig 3.7 Rural school teacher J. Muriel Smith (Mrs. Michael Ewanchuk) and her class in N. Springfield School.

## Part IV

# Servants of the Church

In the sample we have selected for this publication, all but one are former teachers. Of these only one left education to become a deacon and clergyman after retiring from teaching.

Their experience in working with children and administrative experience as principal combined with theological training seemed to prepare them admirably well for their new career; and all have utilized their competence as counsellors to minister to those in need.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Rev. Roman Bozyk, B.A., M.Div., M.A. (Th.), Ph.D. (candidate)

Rev. Roman Bozyk was one of the few young men from south-eastern Manitoba to become a clergyman when twenty-three years old. His "roots" are in the Arbakka-Vita area where his grandfather, Gavreil arrived from the village of Onut, Province of Bukovyna, Ukraine around 1905 to join others from the region like Wasyl Zahara who came in 1896. His grandmother, Verona née Kosovan, came as a babe with the second wave of settlers. Rev. Roman is the son of Nestor and Vi (née Davis) Bozyk. Nestor has been in business in Vita.

The young clergyman on graduation from the Shevchenko School at Vita, enrolled in a combined course at the University of Manitoba and St. Andrew's College, majoring in Ukrainian and a minor in French and pursuing theology courses. In 1978 he married Miss J. Maranchak of Dauphin; and in 1979 he graduated with a B.A. degree and a B.D. – Cum Laude from the St. Andrew's College, and was ordained clergyman. He, however, continued with post-graduate work in theology.

As a young clergyman his first appointment was at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Toronto as assistant and in 1981 he was transferred to become Rector of the Ukrainian Orthodox Pro-Cathedral in Ottawa.

### Continues with his Studies

Pursuing his academic work and encouraged by his wife he enrolled in the Dominion College of Philosophy and Theology and was awarded his M.A. (Th.) degree. Taking advantage of availability of advanced studies courses by 1992 he completed all doctoral seminars and comprehensive examination towards a Ph.D.

### Lecturer and Administrator

In 1992 he returned to Winnipeg and was appointed:

Assistant Professor of Old and New Testament,



Chaplain, and Registrar for St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg, and Orthodox Chaplain on the University of Manitoba campus.

1997 to present, lecturer at the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies in courses of the Department of Religion of the University of Manitoba in Eastern Christian Studies.

Sept. 1998: Appointed Dean of Theology of St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg.

### Other Activities

Since 1995 he has served as Rector of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Orthodox parish in Thompson, Manitoba thus beside his administrative duties he maintains contact with the congregation.

### Writer

Rev. Bozyk has contributed many articles and essays that have been published, most of them in the Ukrainian Church organ. "The Herald" and St. Andrew's College publications, and others are:

Our Christian Heritage: New Pathway, Vol. LIX, No.33, Toronto, Ontario (in Ukrainian).

Ukrainian neo-paganism: An Invention of a Pitiful Man: Our Faith, No.19-20 (52-53), October 1993, Kyiv, Ukraine (in Ukrainian).

He writes in English and Ukrainian but has not published essays in French. His scholarly and theological theses and dissertations are as follows:

M.Div.Thesis St. Romanos the Sweet Singer: His Life and Works.

M.A. (Th.) Maitrise des arts en theologie - College dominicain de philosophie et de theologie, Ottawa, 1990.

Thesis Ilarion. Metropolitan of Kyiv (1051-10054) and His Sermon Concerning Law and Grace.

Ph.D. (Th.) Dissertation in progress: Water into wine: The Christian as a "New Creation" - from St. Paul the Apostle to St. Ilarion of Kyiv.

There is no doubt that his church expects further contributions from him.

### Rev. Ernest J. Hafichuk, B.A., B.Ed.

Ernest Hafichuk was born in Dauphin, Manitoba in 1928. He is the son of Michael and Dora (née Kuzyk).

He received his elementary education in Fairville and Dauphin Plains Schools. On graduation from Dauphin Collegiate he received a permit to teach. This helped him financially and he was able to attend the Winnipeg Teachers' College, 1949-50. Then he returned to the Dauphin area and taught in Rigby, Gartmore and



Fig. 4.1 Rev. Ernest J. Hafichuk

Fork River Schools. Then for a year, in 1955-56, he attended St. Joseph's Seminary in Edmonton.

While engaged as a teacher in The Pas collegiate, he continued with his university studies at Summer School and after receiving a B.A. degree he became principal at Cranberry Portage, Clearwater and Pilot Mound Collegiate.

In 1969 he transferred to Agassiz School Division centred at Beausejour to work with Superintendent Michael Czuboka as his assistant. Living in Beausejour he was able to take evening and summer courses, graduating with a B.Ed. in 1968.

While employed in Beausejour he and wife Lillian (née Wilchowy) of Wakaw, Sask., whom he married in 1958, were able to establish a permanent home; and Mrs. Hafichuk, a Lab & X-Ray Technician assumed the home duties of raising Wes, Andrea, Martin and Michelle. Michelle lives in Los Angeles and the other three in Manitoba, two married in Beausejour.

Ernest and his wife Lillian were active members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and Ernest trained and in 1982 he was ordained Deacon. That same year he and his children suffered a great loss with Mrs. Hafichuk passing to her reward.

After devoting 35 years to teaching Ernest Hafichuk resigned as Assistant Superintendent and started on another career. He enrolled in the Holy Spirit Seminary in Ottawa and on graduation was ordained priest.

He gave up a career in education where he distinguished himself as teacher and administrator. His education experience as teacher and counsellor are serving him in good stead in working with young people.

### **Rev. Deacon Morris Kowalchuk, B.A., B.Ed., M.A.**

Rev. Deacon Kowalchuk's grandparents came to Canada in 1900 to settle on a homestead in the Sandy Lake area. His father, Michael, was born on the farm in the area. His mother, however, did not come to Canada until 1925 from the village of Davidivtsi. The Michael Kowalchuks established residence in Sandy Lake where Michael was employed as a labourer. There were five children in the family and the two boys, Edward and Morris, completed their high school in the village and became teachers.

Edward is doing research and had published a pamphlet on Ukrainians in the Sandy Lake district. He was a successful teacher and served as leader of the Manitoba Teachers' Society.

On graduating from Normal School Morris taught school in the northern part of Manitoba at Ilford and Burrows, then he came into the Shoal Lake area and taught in the Wolfe Creek rural School. He met and married Martha Dunets and they have three children - Darren and Shirley are employed in the Ottawa area and Thomas is principal of Inwood School.

Morris came to teach east of the Red River and was employed at Sapton and Melrose Schools. He also taught in Oakbank before moving to the Beausejour Collegiate where he taught social science, commercial courses and Ukrainian. Then he retired.

Even when teaching he commenced taking religious education in preparation on becoming a Deacon of the Ukrainian Catholic Church. He was ordained Deacon by the late Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk. At present he is serving as Deacon of the large Cook's Creek Church, and is also Chairman of the Board of St. Vladimir's College and Minor Seminary at Roblin, MB.

Deacon Kowalchuk kept improving his academic standing receiving degrees: B.A., B.Ed. and an M.A. in Slavic Studies.

Morris Kowalchuk is a kindly gentlemanly person who knows how to get along with people. In his service as Deacon he is ably assisted by Mrs. Kowalchuk.

### **V. Rev. John A. Melnyk B.A., B. Ed., M.A.**

V. Rev. Melnyk is a clergyman, and a retired school teacher and principal of River East Division. He grew up in the Interlake area of Manitoba where pioneering life was difficult. His mother, Magda (née Gurniak) came to Canada with her parents in 1902, and his father Ilko in the pre WWII period, 1910. They were married in Kreuzburg, now Fraserwood, and tried to farm in Skylake but returned to Fraserwood where John grew up on a farm two miles east of the hamlet.

John attended school in Fraserwood and had Muzychuk, Negrich, and Onyshko as teachers. He took grades 10-12 in Teulon. Walking two miles to take the train at Fraserwood daily. On receiving his Normal School training, he taught in South Felsendorf and Lilac schools in Gimil, where in 1954 he married Sonja Diachun. Then he got a teaching position in East Kildonan where he remained a teacher and principal for 35 years.



Fig. 4.2 V. Rev. John and Mrs. Sonja Melnyk

Living in the city gave him an opportunity to attend evening and summer school classes at the University of Manitoba to attain his three degrees, one a Master of Arts.

He was engaged as principal in East Kildonan in three schools: Lord Wolsley, Princess Margaret, and John de Graff, and was recognized as a capable and influential administrator.

While still employed as principal Rev. John Melnyk studied theology and was ordained Deacon. In 1982 he was ordained Ukrainian Orthodox clergyman in New York.

For 14 years V. Rev. John Melnyk served as minister of St. Ivan Suchavsky church, travelling monthly to Ethelbert, Thunder Bay and Gardenton. For the past three years he has been serving at St. Michael's Church on Disraeli Street, and visiting Gardenton South on a monthly basis.

John Melnyk's teaching and principalship experience are serving him in good stead providing counselling services for the young and old. He is serving the Maples, Kildonan, River East seniors' homes, as well as serving Middlechurch and Bethnia Personal care homes on a monthly basis. His wife Sonia has assisted him in his work throughout the years. They are both community minded and Rev. Melnyk has been instrumental in the construction of the Kildonan Horizons Seniors Apartments where he serves on the board as chairman.

- For 12 years John has served on the Stony Mountain Penitentiary Warden's Advisory Committee.
- During the 1970's John served on the Department of Education Ukrainian Curriculum Committee.
- He is a member of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club.
- At present he is chairman of the Interlake and Gimli Ukrainian Historical Society, a group that promotes the research and writing of the history of Ukrainian pioneers.
- For 12 years he served on the Board of Progress Vera Credit Union.
- Presently Rev. Melnyk is an associate member of the Ukrainian Canadian Legion # 141, having been appointed Ukrainian Orthodox Chaplain.
- Rev. Melnyk is in very high demand as pastor by citizens in need.

- John is an active member of the Sons of Ukrainian Pioneers (S.O.U.P.) Club.
- In August 2000 he was appointed to the Board of Manitoba Association of Registered Nurses (M.A.R.N.) by the minister of health Hon. Dave Chomiak.

The Vertical Development of V. Rev. John Melnyk the son of Ukrainian pioneer farmers has been outstanding; his service to the country and community has been most notable.

The Melnyks have two children John Jr., who like his father, is a teacher in the River East Division. Their daughter Patricia is employed at the Court of Queen's Branch.

John Melnyk also has interests outside his church and community work. He enjoys carpentry, sports and politics, and when he runs out of work he devotes time to the restoring of his son's 1949 John Deere Tractor.

### **Rev. Deacon Michael Woroby, B.A., B.Ed**

After completing a successful career as school teacher and principal, Michael took a three year course and was ordained permanent deacon serving in the St. Vladimir and Olga Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral. During the WWII he served with the R.C.A.F. and was recommended for commission in the intelligence Corps, but with the cessation of war retired as staff sergeant.

Michael's parents Wasył and Maria née Budzan came to Canada in 1906, settled in Rembrandt later moving to St. Claude, Manitoba where some 20 Ukrainian families formed a separate Ukrainian congregation in a closely-knit French community. Most Ukrainian church services were held in homes until a Ukrainian Catholic church was built. When dry years set in there were repeated crop failures as the soil in the area was sandy. Then many families moved out. So did the Worobys, after losing five children at birth.

The Wasył Worobys moved to Winnipeg where their only son, Michael received his education in St. Nicholas School, St. Paul's High School and graduated from St. Paul's and University of Manitoba with B.A. and B.Ed degrees.

He took summer courses at the university and also courses in Ukrainian Studies. He went to Toronto to take an English Second Language Methodology course; and completed courses at the Master's level in Social Studies at University of Manitoba. His teaching assignments were all in Winnipeg at the elementary level and for eleven years he was vice-principal of Adult Evening programs at St. John's Tech.

Michael was also interested in music and entered his classroom choirs in Musical Festivals and he, himself, has been a member of the famous Koshetz Ukrainian choir where he met his wife, Olga Kalyniuk.

### **Rich Experiences**

Deacon Woroby's community involvement had given him training in working with youth and service as an active member of Ukrainian Catholic organiza-

tions. As a consequence he was elected delegate representing the Ukrainian Catholic University graduates at the XXV World Congress of Pax Romana in Montevideo, Uruguay in 1962.

As member of the Koshetz Choir he went on concert tours in various Canadian cities, Ukraine, Europe and again went to South America.

In 1988, he was a participant in the official ceremonies (processions and Liturgy) celebrated by His Holiness Pope John Paul II, in St. Peter's Basilica, in Rome, marking with the Ukrainian hierarchy, clergy and pilgrims, the Millennium of Ukraine's Christianity.

### **Active Church Member**

For 25 years Michael was chanter at the Ukrainian Catholic Parish of St. Joseph and served as choir director and chanter (cantor) at the Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic Church. He is a permanent member of the St. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral. In 1987 the late, his Grace Metropolitan Maxim Hermaniuk ordained him deacon. Now in addition to his service at his church, he assists in Services celebrated by His Grace Metropolitan Michael Bzdel and Bishop Stephan Soroka.

The Rev. Deacon Woroby has been active in teaching classes in Ukrainian dance and serving on various curriculum committees. For these tasks he was well qualified having taken courses in Slavic Studies at the University of Ottawa and in Linguistic Studies at the University of Alberta.

While serving with the R.C.A.F. during WWII he married Miss Olga Kalyniuk. They have raised three children: William a civil engineer, Donna a graduate teacher and Christie also a teacher.

Deacon Michael Woroby's parents worked hard, and in order to give Mr. Woroby a better education, they moved to Winnipeg.

Deacon Woroby has been active in his parish, teaching religion to students on Saturday classes, and coordinator of religious studies.

He was selected member of the delegation representing the Ukrainian Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg that prepared and presented a brief to the Federal Parliamentary Commission at a hearing in Winnipeg dealing with religious persecutions and violations of basic human rights and freedoms under the Soviet regime.

His contributions were recognized:

A framed Honorary certificate presented jointly by the Educational Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg in recognition of over 25 years of service in the national, religious and educational fields.

In 1995 he and Mrs. Woroby received a Papal Blessing Parchment on their 50th Wedding Anniversary.



Fig 4.3 St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church - First Ukrainian church in the Dauphin region (1897) beside Cross of Freedom



Fig 4.4 St. Michael's Ukrainian Greek Orthodox Church - first Ukrainian church in southern Manitoba

## Part V

# In the Field of Science

Many young people of Ukrainian descent seemed to show a great propensity for science, and succeeded in that area. On graduation from universities they often joined those employed in industry. And since employment opportunities for engineers and technicians were greater south of the Border, many left Canada. Our small sample only includes those Manitobans who forged to the forefront with great success, making a praiseworthy contribution in their specific area of endeavour.

\* \* \* \* \*

### David Glutek, B.A. B.Sc. M.Eng.

My grandfather Andrij Prokopiw was a miller in Skala, on the river Zbruch, in Western Ukraine. He married Katrina of Husiajtn. They raised eight children.

In 1904 he left for Canada. The ocean trip was extremely rough and the ship went down many miles from port. Andrij managed to get in a boat and while in the boat he noticed the flowing locks of a female passenger nearby. He reached out and pulled her out by the hair. She lost both her parents. He took the girl with him to Winnipeg and found a place for her to stay then he left for Roblin where he took a homestead (S.E.14 \_ 28, 28).

In 1905 his wife arrived, Andrij continued to correspond with the girl and when she was getting married, she invited him to the wedding, he came and gave her away in marriage.

When Andrij died in 1917 his son Michael took over the farm. He married Maria Malaynj. They raised 10 children and the fourth youngest was David, the only one to get a higher education.

Getting an education on the farm was not easy, as farm chores and harvest generally took precedence over everything else. Even when in high school David worked with the threshing machine gang and was unable to commence his studies until harvest season was over.

When David was in grade eleven, there was a shortage of teachers due to the war. He volunteered to go teaching at Blue Wing 1945 - 46 and then returned to complete his high school. In 1947 - 48 he took teacher training at the Provincial Normal School at Tuxedo and followed it by teaching at Silverwood for two years.

In 1953, he graduated with a B.A. from the University of Manitoba. The following year he switched to a science program because of his interest in chemistry and bacteriology. Because of financial difficulties however, David was forced to carry part-time jobs during the University years. These jobs usually consisted of slinging beer in pubs off North Main after regular school hours.

In 1955, he was employed by the city of Toronto as a chemist in the Water Works Department and



progressed to the position of Chief Chemist for the Centre Island Water Filtration Plant. In this capacity, he was responsible for the quality of water supplied to the downtown area of Toronto (approx. 100 million gallons of water per day). During the years of employment with Toronto, David continued with his studies utilizing his vacation and time off and taking courses at University of Manitoba in summer school sessions and in 1958 attained his B.Sc.

In 1966, David was hired by the Ontario Water Resource Commission to open the first regional laboratory at London Ontario. The laboratory was designed and equipped to provide chemical and microbiological testing in order to evaluate water quality and degree of pollution in the region and in the Great Lakes.

In 1972, David took a leave of absence and completed his M.E. (Master of Engineering) at the University of Western Ontario. Through government reorganization, the Ontario Resources Commission became the Ontario Ministry of the Environment. He continued as Chief of Laboratory Services until May 30, 1986 when he retired.

In 1958 David married Gloria Blanche Smith, a banker for the CIBC. They have two children, both are graduates of University of Western Ontario: Brian David Mechanical Engineer, Sandra Marlane (Mrs Daniels) B.Sc., and M.Sc.



Fig. 5.1 Gloria and David Glutek

### Fred Kuzyk, B.Sc. (E.E.)

Samuel Kuzyk came to Canada in 1903 at the age of twenty-five from the Czyshaniw district in Western Ukraine. He settled in Sunville (Glenella area) west of Lake Manitoba. There he married Anna Sul and started life on a sub-marginal homestead. They raised six boys and two girls. In 1927 the family moved to Poplar point, north-east of Portage la Prairie and started to operate an 800-acre rented farm and did well. All the Kuzyk boys learned to play a musical instrument, mostly the violin. Fred, however, played the accordion – the family had to provide its own entertainment – and then the boys played at weddings.

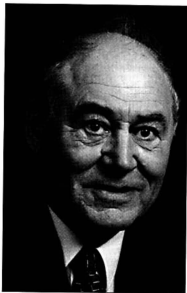


Fig. 5.2 Fred Kuzyk

Fred Kuzyk started school at Mill Creek and then finished Grade XI at Poplar Point. He took first year university at Brandon College and changed to engineering at the University of Manitoba graduating in 1946 with an engineering degree B.Sc. (E.E.).

Mr. Kuzyk graduated at a time when the Provincial Government instituted the electrification project into the rural areas was extended, and Fred being fortunate to acquire electrical supplies from Shumacker-MacKenzie, went into business wiring rural farms and the first summer wired eighty. This work expanded and his group enlarged its operation and wired more than 1000 farms in the Neepawa area and western Manitoba.

In 1948 Kuzyk was joined by Arnason of Gimli and Collins of Cartwright to acquire heavy bulldozers and go into road building. He worked at this until 1990.

In 1949 Fred married Kay Sawchuk of Winnipegosis. They raised six children - five girls and one boy. Since Fred had to be away from home, Kay looked after the family - all finished high school. Theresa became a fine arts teacher, Marlene an actress, Monica married an Ottawa civil servant and Christine lives in Toronto. Myron joined his father in the road construction business.

We build over 500 miles of Manitoba roads from Swan River to Vita. It was easier working in the Vita area – the sandy soil permitted work when the soil was on the wet side and we did work in the Grand Beach – Victoria Beach area and other areas East of the Red River around Elma, Hadashville and Medikka.

When I retired in 1990 my son, Myron, retired with me.

Retirement for me has been rewarding.

- We made two trips to Ukraine.
- Accompanied the Koshetz Choir to South America from Rio to Buenos Aires.
- Accompanied the Canadian hockey team to Moscow.
- We have been to Hawaii.
- Spent some time in Barbados.

I am a member of:

- The Engineering Association,
- The Ukrainian Sons of Pioneers (SOUP) Club,
- Knights of Columbus, and
- Ukrainian Professional and Business Club.

I am very proud that all my grandchildren speak passable Ukrainian – that's more than many people of my age can claim.

### **Edward Ledohowski, B.Sc., B.S.A., M.A.**

Edward Ledohowski was born in Winnipeg and grew up in the Interlake area of Manitoba at Poplarfield.

Edward received primary education at Dehowa School in Poplarfield. He achieved senior matriculate at Fisher Branch Collegiate, 1971. Post secondary education: Bachelor of Science (Physical Geography) University of Winnipeg 1974; Diploma in Agriculture, School of Agriculture, University of Manitoba, 1977; Master of Arts (Resource Management) University of Manitoba, 1988. Thesis title: "Rural Vernacular Architecture as a Cultural and Economic Resource in Manitoba: A Methodology of Techniques for Management of a Rural Resource".

Edward is the son of Michael and Anne (née Lisowecki). His grandparents emigrated to Canada in 1909. They were preceded by other Ukrainians who settled in the area in 1903. Their son, Michael, grew up in the district and went into the garage business and owned a pedigree seed farm. He also was a local postmaster.

In growing up in Poplarfield Edward and his brother, Wayne, had an opportunity to learn about the life of the pioneer Ukrainian settler and the development of the area.

- Possessed a keen interest in photography: Received Manitoba Arts Council grant in support of a one-man showing of photographs, 1982. Produced photographic mural for Poplar Villa senior residence in Poplarfield, conceived and produced photographic "Veteran Roll of Honor" installed at Arborg Legion #161. Collector of archival images of life in the greater Poplarfield district and

the Ukrainian Settlement Experience in Manitoba. Currently producing an illustrated history of Poplarfield district.

- He travelled extensively in Western Europe.
- Summer 1973, Project Manager, "Rural S.T.E.P. '73"
- Acted as an Assistant District Agricultural Representative. Responsibilities include supervision and daily administration of 25 university and high school students undertaking a variety of light construction projects for district farmers. Experience included planning and administration of individual projects, maintaining financial and employment records, project assessment.
- Assisted in the research and recommendations for new provincial heritage legislation (The Heritage Resources Act, 1986) and various follow-up activities. Responsibilities included analysis of existing legislation, the preparation of branch pamphlets describing the legislation, the drafting of legal forms for use under The Act, the preparation of a layman's synopsis of The Act for use as a general reference guide.
- Has published no fewer than eleven scholarly dissertations and articles mostly dealing with "Architectural Heritage" and has provided guidance to Ukrainian communities in establishing historical sites.
- He is preparing for publication: Poplarfield and District: A Pictorial History.
- From 1981 to the present he is employed by the Province of Manitoba with the Department of Culture, Heritage and Recreation.

Edward married Monique Carime Loiselle. They have one daughter, Lindsay Ann.

### **Taras Joseph Monastyrski, B.Sc. (Civil) P.Eng.**

Omelian Monastyrski was the post WWI immigrant to Canada, having arrived in Winnipeg in 1928 from Celo Kydaniw, District of Buchach. Mychalina followed him in 1930. Though from Western Ukraine they became members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Their son, Taras, born in 1934 was baptized at St. Mary the Protectress and attended St. Michael's Church with his parents.

Taras started at Norquay School, then Argyle, Mulvey and graduated from Gordon Bell where O.V. Jewitt was principal.

It wasn't easy for an immigrant to get started in Winnipeg as the depression years were setting in. Omelian, however, was fortunate to get employment with the Winnipeg School District and worked with the maintenance crews, specially maintaining work requiring cement work construction and improvement.

As a growing youth Taras delivered papers and during the summer he worked at various employments.

Monastyrski enrolled in civil engineering at the University of Saskatchewan getting financial support from his parents. During summer months he earned some money working with engineering survey crews.

In Saskatoon Taras lived in the P. Mohyla Institute where he received training in Ukrainian history and literature, was a member of the famous Ukrainian Students' club Kameniar, of which he was president, and also editor of its yearbook. He not only gained increased knowledge of Ukrainian culture and heritage, but also contributed to students' lives by being an instructor of Ukrainian dances. He was a member of SUMK.

Mr. Monastyrski graduated in 1960, with a B.Sc. in Civil Engineering at an early age of 26. In March 1996, he retired from 23 years of service with the Government of Canada. During those 23 years Taras' "vertical development" was commendable: he made his professional contributions in various parts of the country.

From June 1987 to March 1996 he served as Head of Special Projects - Public Ports, Canada.

Some of his major tasks were:

- Project Manager for the Personal and Operational (POPS) Complex for Atmospheric and Environment Service, Mould Bay, N.W.T. - \$10 million development.
- Regional Coordinator for inventorizing, inspecting and analyzing Trail Bridges for the Canadian Park Service (CPS), Prairie and northern Region, and as a part of a national task force assisting in re-drafting the trail bridge directive to ensure compliance to health and safety concerns.
- July 1991 to July 1992 acted as Chief of Asset Management along with assignments of special projects.
- Architecture and Engineering Services representative on the CPS Regional and National Access Team for planning, managing and directing a \$20 million national program over five years 1990 - 1995 to upgrade a representative amount of CPS facilities to ensure that they re handicapped accessible and ensure that all future designs consider the disabled needs.
- Involved in reviewing the training needs of the General works staff researching what was available and matching up the respective candidates. In cases where training was not available set up workshops delivering useful data exchange not only to Federal general works staff, but also inviting other levels of government and even the public sector which assisted in the cost recovery of delivery.

As head of special projects for two years, 1985-1987, Taras Monastyrski was Acting Coordinator, Department of Environment for Prairie and Northern regions with an office in Winnipeg. His assignment was to:

Plan, organize, direct and control the development and implementation of a Maintenance Management System (MMS) and Capital Asset Inventory valued at \$400 million dollars. He was responsible for the procurement, operation and maintenance of a vehicle inventory valued at \$5 million, and system design, procurement, operation and maintenance of electronic systems both communications and alarm valued at \$1.5 million - also responsible for monitoring and reporting of Energy Management.

From 1977-1985 he was Prairie Region Design Coordinator for Parks Canada.

A few of the major projects completed were:

- Re-development of the Clear Lake and Wasagaming Campgrounds in Riding Mountain National Park.
- Waskesiu area Re-development Plan which included the Waskesiu Day Use Area and the Waskesiu Portable Cabins Area in Prince Albert National Park.
- Pine Lake Campground and Day Use Area in Wood Buffalo National Park.

Included in the above were many washroom and change facilities.

For three years, 1974-1977, Taras was Senior Construction Engineer for

Manitoba and Saskatchewan for Parks Canada. His duties were to plan, control and direct maintenance projects. These projects were executed near Maple Creek, Saskatchewan and Lower Fort Garry in Manitoba. This was a fine recognition of the ability of a 40-year old engineer.

Before becoming a civil servant, 1972-1974 he was a Sales Manager for Aerofoam Chemicals and supervised the sales and production staff in developing a market for rigid polystyrene insulation.

Monastyrski started as an engineer at which work he was employed for twelve years, he started, so to speak, at the ground level being responsible for supervising all field staff in developing various projects in Manitoba:

- Greater Winnipeg Water District Bridge - Red River Floodway.
- East and West interchange Structures - Portage Bypass.
- Pan American Games Society - Site preparation and permanent stands for track and field stadium on U. of M. campus, and velodrome structure.
- Waterworks and sewerage systems - including lagoons, liftstations, water treatment plants, water towers, underground reservoirs and rate studies for many communities in Manitoba only to mention a few such as Altona, Roblin, Hartney, Beausejour and Erickson.
- Land Development Projects - Town of Tuxedo now part of the City of Winnipeg.
- Underground Utilities (watermains, sewerage, power and communications) University of Manitoba.
- Installation of processing equipment at Union Carbide Plant - Selkirk, Manitoba.

Taras Monastyrski's rise to higher echelons in his profession was not only due to his ability, but also to his foresight, as he worked he took time to improve his competence and understanding - even after retirement.

### **Additional Training and Courses**

1. Report Writing: Red River Community College, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
2. Effective Management: Red River Community College, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
3. Peter Droeker Series in Management, Red River Community College, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
4. Contract law for Engineers: University of Calgary, Alberta.
5. Construction Contract Administration: Public Service Commission.
6. Project Management: Banff School of Management, Banff, Alberta.
7. Prevention of Building Failures in Design and Construction, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg.
8. Middle Management: Public Service Commission, Jasper, Alberta.
9. Various Human Resource Management Courses: including Staff Relations, Goal Setting, Stress Management and Career Counselling.
10. Financial Management Modules
11. French Language Training: Public Service Commission, Winnipeg, Manitoba.
12. Negotiating Skills.
13. Sensitivity Training (Dealing with Disabled) Handidactus, Montreal, Quebec.
14. Peak Performance Training.

His professional success, it appears, was not only due to his ability and knowledge how to get along with people; but, also to the encouragement and assistance received from his parents and more recently his wife, Olga née Sych, a teacher by profession who grew up in Maybridge, Saskatchewan whom Taras met in church of which they have ever since been members.

They have four children: Taisa Julianna, completing a degree in Science specializing in computer science and now Head of Informatics for MacKenzie Financial; and Tania Judith graduating with an Arts degree both presently of Vancouver. Thomas Joseph completing a Masters in Public Administration currently on contract with a World Bank in Kyiv as a Director of the International Centre of Policy Studies and Timothy Justin of Winnipeg a part time student at University of Manitoba. (All members of UFS)

### Nestor Mudry B.Sc., (C.E)

Nestor Mudry's Ukrainian roots are in the Lviv area, Zhoda, Manitoba and Winnipeg. His grandfather a blacksmith came to Canada in 1905 and his father, a cabinetmaker by trade, 1906. His maternal grandfather was a weaver and distinguished himself as an expert in the making of a hemp-stripping fibre apparatus, "ter-lytsja". On coming to Canada they settled in the Zhoda area. Later his father moved to Winnipeg to find employment in Transcona C.P.R. shops, working as a car man. The fact that he had employment during the harsh depression years, he was able to give his children a better education.

Hryhorij Mudry married Feodosia Zydyk who after the children finished school became a seamstress in a garment factory. The Mudry's had five children, four girls and a boy.

Three of the Mudry daughters moved to the U.S.A, but Evelyn and Nestor remained in Winnipeg. It is interesting that all improved their employment status by further training and university degrees. Natalie became a dress designer; Eugenie, B.A., a teacher; Evelyn, B.F.A, a Winnipeg teacher, and Elizabeth a cosmetologist. Nestor, on the other hand after receiving his University of Manitoba B.Sc. (C.E.) degree, found employment and had a distinguished career as a hydraulic engineer.

In 1959, we see him as Chief of Water Control and Conservation Branch for Manitoba. Responsible for planning, design and preparation of plans for the Province's water projects. Important among the projects was investigation of water quality analysis.

Nestor conducted hydraulic and hydrologic studies in connection with:

- The Red River Floodway;
- The Portage diversion of the Assiniboine River;
- The Shellmouth Dam Reservoir.
- He was in charge of supervising all activities related to administration of the Water Power Act and the Ground Water and Well Act.
- In 1971, he became the Director of the Water Resource Branch.
- In 1980, he was named Chief of Water Management for the Province of Manitoba.



Fig. 5.3 Nestor Mudry

Nestor served on the following boards and commissions:

- Lake of the Woods Control Board.
- An alternate member of the Prairie Provinces Water Board.
- Chairman of the Lake Winnipeg, Churchill and Nelson River study board.
- Member of the Provincial Clean Environment Commission, responsible for all pollution, air, water, and soil control activities.
- In 1987, after three years of service, he retired as Chief of Water Management.

His vertical development and contribution to the Province are most notable. During the years of his professional service he received recognition attaining:

- Full membership status in the Engineering Institute of Canada. (E.I.C.)
- Was chairman of E.I.C. branch of Winnipeg 1970-71.
- Became vice-president of the Prairie Region.
- Registered Professional Engineer.



- Member of the American Water Resource Association.
- Fellow of E.I.C. 1980.
- Fellow of the Canadian Society for Civil Engineering.

### Participation In Affairs of Ukrainian Community

Nestor was actively involved in affairs of the Ukrainian community within the Province of Manitoba as well as on the National level. The following is a list of the Ukrainian Organizations in which he participated:

- Member of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Winnipeg (U.P.B.C. of Winnipeg) since 1974;
- President of the U.P.B.C. of Winnipeg, 1989- 1990;
- Elected an honorary Life Member of the U.P.B.C of Winnipeg in 1995;
- President of the Ukrainian Professional And Business Foundation 1989-1990;
- Member of the Executive Committee of the Friends of the Centre – the Centre for Ukrainian Canadian Studies at the University of Manitoba, 1989-1992;
- Member of the Winnipeg Branch, Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, 1989-1995;
- Secretary, National Executive of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation, 1983 – 1985;
- Secretary, Manitoba Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Centennial Commission, 1990-1992.

### Other Interests

Mr. Mudry has always been very fond of music. He started playing the trumpet while still in grade school and continued to progress and excel in music throughout his high school years and while at university. It was during the time he was university he started playing the trumpet professionally. He is still involved in four musical associations; most notable is the Winnipeg Pops Orchestra.

### Personal

Nestor is married to Phyllis (née Kelso). Phyllis was educated in Roblin, Manitoba and attended classes in Interior Design in the School of Architecture at the University of Manitoba in 1945 and 1946. After her children finished school, she worked as an interior designer with various homebuilders in the Winnipeg area.

Phyllis and Nestor have four children; Gregory B.A. (CFPL – TV) London, Ontario; Tom B.A., L.L.B Calgary, Paul, an air conditioning business, Winnipeg; Katherine, R.N., B.H.E (Col.) Winnipeg. The Mudrys have nine grandchildren.

### Mark G. Smerchanski, B.Sc. (Hon), M.Sc.

Mark Smerchanski was born in the Interlake region, district of Malonton and during his lifetime made a very impressive contribution to society as a professional engineer, entrepreneur and benefactor.

He completed his elementary education in Malonton, travelled daily by train to Teulon to attain his high school graduation and at the age of 23 years graduated from University of Manitoba in the science honours course. He obtained his M.Sc.



Fig. 5.4 Mark G. Smerchanski

degree in Mining, Geology and Engineering in 1938 from the Virginia Patechnical Institute.

As an engineer he went into prospecting in northern Ontario and as a geologist served as a consultant. He soon was president of a Chemical Company. He served for three years as Assistant Geologist in northern Manitoba for the Geological Survey of Canada.

His work as a geologist had taken him from coast to coast in Canada and into South and Central America, Africa, Europe and the Far East.

Mark was not only a capable geologist, but also a successful businessman.

Along with numerous other business ventures he founded Border Chemical Company Limited and Thunder Bay Chemicals Ltd., and he was a co-founder of Aerofoam Chemicals.

A son of a Malonton merchant he knew the needs and aspirations of the Ukrainian people in the area. He never lost contact with Ukrainian organizations and was a member of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club. In 1983 he was a "Haspodar" of the Canadian National Ukrainian Festival at Dauphin.

Mark Smerchanski was a modest man, yet success followed his pursuit. He went into politics and was M.L.A. for Burrows from 1962-1966.

Then he contested and won as a Liberal Member for Provencher. He was Canadian representative to the United Nations and a Member of the Prime Minister's trade mission to Moscow, U.S.S.R. He served on several commissions and boards.

He married Patricia (née Paget, L.L.B.) and they raised three daughters all

university graduates.

Not forgetting his roots, he built a cairn honouring the pioneers of the district listing the names recorded in a book, *Spruce, Swamp and Stone* with the permission of the author, Dr. Michael Ewanchuk.

Mark was one of the four sons of Anton and Evodochia (née Huley). His father on coming to Canada started working in Stony Mountain as a blacksmith.

Mr. Smerchanski's contributions to the University of Manitoba and other organizations were significant. However, his most significant leadership contribution, a real monument to his memory is that he was the founder of the Ukrainian Holy Family Nursing Home in Winnipeg.



Fig 5.5 M.Smerchanski Pioneer Monument, Molonton, MB (Standing: Muriel and Michael Ewanchuk)

## Part VI

# Seeking an Opportunity to Advance

Some young people of the first generation of settlers of Ukrainian extraction not being able to get suitable employment in Canada moved south to the industrial centres of U.S.A. One of the early ones was Peter Drohomer (Drohomereski) of Pleasant Home, Manitoba. He became an eye specialist in Dayton, Florida. An architect, Jastremski had a distinguished career in his field in the U.S.A. Several engineers, teachers and nurses also left for U.S.A. and became citizens of the country. These were followed by two, both Johns and both made their start in Detroit, Michigan. They were John W. Ewanchuk and John Panchuk

John Ewanchuk's parents, Wasyl and Paraskeva, came to Canada in 1902 to settle on land in Gimli. John Panchuk's parents, Wasyl and Irene, belonged to the group of settlers from Bukovyna, Ukraine who settled in Gardenton where Wasyl Zahara came in 1896. John was born in 1904. His parents unable to make ends meet in Gardenton, moved to Detroit.

John Ewanchuk born in 1905 stopped school at age fourteen and two years later went to work for the Winnipeg Electric Railway as section hand. After two years he returned to school, wrote his entrance examination and completed high school. Lacking financial resources to continue his education, he left for Detroit, there to be employed variously and take night school classes at the Detroit Institute of Technology.

John Panchuk was more fortunate: his father found steady employment and John graduated in law in 1929, and started law practice. In 1937 he was appointed assistant attorney general for the state of Michigan and moved to Lansing, later moving to Battle Creek, Michigan to serve as legal counsel for a large casualty corporation.

The two Johns met as members of the Ukrainian National Association and co-operated at National Conventions of that fraternal organization to institute changes. John Ewanchuk was elected to the board of directors.

The two spearheaded a move to organize a Ukrainian Congress Committee and to this day, no doubt, are remembered with gratitude by the Ukrainians in the U.S.A.

With his move to Battle Creek, Michigan John Panchuk had less opportunity to meet the Ukrainian milieu; however, he did not abandon his love for Ukrainian culture. His interest in Ukrainian literature continued and he authored a book in English, *Shevchenko's Testament*.

On the other hand John Ewanchuk continued to improve his academic

standing and graduated with a B.A. degree from the Detroit Institute of Technology. He was engaged as a statistician with the Michigan Gas Company after moving to Morton Grove, Illinois to go into private business. He continued to maintain close association with Ukrainian organizations and periodically contributed articles to "Svoboda". He also wrote an interesting article to the "Svoboda" Almanac about Ukrainian miners in St. Joseph, Missouri who were brutally attacked by.... While in Detroit he married Stephania Bartosh. They had two daughters, Claudia and Joni. He passed away in 1989.

John Panchuk, though isolated as far as Ukrainian organizations were concerned, kept in touch with relatives in the Gardenton area, and initiated the move to have the St. Michael's Orthodox Church in Gardenton – a church where he was baptized – to be declared an historical site; and was present at the formal dedication ceremonies.

John passed to his reward in 1981 and was buried by a Ukrainian Orthodox clergyman, laid to rest beside his parents in Linden, Michigan. He was survived by his wife Helen, son John, and daughters Marie and Jean.

The children of the two Canadians are Americans by birth.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Hon. Dave Chomiak, B.A., L.L.B.

Mr. Chomiak grew up in Winnipeg north end where his father came in 1938 from Western Ukraine, village of Visyana. His mother, Susan (née Evaskavich) grew up in St. Andrews, Manitoba. Dave started his education in Faraday School in Winnipeg and continued in East Kildonan: Munroe Junior High and Miles Macdonell Collegiate where he was a member of the lacrosse team.



Fig 6.1 Dave Chomiak and Family

His father was employed by the CNR yet he and Mrs. Chomiak encouraged their children to get better preparation for life. Dave attended the University of Manitoba graduating with a B.A. degree in 1974. He then proceeded to the University of Saskatchewan and received his L.L.B. in 1984.

Before entering politics Dave Chomiak worked with two law firms. He was elected M.L.A. for Kildonan in 1990, and served as Executive Assistant to Premier Edward Schreyer.

Being re-elected to the Legislature as New Democrat, he was appointed Minister of Health and Sports and Recreation in 1999.

Dave married Rita (née Jormanainen). They have two children Tomas and Michael.

Mr. Chomiak has been connected with Ukrainian organizations. He was member of a dance group, Board Member of the Male Voice Choir, Hoosli, and Ukrainian Culture Centre. He is also connected with a Big Brothers Unit.

### **Len Derkach, M.L.A. Russell**

Mr. Derkach grew up in the Silverton Area west of Angusville where he attended the Miniska Protestant rural school. He completed his high school in Russell and graduated with a B.A. degree from the University of Brandon, and became a teacher.

In 1986 the Roblin-Russell residents elected Len Derkach to the Manitoba Legislature. He became Minister of Education in the Premier G. Filmon government in 1988, and served in this ministerial capacity until January 1992 when he was appointed Minister of Rural Development, remaining Minister of Rural Development until September 1999. Through programs such as REDI and Grow Bonds, jobs and economic development have been flourishing throughout rural Manitoba. The establishment and success of Rural Forums and the partnership approach Len has taken with rural communities attests to the increase in business activity and entrepreneur-



Fig 6.2 Len Derkach M.L.A.

ial spirit that did grow in Manitoba under his ministerial direction.

Mr. Derkach is engaged in farming in Russell. The family has made Russell their home community where his wife Margie and their three sons are active in church and community affairs.

### **Nestor Gayowsky, First Canadian Consul-General For Kyiv**

Nestor Gayowsky was born in Brandon, Manitoba in 1934 where his parents had established residence after his father came from Western Ukraine in 1925, his mother however preceded him, in 1910 she as a child came with her parents from a village near Chernivtsi. The Gayowsky's left Brandon to establish a home in Winnipeg. His mother became a public school teacher and his father was involved in journalism for some time, being connected with the "Ukrainian Voice" and was a teacher of Ukrainian.

Nestor got his elementary and high school education in the north-end Winnipeg schools. And then enrolled in the Faculty of Arts, University of Manitoba.

Having received good training in Ukrainian at home, he took classes in Ukrainian with Professor J. B. Rudnytskyj. While at the University he joined the army and went for training during the summer months.

Nestor, once receiving his arts degree in 1956, received employment in Ottawa with the Immigration Department, Foreign Service branch and for nine years served in Scandinavia, Finland, and Italy. On return to Canada he was transferred to another branch of government and served in the areas of:

- Fitness and Sports.
- Senior advisor in the Department of Finance.
- In 1981 served in the Canadian Embassy in Moscow.
- In 1983 he was appointed secretary of Canada-USSR Trade Task Force.
- In 1989 travelled with the Ukrainian Professional Businessmen's group to the Ukraine.

In 1940, the then Canada's Minister of External Affairs, Mr. Joe Clark appointed Nestor Gayowsky the first Consul-General in Kyiv. His wife Tela was granted a leave of absence from her position with the Department of Industry to join him in Kyiv.

When interviewed in 1991, at the time of his appointment by a reporter of "The Ukrainian Weekly" he explained his functions thus:

Consul-Generals normally are given a territory within a country that already has an ambassador. I am responsible for protecting Canadian interests in Ukraine and Maldivia.

A Consul-General has a great deal of operating freedom. As to functions, all visa work previously undertaken in Moscow by our embassy will become the responsibility of the consulate.

...The consulate was certainly an encouragement for the establishment of international flights to Kyiv<sup>1</sup>

In 1992 he was appointed in Charge of Affaires in Kyiv, and returned in

<sup>1</sup> Based on the *Ukrainian Weekly* interview of January 27, 1991

1993. In 1994 he became a Representative Officer of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. From this position he returned to serve in an advisory capacity to various agencies.

Nestor's advancement as civil servant, and his contributions, no doubt, was due to his university education, and his ability and knowledge of Ukrainian language and history.

Nestor's only sibling is Cornelia six years his senior. She is a music teacher in London, England. Her two married daughters are also living in England. Cornelia is the widow of a famous Winnipeg violinist, John Kuchny, who played with the London Philharmonic Orchestra.

### **William Stephen Klym, B.A., L.L.B.**

William's paternal grandfather Alexander came to Canada in 1906. He worked in lumber camps for two years then returned to Terembola, in Western Ukraine and returned to Canada with his two brothers. His paternal grandmother was Anna Ewach whom Alexander married in Garland, Manitoba. They started on a homestead in Garland moving to Dauphin where he was a maintenance man for the C.N.R. Living in Dauphin gave, Stephen a chance to attend high school and became a school teacher. He had three siblings, Jay, now deceased, Bill an electrical businessman in Toronto, and Bill on Vancouver Island.

Stephen served with the R.C.A.F. during WWII. On discharge he married Mary Ferguson, a Dauphinite who also was a school teacher. William was born in Flin Flon where his father was a high school teacher. William received his education in Flin Flon, and in Russell, Manitoba, where his father was an Inspector of Schools.

He obtained his B.A. degree from the University of Winnipeg, and his L.L.B. at the University of Manitoba. He articulated in Calgary where he practises law now. William married a judge's daughter, Nancy MacPherson, and they established their home in Calgary. Nancy received her B.A. from the University of Calgary and was a Gold Medallist in French and, is now working as a receptionist in a French Immersion school.

Nancy and William have two children, Michael an L.L.B. from Queen's, and B.Com. from Calgary. Jacqueline has a Bachelor's degree in journalism from Carleton and is now taking law at Western University.

William Stephen Klym has been a lawyer in Calgary for 25 years. He specializes in estate, development and municipal law. He has not kept apart from his Ukrainian associates, in Calgary; his Ukrainian connections are good. At the present time he is the treasurer of the Canadian Ukraine Business Initiative (CUBI) Organization and a member of the community of Canadian-Ukrainian Legislative Cooperation project. The organization met in the Ukraine in 1996. He is an accomplished golfer and enjoys curling. His mother passed away and he keeps in close contact with his father in Winnipeg.



### Orest William Lewycky, Entrepreneur

My father, Kerylo Lewycky, came to Canada in 1910 from the village (selo) Perymyliw in Western Ukraine. Having started gymnasium education, he was accepted to the teacher training, the Ukrainian Teacher Training School in Brandon. He taught school in Goodeve, Saskatchewan.

He left teaching, however, to become manager for the Burrows Lumber operations in Grandview and Dauphin. He established his own business in Ethelbert where he met and married, my mother, Mary Mazur. His business operation was not a success so he came to Winnipeg to operate a furniture store on Selkirk Avenue. I was born in Winnipeg.

By the time I was in the elementary school we moved to the farm in Rossdale, Manitoba northwest of Lockport, and I had to walk four miles to the Rossdale School. My parents used to bring their vegetables, eggs, poultry and cream to the North-end market. Again my father decided to go into business and bought a grocery store. By this time I had my Grade XII education and helped in the store, and also worked as milkman, delivering milk from house to house.

In 1945-46 I was a student at the University of Saskatchewan and resided in the P. Mohyla Institute. This was a fine experience.



Fig 6.3 Seated: Mary Lewycky Standing: L-R Dennis, Orest W. and Taras

The next year I transferred to the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg, and met Mary Yuzyk who was in charge of Eaton's Store and Order Office in Kamsack and was transferred to Winnipeg. We were married in 1947. I quit my projects in Winnipeg and went into the grocery store business in Shoal Lake, Manitoba. By 1951 we had two sons; Dennis and Taras (Terry).

We did well in business in Shoal Lake; not only that, we had a farm and at one time prepared no fewer than 1000 hogs for market. A half-section was devoted to grain farming.

In 1952 we began building another business. Kady-Lo-Farm Service Inc., self-built, enlarged several times, grew to multi-facet farm service. Stages include feed, mobile milling, local crushing and mix, farm chemical and fertilizers. We expanded to farm equipment, New Holland 1967, I.H.C. in 1971, Ford 1975 and Steiger in 1982 thus becoming one of the larger private commercial employers. I am also a partner in Curb, Home Farm and Auto Hardware.

But the centre of operations was our Red and White Grocery Store.

My wife and I worked with the people and entered into the Shoal Lake organizations and church work. She is a member of Eastern Star and I belong to Masons and Shriners. We also are closely connected and support Ukrainian organizations. We donated a Computer Lab to St. Andrew's College, and I continue work in assisting students from Ukraine in locating residences, and am associated with the Canadian Aid for Ukraine.

When we lived in Shoal Lake, I was mayor of the town for ten years; was on the Birdtail School Division Board (1969-78); became Regional Director of the Chamber of Commerce; am Life Member of Union of Manitoba Municipalities, and Life Member of Ukrainian Professional and Business Club.

Our two sons have done well: Dennis, B.A., M.A. (in journalism) is now executive director of consultants in Pakistan; Taras (Terry), B.A., M.A. is now a member of the Red River College working to set up colleges in foreign countries, and is now in China.

### **Orest W. Pressey, B.A., L.L.B.**

Orest, a prominent Portage la Prairie lawyer, retired in January 2000. He received his elementary education at the Vimy Ridge rural school and completed grade eleven at Pine River high school.

He was a prominent member and participated in CYMK activities, winning a public speaking contest "krasnomovstvo" at the 1945 jamboree in Dauphin, Manitoba.

Leaving Pine River Orest completed Grade twelve at St. Andrews College in Winnipeg and stayed the next three years in residence. Anchored the debating club while at the college, debating in both Ukrainian and English, highlighted by a debate with a team from Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon. He contributed articles to the College monthly newsletter, The Echo, and served as editor for one term. After honing his public speaking ability and knowledge of Ukrainian language and histo-



Fig 6.4 Orest and Adeline Pressey

ry he proceeded to University where he earned a B.A. at the United College (now University of Winnipeg) in 1953, and a L.L.B. degree at the Manitoba Law School in 1956, achieving the second highest standing in his final year of law.

As a Lawyer he:

- Practised law in Virden, Manitoba, from 1957 to 1965, was employed by the Province of Manitoba as a senior legal officer from 1965 to 1979, resumed private practice in 1980 as a partner in the firm of Miller, Miller, and Pressey and was the senior partner in the successor firm Miller, Pressey, and Selinger from 1987 to his retirement in January 2000, in Portage la Prairie.
- Served as consulting solicitor to the city of Portage la Prairie and four other municipalities.
- Served a three term as alderman on the council of the City of Portage la Prairie with special responsibility for the celebration of Manitoba Centennial in 1970.
- Actively supported Portage and District United Way from 1965 to the present, serving as campaign chairman in two campaigns.
- Participated in community activities including the Pan-Am Games in 1967 and 1999.
- Involved in community work as member of the kinsmen clubs in Virden and Portage la Prairie and Lions Club in Portage la Prairie, Chairman of Winter Fun Festival, active in Ukrainian Centennial Committee at Portage la Prairie.
- Recognized by the city of Portage la Prairie on January 10, 2000, for twenty years of service as solicitor for the city.

He married his long-time legal secretary Adeline Zulatyski. They have four children Richard, Susan, Jonathan, and Nancy, a Ph.D. in English Literature University of Calgary. Due to his interest in gardening, Mrs. Pressey calls him the

'son of the soil.' but Orest Pressey is also interested in art and the Presseys have original works of Derek Anderson, John Maksymyk and Terry McLean. And to his great credit must go: "My mission in life was to provide quality legal services at a reasonable rate, and I think I demonstrated that in my twenty years with the firm."<sup>1</sup>

Mr Pressey is proud of his heritage; his grandparents, the Prysraznuks came to the Pine River country early in the last century.

Mrs. Pressey and he helped the Ukrainian community raise money and build the monument on Island Park to celebrate the contribution these pioneers made to Portage.<sup>2</sup>

(For it was in the Portage area that Ukrainian harvesters came from the northern part of the province to help the farmers reap their harvests and made Portage a leading farming area in the province.)

Orest Pressey is surpassed not only of legal skill, but also of creative ability, The Daily Graphic wrote: It was around this time, Pressey stuck his hands in another honey pot when he accepted the challenge to build an authentic Ukrainian clay oven in town. Word of his talent drifted to Dauphin where he would build city's first clay oven, and he would eventually be asked the same favour by Vic Edwards, curator of the Fort la Reine Museum and the Pioneer Village in Portage. Orest comes out to the museum and works the outdoor bake oven to bake bread for Heritage Days and other events.<sup>3</sup>

Mr Pressey has had a distinguished career and as a person of Ukrainian background, which he knew, he never strayed away from his heritage and is a prime example of Ukrainians as outstanding Canadians.

### John Yuzyk, L.L.C.M.

Dmytro Yuzyk was fifteen when he came to Canada with his parents from Western Ukraine in 1900 to settle in Rhein, Saskatchewan. They came from the village of Mali Katsiubuntsi. His wife Dokia (née Maskewich) came with her parents



Fig 6.8 P.O. John Yuzyk, 1986; retired

<sup>1</sup> Portage la Prairie Daily Graphic, January 15, 2000 (page 3)

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid*

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid*



Fig 6.7 Branch 141 Ladies' Auxiliary, 1980

in 1902 from the village of Burdiakivtsi to settle in Norquay, Saskatchewan. Dmytro had one-year training in agronomy and was a horse breeder; Dokia, a trained mid-wife. The Dmytro Yuzyks had four children; William, Annie, John and Mary.

While his parents were in business in Winnipeg John attended King Edward and Lord Nelson schools, but completed his high school in Saskatchewan where his parents settled on a farm at Kamsack. John received employment with the assessment branch of the Saskatchewan government in Regina where he studied music (voice) and received his L.L.M. from London College of Music. During WWII he enlisted with the R.C.A.F. serving in Canada and overseas as an aircraft mechanic.

While overseas he joined with John G. Karesevich, Bohdan Panchuk, Ann Chrapleve, A. J. Yaremovich and other Canadian Ukrainian military personnel to organize a Ukrainian-Canadian Service Personnel's Association that had its centre at 218 Sussex Gardens- a home away from home.

On receiving an honorary discharge, John Yuzyk was engaged in organizing branches of Ukrainian veterans in Canada, and is a member of the Ukrainian. During his retirement years John Yuzyk has been an active member of the Ukrainian Canadian Veterans Branch #141, Royal Canadian Legion in Winnipeg.

Branch #141 has its headquarters at 618 Selkirk Avenue, Winnipeg and through the years has been publishing a Branch Newsletter.

John Yuzyk was also self-employed in real estate where he started with the erstwhile mayor of Winnipeg, the late Steven Juba.

- In 1961 awarded Certificate of Merit by the Canadian Legion.
- Member of the Ukrainian Centennial Memorial Committee establishing a site the "Tomb of the Unknown Ukrainian Soldier at the Selo Ukraina in Dauphin; and erection of monument
- Has acted as M.C. of Ukrainian New Year's Eve Party, "Malanka"
- In 1978 received a Community Service Award from the City of Winnipeg
- Was awarded the rank of P/O of RCAF Cadet 573 Squadron and received a Certificate of Merit



Fig 6.5 Reception UCA, 1945 in London  
 L-R Lt. Stechishin and his Irish bride.  
 R-L Capt. Dr. Peter Smylski, Cpl. L. Usick (John  
 Yuzyk's brother) and F/L Bohdan Panchuk



Fig 6.6 Branch #141 Color Party - 1980

and also awarded Honorary Life Membership.

- John is a member of the Sons of Ukrainian Pioneers (SOUP) Club.

In 1948 John married Ann Kotelko, B.Ed., a school teacher, now deceased. They had two girls, Mary Anne (Mrs. Shore) B.A., B.Ed., a school teacher in Winnipeg and Barbara Evangeline, an accountant in Vancouver.

### **Rt. Hon. Edward Schreyer, B.A., B.Ed., M.A., B.S.S., L.L.D.**

Mr. Schreyer's grandparents came to Canada from Western Ukraine to settle in the Beausejour area in 1895. His background, therefore, is German-Ukrainian. Edward Schreyer received his elementary and high school education in Beausejour, attended St. John's College and received his degrees in education and arts. He taught at the high school level and was lecturer at St. Paul's College. Edward Schreyer was popular in the Ladywood Constituency with a large percentage of Ukrainian voters and was elected M.L.A. in 1958, becoming the younger member to sit in the Manitoba Legislature.

The Rt. Honourable Edward Schreyer's vertical development has been most impressive:

- 1958 elected M.L.A.
- 1965 elected M.P.; re-elected 1968
- 1974 became leader of CCF party and Premier
- 1979-84 Governor General of Canada
- 1984 Canadian High Commissioner to Australia

He married Miss Lily Schultz of Grandview. They have four children; both boys live in Winnipeg, and one girl, married, lives in Australia, another, married, lives in Hong Kong.



Fig. 6.9 Rt. Hon. Edward Schreyer

### **Dr. Joseph Slogan**

Dr. Joseph Slogan grew up on the former Indian Reserve at East Selkirk and was their first student from the area to attend University. He received his Doctorate of Dental Surgery from the University of Toronto. He received a Silver Medal in Periodontology and five after scholarships during his undergraduate years. When a student, he was a member of the Canadian Officers Training Corps. In 1985 he was made a Fellow of Academy of Dentistry International.

Dr. Slogan practised dentistry in Windsor, Ontario and in the Medical Arts Building in Winnipeg. Since 1960 he has been in practice in the Town of Selkirk.

A good doctor and active in politics he was thrice elected to the House of Commons as Conservative M.P. for Springfield.

In his profession, politics and business he has established a fine record. His leadership in his wider community has made a difference.



Fig. 6.10 Dr. Joseph Slogan M.P.





Fig 6.11 #573 Air Cadet Squadron  
Centre: P.O. J. Yuzzk, F/L A Ostaff and F/O P. Karpluk

## Part VII

# Women Strove to Succeed

In this section we are dealing with a select sample of women who like their predecessors had the will to work and the ability to surmount difficulties. Many seemed to follow the example of Ewdochia Jakymishin who in 1899 boarded a ship in Hamburg to undertake a four-month voyage around the Horn to join her husband in Hawaii.

These are examples of women who as girls experienced want, some experienced fear, yet they did not give up. Many left home at an early age. Some got married early, but after raising a family returned to resume studies. And we include examples of those who had the determination to go into far away places for self-improvement or to see the world.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Olga Atkinson (née Prodan) B.Sc.

Olga Atkinson is the daughter of the late Cornelius and Paraskeva (née Malkovich) Prodan. Both her parents started as teachers in the Sifton, Manitoba area and then moved to Winnipeg when Mr. Prodan studied at the Manitoba College of Agriculture. Later he became a renowned agronomist working among Ukrainian farmers to help them improve their agricultural practices. For a while Mrs. Prodan taught at Roswell School near Bird's Hill and they established a permanent home in East Kildonan.

Olga attended East Kildonan Colligate, and then received a business college diploma. She got employment as a bank clerk with the Canadian Bank of Commerce and then proceeded to University of Manitoba graduating with a B.Sc. degree. Her business course and a science degree helped her to secure better employment:

- She was a seed analyst, Canadian Department of Agriculture.
- Secretary to the Publicity Director Canadian Wheat Pools.
- Then in Ontario she was a researcher, of seed-borne diseases at the Experimental Farm in Ontario.

Her employment pattern indicates that she followed in her father's footsteps in the field of Agriculture.

While in Ontario she met and married Robert G. Atkinson Ph.D., a plant pathologist.

The Atkinsons have a daughter, Dena, who has a M.L.S. (Masters of Library Science) and a M.A. degree. They have retired in Victoria.

The progress her father and Olga made is commendable. Cornelius Prodan

came to Canada from the Kyiv region of the Ukraine and was a tinsmith by trade. He made an outstanding contribution among the farmers of Manitoba, and Olga's success in science is noteworthy. Olga stated, "My father hoped to improve the economic status of farmers. His research in agriculture gave me a start in science."

### June Dutka, B.A., B.L.S.

June Dutka was born June 7, 1943 in Winnipeg, Manitoba the daughter of Michael Philip and Olga Andrusyshen Dutka. She has one brother, Michael Joseph Dutka. She attended St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School (currently Immaculate Heart of Mary School) and Sisler High School.

June has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Manitoba (1964) and a Bachelor of Library Science degree from the University of British Columbia (1966).

In 1966 June began her professional work at the University of Manitoba Libraries in the Reference Section of the Elizabeth Dafoe Library. She headed the Government Publications Section of the same library from 1969 to 1995. June was the Libraries' Development Officer from 1995 until her early retirement in 1998.

June is active in professional and community organizations. In recognition of her efforts she received the Presidential Advisory Committee Award on University Outreach in 1986. In 1989 she received a Merit Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in service for the period 1987/88 and 1988/89. In 1993 June was promoted to the rank of Full Librarian.

In her retirement, June Dutka resides in Winnipeg where she continues to enjoy research and writing. June's first book, entitled The Grace of Passing: Constantine H. Andrusyshen: The Odyssey of a Slavist was published by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press in June 2000. She delights in travel, music, needlework and fostering friendships. Currently she is the Vice-President of The Friends of the University of Manitoba Libraries.

### Meryl Geary on Becoming Ukrainian

I, Meryl Andrejciw Geary, was born in 1934 in St. Boniface, Manitoba and remember the Depression in Winnipeg and living off Ration coupons during World War II. We lived in rented rooms at 565 Young Street and I went to Somerset School at Sherbrooke and Notre Dame. I was 11 years old when we left; my mother, Pauline Anderson, and my brother, Andy, and I to live in Victoria, B.C. with my father, Philip, a journeyman tinsmith who had found a job at Yarrow Shipyards.

My mother had been orphaned by the time she was five. She lived in Fraserwood with the Paziuks and in Carman with the Normands before marrying my father in Winnipeg. I thought my father's parents were also dead, as we never saw them and he never spoke of them. Leaving Winnipeg cut off family with finality. At this point I believed my father had Scandinavian origins and that my mother, a Normand, was French Canadian. I felt like the only child without grandparents.

In 1954 I graduated from Provincial Normal School in Vancouver as an

Elementary School teacher. However, travel was in my ancestral genes and I went to work for the Union Steamships of New Zealand. On July 5, 1959 I left Vancouver and became the first girl to ride from Vancouver to Montreal on a bicycle. The newspapers across Canada covered my progress, including the Winnipeg Tribune August 11, 1959.\* I was enroute to New York where I caught the Cunard Line, "Sylvania" to Liverpool, England.



Fig. 7.1 Muryl Geary, Greeted with Bread and Salt at Skala by Metodi Romaniuk.

I spent the next 10 years travelling around the world, working in a different country every year. I was a chambermaid in a London hotel; factory worker and secretary in Copenhagen, Denmark; cartographer's assistant in Berlin, Germany; au pair in Paris, France; medical aid in Daphne, Greece; veterinarian's assistant in Fez, Morocco; fortune teller in Gibraltar; secretary in Baghdad, Iraq; seamstress in Hamadan, Iran; teacher in Calcutta, India; prawn sorter at Ledgepoint; jilleroo in Keepit Dam and secretary in Sydney, Australia.

Ten years abroad was my university education. I learned world cultures first hand and languages through immersion. I found no Scandinavian roots, but in the former Soviet Union in 1961 I was told that I looked like "one of our people".

I didn't begin genealogy research until after I joined the B.C. and Manitoba Genealogical Societies. Then I wrote the Department of Vital Statistics in Winnipeg for Registrations of Birth. These primary source documents showed that my mother was Pawlena Sawczuk not Normand, born in Pleasant

\* See Appendix 1.

Home\* and was of Ukrainian ethnic origin. (Normand was just the name of a family she lived with). My father was not Philip Anderson, but Theophile Andrejciw born in Winnipeg and was also of Ukrainian ethnic origin! (Andrejciw became Andrejcuw, Andrachal, Andrachu, Andrychuk, Andrichuk, Andrichu and after 22 changes finally Anderson). Not only did I have a new name, but also at 50 years of age I discovered I was Ukrainian! First I was overjoyed. Then I was depressed. I thought about the years when I could have learned the Ukrainian language, history and culture, been part of a Ukrainian community, learned how to make "perogies" and do Ukrainian dancing! I felt robbed. Who to ask? My father died in 1951 and my mother and brother in 1984.

Over-compensating for those lost years, I became a "born-again Ukrainian" – took Ukrainian language courses, became Culture Director of the Ivan Franko Community Society in Richmond, B.C. for 3 years and produced and co-ordinated seven major Ukrainian Genealogy Seminars and Workshops.

To help others, I started "The Ukrainian Village Registry", a village finding aid with maps and family history resources. I exhibited with my Registry at Canada's National Ukrainian Festival, Dauphin, Manitoba with sponsorship of the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, Winnipeg; Ukrainian Day at the Pacific National Exhibition; B.C. Ukrainian Cultural Festival, Surrey, B.C.; Ukrainian Showcase 2000, Vancouver, B.C. and other venues throughout B.C.

When I learned which villages and towns my grandparents came from I had to visit them at any cost. Spending every penny we had and jeopardizing my marriage to a nice man of Irish extraction, I made four trips (1987, 1988, 1989 & 1991) to those villages and the relatives who still lived there.

Many younger people whom I visited had moved from the villages to the cities of Lviv, Ternopil, Terebovlia, Kopychyntsi, Chernivtsi and Kiev, but the elders with their stories are still in the villages. They are the ones who helped me to unravel my tangled skein of family history.

My father's father, Alexander Andrejciw came to Canada in 1900 from Skala, Borschiv, Ternopil oblast. He arrived alone and went to Winnipeg to work as an herbalist and shoemaker. On my trip to Skala I stood on the little bridge that spanned the Zbruch River, the former border that divided Ukraine between the Austro-Hungarian Empire and the Russian Empire.

My father's mother, Krystyna Dziuba, came to Canada in 1903 from Verbivtsi, Terebovlia, Ternopil oblast, with her parents, Josef and Anna (née Pronyk) Dziuba, who settled in Gonor, north of Winnipeg. When he originally came in 1899 he worked on the railway and decided to sell his farm holdings in Ukraine and bring his family to a new land of opportunity.

Krystyna, the youngest of Josef and Anna's five daughters, worked as a chambermaid at the Savoy Hotel, met Alexander Andrejciw there and married him. In 1906 they travelled to B.C. after the birth of baby daughter Olga, homesteading in the Sumas area four miles from the U.S. Border. (She told her children that my father, Phil, was born in B.C. in 1907 and son, Stefan, in 1909). I wondered if this was the reason why my father moved us to B.C. Why then did his Registration of Birth say he was born in Winnipeg? They returned to Winnipeg in 1909 where seven more children were born - Theodore (John), Pawlena, Michael, Mikhaelina (Lena), Frank, Nicholas and Muryl.

I located the original homestead of my mother's parents, Dmytro and Olena (Werhun) Sawczuk, SW\_ Section 34, Township 27, Range 3 East, Pleasant Home. Now there's just a golden wheat field. Their thatched house was demolished once the property was sold following Dmytro's death in 1912

\* Teulon, Manitoba area.

after a sleigh accident. My grandmother died in childbirth in 1912. During the diphtheria epidemic in 1903 they tragically lost a total of seven children. They are all buried in Holy Rosary cemetery next to the homestead. I placed a cross on their burial mounds after almost 75 years to make sure they are not forgotten.

Dmytro and Olena were Hutsuls from the Carpathian Mountain area in the oblast of Ivano-Frankivsk. They arrived in Canada in 1897. My grandfather was from the tiny village of Boshchiv along the Prut River east of Kolomya where they went to market. He was a widower with two grown daughters when he married my grandmother, Olena, in her village of Chorny Oslava. Olena's sister, Anna Werhun, also married a widower with grown children.

When Dmytro Sawczuk and Vasyl Negrycz decided to go to Canada, the two sisters planned their homes side by side to help each other. However, my pregnant grandmother was told to take the next ship. Her sister, Anna, sailed on the "Arcadia" arriving in Quebec May 2, 1897 and Olena arrived in Quebec on the "Arabia" July 22, 1897 but sadly, without her baby. Even with the help of their countryman Agent Kyrilo Genik, they could not obtain a homestead in Venlaw near Vasyl and Anna Negrycz. Because of their late arrival they had to settle on land far away from them in Pleasant Home. The sisters, so hopeful, never saw each other alive again.

As brief and unhappy a life as my grandparents experienced in Pleasant Home, Vasyl and Anna Negrycz (now Negrych) prospered in Venlaw and raised ten children. A large family of Negrych highlanders had immigrated from Berezhiv Nyzhny with them. They helped each other build their homesteads and clear the land. They had formed their own small Hutsul village in Canada.

Vasyl died in 1927 but Anna kept the homestead going until her death in 1944. Four unmarried children, Julia, Annie, Steve and Bill, remained to work the homestead. Steve was also an elementary school teacher inspired by his uncle John Negrych, also a teacher. It was Steve who found my mother and reconnected us to the Negrych family.

As Julia, Bill and Annie passed on it was also Steve who planned that his parent's homestead and surrounding woods be preserved. The ten log buildings were in excellent shape. The place was a living museum with no electricity, just oil lamps. No plumbing or running water except the Drifting River. No telephone. The Duncan Phyfe table and Monarch sewing machine sat proudly on braided rugs in the living room with pots of geraniums in the windows. He revered this bit of heaven where time stood still and where I loved spending my holidays. He lived to see the Province of Manitoba state its intention to declare the Negrych Homestead in the Rural Municipality of Gilbert Plains a Heritage site in 1991. In 1992 he died from injuries resulting from a car accident, but his dream was fulfilled.

On August 10, 1997 a Heritage plaque unveiling ceremony was held on the Homestead, now a Province of Manitoba Heritage site. (It has also since been declared a Canadian Heritage Site.) Just a great-niece, I was honoured to be invited with Vasyl and Anna's grandchildren and with granddaughter, Rose Slyzuk, to speak about the family after grandson, Walter Slyzuk, unveiled the plaque. Other grandchildren present were Ann (Slyzuk) Shwets, Mary Slyzuk, Ann (Symchych) Stewart, Mack Symchych and Bill Symchych plus great grandchildren, Frank Shwets and Jennifer Donovan, amongst the huge clan of other branches of the Negrych family.

I have gone from being someone with no ethnic roots or relatives to being part of a family with a Heritage Homestead! My family tree was overflowing with the surnames of Sawczuk, Werhun, Negrych, Paziuk, Lewkun, Stroyney, Slyzuk, Symchych, Genik, Fych, Shwets, Andrejciw, Andrich, Dziuba, Hutts, Pronyk, Specht, Kornago, Kashchynets, Prowal, Bazan, Zybrasky, Zacharkiw, Nebozenko, Polson, Romaniuk, Ostafichuk, Hearty, Sorobey and more...

The lost pieces of my genealogy puzzle were put in place when I found my ancestral roots. The pendulum that had swung dangerously into "born-again Ukrainian" territory has swung back to its normal position. I was born a Canadian, then became Ukrainian, Ukrainian-Canadian and Canadian-Ukrainian. Finally I'm once again Canadian, but with a deep appreciation for my Ukrainian ethnic origins. This came with the knowledge of the sacrifice and contribution that my pioneer ancestors made in order for me to be a Canadian.

When "Heritage Productions" in Toronto asked me to write a Ukrainian resource book for their genealogy series, I was glad that I, too, was able to make a contribution to the Ukrainian community in Canada. "Finding Your Ukrainian Ancestors", by Muryl Andrejciw Geary was published in 1998.\*\*

(Note: Muryl is still trying to locate her last remaining uncle, Michael Sawczuk born in Pleasant Home, Manitoba in 1909. He was in the RCAF in World War II, married a British War Bride, name unknown and had two sons, names unknown. Last heard from in the 1950's in Calgary when he wrote to his cousin, Bill Lewkun in Inwood, Manitoba).

### Colleen Johnson of Te Puke, New Zealand

Mykola Genik came to Canada from Bereziw in 1897. He settled a homestead SW 1/4 22-23-20W, north of Vermillion River some twenty miles south of Dauphin. His son, Michael, married Nettie Koshowski. They had a daughter, Mary who fifty years after her great grandfather came to Canada left for Fort William to join her brother, Tony. There she met an Irishman, Kennedy Gibson. In 1955 their daughter Colleen was born. And she is the subject of our "Vertical Development essay except that Colleen with an urge to seek adventure went "down under" to Australia, and now lives in Te Puke, New Zealand.

- My father had good employment and mother was a good housekeeper, wonderful cook and a fabulous sewer. I never owned a store-bought dress until I left home at nineteen.
- Dad would hook up a trailer and during summer we went to visit alternate grandparents. One year the Dauphin Festival was on, but I was too young to appreciate my heritage. I remember best the Easter egg painting, but I haven't mastered the art yet.
- After high school I went to Humber College in Toronto to study photography. I graduated in 1996, worked for a while then returned to Humber College as a full-time technician. A year later I became Chief Technician and made good money for two years before the Ontario Government employed me. Having saved some money, I decided to go to Australia, something I had in mind for four years. In 1979 I headed "to the other end" of the world (down under).

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\*\* See Appendix II.

## Johnsons as Farmers

There was a small house and the land sloped gently down to a stream. We used an electric fence and grazed half a dozen sheep, a couple of steers and a jersey cow. That cow was the most marvellous animal. We now understand why a milch cow was so important to the early settlers no matter which country they lived in. "Rhonda" produced over twenty-two litres of milk daily and we used that milk in every way we could. We drank it, fattened pigs and raised calves that once weaned were grazed for two years until they too went into the freezer. Friends received cream in large plastic bottles – it is dear here, \$1.20 for 300 ml – and I made all our butter, clarified butter, cottage cheese, sour cream and ice cream. Our climate in this part of New Zealand is very mild compared to Canada.

Three years later we sold this place and in 1989 moved closer to the coast where the climate is even milder. Our four acres is on the base of a hill and faces eastward across farmland to the coast. We can see the ocean and an offshore volcano that regularly belches steam and ash. Another volcano was a problem in 1996 when it coated much of this area with ash – everything was covered and smelled of sulphur. We had to use our orchard sprayer and wash the ash off the grass so the sheep could graze.

We grow the purple passionfruit which is a vine producing a sub-tropical fruit the size of a duck egg. When ripe they fall off the vine and are collected throughout the day to prevent sun damage. The tasty pulp is used as a topping for ice cream or in a fruit salad. We ship the fruit around the country. It used to be air freighted to the South Island to the larger cities, and we got 60¢ for each fruit wholesale, which was big money. The consumer was paying \$2 for a single fruit, which is quite ridiculous.

Ken and I belonged to the New Zealand Association of Smallfarmers ever since we moved to the country. There are branches around the country and local meetings visit different properties and allow for exchange of ideas. It was a great honour for us to win the national award of Smallfarmer of the Year in 1993. Our local branch nominated us as the national body felt that what we had accomplished on our small farm was impressive enough for us to win.

In 1984 I began a search into my mother's side of the family. I often think of my great grandparents who left the Ukraine for Canada for a new life and how I left Canada and ended up with a new life in New Zealand. I do or did things that they had to in order to survive such as milking a cow and cultivating a garden.

I feel very lucky to have so many of your books and a couple by V. J. Kaye. I wish I had taken more interest in my Ukrainian ancestors when I lived in Canada, as it would have been so much easier to find information about them.

Mrs. Johnson's story shows that the redoubtable descendants of Ukrainians have the ability and drive to succeed – their vertical development is outstanding.

### Marie Kishchuk, H.Ec., M.A., M.A.

Mrs. Kishchuk is a daughter of John Maduke whose parents settled in Ol'ha, Manitoba, in 1902. She married Boris Kishchuk, Bachelor Mechanical Engineering and M.B.Ad. whose predecessors farmed in Vita, Manitoba. Both their fathers were school teachers, John Maduke, took his training at the Ukrainian Teacher Training School in Brandon and left for Saskatchewan where he attended University and dis-





Fig. 7.3 Marie and Boris Kishchuk

tinguished himself as an Agronomist; John Kishchuk was also a school teacher and later became a municipal administrator. He also served for two years as a rector of the Mohyla Institute. Both families were closely connected with the Mohyla Institute in Saskatoon that had a great influence in encouraging young people to attend university.

As for Marie Kishchuk, she states: I have an undergraduate degree in Home Economics and two Masters Degrees: one in continuing education and another one in Arts, Ukrainian Literature and Folklore all from the University of Saskatchewan.

Boris has done well in business, his own engineering firm – Engineering Management Services, Croscan.

My two siblings have done well: Bohdan has a B.Sc. (Agricultural Engineering), and an M.A. from Harvard, and Boris has gone into business.

Boris and I are proud of the progress our five children have made.

Natalie:

- University of Saskatchewan – Honours degree in Social Psychology.
- University of Waterloo – Master's degree in Social Psychology.
- University of Waterloo – Ph.D. In Social Psychology.
- Worked in the federal and provincial government (Quebec).
- Established her firm in 1998 specializing in evaluation studies.

Daniel:

- University of Saskatchewan – Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.
- University of Saskatchewan – Master of Business Administration.
- Works with Boris as a principal in Engineering Management Services, Croscan.
- Specializes in quality assurances and management training.

Barbara:

- University of Saskatchewan – Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (Plant Ecology).
- McGill University – Master's degree in Renewable Resources (soils).
- University of British Columbia – Ph.D. In Forest Sciences (forest soils).
- Employed as a research scientist at the Canadian Forest Service station in Edmonton.

And the twins:

Thomas:

- University of Saskatchewan – Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering.
- University of Saskatchewan – Master's degree in Metallurgy.
- Employed as After Sales Service Manager by Hitachi Canadian Industries in Saskatoon. They manufacture turbine casings and turbines for power generation throughout North America. The parent company is located in Japan.

Paul:

- University of Saskatchewan – Honours degree in Economics.
- Carleton University – Master's degree in Economics.
- Worked in federal and provincial government (Yukon Territory).
- Established his firm 1999 – Vector Research specializing in aboriginal tax policy and training (lives in White horse, Yukon territory).

The women in our family did much to better themselves, help their husbands and influence their descendants. My mother, a Kordiak of Lockport was a teacher. She received her education in the St. Norbert Convent and was trilingual. Boris' mother was a Gabora whose parents homesteaded in the Canora region. She, too, sacrificed much to help her children.

Judging by the influence the Maduke<sup>1</sup> and the Kishchuk families had as teachers, one can't but blame the action of the government that closed the Ukrainian Teacher Training School of Brandon thus reducing the number of teachers to pioneer among the Ukrainian settlers in the province.

### **Olenka Negrych, B.A. B.L.S. B.F.A.**

Ms Olenka Negrych has had a distinguished career as a librarian at the University of Manitoba Medical School library; on retirement she devoted time to art and other cultural activities, being an active member of the Ukrainian Free Academy of Arts and Sciences. Interviewed in 1896 she had an interesting story to relate. She is a fine example of a country girl who grew up southwest of Dauphin and experienced many difficulties and obstacles in life, but she did not recoil from hard work to reach a higher status in life. Here is her story:

I remember when I was about four years old and my parents were clearing some land and burning the brush and I unmindful of the danger walked into the ashes and burned my feet. I cried.

<sup>1</sup> The ancestors came from the following villages (selos) in Ukraine: Madukes from Ilanche; Kordiaks from Surochiv; Kishchucks from Bilche Zolote and Gaboras from Doroshivsi.

There were three of us. I was a twin to my sister, Hope and our younger sister was unfortunate to contract polio as a child and grew up with a weak leg. Sylvia was one month old when that happened.

Our farm was not a good quarter. It was located in the "extension" in the northeastern slopes of the Riding Mountains. We were 23 miles from Dauphin and belonged to the Lemberg school district. Our home was four miles by the road allowance – such as it was.

We were not rich; rather we could have been classed as poor. My father took the homestead when a bachelor. He was part of the Berezev group that came to Venlaw.

My father moved south of Venlaw and farmed alone and when he married he was not young. A certain bachelor in the district arranged to have a young girl come to Canada to marry him. When she arrived, she stayed with his sister, but she did not like her pre-arranged groom. His sister, therefore, suggested she marry my father – in spite of the fact that he was 23 years older. They did get married and poor Mother had to go to start a home and family in the bush.

Some claimed that my father was afraid to see his young bride out of his sight, and would not buy her shoes fearing she'd walk to Dauphin. But in spite of that they had a good family life. The start was poor, but when my father started to raise cattle things began to improve.

Four miles was too far to walk to school, more so for Sylvia, so my Father drove us to school and came to take us home. I remember one winter he arrived earlier and came in to the school to get warm. As we were singing "God Save the King", I turned around to see him. The teacher saw that so I got the strap for turning around when "God Save the King" was sung.

School discipline was rigid and teachers "over employed" the strap, the ferule or the ruler. One day a girl reported to the teacher that I said a bad work, what I didn't do. The teacher came to the desk and asked:

"Did you say a bad word?"

I answered, "No, teacher."

"Now, admit it or you will be punished."

I denied it and he hit my fingers with a ruler till it cracked to pieces. I could never forget it, and forgive him. I met him once when I was grown up and I told him so.

When I started school, there were so many beginners that the teacher decided to have some start in Grade 2. Evidently, he asked:

"Who doesn't want to go to Grade 2?" I raised my hand not knowing what he meant. So my twin sister started a grade ahead.

\* \* \* \* \*

Years later when I was in junior high one day a School Inspector visited our Lemberg two-room school. He made us write some kind of tests. Then he sat down

\* Ed. Note: The early Ukrainian settlers not realizing that some of the land was part of Riding Mountain National Park, settled on it. The government sent the R.C.M.P. to drive them out. The R.C.M.P., however, recommended that the land they settled on be an extension of a survey and become part of a township. And their suggestion was approved.

and marked them. With the exams marked, he came to us and asked what we planned to do. I said that I wanted to go to University to be a teacher and he said, "You go ahead: the test says that you have the ability." Later when speaking to the teacher about my university career, the teacher evidently laughed: "How can she make it, they are too poor." And the Inspector replied: "with her I.Q. she will." (It was Inspector Michael Ewanchuk).

We took grade 9 and 10 by correspondence – it was hard work, but we made it and went to take grade 11 and 12 in Dauphin. We rented rooms and did our own housekeeping. Our parents sent us food, but they did not have a car so they depended on neighbours to take it to us.

We moved to Winnipeg. My sister who suffered from polio was helped by the Red Cross. She went to university and became a doctor, an anaesthetist. My twin sister, Hope, took pharmacy and made her way through on scholarships and was a university gold medallist.

One year I received a permit to teach – my plan was to graduate and become a teacher. My school was called Blackstone; it was up in the hills south of Grandview. The people were good to me, especially Mrs. Nicol the secretary.

In Winnipeg I attended the University of Manitoba and managed to take Ukrainian courses from Professor J. B. Rudnitskyj. He suggested I take a librarian's course – he did cataloguing in Washington at the Library of Congress and had qualifications in that field. I graduated from McGill with a Bachelor of Science Degree and was fortunate to get a position as librarian at the Manitoba Medical College.

My sisters went east, one to Ottawa and one to Toronto. I lived with my parents. Then my father died and I took care of Mother. Now I'm alone and though I belong to several Ukrainian organizations I devote time to art. I guess my School Inspector was right. Yes, it was far from Lemberg School to Dauphin and our farm was 23 miles south west of Dauphin, but we made it.

### Geraldine Russin, B.A. (Hons), M.A.

Mrs. Russin is a woman who would not give up. She was born in Winnipeg to Amelia and the late Michael Chaykowski. Her maternal grandparents, Pelahia and Prokopii Zydyk, from the village of Dmtriye, Lviv district, Ukraine, settled permanently in Winnipeg in 1905. Geraldine's mother was born and educated in Winnipeg.

Geraldine's father, from the village of Zastinoche, district of Ternopil, Ukraine, settled in Winnipeg in 1923 at age 16. He worked in a meat packing plant until he could provide a comfortable living from the rental business he established.

Geraldine attended Ukrainian school, Wasył Avramenko dancing classes, was active in the Ukrainian Canadian Youth Association of Canada (CYMK) and various choirs. After completing Grade 12 she worked as a secretary for the Canadian Government, University of Manitoba and Dominion Stores Limited.

She is married to Fred Russin and they have two sons, Michael and Ted. Fred comes from Melnice, Manitoba. His paternal grandparents arrived in 1898 from Melnyciá, Western Ukraine, and



Fig. 7.4 Geraldine Russin

acquired a homestead, which remains in the family. His father, Peter, was born aboard ship and his mother, Stella Pasika, from Krowinka, district of Ternopil, arrived in Canada in 1928.

Geraldine's son, Michael, graduated from the University of Manitoba with a B.Sc. (Major) Co-op degree in Computer Science. Her son, Ted, graduated from the University of Winnipeg with a B.A. (Hons.) in Philosophy, and graduated with a B.Sc. in Food Science degree and was the recipient of the Program Gold Medal in Food Science from the University of Manitoba. He is continuing with Graduate Studies in analytical food chemistry at McGill University, Montreal.

Geraldine is a long time member of the Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral of the Holy Trinity; one of the founders of the Ukrainian Nursery School for Tiny Tots at the cathedral, and was chairperson of the Sadok committee. In 2000 she received the certificate recognizing 26 years of membership in the Lesia Ukrainka Branch of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada at the Cathedral, and was on the Board of Director of Trident Press Ltd., (Ukrainian Voice newspaper) for ten years. She has been active in many other organizations such as the Council of Women in Winnipeg; and is a member of the Ukrainian Reading Association.

While her children were growing up she studied at the University of Manitoba and graduated with a Master of Arts Degree in History, thesis titled, "The Ukrainian United Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba, 1903-1961: The History of a Unique Canadian Religious Experience".

## The Russian Icons and Anne Zahara

When the Joseph Oleskiw settlers arrived in Stuartburn in 1896, most of them were from the Senkiw village in the Ukrainian Province of Halychyna, one, however, was from across the Dniester River in the Province of Bukovyna. He was Wasyl Zahara. And, though most of the pioneer settlers of 1896 belonged to the Ukrainian Catholic church, Wasyl Zahara was Orthodox. It was he who organized the building of the St. Michael's church when more settlers from Bridok, Kitman, and Zastawna villages arrived in Gardenton in 1903.

Both the Ukrainian Catholics and the Orthodox did not have clergy of their church come with them. The Orthodox group, however, received visits from the Russian Orthodox clergy who came from the USA.

The Russian officials wanted the Ukrainian Orthodox people to consider themselves as Russians, and also to desist in joining with the Ukrainian Catholics. The Russian Orthodox clergy received a financial allowance from the Russian government and also an ample supply of icons.

Some of these icons were brought to the churches at Gardenton, Arbakka and Sirko. Anne Zahara, a granddaughter of Wasyl Zahara, who now lives in Collingwood, Ontario, and is one of the many girls who had to seek employment in other Canadian provinces. She provides us with interesting details about one of the icons, and how it negatively influenced the life and feelings of a growing girl.

"I have a story to tell, one that's been on my mind for a long time, and there is no one I could tell it to. I thought perhaps you would be the one."

I was born and raised in Gardenton, Manitoba. I attended the St. Michael's Church (which is now an Historical Site) with my parents and grandparents as a youngster. My grandparents came to Canada in 1896. My grandfather was one of the men that built the first church. He was honoured with the others in 1997 at the 100-year celebration. There was an icon (obraz) in this church that portrayed hell. It was very realistic: a huge fire and a devil with huge ears and a tail, using a pitchfork. It sure sent the message to the sinners. I remember hiding behind my mother so as not to look at it. I do not know how the painting got to be in the church. I presume one of the priests brought it over.

I lived in Toronto for many years and attending an Art Showing at the Toronto Art Gallery, I happened to learn quite accidentally that just at the turn of the 19th century, the Russian Czar who was the head of the Russian Greek Orthodox Church commissioned an artist (unfortunately I do not know his name) to paint these icons to be sent to the New Country, so that the people going there would not stray from the church – which of course was our people of 1896. The commentator at the art gallery said that the artist had painted five icons and at that time – which was in the seventies, he said that three were accounted for, but two were missing. (I did not say anything to anyone at that time). I could hardly wait to get to Gardenton, to see the icon at the church, but when I got there it was gone.

At that time Mr. and Mrs. Alex Kolibaba were in charge of caring for the church and they told me that the congregation did not want that Russian icon any more, because it was so awful, so they told me that Mrs. Peter Tanchak took it. I know that Mrs. Tanchak was a very knowledgeable person and she preserved all old things.

My question is: what did she do with that icon? Is it in a box in someone's basement or did she give it to the Winnipeg Museum?

According to your books you were quite acquainted with the Tanchak family – maybe you can find out where it is, because I think it should be returned to the St. Michael's Historical Church; that's where it belongs. The value of it does not matter - it's the history.

Now I also know that another icon like the one I'm talking about was in the church in Arbakka, which was burnt down during the trouble of transition from Russian to Ukrainian church in 1922. So that is the answer to where the two missing icons were. I know I waited too long to do something about it. I'm 85 years old and it was bothering me for a long time. Sorry about my writing I had a cataract removed from one eye and it's kind of hard to write.

### Zenovia Talpash

My roots go back to the village of Sukha Volyja in Western Ukraine where my father, Wasył Kebalo, was born in 1884. He was the son of Ephrem and Palahia (née Kozak). His father was a forest ranger. Wasył Kebalo trained in the Austrian army reaching the rank of sergeant. He spoke five or six languages.

I, Zenovia Kebalo, daughter of Wasył and Paraskeva Kebalo, was born near my grandparent's home in Sifton, Manitoba. When I was 2 or 3 years old, my parents moved to a homestead two and a half miles from Sclater Village.

I had four brothers and two sisters. We lived in a two-room log house for many years; later father built a new house. We were a happy family. Every Sunday the neighbour's children would come over - we played ball and used the home-made swing. I used to go so high to reach the treetops. Summers were fun - we went swimming in the river. During the cold winter Sundays we stayed in and did our homework, played checkers and cards, and sang Christmas carols and other songs.

I was seven years old before I started school. My parents waited until my older brother, Peter, could take care of me. We had to walk through thick bush to get to the railway track, which was a shortcut. It was frightening during summer as we were warned to watch for bears and skunks, which were plentiful in those days. During winter, 40-50 degrees below zero, we often heard coyotes howling in the bushes and the nearby snowdrifts. We also saw great big moose crossing our path.

Bush rabbits were plentiful, my brother set snares and caught and skinned them, then father would take them to the store owned by Mr. Perchaluk, he paid five cents a piece for each skin - for that father always bought us popcorn in nicely decorated satchels with little toys inside. We collected those and enjoyed playing with them.

Wild raspberries and strawberries were plentiful - we picked them during the summer. We ate some and sold some to the store or train conductors to buy books and pencils for school.

I could not speak one word of English when I started school. My first teacher was Mr. Steaman. He was very kind and understanding, and I tried so hard to learn my A.B.C.'s.

Times were hard - no money around - but the highlights of my childhood days were Christmas and Easter holidays. There was such excitement before Christmas Eve; mother would be busy cooking and baking all the goodies. We children could hardly wait for the evening to come.

My father would bring in a sheaf of wheat and put it in the corner near the table and an armful of hay under the table. Mother would set the table with a white damask cloth, filled two glasses with wheat and stuck a candle in the middle of each glass. She placed kulach (braided bread) in between the candles, and put out all the twelve different dishes.

After supper was over our neighbours came over and sang Christmas carols till midnight. We children looked for peanuts mother had scattered in the hay.

Next day my father went carolling with a few neighbours - we always looked forward to having carollers sing outside our window - they rang bells and sang.

Easter was another happy event. Mother cleaned and white washed the house. We raked and cleaned the yard. Mother did her baking on Good Friday - paskas, baba and other goodies. Then on Friday night our preacher came by train from Dauphin and held a church service and the blessing of our Easter baskets. Then we would go home with mosquitoes as thick as fog. Easter Sunday we got up very early and walked to church for morning service. After that we rang the church bell for hours, which could be heard for miles. Life was simple, but happy.

My wishes were to become a nurse. I sent to the U.S. for some nursing courses by mail, but was told that it was no good, so I asked my father to give me some money for trainfare to Winnipeg, but he had no money and told me to stay home and milk cows. I was very upset and sad. I saved a few dollars from picking raspberries and strawberries during the summer. I found an ad in the Free Press Prairie Farmer for a girl to take care of an elderly lady. So I answered and the family told me when to come. So I decided to leave home and it was winter. I packed a little suitcase in the evening and buried it in the snow bank by the road. I did not sleep at all. In the morning at the breakfast table I told my parents I was leaving home. They were shocked and started to cry and so did I. I left the house, picked up my suitcase, walked 2\_ miles at 40 below zero to the train and went to Sifton. I only had enough money to pay the trainfare to Fork River. In Sifton I walked to the boarding house and asked the lady if she would let me stay overnight. She told me she had no room, but I could sleep on the floor so I did. Next morning she gave me a piece of bread and a cup of coffee, but I could have eaten a loaf of bread - I was so hungry.

I left for Fork River. Mr. Venables was waiting for me with a horse and cutter - they were good farmers with a big beautiful house. My job there was to get up early and make breakfast for Mr. Venables and the hired man, then take breakfast to Mrs. Venables upstairs. She needed help so I washed and helped dress her, then I cleaned and washed, cooked meals and took charge of the household.

They were nice people, but would not let me leave the house. I could not go anywhere. I was paid \$8.00 a month. I worked for them for six months and was very lonely. After I left for Sifton to visit my grandparents, and again I asked my grandfather if I could go to Winnipeg and get a job, and then train for a nurse. He told me that there were hundreds of people on the bread lines without jobs - so he forbade me to go.

Then I went back to Fork River and worked for another family for a few months. One day I received a letter from a man saying that when his brother, Walter,



visited us one winter he saw me and thought I would be interested in corresponding with him, so he got the address from my parents and begged me to answer him, and asked if he could come and see me. By then I was back with my grandparents - so he came to see me - his name was Joseph Talpash of Rorketon, Manitoba.

My uncles and aunts did not like him saying, "Why does he want you - are there no girls where he lives!" We corresponded for about seven months and got engaged, and then we both took the train home to my parents and announced that we wanted to get married. My parents were not pleased, but made me a wedding. We were married March 1935 - after a few days we left for Rorketon, Manitoba. Joseph had a farm with a big house - three horses, two cows and \$300.00 in the bank. Life was hard as the money was scarce. Joseph farmed a bit, but he was also a fisherman on Lake Dauphin during the winter months.

After a few years our daughter, Savellia, was born and four years later our son, Victor, was born.

In 1954 we sold our farm and moved to Oxbow, Saskatchewan where we owned and operated a McLeods store - the area had a lot of oil wells. Business was good, but there was a lot of work and long hours.

In 1966 we sold our store and home and took a trip to Hawaii for a month. When we came back and moved to Kelowna, B.C. we bought a house with a few fruit trees. I was happy to see fruit growing here.

A lot of retired Ukrainian people have moved here. We have helped build a church, and have a hall in which we have dinners and social activities. I was a church treasurer for 5 years. I sing in the church choir, help with our bake sales and bazaars, go carolling at Christmas and was a television hostess which was filmed in my home. (a Christmas Eve supper)

My daughter, Savellia, is a sales executive for Bellingham Radio station in the U.S.A.

My son, Victor, has a cleaning business in Vancouver.

I am happy living in Kelowna; winters are mild, long summers and lots of beautiful flowers and fruit.

My husband passed away in 1979 and is buried here. I have good neighbours and friends; I keep busy so I have no time to feel sorry for myself.

### Mrs. Doris Ternowetsky

I was born in 1916, in Winnipeg, Manitoba the second eldest daughter of Joseph and Anafia Luchik, Canadian pioneers, who came from Ukraine, Province of Bukovina, Chernivtsi region. I grew up in the district of Elmwood, attended George V elementary school, Lord Selkirk junior high and St. John's technical high school. On competing high school the depression set in and I could not get a job, so there wasn't any money to continue with my education.

At a very early age I attended Ukrainian school, which was held in a nearby private home in Elmwood. The teacher was Mr. Fedyk. In the elementary school we were taught the basics of music. A part of each day was devoted to reading music

and singing. My sister Mary and I were in the same grade IV class. Of course the only songs that we knew were Ukrainian, so we sang Ukrainian duets in two-part harmony. One day Miss Leach told us that she would like us to sing at the Y.W.C.A., at some event that was taking place. We entertained the audience with Ukrainian duets and action songs. Later she took us to a restaurant for supper. I had never been to a restaurant before. This was a very thrilling and memorable event of my life. What a wonderful teacher Miss Leach was!

As a child with my parents, I attended the National Greek Orthodox Church of St. Michael, 110 Disraeli St., which was established in 1918. There of the clergy I remember Reverend Boyzk best. He along with the parishioners was instrumental in establishing a Ukrainian school in the church hall. He was the first teacher and I was one of the pupils. Later Evhenia Uhryniuk was engaged. We loved her, and within a few years there were from ninety to a hundred children attending the Ukrainian school. I along with thirty other children from the Elmwood area walked the three miles to the school three evening a week - winter and summer. The next teacher was Mr. Uhryniuk. During his time the school children staged a children's operetta "Kozah Derezh". I played the part of the rabbit.

My father sang in the church choir and he always took my sister and me with him. Thus the beginning of my involvement in the church choirs.

Later a small choral group consisting of sixteen members was formed by Mr. M. Pasichniak. I was privileged to be one of the members of this group. We performed on many occasions including on radio.

As I look back on all those years spent at the Ukrainian school, the church choir, the choral and the drama group, I realize how fortunate I was. Those early growing up years instilled in me a great appreciation for our beautiful Ukrainian heritage and culture.

In 1936, I married Bill Ternowetsky. We moved to Fort Frances, Ontario in 1937, where Bill managed a hotel. The Ukrainian population of Fort Frances was small, there was no Ukrainian Orthodox Church, only a national hall, where cultural and social activities took place. Our first child, son Dennis was born in Fort France, 1938.

In 1940 we moved to Hudson, Ontario where Bill purchased a small hotel. Here our lifestyle was different. The people were of mixed nationalities - very few Ukrainians. I attend the United Church, sang in the Church choir and joined the United Church women's group. Those were war years and we knitted many pairs of mittens, gloves, socks and scarves for the Red Cross, helping towards the war effort.

Four years later, again, we moved across the country to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan where Bill bought and operated a dry cleaning plant. Also in Moose Jaw there was just a small group of Ukrainians, but no Ukrainian Church, however, there was a Ukrainian National Home. We soon got to be part of the Ukrainian society, attended most of their cultural and social functions. Here I attended the Anglican Church.

In 1946 another move to Winkler, Manitoba. There Bill purchased a hotel also became involved in the fresh vegetable canning factory. About 98% of the population of Winkler and the surrounding

community were not of High German, but mostly low German (Mennonite) descent. However, we found the social climate very receptive and we integrated into the community life. In 1947 our second son was born. I took an active part in the community life. I was a member of the Teacher, Parent Home and School Association. I served on the executive of the South Manitoba Musical Festival Association, was a member of the Southern Manitoba Philharmonic choir. On many occasions helped with fund raising for various appeals. Attended the Lutheran Church, as here the services were in English, and sang in the church choir.

- In 1959, after 13 years in Winkler, we moved back to Winnipeg. Immediately I joined the St. Michael Church where I spent all my growing up years. I joined the Church choir, became a member of the Ukrainian Women's Association of Canada, Olga Kobylanska branch and served on various executive positions and committees. For a number of years I represent our branch at the ladies branch of the Canadian Ukrainian Committee K.Y.K.
- While affiliated with K.Y.K., I attended meetings of the Folk Arts Council at the time when steps were taken to organize Folklorama. The first Kyiv Pavillion was held at the K.Y.K. building. I was involved with the organizing of the pavillion, display and food preparation. For many years I continued to help at the Kyiv Pavillion
- In 1965 my husband and I visited Ukraine. Our comings and goings were restricted, but on several occasions we managed to visit our families in the villages.
- In 1975 we became members of the Ukrainian Orthodox Holy Trinity Cathedral. I joined the Lesia Ukrainian branch of Ukrainian Women's Association.
- In 1990 when the Ukrainians celebrated the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian immigration to Canada, I along with Sylvia Uzwyshyn was instrumental in featuring a Fashion Show of original Ukrainian dress and various artefacts.
- That same year the theme at Folklorama, Kyiv Pavillion, was celebrating the 100th year of Ukrainian immigration to Canada. Sylvia Uzwyshyn and I, along with other volunteers set up a display of mannequins dressed in original Ukrainian dress, some of which was brought from Ukraine, others made in Canada in the very early 1900's. Klyms, Rooshyky pictures and various artefacts of the pioneer settlers decorated the walls. Both events were successful.
- I was a member of the Oleksander Koshetz Choir for many years. I still continue to take interest in their activities.
- As I am getting older my pace is slower, but I still keep as active as I can with the Women's Organization, the church and other activities. My work as archivist is interesting. I have prepared a number of albums recording various activities, special events and pictures. I set up displays at special functions pertaining to Ukrainian Women's Association.
- May 30th, 1996, Bill and I celebrated our 60th wedding anniversary.

We had two boys, Dennis and Gordon. Dennis lives in Toronto and is involved in hospital work. Gordon was a lecturer in social sciences, spent two years teaching at Melbourne University in Australia and when a lecturer at the University of B.C. in Prince George passed away prematurely.

My husband, Bill, is Saskatchewan born – Insinger, Saskatchewan, but he has adjusted well to life in other provinces and communities; and so did I.

### Lesia Szwaluk, R.N.

Mrs. Lesia Szwaluk (née Bodnarchuk) is a Winnipeg-born business administrator. At the present time she is Administrative Assistant in the office of the National Ukrainian Canadian Congress Committee in Winnipeg. Through the years she's been an active volunteer worker and served on the board of many directorates.

In 1971 she married Nelson Szwaluk and they have raised two children: Oksana a travel consultant and Volodymyr a graduate in Business Administration who is planning to pursue further university studies.

Lesia is the daughter of a post WWII Ukrainian family that seeking freedom and a democratic way of live came to Winnipeg. Then both her parents found employment and Lesia attended St. John's High School and on completing her Grade XII went to Red River College and graduated as a nurse.

She found employment as a nurse then changed to youth work with the YMCA (North Branch), first as Pre-School Youth Program Director and for ten years was Executive Director with the YM-YWCA.

She established contact with the YMCA when she took her children for swimming lessons and became a volunteer. Her ability and desire to help children gained her placement as Director.

Mrs. Lesia Szwaluk received her early training in Ukrainian at the St. Vladimir and Olga Church School and maintained contact with the church work. Her interests and duties were divided between the work with children of Ukrainian milieu and the all-Canadian sector she reached through the YMCA.

Her community involvement has been rewarding, and her contributions superior, for a housekeeper and mother.

At present she is President of SUM; was Board Member and Co-ordinator of the Folklorama Pavilion, Vice-President, 1995; served on the Manitoba-Ukraine Secretariat Advisory Board; Chair, Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Care Centre; and chair for ten years MATT Centre and others.

Mrs. Szwaluk has made five trips to the Ukraine: there she ran courses for teachers in Lviv; supervised summer school in the Carpathian Mountains for SUM; and for a month travelled with the student exchange group in Kyiv, Lviv and other areas of Ukraine.

She has also been a board member of many organizations such as Civil Liberties Commission, Ukrainian Redress Committee, Manitoba Intercultural Council, Seven Oaks Hospital, Fred Douglas Lodge, and several other Ukrainian Associations. She also served as president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club.

While both Mr. and Mrs. Szwaluk are employed in the city, they also run a 120-acre farm in the Delta Marsh area where Mr. Szwaluk, an apiarist, operates a "beekeeping" business.

Lesia Szwaluk is a good example of a Canadian citizen, while she honours and respects her Ukrainian heritage, and participates in the organizational life of the community, she equally participates in an all-Canadian organizations. Her contribution to both sectors continues to be of great value.

Her work to the community has been recognized and she received the following awards:

- Leader of the Year, 1978-1979 YMCA of Winnipeg - North Branch
- City of Winnipeg Community Service Award, 1984

- Nominated Woman of the Year, 1989
- Received 125 Commemorative Medal, 1992

### **Ukrainian Folk Artist - Elizabeth Warbansky**

"Ukrainian Easter eggs, painted in brilliant hues, incorporate many symbols of religion and life."<sup>1</sup>

When the Ukrainians accepted Christianity in 988 A.D., they also accepted the egg as a symbol of man's rebirth. The decorations on the egg are symbolic as well – the sun may represent the Son; the triangle, the air; and the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are symbolized by air, fire and water.<sup>2</sup>

The Ukrainian pysanka is made of geometric patterns that have developed in significant Easter art treasured by the Canadian Ukrainians and other Canadians who admire the pysanka beauty.

And credit is due to the Winnipeg artist Elizabeth Warbansky who developed the art of pysanka painting to a high level of perfection. Her product became widely popular. Many artists, like Elizabeth Warbansky consider the painting of Easter eggs to be a beautiful hobby to pursue and have painted hundred of Easter eggs through the years. Miss Warbansky has travelled across Canada and has also held shows in New York and Chicago. Vancouver and Toronto has been places where her Easter egg shows have been well received. She has had many gifted women in her



Fig. 7.5 Elizabeth Warbansky

employ. She also has had success with the sales of framed Easter eggs in England and Australia. It is not only people of Ukrainian extraction that buy them, but many large corporations have ordered a set of 20 or 30 framed eggs to give as Christmas gifts.

Elizabeth Warbansky has an agricultural background and is a graduate in Agriculture.

According to the Free Press<sup>3</sup> Miss Warbansky has amassed a sizeable collection of her product, which she insured at \$50,000.



Fig 7.6 Feeding

<sup>1</sup> Sandra McCulough; *Times Colonists*, The Arts, Victoria, March 31, 1991

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> *Sunday Life/Winnipeg Free Press*, May 01, 1994

# Conclusion -The Author

Dr. Michael Ewanchuk, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed., F.C.C.T., L.L.D., D.C.L.

Michael Ewanchuk was the fourth child of pioneers Wasyl and Paraskeva Ewanchuk, who arrived in Canada in 1902 from Kopychentsi, Western Ukraine. He was born in the village of Gimli on March 14, 1908 and grew up on a farm two miles west of town. Michael attended Dnister School and was one of the first four students of the school to write Grade VIII Entrance Examinations. Guided and encouraged by his parents and by his teacher, Peter Humeniuk, Michael entered Gimli High School at the age of fourteen.

In his elementary and high school years Michael was a member of the Ukrainian National Home and the Taras Shevchenko library, participating in dramatics and debates. He was a member of the Boys' and Girls' Club. Before starting Grade XI he went harvesting in Saskatchewan.

Following high school, Michael worked as section hand for the Winnipeg Electric Railway, and then took employment at the Ford factory in Detroit. By working on the midnight shift, he was thus able to attend day-time classes at the Detroit Institute of Technology and at Detroit City College now Wayne State University. Outside of school and work hours he became secretary of a Ukrainian students' club and was also member of the International Students' Club of the YMCA and member of the Ukrainian National Association.

In 1930 Michael returned to Canada and attended Wesley (United) College and the Provincial Normal School in Winnipeg. While in attendance Michael was a member of the P. Mohyla Institute at 11 Kennedy Street where he served as assistant to the rector, and president of the Student Club "Prometheus", and was active in the debating club.

After graduation Michael's first position as teacher was at Beckett (Svoboda) School near Stuartburn. He then accepted principalships at Happy Thought High School in East Selkirk, and at North Springfield.

It was at North Springfield that Michael met his primary teacher, Muriel Smith, whom he married. He became active in the Ukrainian Teachers' Society and was president of the South Eastern School Teachers' Convention.

Michael and Muriel moved to Cartwright where he had accepted the principalship of the high school. While in Cartwright he enlisted in the R.C.A.F. in which he served as instructor of navigation and as Officer in Charge of Airmanship. As instructor he saw various Canadian postings: Saskatoon, Regina, Rivers, Rockcliffe, Moncton and Dartmouth. He was happy that Muriel was able to join him in some of the locations. He also served as a personnel counsellor to the retiring servicemen. His last assignment was as an instructor in mathematics and English with the C.V.T. Michael retired with the rank of Flight Lieutenant.



F/L Michael Ewanchuk

While teaching, Michael devoted his evenings and summers to furthering his own education, attaining his B.A. and B.Ed. degrees, and then his post graduate degree of M.Ed., from the University of Manitoba.

Following his retirement from the R.C.A.F. Michael became the first Ukrainian Manitoban to receive a permanent appointment as Inspector of Schools. He was assigned to Roblin to serve the Roblin-Grandview-Gilbert Plains inspectoral area. After several years he was transferred to Carman and later to Winnipeg, where he served for twenty years as inspector of elementary and high schools, evaluating, in particular, instruction in science and mathematics at the senior grade level. His special assignment was the statistical analysis of the High School Examinations then conducted by the Department of Education. He also lectured on the preparation and measurement of examinations.

During his years as Inspector of Schools Michael Ewanchuk served as president of the Manitoba Educational Research Council, the University of Manitoba Alumni Association, the Manitoba School Inspectors' Association, the Canadian College of Teachers and the Canadian School Superintendents' and Inspectors' Association (CASSI). He represented CASSI at the American Science Seminar in Washington, D.C., and at the conference of the American School Administrators in Chicago.

He represented, as president, the University of Manitoba Alumni Association at the American Conference in San Francisco. For seven years he was consultant to the Educational Show Place in Toronto. He also served as chairman of the editorial board of the "Canadian Superintendent".



Michael Ewanchuk served on various curriculum committees. In 1964 Premier D. Roblin appointed him to take charge of a curriculum committee to prepare the first Ukrainian program of studies, and to select appropriate text books for the teaching of Ukrainian in Manitoba high schools.

The contributions of Michael Ewanchuk to education have been recognized in many ways. He is Honorary Life Member of the Canadian Association of School Administrators and of the Canadian College of Teachers. He has received recognition from the Manitoba Modern Language Association. He was awarded a certificate, "Hramota" and a medal of recognition by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, and received a certificate of recognition from the Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences in June 2000. For his many books he has received the Margaret McWilliams award from the Manitoba Historical Society. For his contribution to education he was awarded a Doctor of Law degree from the University of Winnipeg and a Doctor of Canon Law degree from St. John's College of the University of Manitoba.

In 1973 Michael Ewanchuk retired as Inspector of Schools and began devoting his time to his avocation of writing. Through the years he contributed articles to the "Ukrainian Voice" and American "Svoboda". Then he began concentrating on an area in which he has had personal life experience. For this purpose he has conducted historical research not only in various archives in Manitoba, but also in the Canadian Archives in Ottawa, the United States Archives in Washington, D.C., and the Hawaiian Archives in Hilo and Honolulu. In his historical work he was encouraged and assisted by his wife, Muriel. He calls her his primary editor and proof reader. The couple celebrated their fiftieth wedding anniversary in 1991. In 1992 Muriel encouraged Michael to visit his ancestral village in Ukraine. Even though she had been ill at home with diabetes since 1980, and her condition was worsening, Michael took care of Muriel at their home until her death on February 21, 1997. As is evident from the list of Michael's books given below he has continued to write, encouraged by his memory of her. He still has several volumes in preparation

Borislav N. Bilash

#### Books Published:

- Pioneer Settlers: Ukrainians in the Dauphin Area 1896-1926.
- Vita: A Ukrainian Community (a set of three books).
- Spruce, Swamp and Stone: A History of the Pioneer Ukrainian Settlements in the Gimli Area.
- Pioneer Profiles: Ukrainian Settlers in Manitoba. (O.P.)
- Hawaiian Ordeal: Ukrainian Contract Workers 1897-1910. (O.P.)
- Reflections and Reminiscences: Ukrainians in Canada 1892-1992.
- Young Cossack, a novella, children's' edition.
- Pioneer Ukrainian Settlers. (in Ukrainian)
- William Kurelek: The Suffering Genius.
- East of the Red: The Early Ukrainian Settlements, 1896-1930 Vol. 1.
- East of the Red: Early Ukrainian Settlements North of the Dawson Trail, Vol.2.

# APPENDICES

## Appendix I

Friends laughed at Meryl Anderson when she invested in an Italian-made man's bicycle and camping equipment and announced she was going to see Canada by bicycle. Now she has the laugh on them said the former Winnipegger, a school teacher, who admits she's "perhaps a restless person because I like to try a lot of different things."

"I've travelled more than 1,000 miles, have had very little trouble with my bike, and have found out that Canada is a wonderful country filled with wonderful people. I'm staying in Winnipeg a short time with my aunt, Mrs. Frank Anderson on Cathedral Ave. Monday I'll be off to see the other half of Canada en route to Montreal."

Maybe if Miss Anderson hadn't left school teaching to work for a travel agency that books passage for all parts of the world, she wouldn't have been bitten so hard by the travel bug.

"Anyway I'm enjoying the experience immensely, and when I get through seeing Canada I'm going to book passage for England. I've had wonderful luck - just one flat tire. So I got out my equipment and mended my first tire, a blow-out that was caused by the heat. I admit it took me a long time, but I'll know how to do it next time," she laughed.

Miss Anderson packs a tent first aid kit, cooking equipment and a camera. "I guess my pack weighs 40 to 50 pounds. It depends on the weather, and the roads. I travel only 40 miles some days when it's uphill, or the day is very warm. But one day I did 150 miles. That was a tough day."

"I started off bareheaded, but learned that wasn't a wise thing to do. When I hit Brandon I had a case of sun-stroke and woke up in the YWCA feeling pretty sick, so I stayed several days until I had recovered."

"I never camp in a lonely spot but always try to stop near a farm, where there's a filling station and a small habitation nearby, or a the YWCA or a youth hostel. Occasionally I stay at a hotel to enjoy a real good bed and a hot bath. I've used up quite a bit of cold cream, mosquito and suntan oil. People said I'd be so lonely, travelling all by myself. But I'm not. In the daytime I'm enjoying the fresh air and scenery and people stop to talk to me. It I stop at a farm and go to get some water, or a couple of fresh eggs, the people are always very interested in hearing about my trip, and they insist on me coming to dine with them."

Miss Anderson said she has a camera, is especially interested in wild life. "I keep my camera readily available, can get up quite near animals on my bike, but sometimes by the time I grab the camera the little wild creatures have run away."

"People told me I'd be lonely when I hit the long roads that stretch for miles over hot, dusty prairies. But I've found out they were wrong about that too," laughed Meryl. "The countryside was beautifully green, and some places you see many pretty little streams and valleys. One day near Gull Lake and Tompkins the temperature was up over the 100 mark. If I'd known it was that hot I wouldn't have travelled so far that day."

"I hadn't been in Winnipeg for many years and when I saw how much the city has spread out, and how heavy the traffic is on Portage Avenue, I was amazed. But I'm used to traffic, and always ride

with the thought in mind that there's a car right behind me, and I don't take any chances. And I always wear my cap now, because I even had a sun blister on the top of my head.\*

Although it took Miss Anderson four weeks to come from Vancouver, she spent only two weeks pedalling her bike, because she spent a week in Calgary and another week at points along the way. She starts in the cool of the morning, about 7, and stops around 4 p.m.

Her biggest expense is food because mostly she camps out in her tent, gets out the pots and pans and cooks herself a good meal. "There's nothing like travelling by bike to see the scenery and meet people," insists Miss Anderson.

Miss Anderson rode Montreal by bicycle and then went overseas. Miss Anderson is now Muryl Andrejciw Geary.



A.1 Muryl Geary on the bridge over Zbruch River in Skala, Borschiv raion. Ruin of castle and palace on cliffs.

## Appendix II

- 1) I am a member of the Ukrainian Canadian Professional & Business Association of Vancouver.
- 2) I am a co-ordinator, European Group, B.C. Genealogical Society, Vancouver.
- 3) I gave two half hour Ukrainian Genealogy Lectures on the Rogers Community TV series "Genealogy" co-produced by Joan V. Fishleigh, Public Relations Director of the B.C. Genealogical Society and Roger Richardson of cable 4 TV (re-televised).
- 4) There was a half-hour interview of me on TV program "Echoes of Ukraine" by Julie Stashuk, President, Ukrainian Canadian Committee, B.C. Provincial Council (1998) (re-televised).
- 5) I wrote two series of genealogy columns in 1999 for "Kohtakt"/"Contact", published by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, B.C. Provincial Council.
- 6) An excerpt from my article, "How I Became Ukrainian", by Muryl Andrejciw Geary, is in "Weaving a Country: Stories from Canadian Immigrants", Pacific Educational Press, U.B.C. (University of British Columbia, Vancouver) Wilma Maki, Editor (Grade 6 Textbook) year 2000.



A.2 Muryl Geary at Dauphin Festival, 1992

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