

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone

Notable People from Our Community's Past



On the cover: William Busby, Ethel Zarn, Robert Forke and James Rattray.



A Project of the Pipestone Heritage Advisory Group

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NOTABLE PEOPLE FROM OUR COMMUNITY'S PAST

THE THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE who have made the R.M. of Pipestone their home over the years, since its inception in 1884, have been a fascinating group, full of strength and wisdom, wit and vigour, kindness and foresight.

Some of these people are also significant, key figures in our history. They have either come to define the region by their very being, or they have changed our communities through their actions and decisions.

This booklet recognizes and honours these people.

On the following pages you will encounter the collection of people who have made a real difference. The useful way we have chosen to explore and describe these people has been to focus on traditional occupations and avocations. With one key person typically defining each entry (a merchant, a barber, a lawyer, a grain buyer, etc.) we expect that the rich and deep experience of life and work in the Municipality of Pipestone can be effectively and succinctly defined.

The people profiled in this booklet are special, but we have also endeavoured to feature others with slightly lesser claims to significance who help define or enhance a certain entry. And

where possible we have also added information and details on certain occupations and avocations so that readers can come to fully understand and appreciate who these people were, what they did, and how they did it.

This booklet was developed through a project called *Notable People*, an initiative of the Historic Resources Branch of Manitoba Culture, Heritage and Tourism. That project allowed us to develop a comprehensive inventory of potential candidates, and to carefully analyze and assess the relative significance of the 180 individuals profiled. We are grateful to the Province for this support and direction.

It is easy at the turn of the 21st century to forget the origins and qualities of Manitoba's smaller communities. But at their beginnings these were very industrious places, with young, ambitious people, full of life, and with great dreams for their new home. It is also important to recall that these places were also self-sustaining, with nearly everything one would need made at hand. Much of what was required for daily life was manufactured here, from bricks to dresses, harnesses to flour. Places like Reston, Pipestone and Sinclair and the smaller rural communities surrounding them in 1900 was active, lively and fun.

It is important to set the stage for the following stories, and we are fortunate to have the words of Ellen Guthrie Bulloch, who in 1929 created our first local history book, *Pioneers of the Pipestone*. We quote often from that remarkable little book, which we highly recommend to anyone interested in the early days of “The Settlement” as the loosely defined community centred around the Lanark School was called. Mrs Bulloch, in her conclusion, wrote:

To trace the growth of the district from the very beginning until the coming of the railway and towns has been a most interesting, if rather a difficult task....

Many changes have come about during this time and it has been a wonderful experience to see the country develop from the bare prairie without a tree or shrub except along the river, to a country partially wooded, with well built, homes, excellent gravelled roads, and telephones at this time of writing.

The very first crops were cut with scythe and cradle, hay mowed and raked by hand, and threshing done with horse power in some cases. Plows of one furrow with one team of horses or oxen were used and the whole process of farm work was much slower than it is today.

Gradually the people began to realize the possibilities of the soil and climate. More and better gardens were grown, trees, shrubs and flowers planted, fruit of many kinds, especially the smaller

varieties grown. As the land was broken and the prairie fires which burned over the land every season in the first years no longer ravaged, the poplar bluffs began to spring up around sloughs and have spread until now the bare prairie of the early days has disappeared entirely.

Today many of the men and women who bravely faced pioneer conditions in this new land have passed on to their reward and only those who lived during that period or experienced like conditions in some other part of the country can realize how much courage, faith and endurance was required to carry on in spite of all the difficulties encountered.

Thus to this later generation is passed on the task of upholding and carrying on the work so well begun by the pioneers, trying to realize their dreams and ambitions for this new land, and each individual contributing his or her share towards that development so far as possible. Realizing also as the pioneers did that spiritual as well as material development is necessary if the proper growth is to be attained, may we go on keeping these aims and ideals ever in mind, trusting and striving for the fullest possible development lest we break faith with those who have gone before, the Pioneers of the Pipestone.

Community History

By the end of the settlement era three sets of tracks crossed the Municipality of Pipestone. In 1892, the Canadian Pacific Railway (C.P.R.) line had been extended from Souris into the northern part of the R.M. and would eventually create the towns of Pipestone, Reston and Sinclair. In 1902 a branch of the Canadian Northern Railwas (C.N.R.) cut across and the southern reaches putting Scarth, Woodnorth, Cromer and Butler on the map. Shortly thereafter the C.P.R. created the Reston-Wolseley line giving birth to Ewart and Ebor. By 1906, farmers throughout the municipality had reliable connections with the rest of the province allowing much easier marketing of their produce and much improved access to agricultural equipment and consumer goods

The first towns may not have appeared until after 1890, but the region itself already had a long and interesting history. The wooded valley of the Pipestone had long been a place of shelter, a gathering place for various aboriginal peoples, and a buffalo hunting ground.

In 1881 the arrival of the transcontinental railway, first at Brandon, then Oak Lake and Virden, allowed settlers easier access to this territory. The first settlers in the Pipestone Valley were Dan McKinnon and A. McLean who arrived on May 28th, 1881. They were followed within days by William and James Lothian. Their names and others live on through mention of McKinnon's Crossing and Guthrie's Grove in the local histories.

Some of these first settlers came with the hope that a rail line would soon cross the district. That didn't happen and it left the people of Pipestone to make long trips for supplies and to market their produce. That didn't stop them from establishing farms schools and churches, raising families, and generally getting on with life.

For the first ten years after farming operations commenced, the scattered rural nature of settlement in the area was characterized by various small rural centres, often just a post office, usually in a farm home, and perhaps with a school which might double as a church and community hall. Lanark School and nearby Reston Post Office which was located on the Bullock farm, were once such community landmarks. Elm Valley School and Post Office in the Cromer area was another centre to the west. Manda and Woodnorth Post Offices were central and Belleview was on the eastern reaches of the district.

In 1892 the C.P.R. completed a line from Souris into the northern part of the Municipality of Pipestone. The towns of Pipestone and Reston were quickly established. Service to the rest of the municipality was improved with additional lines in the early 1900s.

With the arrival of rail lines we saw the usual creation of villages centred around a railway station, elevators and a cluster of services. Schools and post offices were then generally moved to new locations in the village.

The establishment in 1892 of the towns of Pipestone and Reston in the midst of well-populated and productive farmland led to an initial burst of commercial enterprises. The usual banks, general stores, drug and jewellery stores appeared. Some of these would naturally be housed in quickly erected-frame buildings, but soon a few noteworthy buildings such as the stone G.S. Monroe Store, the brick Berry House and Berry Block and the frame Pipestone Presbyterian Church were erected, all of which remain. Several of those built near the turn of the century created the downtown streetscape in Reston, the general outline of which does still exist today.



Reston in 1912.

In most Manitoba communities, the “Establishment” era is defined by the replacement of pioneer log, sod and rough lumber buildings by more ambitious constructions of milled lumber. With that definition in mind the towns in the municipality of Pipestone can be said to have almost skipped the pioneer stage and proceeded directly to Establishment.

The rural areas of course did go through these phases. The Consolidation period can be said to have started in the early 1900s with the erection of the several “downtown” brick blocks in Reston, the Arlington Hotel in Pipestone and retail expansion in general.

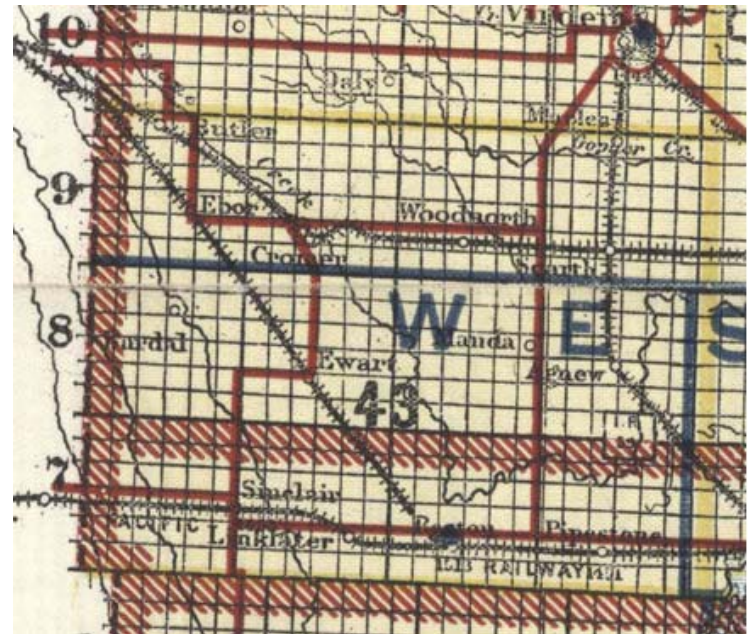
In the early years of the twentieth century Reston consolidated its position as the primary trading centre for the region while Pipestone, though a vibrant community, offered more limited commercial services.

Sinclair was created a little later and also offered a modest, though vital, range of services. The villages created later along the subsequent branch lines were always quite small but served their role. Rinks and community halls, elevators and general stores gave a physical presence to the even stronger underlying reality – the sense of community.

As the Rural Municipality of Pipestone looks forward to the next century it has taken steps to preserve important aspects of its past, including the creation of the Reston Museum, and the designation of several buildings, most notably the attractive Municipal Office in Reston.



Sinclair.



This map from 1918 shows the changes brought by the railway.

Pipestone's Notable People

This list has been organized so that a sense of community development is expressed via the entries – thus beginning with pioneers, and then moving to merchants and services, and including along the way various other notable occupations and avocations that defined our community at this time.

William & James Lothian

Dan McKinnon

William R. Guthrie

William McDonald

Peter Milliken

Diana Campbell Guthrie

The Bulloch Family

Tom Muller

Henry Zarn

Kristjan Bardal

John Milton

C.J. Craig

G.S. Munroe

Edward Walker

W.A. Brady

William Busby

Arthur Bushby

A.E. Smith

Colin C. Campbell

E.H. Berry

Dave Anderson

Alfred Archer

Harcourt Berry

Lee Hen

R.C. Coleman

Frank Manning

Eliza (Challener) Smith

Community Religious Leaders

Dr. Alva Chapman

Greig Brothers

Anne Matthews

Robert Mooney

William Wilkins

Robert Forke

C.K. Cates

Ellen Guthrie Bulloch

The Chautauqua

Arthur P. Power

Colonel John G. Rattray

Clyde Caldwell

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneer Family

William and James Lothian



William Lothian

ON JUNE 1ST, 1881, THE FIRST SOD in the Pipestone region was turned by William Lothian working for Mr. Dan McKinnon and a little later he sowed by hand seven acres of barley, the initial cultivated field and crop in the district.

James Lothian, accompanied by his brother William, arrived in the valley of the Pipestone Creek on May 30, 1881. Two days before, on Saturday May 28, Dan McKinnon and A. McLean had arrived. These four were the first white men to settle in the Pipestone Valley.

The Lothian brothers were the sons of a Scottish tenant farmer. In their time most of the farmland was held in large estates and leased to tenant farmers on long leases. The Lothian family consisted of seven sons and two daughters. For young ambitious, hardworking men these conditions offered little opportunity for prosperity. Britain was in the depth of an agricultural depression. So James and William, after much family consultation, and inspired by the aggressive advertising campaign for immigrants conducted by the Canadian Government, decided to emigrate and to take up homesteads in Manitoba.

They arrived in Quebec City in early July 1880 and made their way to Winnipeg. Then, in order to get a closer look at the land, they walked to Portage la Prairie. This took them two days. They got work with Kenneth McKenzie on his farm, eight miles west of Portage and worked there until late November, in the meantime taking every opportunity to assess the quality of the land. They spent the winter of 1880 to

1881 in the Riding Mountains on land belonging to Robert Campbell, an officer of the Hudson's Bay Company. Part of the winter was spent in a logging camp where they were paid \$20.00 each per month and an additional \$10.00 for the use of their team of oxen.

In the spring of 1881, after plowing a portion of Mr. Campbell's land and sowing some grain, they set out with their team of oxen and a Red River cart containing all their belongings, to look for land. They were well-trained farmers and knew how to choose good land. Thus they came to the Pipestone Valley on May 30, 1881.

Mr. James Lothian was for six weeks during that season the only white man in the district, all the others being absent for various reasons, and he has recorded in an old diary how good the Indians were to him during this lonely time. They brought him numbers of wild duck, a most welcome addition to his food supply, in that first season none to plentiful. Later in that same diary he reported on the first dance held in the new community attended by about 30 people, five of whom were women. Such was social life in those early days.

William was the first President of the Pipestone Mutual Improvement Association. He was Reeve from 1899 – 1901. His letters home are in the Manitoba Archives.

In 1882, Annie Milliken, William's childhood sweetheart, came to Canada from her home in Berwickshire, Scotland, with her sister's family. She and William were married in Brandon the following year and he took her to her first home, a log cabin he

had erected on 20-7-26, the land he now owned. Annie was the first white bride in the district.

The Lothian family took a very prominent part in the social, educational and religious life of the community. William was active in the politics of the Municipality and was Reeve for many years. In connection with other kindred spirits, the Forkes. Millikens, etc., a debating society was organized and some very "lively" discussions followed you can be sure.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 376 and *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 8.



Members of a pioneer family fishing in the Pipestone area (Provincial Archives).

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Community Leaders

Dan McKinnon



ON SATURDAY MAY 28, 1881, DAN MCKINNON, travelling with A. McLean, was part of the first group to arrive in what would become known as the R.M. of Pipestone. A few days later, the first sod in the area was turned on his farm on June 1st, 1881, by William Lothian, part of the second group to arrive. Dan was soon joined by other members of his family, including his brother John. Local historian, Ellen Bulloch, refers to the McKinnon family as “one of the best known pioneer families, owning a great deal of land and farming on a large scale.”

They came from near Austin where they had farmed for some years before hearing that the Canadian Pacific Railway (C.P.R.) would be running their line through the Pipestone Valley. The line went to the north through Oak Lake and Virden instead, but the McKinnons stayed and prospered.

So intertwined is the family’s story that Mrs. Bulloch at one point in her narrative writes, about attendees at an early church service thus: “Among those present were George Campion ... Mr. Walter Crask and some of the McKinnons.”

It was at John’s home that a dance described as, “The first event of a social nature,” took place in the new settlement in January of 1884. It was John who is listed as Secretary-Treasurer of the newly formed Pipestone Mutual Improvement Association, a society that met once a month and sponsored events such as debates. It was at John’s farm that the large barn loft served as a social meeting place. John served a Reeve of the first Pipestone Council

Adapted from Trails Along the Pipestone, pages 1, 343 and from Pioneers of the Pipestone. pages 7, 9, 31, 36.

The Pioneer Life, In Pictures



Bachelor's shack in 1910, with Joe King, Claud Meyers and Sam Livesay.



Pioneer days in Reston.



Omro School in 1910. This photograph of a typical one-room pioneer school suggests the disparity of ages of children attending, and also that the teacher, Miss Hettie Grant (later wife of Walter Norsworthy) might not have been much older.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneer

Farmer William R. Guthrie



WILLIAM REID GUTHRIE WAS BORN in Middleville, Ontario in 1836. In 1882 he came west with his son James. They worked during the summer on the construction of the main line of the C.P.R. They returned to their home in Ontario for the winter and the following summer was once again spent in construction of the railway. Before returning to Ontario again for the winter, he bought the south of 26-9-27 in the valley of the Pipestone Creek from the Hudson's Bay Company. During the summer and fall of 1883 some land was broken and a house built. In the spring of 1884 he came west again bringing his wife Eleanor, and their children. He later bought the half of section 33 and two other quarters not far from his original holding. Guthrie's Grove along Pipestone Creek became a popular meeting place.

William was chairman of the first meeting held on June 29, 1886 to arrange for the construction of a school and later served on the school board for a number of years. It was decided to name the school district Reston, after the little town in Scotland where some of the pioneers had originally lived. When the railway came through, the town site was named Reston, so it necessitated changing the name of the school from Reston to Lanark. He was Reeve of the Pipestone Rural Municipality from 1896- 189S. Mr. Guthrie died on March 10, 1909.

Adapted from Trails Along the Pipestone, page 295,298, 368 and from Pioneers of the Pipestone. page 35.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneer

Farmer William McDonald



WILLIAM WAS BORN ON NOVEMBER 30, 1831 at Inverness, Scotland. He worked as a forrester and married Margaret McCrostie at Blair Atholl, near Dundee in 1855. They came to Ontario with their children in 1873 and came west in 1882, settling on a property which they called “Laggan Farm” after the parish of Laggan in Scotland.

William became a successful farmer. In 1892 wheat from Laggan farm took top honours at an International Miller’s Convention in Glasgow, Scotland.

William served as Reeve from 1915-17 and 1919-1923. He was President of the Prairie Rose Baseball Team. He donated land for Daybreak Church which was built in 1901 on SW 31-9-26. Mr. McDonald passed away in 1909.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 739.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneer

Farmer & Community Leader Peter Milliken

PETER ANDREW SCOTT MILLIKEN, THE TENTH CHILD of George and Isabella, was born in 1849. He grew up in the village of **Coldingham**, located approximately three miles east and north of **Reston**, Scotland.

Peter completed his apprenticeship in carpentry in Newcastle, and went to Glasgow to work as an interior furnisher for a large shipbuilding firm on the Clyde. Several of the tools that he used in making mouldings are on display in the Reston museum. He married Margaret **Handyside** on June 9th, 1880 and later left for Canada.

After staying briefly at **Greenridge**, near Emerson, and **Burnside** just west of Portage la Prairie, they headed west to settle on a homestead on the **Pipestone** Creek in 1882. Passing through **Brandon**, Peter signed on land described as the west half of 28-7-27 as recommended by the Lothian brothers. This land, later known as "The Meadows," was held in the Milliken family for over a century.

The first summer, 1882, the **Millikens** lived in a shack tent. Mrs. Milliken was the first woman in the settlement and their small son, George, was the first child. They moved back to Brandon for the winter where Peter was able to get work as a carpenter on the C.P.R. Station. In 1883 a daughter, Mary was **born** to the Peter Millikens in Brandon. That spring the family returned to "The Meadows" and spent the summer getting more

land broken for cropping. A log house was built out by the road allowance. This log house burnt down in 1891 and a frame house was built nearer the creek.

By the year 1886, there were a number of children of school age in the district. An acre of land was purchased from Mr. Thomas **Bulloch** and the school was given the name of Reston, suggested by the Millikens. The post office operated by William Bulloch was also called Reston. The school building was made use of for many events and concerts were held in it. Peter **Milliken's** popular singing groups and classes were also held in the **schoolhouse**. The name of the school was changed from the name Reston to Lanark. However, when the C.P.R. railway came through in 1892 they asked for the name Reston for the town.

During the summer of 1911 the Peter **Milliken's** left the farm for good and retired to Saskatoon, leaving their William to take over "The Meadows". Peter died in 1934 and Margaret died in 1940. Both are buried in the family plot at **Reston**.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 586 and from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*. pages 10, 38.

Entertainment & Social life

As remembered by Alex Milliken

Young people of the community used to gather at our home for musical evenings with my father leading the singing. Special celebrations were held on Christmas Day and New Year's Day, when the families gathered at one of the homes, alternating between the Millikens and the **Lothians**. It was a day of fun for young and old. A team of oxen, later horses, hitched to a sleigh provided the transportation. Straw, blankets, and hot stones provided comfort to the travellers. The youngsters spent the afternoon sliding down the creek bank. First curling games were held on a pond in **Jimmie** Lothian's yard using tin cans filled with water and frozen for curling rocks. Games and charades were organized. Individual songs by young and old topped off by a general singsong brought the day to a close. The wonderful hot meal of turkey, roast beef and plum pudding was served to the visitors through the day. A **summertime** picnic was always held at least once a year at one of the families' homes along the **Pipestone** Creek.



Views of ice skating in the early 1900s, suggestive of Alex Milliken's recollections opposite.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneer

Mrs. Diana Campbell Guthrie

DIANA CAMPBELL was born in 1868 at Resetta County, Ontario. She joined her husband, Peter Guthrie, on their new homestead in the Hillview area in May of 1890. Ellen Guthrie Bulloch, pays tribute to her in a chapter entitled "Interesting Personalities." The passage is worth presenting as written:

"Before the closing of this chapter a special word must be written of Mrs. Peter [Diana] Guthrie. Although she did not come in the very earliest days, when she did arrive on the prairie in 1890 conditions had not changed very much, and Mrs. Guthrie was exactly the type of woman to cope with the difficulties and problems of the time; being most practical she could turn her hand to any task inside or out, and one of her accomplishments was the planning and building of a swinging partition in her home. In the smaller houses of that time the arrival of the threshing gang put a severe tax on the accommodation and getting a sufficient space to set the necessarily long table was a problem. Mrs. Guthrie solved the difficulty by building a partition which at threshing time could be turned back into a smaller room thus leaving the extra space for the table.

Another exploit of Mrs. Guthrie's was the killing of a wolf. The animal had come near the buildings, been chased by the dogs and had hidden in a hole near the stable. Mrs. Guthrie had been watching, and catching up a heavy shovel, the only weapon

close at hand, sallied forth; she crept as close as possible, then aimed a blow at the beast which stunned him and he was easily finished.

Mrs. Guthrie always claimed that it must, have been an old or wounded animal, but sometimes that is the most dangerous type and it was characteristic of her to accomplish her object without waiting to consider the difficulties.

She did not, hesitate to hitch up the ox tram and go visiting down to the "Settlement" as the present Lanark district was then called. "When it is realized that this meant fording the Pipestone at Milliken's Crossing, that the oxen not being driven with reins as were horses, simply ran down the steep bank and had to be persuaded up the opposite one with the whip, it will be seen that it was a trip not to be lightly undertaken, but Mrs. Guthrie was quite capable of making her visits and arriving home in triumph at the end of the day."

Mrs. Guthrie died in Reston in 1946.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 246 and *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 47.

Women and the Pioneer Life

The life and work of a person like Diana Campbell Guthrie can be easily imagined from an extract from a website devoted to the subject (www.bakerblockmuseum.org/womansday.htm):

“I'm going to weave a tale of one woman's workday.

Dora woke before daylight and reached for the chamber pot. She needed no alarm clock; her internal alarm worked very well and the rooster outside served as backup on a dreary day. Her husband would not likely bother with the chamber pot when he got up, so she put it on the far edge of the porch to empty later, and washed her hands before grabbing a few sticks of wood for the fire. She stirred the coals banked the night before and fanned them with a bit of frond till flames licked her lighter knot shards.

A hearty breakfast was needed as the males would be out all day looking for game. The cooler weather would reduce the insect population and the meat would be cleaner and healthier. Summer meant fly larvae just below the skin of the animals as well as some fevers caused by a large infestation of pests.

They had used all the bacon canned last winter, but there was smoked ham and sausage hanging in the smokehouse. She decided on sausage, but would grab a deer ham while she was out there. When she took the sausage from the pan, she would let the juices cook down a bit for gravy. They kept milk and butter in a "spring house" that was sturdy, but little more than a few boards knocked together to keep out animals and to make sure a rise in water didn't wash their supplies downstream.

After setting the milk and water on the porch to warm in the sun, she grabbed the chamber pot and walked towards her garden. She stopped at the outhouse to empty the pot and called to the girls to

come help her weed the garden and to pick some peas that were ready for shelling. If they hurried, they might have time to get some blueberries from the bushes.

Dora wouldn't get her clothes washed tomorrow since they were going to town; the wagon trip would take all day. She hoped the boys had left her some water. There were potatoes left from supper, so, she'd fry them up, scramble some eggs and make some hoecakes for breakfast. They would leave early and she would have to think of something for their lunch on the road. She would have Della take it to the spring in the morning along with the milk left over from the butter-making process. She would keep the buttermilk, but she would have a little butter to sell tomorrow.



Pioneer women in front of a Pipestone area homestead in 1898.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Pioneers

Notable Family – The Bullochs



The Bulloch farm at threshing time. T.A. Bulloch at the far left, then Robert Bulloch.

THOMAS BULLOCH WAS BORN at Kirkintilloch, Scotland in 1814, and came with his parent to Canada in 1820. He married Ellen Craig in 1838. Three of Thomas and Ellen's sons—profiled below—would come to the Pipestone settlement in the 1880s and the parents would join them in 1887.

William Bulloch

William Bulloch, born May 20, 1848 was the sixth child of Thomas and Ellen Bulloch. He was married on May 30, 1877 at [Hopetown](#), Ontario to Christina Stewart, born December 23, 1855. He and his brothers, Thomas and William, all settled in the Reston. When William and Christina first came west in 1881, they settled at [Brandon](#) on a part of the present Agricultural Research Station.

They settled on the northeast of 28-7-27 in June 1889, with his family. It was on this quarter section that the first Reston post office was established in 1890 and operated by William. The first library in the settlement, organized by the Pipestone Mutual Improvement Association, was kept at the Bulloch house. A second larger home was built on the southeast of 28-7-27 where they resided until about 1910 when they retired to Reston. The Bullochs had eleven children and the farm remained in the family for three generations.

Adapted from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 45

Robert Bullock

Robert Bullock married Margaret Caldwell in 1870. Robert came to the Reston area in 1882, and brought the family in 1885. Robert was present at the first meeting held to discuss erecting the Lanark School. They celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary in 1930. Several of their children remained in the area. Their son, Thomas A, married Ellen Guthrie, daughter of pioneers Mr. & Mrs. W.R. Guthrie.

Adapted from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 21, 41

Thomas Bulloch

Thomas Bulloch came to the Reston area, arriving with his wife Jane (McIlrath) in 1883. Thomas was involved in the formation of a Presbyterian congregation, helping to organize the first services in the region, which were held in the loft of McKinnon's barn on August 31, 1884. Services were held also in the Bulloch home. When the time came to build a school in the area a spot on the Thomas Bulloch farm was chosen.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 540, 297 and from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, pages 21, 25, 41.



Pipestone pioneer view.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Industry

Grain Buyer Tom Mutter



Lake of the Woods Milling Company Grain Elevator at Reston, ca. 1912.

THE FIRST FACILITY FOR HANDLING GRAIN in Reston was a warehouse built in the fall of 1892 by Deyell and Mann of Souris. During the first winter some grain was hauled here. Alex Dickie was the buyer and the first wheat marketed in the village was brought in by John Stephens, an Englishman who farmed south of town.

The Lake of the Woods Elevator was built in 1893 and operated until it burned in 1950 and was never rebuilt. It stood by the tracks at a point between Main Street and Third Street and was opposite to the old electric building. It had a capacity of 35 ,000 bushels.

The first power in this elevator was live horse power. The elevator had a long pole in the centre and another pole going crossways. The horse went round and round and a gear on the end of an upright pole turned a shaft which went under the elevator. A pulley on the end of the shaft ran a belt with cups attached which lifted the grain. The wagons were loaded with bagged grain and the grain was dumped from the bags by hand. In later years, the wagons drove onto two timbers. The timbers were let up and down by a wheel turned by hand. Later still, the elevator was powered by a stationary gas engine.

A Reston pioneer, Walter Brown, was drawing grain from the farm of Peter Guthrie in 1912 and recalled the congestion at the elevators at that time as wagons waited to unload. The elevator soon plugged and sometimes loads went directly onto the spotted cars. The average load was about seventy-five bushels and this was pulled by two horses. There were also tank

wagons which had a capacity of 125 bushels and were brought to town by four horses hitched abreast. The four horses abreast were too wide to go up the elevator gangway so the local dray team was on hand to bring the load up.

John McBride was the first buyer for the Lake of the Woods and he was followed by Alex McIlroy who stayed about two years. Tom Mutter took over the elevator before 1910 and was longer in service with Lake of the Woods than any other buyer. He retired in 1934. Buyers who followed were: Jack Mutter 1934-42; Bert Mutter 1947-50; Reg Berry 1942-47.

United Grain Growers Limited Local No. 166 Reston was one of the very early points for United Grain Growers Limited. The records at U.G.G. headquarters in Winnipeg state that they leased an elevator from the Manitoba Government in 1913. This elevator was one of about 160 elevators built in Manitoba at the turn of the century by the government of Premier R. P. Roblin. Grain was never actually sold in these elevators but was graded and docked and then consigned to another elevator.

Winnipeg records say that the company leased the elevator until 1926 and then purchased it. In February 1916 the United Grain Growers elevator burned. The Grain Growers have no record of who rebuilt the elevator but they did recommence operations the next season, still apparently under lease. Besides the purchase of this elevator in 1926, they record buying a second elevator from McCabe Grain Co. in February of 1943. The latter elevator was somewhere west of Main at a point between First and Second Streets and had been built about 1926 by Victoria Elevator Company.

This elevator had been constructed in the dead of winter so the foundation was poor and the workmanship perhaps not the best. The lumber was hauled up the sides by a rope and pulley which was pulled by horses. It was so cold that all the nails had to be heated. The men shingling the roof had to scramble about in heavy winter clothes and the village watched and expected an accident but fortunately there was none. It was taken over in turn by Pioneer Grain Company and then McCabe Company. There were many grain companies and many changeovers in those days for anyone who had a seat on the grain exchange in Winnipeg had the right to build an elevator. Often there was no operator there and it was just used for storage. Grain Growers operated this elevator until June, 1948 when it was dismantled and the material moved to northern Saskatchewan to be used in an elevator there.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 425-26.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Ewart Pioneer

Farmer Henry Zarn



HENRY WILLIAM ZARN was born in Walkerton, Bruce County, Ontario, on April 7, 1880. He and his brother Jack came west to Oak Lake, Manitoba where their sister Minnie was working in 1898. After working on farms in the Oak Lake, Alexander and Brandon areas for two years, they each took a homestead in the Municipality of Pipestone near where the village of Ewart was later located. They almost gave up proving their homesteads, when money and food gave out, and it was impossible to get anything on credit in those days. However, a neighbour, Albert Gudmundson, encouraged them to keep going and also bought them a supply of groceries to tide them over.

Henry married Ethel Amelia Goring born in Surrey, England on April 15th, 1881, who had come to Canada at the age of three with her parents, James and Ada Goring. Their first three children were born in a sod house, which Henry and Jack had built, there and rest of their twelve children in the larger frame house which was built in 1905. Henry farmed first with oxen and later with horses; and had his crops threshed by Jack Gallin's outfit and later by Tom McKay's threshing machine. When his own sons were big enough to help, he bought an outfit of his own. They were good neighbours, helped in community projects; and Henry was a school trustee for many years. They lived on the homestead from 1902 until 1945, when they retired to Virden, where they lived until 1959, when Mrs. Zarn passed away. After that, Mr. Zam lived with his family until he died in 1963. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary in Virden with almost all the family and grandchildren present.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 225.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Community Leader

Kristjan Jonsson Bardal



Bardal Family picnic in 1909.

KRISTJAN JONSSON BARDAL AND HIS WIFE Thorey emigrated from the north of Iceland to Ontario, Canada in 1878 with two little boys, **Johann** (Joe), about two years and **Sigurgeir** (Ed), one year. They lived in the **Muskoka** Lake and Winnipeg for some time before homesteading in **Belmont** in 1886.

While in the **Argyle** area, Sigurgeir worked for a man named Sparrow, herding cattle. Here he got the name Ed, which stayed with him all his life. These Icelandic names were often a source of embarrassment and explanation. My Grandfather Kristjan was the son of **Jon** so he was Jonsson. When at Belmont there was another Kristjan Jonsson. so Grandpa added Bardal to his name, being the name of the valley he came from in Iceland. In 1969 my husband and I had the great pleasure of

coming to the very home where my grandfather was born and raised to 18 years of age.

The three sons, Joe, Dad and **Kris** got all mixed up as to surnames. Joe was **Johnson**, Dad was Jonsson and Kris was **Kristjansson**. Among Icelanders they were called the Bardal brothers, the name they should have kept.

From Belmont the promise of homesteads called again. These were still available in the Sinclair area so here the family moved, Grandfather, Joe and Dad each obtaining a homestead. Grandfather's was just south of the **G. S. Munro** farm. Joe's was next to it and Dad's was one mile west of Joe's. This was in the early 1900s.

Grandfather with two others was instrumental in getting the Bardal School built and his name was chosen for the new school. He served the whole area as Commissioner or Justice of the Peace for several years. He was a tall and handsome man, very interested in the welfare of his community. He was also a good farmer, especially fond of livestock. From starting out in a sod house, he built a nice two-story frame house and a good barn. Buildings were painted and well kept and he also planted trees for a windbreak. After a short illness he died at home in August 1911, a comparatively young man.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 664.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Community Leader (Sinclair)

John Milton



John Milton was a driving force behind the construction of Sinclair's Presbyterian Church, seen here with Sinclair School.

THE HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY OF SINCLAIR, as presented in *Trails Along the Pipestone*, observes that:

The history of the Sinclair Church began with a man who had an idea, and that idea remained with him for many years before it came to **fruition**.

That man was **John Milton**.

John Milton was born in Glasgow, Scotland, on Christmas day, December 25, 1865. In 1892 he arrived in the Sinclair region and homesteaded on NE 10-6-29. As the first settler in Sinclair, it was he who **encouraged** others to come and settle here and begin a new life in a new town. Slowly they arrived and began to build shops, houses, and schools, and farmers from various parts of the world settled all around the vicinity – and **Sinclair became** an established fact.

Mr. Milton filled many roles in the new community. In 1898 he was appointed post master and those duties remained in his family for 78 years. He soon offered a stock of groceries and other necessary supplies. School classes were held in their home until a building was erected. He was Vice President of the curling club.

But it was his role in establishing the Sinclair Presbyterian Church that became his most enduring achievement.

Previous to 1904 services were conducted by the Reston minister. Rev. McAlister. Rev. J. G. Stephens from Reston continued to hold services in the Sinclair School and the Icelandic Hall from 1904 to 1908, when connections were severed and Sinclair, Crescent and Broomhill were formed into a Mission Field. The first managers of the Church were appointed in 1908 when John Milton, J. H. McLandress, John Bulloch and D. J. Brownlee were elected.

About this time John Milton, along with other Sinclair residents: James and Thomas Smith, John Bulloch, Alex McDougall, Frank Stewart, Mrs. Miller, John Doerr, Fred Payne, Bert Read, Jack and Ab. McCoy and Ed Salaway, finally saw his idea take root when they decided that Sinclair should have a church building. They called a meeting in the Icelandic Hall and the townspeople turned out in force with an excellent representation from the surrounding countryside as well. A Mrs. Wiltshire read a statement at the opening of the new church, which summed up the spirit of the enterprise:

A brother of the Episcopalian tendencies moved that a Presbyterian Church be built. It was seconded by a Methodist in all probability, so totally unsectarian was the spirit of the meeting. It passed unanimously, and a committee of diverse creeds, but of one mind was appointed to undertake the work. And thus it was that the idea became a living, breathing fact, and Sinclair Presbyterian Church a reality.

On December 5, 1909 the church was opened and dedicated to divine worship.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 645, 651.

View of the Village of Sinclair - The Early Days



We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Ebor Businessman C.J. Craig



CLYDE JOHN CRAIG WAS THE SON of John Clyde Craig of Lanark, Ontario, who brought his family to the Reston district at the turn of the century. Although Clyde resided in the Pipestone Municipality for less than twenty years, in that time he started and operated a number of businesses, and was particularly influential in the early days of the village of Ebor.

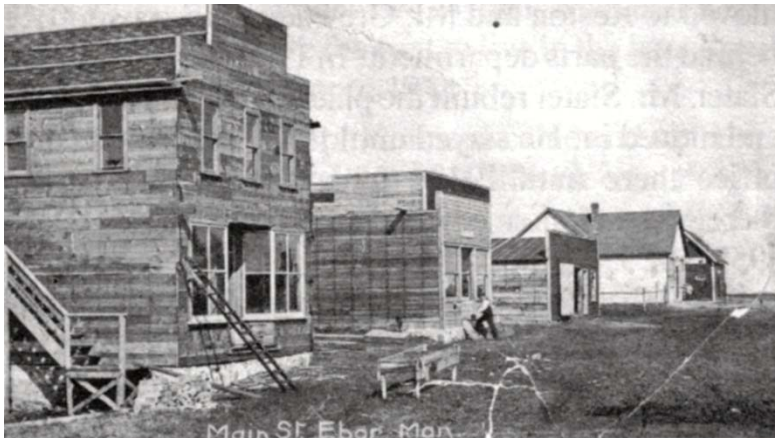
Clyde lived in Reston In 1907 and 1908 he lived in Reston where he bought a butcher shop, shipped livestock, and homesteaded the SE of 28-8-29.

Later he started an implement business in Ebor and in Ewart. In Ebor he purchased the poolroom and enlarged it for implements. He built a large building beside it in 1909. He had the post office and lived upstairs. He dealt in real estate and insurance, was on the school board and was weed inspector. He left Ebor for Edmonton but returned to live in the butcher shop, then tore it down to build a blacksmith shop. He also operated a store for a few years.

Adapted from Ebor Echoes page 73 and from Trails Along the Pipestone page 755.

The Village of Ebor

The village of Ebor was surveyed and settled beginning in 1906 with the establishment of the Reston Wolseley C.P.R. Branch line. The village grew quickly with general stores, an implement dealership, a boarding house, a blacksmith shop and pool room soon established. The railway maintained a section house and station, and two grain elevators served the district.



Ebor – 1910. Left to Right: The Craig Building, Implement Shop, Livery Barn, Store and Ritchie Barn.

Add in Maryfield News, July 7, 1910

C. J. CRAIG
EBOR MAN.
Real Estate, Loans and Insurance

The Central Canada Hail Insurance Company
The Canadian Fire Insurance Co. The Canada Life Assurance Co.
The Canada West Fire Insurance Co. The Manufacturers Life Ins. Co.
The Occidental Fire Insurance Co. The Loan Union & Rock Ins. Co.
The Liverpool, London & Globe Insurance Co.
Imperial Guarantee and Accident Co. The North Of Scotland Loan Co.
The Trust and Loan Co. of Canada

University Lands for Sale Hudson Bay Lands for Sale
Sales Solicitor for C.P.R. and Canada North-West Lands
Also a number of good improved farms for sale or rent, in Manitoba
and Saskatchewan.
COMMISSIONER IN B.R.

Add in Maryfield News, Oct. 5, 1911

C. J. CRAIG

Call in and inspect the John Deere Land Packer with
Tongue Truck

Get ready for the Mowing Season. We handle the Deering
Mowers and Rakes. Value for every dollar in these
Implements

Deering Binders will be in the front rank again this season.
Call in and talk binder with me before purchasing else-
where. Do not accept substitutes, there is no
"Just as good"

Agent for De Laval Cream Separators, Gray's Buggies, Canada
Carriage Company and the King Lightening Cable

You cannot run the risk of being hailed out. See me for
Protection.

EBOR

MAN.

Ebor advertisements from 1910 and 1911.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

General Merchant G.S. Munroe



THE LONGEST ESTABLISHED GENERAL STORE in Reston was known for seventy-two years as G. S. Munro Co. Ltd. In the spring of 1893, Mr. Wilcox, a pioneer merchant of Virden established a branch store in the new village of Reston and put a young man named G. S. Munro in charge. Mr. Munro liked Reston and in 1894 he married Kate Campbell and settled in to become one of Reston's leading citizens. Mr. Munro managed the business for some time and then bought out Mr. Wilcox.

Mr. Monroe kept Shetland ponies on his Sinclair area farm. He and Kate were very involved in community affairs. He was superintendent of the Sunday School for years and sang bass in the choir all his life here.

He built the present stone building in 1902 and built up a large business and drew patronage from many miles around. Munro's was very versatile and brought in the best services for customers. In 1921, Mr. J. Sibbald had graduated as a practipedist and was looking after fitting shoes. They catered to the ladies with a special millinery section on the second floor and there were official spring and fall openings yearly.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 489, 493, 591.

A Day in the Life of a General Store

The small-town general store, also known as mercantiles and emporiums, were essential aspect of commercial activity in small-town life, and saw their heyday in the period between 1880 and 1930.

These establishments served the rural populations of small towns and villages and the farmers in the surrounding area. Besides selling dry goods, farming equipment and other supplies, they sometimes also served as the local post office, drugstore and undertaker. They were also a popular meeting place for socializing and news gathering.

The storekeepers stocked their establishments with merchandise procured from salesmen who represented wholesale houses and manufacturers found in larger cities. Merchandise selections were often large and varied, though most of the items available for sale were those of necessity. As people and businesses prospered in the economy during the 1890s more luxury items were introduced into the store inventories. The expansion of the railroads, the advent of mass production and technological advances such as the refrigerated railcar to transport perishable foods all combined to escalate the national distribution and variety of goods that were available in the stores.

Most of the wall space in a general store was taken up with shelving to store and display for the merchandise; likewise the floors were crowded with barrels, wooden boxes and crates. Store counters were good for holding display cases for the smaller items, a coffee grinder, scales and a cash register. Many stores had a display window or two in the front of the building. Cellars, basements and second floors were used for storage of merchandise and displays.

The proprietors of general stores knew almost all of their customers and they were adept at anticipating their needs. It was not uncommon for articles to be sold on credit or for payment to be accepted in the form of bartered goods.

What were some of the items that could be found in a general store?

Food and consumables included coffee beans, spices, baking powder, oatmeal, flour, sugar, tropical fruit, hard candy, eggs, milk, butter, fruit and vegetables, honey and molasses, crackers, cheese, syrup and dried beans, cigars and tobacco.



Aerial view of Reston, ca. 1900.

Dry goods included bolts of cloth, pins and needles, thread, ribbon, silk, buttons, collars, undergarments, suspenders, dungarees, hats and shoes.

Essential items such as rifles, pistols, ammunition, lanterns, lamps, rope, crockery, pots and pans, cooking utensils and dishes, farm and milking equipment and even coffins could be found.

The apothecary sections of the stores were well represented with a surprisingly large number of patent medicines, remedies, soaps and toiletries and elixirs.

Larger General Stores, such as the G.S. Monroe Store in Reston, featured a well-stocked millinery department. This image from 1920 shows Miss Cutting and Miss Mabel Abercrombie at work.



The World of Commerce, In Pictures



East side of Reston's Main Street in 1908, showing the Cates Block, Baldwin Block, fire wall, Butcher Shop and Canada Café.



Sinclair Main Street, 1909.



Pipestone Main Street.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Tradesperson

Cromer Blacksmith & Implement Dealer Edward Walker



EDWARD WALKER was born on September 9, 1881, at Greenfoot Old Hutton, Wesmorland, England; and on September 6, 1881 Mary Agnes Sargent was born in Wolverton Station, Buckingham, England. They were married on January 7, 1903. Mr. Walker was a blacksmith by trade and continued this line of work when they immigrated to Canada.

In the spring of 1910 the family immigrated to Canada, making their first home in Virden, in what is known as the Terrace Building. Edward started a blacksmith and machinery business in Cromer, travelling back and forth to Virden until that fall when the family moved to Cromer. Edward and son Ted farmed at Cromer and had purebred Hereford cattle which they showed at local fairs and in Brandon.

Edward and Agnes (Granny as everyone called her) Walker were faithful supporters of the Cromer Anglican Church. They worked for progress in everything: Church, school, sport, picnics, war or peace. They were very much a part of Cromer – their town where he served as J.P. for several years.

Edward held the oldest Massey-Harris agency in Canada at the time of his retirement in 1963. His shop was a bee-hive of activity in not only work but information. If you were waiting for your horse to be shod or a repair to be fixed and it was mealtime you were always welcome at their table. They celebrated 60 years together on January 7, 1963. Agnes passed away on March 15, 1963 at Reston after a short illness. Edward went to live with daughter Anne and family at Manitou, where he passed away January 15, 1974.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 132

A Day in the Life of a Blacksmith

For the early settlers, the blacksmith was perhaps the most essential tradesman. Not only did he make the iron parts for the first farming implements, he also could repair all iron objects by hammering them by hand on an anvil.

After heating the iron until white-hot, the blacksmith would then shape and wield a multitude of objects from it, including carriage bolts and wheels, iron work, cooking utensils, and most importantly, horseshoes.

Blacksmiths who made horseshoes were called farriers, derived from the Latin word for iron. At a time when horses were the only means of transport, the blacksmith was important to not only individual farmers and travelers, but also to merchants whose businesses depended on transporting their goods to other places. Also, because they spent much of their time shoeing horses, blacksmiths gained a considerable amount of knowledge about equine diseases.

The new industrial output of the late 1800s allowed the smith to improve his shop. With a small boiler, steam engine, and a system of overhead shafts, pulleys, and leather belts, the formerly hand operated shop equipment like the post drill, the blower, and other equipment could be easily powered. The small belt powered machines like the Little Giant trip hammer or its blacksmith built counterpart took its place in many small shops. Later, the "steam" part of the steam driven leather belt systems were replaced with small gasoline engines or electric motors. In time, many power hammers were fitted with their own electric motors.

Many blacksmiths were manufacturers as well.

Wagon boxes, the setting of wagon and buggy tyres, lathe turned parts for spinning wheels, the single bob manure sleigh, the making of sleigh runners, bolsters, bunks and tongues, and the custom manufacture of truck transfer boxes with cattle hauling equipment were some of the items fabricated with finesse befitting the labourers.

Always, along with the aforesaid, there were the innumerable interruptions to repair broken machinery as is wont to happen in a mixed farming area.



Sinclair Blacksmith Shop (Manitoba Archives).

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Implement Dealer W.A. Brady

THE FOUNDER OF BRADY AND SON Hardware, William Albert Brady, came to Reston in 1898. He used to drive to the Pipestone-Reston district from Virden to take orders for farm implements and repairs, until it seemed more logical to settle in Reston. He built a home and an implement warehouse and he went about the country taking orders for farm implements and repairs, so he got to know the people.

In 1914-15 the implement store was extended to include hardware, housewares, some furniture and china, and a lumber yard was built on the lot at the back. In 1915 practically the whole west side of the business district was burned to the ground, Mr. Brady's premises included. They did save a great amount of pots and pans, showcases, etc., but were unable to get anything from the second floor, which was full of buggies and farm machinery.

He set about rebuilding, on his previous site, the large brick block later called the Klusen Block. The south part of the block became the post office and there were apartments and storage space above.

When Frank Brady returned from air force training in England, he joined his father in the business, which became known as W. A. Brady & Son in 1921.

The Brady store stocked everything imaginable. Besides the usual hardware, there was axle grease and harness. Even a horse brush could be bought for 30 cents in the thirties. A good pocket watch cost \$1.25 and a better one was \$1.75. In 1929, he began selling lawn mowers. There were buggies and wagon parts stored in the second story.

There was a gas bowser outside this store too, when horse and buggy days were over and the gentlemen of the town began to vie with each other to see who had the finest and newest automobile. Horses had their revenge however when a runaway team almost completely demolished the bowser and dragged it down the street. The store remained in the family until 1956.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 495, 53.

Implement Dealers

Albert Brady's business as an implement dealer was a key one in Reston, and one that many other individuals also attempted over the years. All would have been very familiar with all lines of farm machinery, and of the firms that manufactured them.

Prior to 1900, all manufacturing consisted of short-line companies: full-line companies emerged primarily as a means to overcome competition. International Harvester Company (IHC), for instance, was formed in 1902 as an amalgamation of the five largest existing manufacturers of harvest equipment at the time.

Canada had two full-line companies: Massey-Harris (later to become Massey-Harris-Ferguson, and finally Massey-Ferguson) and Cockshutt, both located in the Hamilton region of Ontario. The Massey Company at one time was the world's largest manufacturer of farm equipment; however, it fell on hard times and went into receivership in 1988.

It is important to make the connection between the blacksmith shop and farm equipment manufacture, as it has often been said that the innovations and progressive ideas for machinery improvements largely came from farmers.

Key Farm Implements at 1900

Gang Plow – a combination of two or more plows in one frame

Harrow – implement for breaking up soil

Broadcast Seeder – used for spreading seed

Swather – machine to cut hay and cereal crops

Thresher – machine used to separate grain from stalks and husks

Wagons



Newhouse and Opper threshing outfit in 1912.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Lumber Dealer William Busby



BORN DECEMBER 20, 1837 IN **FARMANAGH** County, Ireland, William Busby came to Canada when he was eleven years old. Margaret Ann Ferguson was nineteen when she married William Busby. They were to have eight children. William, caught the "go west" fever that spread over Ontario and hit the trail in 1878.

In 1880 he secured a homestead north of Gladstone. William secured lumber, built houses, schools, churches, and founded Orange Lodges. In 1883 he moved to a homestead just north of Indian Head, Saskatchewan. After years of drought, William looked eastward. The **C.P.R.** line was nearing Manitoba. In 1888 he again uprooted his family, walking with the cows from Indian Head to the **Lambton** settlement in Manitoba, behind the family and the oxen. He **homesteaded** on the southeast quarter of 22-7-27 where he farmed until the railway came, at which time he moved to **Reston** and opened the first lumberyard there. The first load of commercial products delivered to Reston by rail was a load of lumber for their lumberyard. The original Busby homestead on the south half of 20-7-27 was in the Busby name for generations

The first lumberyard **became** Pioneer Lumber, in 1893. It was on the east side of Third Street and to the west of what is now the **Klusen** Block. The business was taken over by Mr. H. **McBain** who conducted it until 1907. He sold the business then to **W. A. Brady** who at that time had only an implement business in a small building where he later built the Brady Hardware.

Adapted from Trails Along the Pipestone, page 542 and Pioneers of the Pipestone. page 23.

A Manitoba Success Story



In 1906, Edward A. Konantz, owner of Citizen's Lumber Company of Bow Bells, North Dakota, joined forces with Charles Lee, appointed as General Manager, and started North American Lumber and Supply Company (Limited). The conditions for the establishment of a lumber company were excellent, with a strong economic climate and the building of the Grand Trunk Railway across the Prairies offering the means by which outlets could be supplied.

The partners opened their first lumberyard in Rivers, Manitoba, in 1907. By the fall of 1908, the partners had established 16 more yards, with a total of 19 yards in place by the spring of 1909. North American Lumber suffered through the Great Depression along with the rest of Canada, with the rural yards

hit the hardest, but by 1936, 56 yards had survived the worst part of the depression.

Through the '40s and '50s, North American Lumber continued to grow and diversify, meeting the ever changing needs of post-war society, and purchasing several yards in Saskatchewan and rural Manitoba. In 1948, North American Lumber opened the Carberry yard. In 1954 the company purchased the Minnedosa yard from the Valley Lumber Company and the Brandon yard from Wade Lumber. The pre-fabrication plant that began in the 1940s in Winnipeg prospered, as the demand for housing in Canada increased. North American Lumber made a great contribution through the extensive development of the "Ezy-Built" business- garages, cottages, homes and farm buildings. The company also diversified into the construction industry with the founding of a new division – Ready-Mix Concrete. In 1966, North American Lumber and Supply Company (Limited) and Citizen's Lumber Company (Limited) amalgamated to form North American Lumber Limited.

The mobile and modular home industry expanded throughout the 1960s and 1970s to meet an increasing need for housing in rural areas. North American Homes Sales continued to serve this market with sales offices in Lockport, Brandon, Reston and Warren. Today the company employs over 200 people in a variety of related sales and service companies including North American Lumber, North American Homes Sales, Ready-Mix Concrete, and Pre-fab Truss factory.

Adapted from North American Lumber Co. Website:
<http://www.northamericanlumber.ca/our-company/history>

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Builder

Carpenter Arthur Bushby



The builder's skill can be seen in this detail of the brickwork on the Berry House in Reston.

RESTON, AS A TOWN, was very substantially built with the places of business largely of brick, stone, and stucco. The early businessmen built for permanency and many of the old buildings are still standing and in use today. Reston built beautiful homes too with brick used in many of the older ones. The old Jackson boarding house, now the Bloomer home, just east of Main on Railroad Avenue, stands as an example of this.

It was the skill of the early builders which gave the business places and homes the permanence and beauty which can still be admired. Reston's first builder was William Busby who erected a building in conjunction with his business. It was he who supplied the lumber for the first buildings. Mr. Busby's first home was built behind the lumber yard.

H. C. Evans, in company with Richard Smith, built or helped to build most of the first buildings. The Evan's son Wilfred was the first child born in the village and was also the first Reston man to die in World War One. James Stallwood was carpenter for lumberman William Busby. In 1905, he advertised in the *Recorder* as follows: "Contractor and builder is much too busy to write an add. Give him a call for anything in his line."

Arthur Bushby came about 1916 and remained until 1930. For a brief time he had a carpenter shop next to the Burge Pool Room on Main Street. This was probably before the fire on the east side. He then built a carpenter shop north of what is now Lockhart's Garage. It was directly across from Maurice Ludlam's house which is the last one south on Third Street. Bill Mutter worked with Mr. Bushby and they built the first high school, the municipal office, other public buildings, and homes.

An example of his building is the Archer house on Second Avenue West, now occupied by Dave and Irma Braddell. Mr. Archer himself did the fine beams on the dining room ceiling. Hazen Bigny worked for a time for Mr. Bushby and, in 1930 purchased his shop. Both men went out into the country to build and on one occasion Mr. Bigny suffered a serious and lasting injury when he fell from I. Reid's bam loft onto a pile of stones and badly crushed his leg.

Other Pipestone Area Builders

In 1921, Royal Kendrick was doing carpenter work and mending chimneys in the village. He had a shop behind his house. R. Douglas who farmed south of town and Fred Hodges who lived in New England were early carpenters. Dave Wynn did carpentering and cabinet making. Frank Clark, father of Dr. Clark, had a cabinet shop in the old Eaton Photo Gallery east of the brick drug store. This later became the tailor shop. Mr. Clark built, among other business furniture, the long counter from which customers used to be served at Munro's Store.

I. McAdam was a brick layer but for many of the larger public buildings, brick layers came from other places to do the work. William Pierce was a stone mason and did the stonework for the Munro Store. George Corbin was a stone mason, a brick layer, and a plasterer. The stone used for building was cut from large rocks, hauled to the site, and fitted. This made the process a feat of engineering for everything had to be done by hand.

There was no ready-made wall board to be fitted into the interiors of buildings. The walls were plastered and their good looks and durability depended entirely on the skill of the plasterer. Reston was fortunate in having the services and skill of Fred Paul who came in the early 1900s. He was an excellent plasterer and some of his work remains in older Reston homes. He not only worked in Reston and the surrounding countryside but plastered hotels throughout the prairies. He plastered the Saskatchewan Hotel in Regina.

I. S. Martin was doing paper hanging, kalsomining, and painting in 1905, in a manner which his advertisement said was sure to please. Ted Haines, a paper hanger and painter came in 1902 and lived on Railroad Avenue. He worked until 1928 when he retired because of poor eyesight. T. C. Wheeler was a painter and paperhanger advertising in 1918. Bill Peckam did painting and decorating also. A familiar figure in the town for many years was Hank Klusendorf who came up from the United States. He farmed at Sinclair for a few years and about 1930 came to Reston to do paper hanging and painting. He worked at this until about five years before his death. He celebrated his seventieth birthday up on a ladder painting the ceiling of the Munro Store.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 483-84.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Butcher and Businessman Albert (A.E.) Smith



ALBERT E. SMITH CAME TO THE Elm Valley District with his parents and other family members in 1888. For a short while, he delivered meat throughout the country from the farm but in 1899, he established a butcher shop in Reston. Except for a short time in the early 1900s (1907-1910) when he returned to his farm, he operated his Reston butcher shop for fifty-one years.

Albert was the seventh of nine children born to James and Jane Smith (nee Duncan) who came from Lanark County, Ontario, when he was 13 then. He filed for a homestead of his own when he was 16. Besides farming, he took up the butchering trade, delivering meat from his farm and assisting a number of beef rings. In 1899 when he was 25, he established a meat market in Reston. In the meantime, he had also developed an insurance agency, which became his major business interest.

One of A. E. Smith's personal projects was the improvement of the local cemetery. Evidently, some hasty burials during the flu epidemic of 1919-20 had aggravated disorganization at the graveyard. Smith brought strict regularity into the operation of the cemetery during his tenure as secretary-treasurer of the burial society. Headstones were straightened; plots laid out precisely; records kept up to date. Perhaps most notably, Smith brought small spruce trees from Riding Mountain National Park and planted these where no trees grew before, giving the Reston Cemetery its distinctive appearance ever since.

The Butcher Shop

At first Albert Smith used an old office, which had been used in the first years as the municipal office, for his butcher shop. He quickly turned the site into a proper butcher shop and here he operated until the fire of 1916, which destroyed much of the east side of Main Street.

He promptly set about building a new and better shop, a two-storey brick structure with a **lean-to** on the north side to house the Soon Restaurant. In June 1916, though the building was not complete, he was back in business.

After fifty-one years in business, Mr. Smith sold his butcher shop in 1950 and for a time continued in his insurance, which along with work in the **Pipestone** Municipal Council and other public duties, had more and more occupied his time as years had gone by. It was because he always had able assistants in his shop that he was able to take time for so many public duties.

His advertisements in the Reston Recorder were always interesting and filled with philosophy. An example: "Yes, we have a very fine town and we also have a very fine meat market — but both can be improved." In 1908, he was advertising sirloin steaks at **twelve** and a half cents a pound. He also supplied the town with exotic meats. For Christmas, 1926, he was offering buffalo meat and dill pickles to go with it.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 494, 601

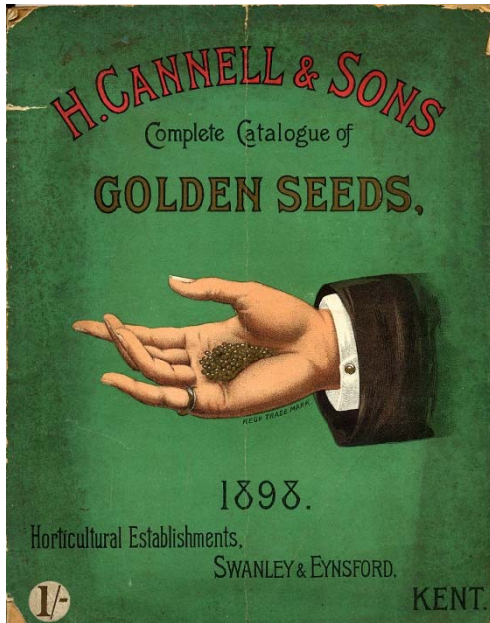
A Beef Ring Building



In his youth in the Elm Valley district Alex would assist at a number of beef rings. A beef ring facilitated the co-operative efforts of a rural community to ensure a supply of fresh beef in times before refrigerated storage was available. Each week during the summer a member of the beef ring supplied a steer to be kept overnight in the holding stall, killed and butchered in the compact but ingeniously equipped main room and then shared. Essentially a small slaughterhouse, like the structure illustrated above (in Gilbert Plains), completed in 1923, the utilitarian building thus belies its internal inventiveness: like the inclusion of a holding stall separate from the killing floor, the large wooden built-in hoist for lifting the carcass, a metal ring embedded in the concrete floor to secure the animal before slaughter, and the row of large nails along two walls, each numbered, where the members' portions of beef were placed in sugar sacks. Beef rings played an important role in rural food supply until the advent of home freezers and locker plants in the 1940s and 50s.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Industry

Seed Merchant Colin C. Campbell



An old seed catalogue from 1898.



The CPR roundhouse used as a seed warehouse.

COLIN C. CAMPBELL was born in 1872 at Iona Station, Ontario, and died in 1959. He married Minnie McLandress in 1902 at Dutton, Ontario. Mrs. Campbell was born in 1886 and died in 1957. C. C. Campbell was a horse drover in the Dutton, Ontario area and first came to the Reston area in 1901 bringing horses for sale from Ontario. He sold principally through the Souris to Arcola district, later establishing a sales and livery barn with his cousin Archie Campbell, trading as Campbell & Campbell for a number of years. The horse business was sold to McCurchy Brothers and the Imperial Oil to Archie Gregg. Mr. Campbell had a Buick agency for a number of years. Until 1935 he was mostly engaged in farm real estate and insurance, besides a shipper of clover and grass seed to the U.S.A., operating out of Portage la Prairie and Dauphin.

He purchased the old C.P.R. roundhouse at Reston around 1936 or 1937 to be used as a seed warehouse. Cleaning equipment was installed and it gradually developed into a retail and mail order outlet for farm seeds of all kinds, operating under the name Colin C. Campbell & Son. Feed manufacturing machinery was added as well as feed lot for cattle. This employed four to twelve persons year round, and usually operated 24 hours daily during winter months. The main volume was in registered grains. One result was that the area served by the plant contained the highest concentration of registered seed growers in the province and this situation is probably still maintained. The plant continued in operation until 1969. The main volume of business was the export to the U.S.A. with occasional shipments to Europe, Africa and India.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 442.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Jeweller E.H. Berry



Mr. & Mrs. E.H. Berry

EDWARD HANLAN BERRY HAD COME WEST in 1899 to work in the harvest fields. He was only in the area a short time and returned to Ontario where he apprenticed as a jeweller, worked as a barber, and married his wife Bertha. In 1905, Mr. Berry came back with his bride to settle in Reston and operate a jewellery store. They lived and worked at first in what later became Gary's M. and M. Store. He soon built what is still known as the Berry Block. It was just north of the Manitoba Hardware. The Berrys lived there and for about twenty years the jewellery business and watch repairing was carried on.

After the fire which destroyed Manitoba Hardware, he became a partner in the new company and in 1924, he purchased the business and it became E. H. Berry's Hardware and Lumber. He combined this as years went on with his jewellery business, the selling of fuel, a machinery business, and a farm at Woodnorth. Mr. Berry even drove as far as Cannington Manor in Saskatchewan to sell his jewellery. He sold wedding licences too and, long after the jewellery part of the business closed down, he was still selling wedding rings.

His stock was excellent. In one advertisement, we can read of clothes dryers at \$2.85 — not the kind we favour today however! Horse blankets were \$12.50 a pair. E. H. Berry moved with the times however and in 1929, he was selling electrical equipment to a town just getting electricity. In 1948, he was offering electrical appliances to the rural people who were having hydro installed. In 1925, he installed one of the first radios that the townspeople ever heard.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 531.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Railway Employee

Station Agent Dave Anderson



Reston Station with Tennis Courts

DAVE ANDERSON BECAME STATION AGENT in 1917 and served for over 35 years. He oversaw an era of great change in railways, including the introduction of the diesel engine. During that time he was known as one of Reston's leading citizens. He was especially noted for his gardening skill and his pride in the station grounds. In addition to his "day" job, he operated a fur farm just south of the station where he raised silver foxes and chinchilla rabbits.

A story related by Bert McKay who has documented Reston's railroad days, illustrates why Mr. Anderson was fondly remembered:

"Dave Anderson recalled for me one situation which occurred in the Reston station while I was working for Dave in the fur farm business. A lady passenger arrived from Hungary and because of the late train she had to lie over from Monday to Wednesday morning. It was bitterly cold in December. No one spoke her language, but Dave remembered a man, south of town, by name Podobni. Dave phoned Mr. Walker who came in by sleigh and took the lady, tearful and scared, out to the Podobni farm. Lo and behold this farmer had come from the same town in Hungary. It was a great re-union, they danced and they cried, and they laughed and they cried some more. The lady had a small child with her and when they all came in for the train on Wednesday it turned out she and the baby were on their way to work for a farmer at Bender. This lady, like many others who came to Reston to take the Peanut will never forget the kindly hospitality of Mr. and Mrs. Anderson."

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 434, 436

The Railroad & Reston

Transportation in the pioneer days of Reston "Settlement" on the Bulloch farm was a major problem. The necessities of life were brought from Virden, often by ox cart. When the railroad came in 1892, it was a lifeline and the settlement had to be moved to it. Reston was the end of the line but the tracks were finally built on westward to connect with the main line at Regina.

In 1908, the C.P.R. put in a branch line, which ran in a north-westerly direction to Wolseley, with Reston as a terminus. It was at this time that Reston became a railroad town of importance. Along with the influx of workmen and crews, the coming of both lines brought prosperity and excitement. The large gangs of workers brought business to the town. Many of the Wolseley line crew and maintenance men settled in the town and contributed to its social and economic progress.

The Railway Station

The first railway station was a freight car set down at a point nearly opposite Main Street. The first agent was Cleland Jones who came in to town on one of the work trains. The first passenger train came in to Reston on Dec. 2, 1892. A proper station was built on the same site during the following season.

A few years later an accident occurred. A snow plow had been sent to clear the tracks and, just as it approached the station, it left the tracks and plowed into the building. Stationmaster Stuart and his wife were sitting in the living quarters above and were startled by the crash and the heaving of the floor. They were more startled still when they peered down between the

cracked timbers to see the huge black monster in the waiting room below. The platform outside was ripped to splinters.

The company decided that they needed more space for yards than this site allowed so they erected a new station three blocks east of the old one. The station remained there until it was torn down and removed in 1969.

Of the train service the *Reston Recorder* reported:

For many years there were three passenger trains daily.

In, 1918, the C.P.R. east bound arrived at 13:50 and the west bound at 15:45. The Wolseley arrived at 13:35 and left at 16:05. It took passengers only once a day. There were no Sunday trains.

Up until the 1940s there were two passenger trains six days a week. When the train came in from the east at 5:30 p.m., there were often twenty or more people at the station to meet it. There was also the Reston - Wolseley mixed train every other day and lots of freight trains. As many as 18 trains a day came through Reston. There was a station agent. He had a helper and there was also a night operator at the station.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Merchant

Tailor Alfred Archer



ALFRED ARCHER WAS BORN IN LITTLE BRITAIN, Ontario. He studied tailoring as an apprentice before he came west on a "harvest train." After settling briefly in Hartney, where he worked for Fry's as a tailor, he came to Reston. Donnelly's Gent's Furnishings was a store already established in Reston. Mr Archer set up shop at the back of the store and when Donnelly sold out, Mr. Archer bought the business.

Mr. Archer was a professional. In 1910, he went to Chicago for further training. He always took pride in his work but it was still secondary to his love for nature. His interest later changed to gardening and the preservation or improvement of the environment as it is now called. He understood the balance of nature and recognized the damages of using pesticides and herbicides, a position which did not become popular or accepted until after his death. He promoted the planting of trees and flowers and especially encouraged tree planting for "shelter belts" around farmlands and parks. In 1962, his work was recognized when he received an Honorary Life Membership to the Manitoba Horticultural Association.

It is for his work on the grounds of the Reston Memorial Park that Mr. Archer is most fondly remembered. He was involved in the planning and creation of the park. It was he who suggested that a park was the appropriate place for such a memorial and selected the location, based on suitability of the soil. He raised shrub and perennials in his own back yard, as funds were scarce. He acted as park supervisor until he left Reston in 1967.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 499, 528

The Small Town Tailor Shop

A former worker remembers the operation of Mr. Archer's shop:

"A. Archer the Tailor" was once an advertisement familiar for miles outside the Reston community. His advertisement in the Recorder; "Archer's Tailored Clothes are **Unequalled** for Service", was the absolute truth for no garment left his shop until the work was perfect.

"Foremost in my memory is Mr. Archer's fairness, kindness, and good humour. The shop was well lighted and comfortable, though steamy at times from using the press which was just new then. One of the girls helped him spot clothing brought in to be pressed. The really dirty clothes were sent away to be dry cleaned, to Perth's, I think. This was before the dry cleaning plant was installed.

"When I was there, I think he employed six to eight girls. Miss Jessie Affleck was head **tailoress**. She was a pretty, ladylike spinster in her forties. As apprentices, we got \$24.00 a month. Every closing time, the young ones had to sweep and dust under the strict supervision of Tina and Miss Affleck. We worked from eight a.m. to six p.m. with an hour off for lunch.

"All of Mrs. Archer's lovely suits and dresses were made there and those of many of the town ladies. Dr. Chapman had all of his shirts tailor-made. I remember the girls delighting in embroidering lazy daisies on the shirt tails, I'm sure Mr. Archer knew about it but said nothing. All buttonholes and buttons

were sewn on by hand and only the experienced **girls** did the button holes.

"We were taught to overcast all seams by hand; this was called **serging**. For the padding in the lapels of suits and overcoats, we had to join two pieces of cloth together without a seam. This was called stealing.

We sat at counters with our feet on stools to do the hand work. The counters were also used for laying out cut pieces and for Mr. Archer to draft and cut his patterns. There was a counter down the west side and one down the east side of the workroom. They were by the windows and there was a long table down the middle which held the sewing machines."

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 499.



Mr. Archer and his assistant in the shop.

Alf Archer and the Development of Reston Memorial Park

“Visit our Memorial Park” are the words on the roadside sign just out of Reston on Highway Two. Those who do turn into the town and make their way to the park in the south east corner are greatly impressed. The townspeople know that much of the original credit must go to Alfred Archer, the tailor who loved nature.

Reston and district wished to honour their war dead of 1914-18 and so, with money raised by donations from the district, a cenotaph was bought. The public meeting which made this decision decided that this was more suitable than a memorial hall. There was one big problem however. It was the question of where would be the most suitable place to erect the memorial.

Mr. Archer suggested the east side of town as the soil was heavy loam and cultivation would make it suitable for trees, shrubs and flowers. The committee followed Mr. Archer's advice. They interviewed the CPR to whom the land belonged and they were given a very cheap price on two blocks on the east side.

The committee had a park plan which they had received from the Manitoba Agricultural College. This had been drawn up by a person who was not acquainted with the site or the nature of the soil and Mr. Archer, when asked by the committee to do the planting, turned this plan down as not suitable. He drew them a rough plan on the back of the blueprint they had showed him and the committee was impressed.

Mr. Archer consulted with a Mr. A.P. Stevenson who inspected shelter belts in the district. They had been friends since 1905 and Mr. Archer respected his judgement.

The park committee had no money to buy trees and shrubs so they were donated by people who had a surplus. Mr. Archer raised shrubs and perennials in his own back yard, brought trees from the Assiniboine Valley and exchanged trees and shrubs with people in other places. The small, soft speaking tailor knew and loved botany as much as he knew the art of making suits and coats and it is said that he was dedicated to the park to such an extent that the well being of his business may have suffered for it.

The first planting was in 1922 when a shelter belt was planted around the park. Among those who donated trees, shrubs, and plants to the park, Mr. Archer in his writings, which for many years included a weekly "Park Notes" column in the Reston Recorder, has recorded: Dr. A. B. Chapman; Scotch Pine behind the cenotaph, Colorado Spruce at entrance, Jack Pine north east of cenotaph, and some Black Spruce west of the playground. Mrs. Thomas Wilkins; flowering plum and roses. R. C. Bulloch; Koster Blue Spruce. Mr. Bulloch also used to sell cut flowers from the park. *Mrs. Munro (nee Eva Walker); White pine and Swiss Stone Pine. Mrs. R. Dickinson (nee Patricia Berry) Morden Blue Spruce. Other donors were Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wynn, Marjory Brady, Mrs. Ante (nee Mona Milliken), Wib Pierce, George Pierce, Rev. I. Ross, Mrs. T. A. Bulloch, and Ernest Wilkins.

Alf Archer received no salary. At an annual town meeting, it was moved that he be given \$100 a year, not as salary, but as a donation in appreciation of his services. At different times, this was raised and, in the last years, it was \$400. In 1962, the Manitoba Horticultural Society honored him by making him a life member and the local park board followed suit with a surprise presentation of a purse of money. It was felt that something more should be done to honor this man who had taken the lead in making this village park a spot about which a local tribute said, "There is not a spot to equal it anywhere in the western part of the province, for a place of its size." So in 1967 a memorial gate was erected at the west entrance to the park, with a plaque reading: "Erected in memory of Alf Archer who gave with complete dedication of his time and talent toward the development of this park. 1922-1967."

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 416-418.

The Reston war monument is cast of Italian marble and it is topped by the figure of a Canadian soldier. The cost, when purchased, was \$3,600. It was unveiled by Sir James Aikins, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba, on June 30, 1922. Dr. Chapman read the names inscribed and the address was given by Lloyd Armstrong. The agenda stated that a parade then proceeded to the chautauqua tent where addresses were given by Sir James Aikins, Dr. Clingan M. P. P., Colonel Rattray, and John Williams M.P.P.



We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Services

Barber Harcourt Berry

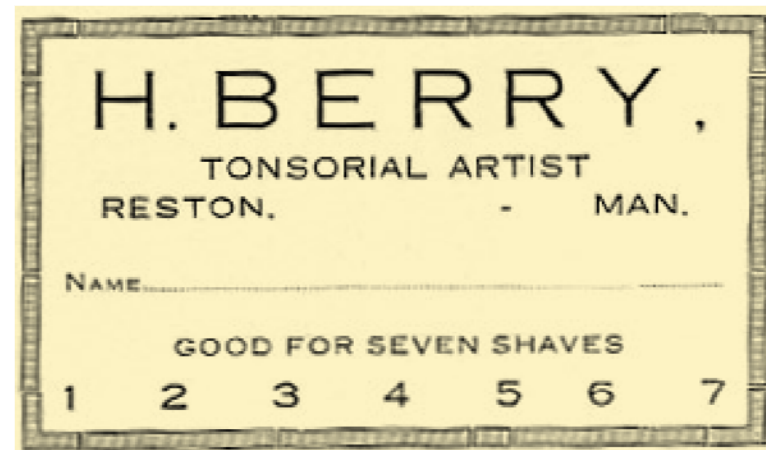
THE FIRST VILLAGE BARBER was Harry Lusk who had a shop in the building north of the Brady Hardware on Main. This later became the harness shop. A Mr. Paul next opened up in the old Wilcox building which Mr. Munro had used for the store before building the present stone structure. The Berry barbershop today is on approximately the same site.

Mr. Paul moved west in 1910 and the Berry family took over the Reston barber business. Lew Berry was first. He had learned barbering along with his brothers in the east and had had a barber shop in Toronto. Meanwhile, his brother Harcourt, also a barber, had come to Woodnorth about 1912 and set up a barber shop there. Lew's health failed and about 1915, he sold the shop to Harcourt and briefly went into groceries in Reston and then set up business in Cromer.

Harcourt brought his bride Mary to Reston and remained to operate the barbershop and pool room for about fifty years. He died in 1967 and by that time his son Boyd, who had gone into the barbering business with his father when very young, was operating the shop.

Some things stay fresh in memory, some fade in the mists of time. I can still see the magical transformation that took place any Saturday night in Reston in the twenties. The old Harcourt Berry Barber Shop had a rare addition, a public bath tub. The

water was heated, if memory serves, by a twin flame coal oil burner. The water was in a copper boiler with a lid. The customer, dirty, bewhiskered and tousled from six days in the harvest fields and from sleeping in the hay, was be-aproned in the chair, shaved and hair trimmed, ears and nostrils too. Then off to the tiny bathroom with his satchel of 'good' clothes or 'Sunday best'. In half an hour, the metamorphosis was complete from worm to butterfly. Out came a complete stranger and not the man who came in front. Blue suit, white shirt, dark tie, handkerchief in lapel pocket, shiny shoes, all ready to do up the town.. The switchabout would hold for Sunday church too, lunch at the Chinese cafe, and lucky enough perhaps to have dinner with friends.



On the wall of Berry's Barber Shop there was a board on which tickets were hung. Patrons bought a card for a dollar and this was worth six shaves. The card was punched after each shave. This served as a bill or old fashioned credit card too for, on the back, was the family name and their bill for haircuts.

Among those who worked at the barber shop were Blake Boulton around 1918, and Frank "Shorty" Long who later set up his own business in the hotel. The only other barbershop was the one which R. V. Cusack had in the lobby of Reston House Hotel. There was one chair. Occasionally Mr. Cusack cut hair himself but Frank Long and Fred Busby did barbering there. Mr. Long had left Berry's about 1934 and gone to Carnduff. After serving in World War Two, he came back to work at Reston House.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 444-45.

'Beauty Specialist' Miss G. Moore

In the late twenties, Harcourt Berry also had a ladies' beauty parlor. The Berry advertisement in the *Recorder* read, "Tonsorial Artist and Beauty Specialist." This beauty specialist was Miss G. Moore who came two days a week to do ladies' hairdressing.

Holga Sunburg rented the former dentist's office in the barber shop building during the forties. She also, before or after, operated the Famous Beauty Salon in the building between the bank and the Canada Cafe where Mrs. Clark had had her hat shop.

During the thirties, and forties the Nu Art Beauty Salon was in the building which is Reston Ceramics. Lottie Slossen came from Virden and Marion McLean (Kenner) and Ann Henuset (Goudie) came from Melita on certain days to operate this salon. Clare Deacon (Armstrong) assisted Lottie Slossen and then did hairdressing in her own home. In the thirties, Branche

Reece operated from her home too. Her father was mail clerk on the Reston Wolseley Line. These girls gave finger waves and, in the shops, gave permanent waves with the use of electrically heated curlers.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 444-45.



Beauty parlour treatment from the early 1900s. (Provincial Archives of Manitoba)

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Services

Laundryman Lee Hen

In the early 1900s there was a great need in the village for a laundry. Labourers, railroad men, and others among the bachelors welcomed the day in the early 1900s, when Lee Sam came to town and established a laundry at the corner of Railroad Avenue and Second Street.

Lee Sam was there until 1913 when he left for the city and Lee Hen took his place. The laundry closed about 1921. Bert McKay remembers what that old laundry was like:

The laundry was a rough affair, west of the Townsley Garage, with a lean-to on the side and on the back. His cooking was done in one or two skillets, or pots, on the wall. His tea kettle was brass and very heavy.

The counter just inside the front door served for business with customers, and, in quieter times, as an ironing board. The shelves at the side were obviously too few, as laundry was piled high. To the left was the big stove, a basic item in the operations. Around the pot-belly part was a rail, allowing the irons to sit at an angle, tips almost touching the hot iron. The top of the stove was big enough for his large pressing iron.

Looking to the back of the shop the customer could see the tubs, and a huge iron mangle for the bedding, sheets, carpets, etc. It was a man-size job to turn the handle on that monster.

The owner was about forty pounds too light for the job, but he had found the knack.

Those were the days of the stiff celluloid collar. Mr. Lee had a mix that resembled the celebrated curds and whey, and with one swipe with a cloth dipped in that concoction the collar was white as new. Some men had boxes which provided room for seven stiff collars. One box was at the laundry one week, and the other in use.

Outside the back door could be found the custom-built cart for Mr. Lee's deliveries. He did a brisk trade with the local hotel, and with the homes of some of the people of considerable means. The laundryman was a familiar sight on the streets. One lady in Reston insisted that her laundry be delivered just before one o'clock. She knew her neighbours would be at the sink by the window at that moment.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 501-502.



Interior view of a Chinese laundry.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Services

Tinsmith R.C. Coleman



Interior of a tinsmith shop.

THE FIRST TINSMITH work was done in the Manitoba Hardware. They had a shed on the side which they used for that purpose and they hired James Fumerton to do the work. Mr. Fumerton soon opened his own hardware and, in April, 1921, R. C. Coleman took over the Manitoba Hardware tinsmith department. In his first years in Reston, he owned only a motorcycle and he travelled in this with his wife along in the sidecar.

Mr. Coleman soon branched out on his own and opened up in the Baldwin Block south of the butcher shop. He worked out of this shop until about 1930 when he moved, for a brief time, to a part of the Mennie Block at the south end of Main Street.

When Manitoba Hydro came to Reston, the old electric shop just east of Lockhart's Garage on Railroad Avenue was closed down. For a time, Manitoba Hardware used it for storage but, in the middle thirties, they sold it to Mr. Coleman who carried on business there, until he retired in 1956. Mr. Coleman installed local furnaces and also did plumbing, when the time came that such facilities replaced the old fashioned commodities.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 503.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Communications

Newspaper Owner Frank Manning

FRANK AND ARTHUR MANNING CAME WEST to teach in 1900. Frank taught at Swan Lake and Roland, and Arthur at Cypress River. Frank left teaching and founded the first newspaper in Roland, called the *Roland News*. In 1905 the two brothers moved to Reston to start up a newspaper here, called the *Reston Recorder*. That same year Arthur was hired to teach in Reston, and Frank stayed with the paper until his death in 1945.

The Recorder itself is the source of the information of how this all came about and its progress through the years. The Mannings were looking for a place to establish a newspaper. E. A. McBain, manager of the local hardware heard from his bookkeeper about the Manning quest and he contacted them. At Eastertime, the Mannings made a visit to Reston and within twenty-four hours, property was purchased and plans made to erect an office and home. J. B. Stallwood was given the carpenter contract and by early July the building was ready for occupation.

On July 13, the printing plant was unpacked and work was started on getting out the first edition. The first issue was dated July 25, 1905, and it was in the post office the next day. It was an eight-page edition with four pages of home print and four pages of boiler plate.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 582

The Reston Recorder

The Recorder, always a sounding board for Reston and district, has been the piece of mail most eagerly awaited during the week and the most thoroughly read.

The home print was done on a Washington hand-press with a hand set type, which meant that every letter was picked individually from a case and, following the printing, redistributed back into the case for further use.

Later the diamond press was in turn replaced by a heavier Wharfdale and this in turn was replaced by a Cottrel. These were cylinder type presses, which speeded up the operation. A linotype was purchased in 1916 and did away with most of the hand setting of the type. This hand-setting had mostly been done by older boys who came in after school.

A Heidelberg for job printing was purchased about 1945 and a newspaper folder was installed where previously the papers had been folded by hand.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 428

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Medical Services

Nurse Eliza (Challener) Smith

ELIZA CHALLENGER was a young nurse who had come west from Toronto in response to an invitation from Reston's doctor, A. B. Chapman. One of her assignments was looking after a man whose disposition was reportedly unpredictable if not uncontrollable. Consequently, the municipal council decided that the attending nurse should herself be attended by a man during her night duty at the sick man's house. Reluctant to delegate the task, a young Councillor named A.E. Smith took the duty himself. While the patient got expert care, Mr. Smith made Eliza's acquaintance and, before long, married her.

Their four children were not yet teenagers – in fact, the youngest was only four – when the 1919 influenza epidemic placed heavy demands on Mrs. Smith, one of very few qualified nurses in the district. For a time she quarantined herself, living in a shed at the farm, separated from her family to diminish the risk of spreading the dreaded killer-flu.

The Smiths' friendship with Dr. and Mrs. Chapman paralleled their mutual interest in community affairs: both families took leading roles in municipal government, recreation and the local fair among other community enterprises. In 1904 Mrs. Smith was the first lady to curl in Reston, and it is reported that she still would throw a few rocks into the 1970s.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 509, 602



A traditional nurse's uniform from the early 1900s.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Clergy

Community Religious Leadership



A Pipestone area minister on his way to a wintery Sunday service.

THE ESTABLISHMENT OF RELIGIOUS SERVICES was an early priority in the Pipestone settlement, as it was across Manitoba. Throughout the 1880s a home or a school house often doubled as a place of worship. Building a church would have to wait.

Mrs. Bulloch, in *Pioneers of the Pipestone* gives this excellent account of religious life in the new community:

“The first church service on record was held out of doors on the banks of the river. A shelter for the oxen been built and under this a few men gathered. A missionary had come to pay a visit to these earliest settlers and he gathered a few of them together and held his first service.

Among those present were Mr. George Campion, who gave the writer an account of the meeting, Mr. James Lothian, Mr. Walter Crask and some of the McKinnons. Rev. Dow visited the settlement on May 15th, 1883, and it is altogether likely it was he who held this service on the river bank.

On August 12th 1883, the first service in a building was held at the McKinnon's, some thirty being present.

On August 31st, 1884, the organization of the Presbyterian Church took place, the service being held in McKinnon's barn loft, about fifty being present; the Reverend Doctor Robertson officiated at this meeting. Managers elected to carry on the work were: Thomas Bulloch, George Forke, James Lothian, J. McKinnon and G. Hatch.”

The first man to be stationed in the district was Reverend Haig who preached at McKinnon's and then at a second appointment at the home of Mr. Thomas Bulloch.

Reverend McLean was the second minister to be sent to the district and the third, Reverend McLeod. These men preached at McKinnon's and Bulloch's and this arrangement was carried on until the building of the school house in 1887. The services held in the school drew people from a very large territory. Many splendid men ministered to the people during these years and it was not an easy task, especially during the winter months.

After the first years when the men already mentioned took charge of the work, a long list followed and among those who come especially to mind are the Reverend G. Gunn, whose home was at Selkirk, and who was a descendent of one of the prominent families in the first days of the Red River Settlement, and Reverend J. A. Bowman, who was later head of the Employment Service in Winnipeg.

Another man who came a bit later but can still be included among those who served in the early days was Reverend McQuarrie, an elderly man of splendid education, who had taken a medical course as well as his theological training. His ministry was very greatly appreciated but the work was harder for him as he was not accustomed to pioneer conditions and the getting about from place to place in winter months was rather an ordeal.

In 1889 the Methodist Church sent Reverend Halsell to the district and from that time the two denominations were

represented, the services being held in the school house and each minister having other appointments. In this church also many fine men ministered and it was that body, which after the town began, erected the first church in Reston.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 462 and from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*. pages 31 – 33.



The Anglican Church at Cromer hosted Archbishop S.P. Matheson in 1900

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Medical Services

Doctor Alva Burton Chapman



ALVA BURTON CHAPMAN was born on a small farm near Gananoque, Ontario on June 27th, 1863 and went to school as far as grade eight. As a youth and young man, he did carpenter work and lumbering in Ontario and in Michigan. U.S.A. In Michigan, he operated the lumbering machinery for an uncle and before long had his papers as a master mechanic. Later, he went to work for a lumber firm at Clayton, New York and having married at the age of twenty-six, established his home there.

He enrolled in the medical course at Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, studying his high school work at night and in the summer he did carpentry to finance his way through university.

After graduating in 1899 at the age of thirty-six, and practising for a short time at Matick, Massachusetts, Dr. Chapman decided to go west to British Columbia in 1900. On the way he stopped off to visit a cousin, George Chapman, at Reston. His medical services were in such demand that he never left the town. Mrs. Chapman joined him and they settled in Reston where he also opened a Drug Store

In 1907 he built the present corner brick building which served as the drugstore from 1907 to 1981. He also built the County Clerk's Building in 1910.

Although Dr. Chapman was then over-age, he managed to enlist during WWI. In May 1915 Captain Chapman was at the First Canadian Hospital at Etaples, near Boulogne and he was posted to the Third Canadian Field Ambulance for over two years, seeing much fighting. He was wounded at Vimy Ridge,

mentioned in dispatches, and awarded the Military Cross for bravery in the field. Dr. Chapman was invited to Buckingham Palace on April 10, 1919 for an investiture of his Majesty, the King.

Following the war, Dr. Chapman returned to Reston to renew his medical practice. Some years later he was made a life member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Manitoba.

He took an active interest in the building of the Masonic Hall, the Memorial Theatre, an addition to the United Church and the Reston Hospital. Other organizations that received his help and support were the School Board, the Parks Board and the Agricultural Society. Dr. Chapman belonged to the Reston Masonic Lodge and served as Worshipful Master in 1931.

Dr. Chapman answered calls whatever the weather, in summer and winter. Sometimes he drove a team forty miles to answer a call and often, on his long country drives, he carried a gun for game he might possibly see on the way. In 1909 he bought his first car, a "Russell."

Dr. A. B. was fond of music, especially band music. In later years, he and Dr. Hunter had a very interesting hobby – making by hand some excellent violins. A few of these instruments may still be in the district.

On his ninetieth birthday on June 27th, 1953, a very large gathering of friends from far and wide was held in the Memorial Park in his honour. This Park was very dear to his heart and one of his special interests.

Dr. Chapman retired from practice officially in 1938 but his advice was often sought by patients and other doctors even when he was in his nineties. He was often found in his office in the drugstore during the 1940s and 1950s when Lyall McMorran was the pharmacist and owner.

Dr. Chapman died in his home on May 12, 1961, in his ninety-eighth year after an illness of only two days. The funeral service was held in the Reston United Church, following a brief Masonic service at his home. Burial was afterwards made at Olivet, Ontario. One who knew him well, fittingly spoke of Dr. Alva Burton Chapman as "one of Nature's gentlemen."

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 548.



The Chapmans in the Drug Store.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Entertainment

Greig Brothers' Moving Picture Theatre



Poster for one of the early favourite moving pictures shown in Reston.

THE FIRST MOVING PICTURES IN RESTON were shown about 1915, by the Greig Brothers, who were in the oil and draying business at the south end of Main. They also owned a storage building just to the east of the livery bam (Bonniman's when it burned down in 1929) facing the railway. With goods so scarce in wartime the storage building was not much needed so Alex and George Greig decided to branch out in films. They made a deal with the theatre operator in Souris, who promised to come up each week to run the show or send an operator. The machines were turned by hand, but those two carbons in the arc light had to be set perfect if there was to be a picture. As with a cream separator, the picture show machines had to be turned at just the right speed. Seating was mostly by way of planks on drink boxes.

George Craig, who died in Brandon a couple of years ago, recalled that for one night he and brother Alex decided to run the show themselves, the Souris operator having missed the train. The greenhorns ran into endless difficulties, the arcs would not adjust. The film kept breaking, and the heat in that little booth was over a hundred degrees. At half time they gave the patrons their money back, 15¢ and 10¢. The picture show machine drew very heavily on the electricity, and the operators could expect frequent calls from the producer and manager of the local power company, Josh Robertson. Being Josh, the complaints were not too harsh, and having spoken, Josh would sit down and enjoy the show. Certainly, while the show was on, the other places in Reston had dim light indeed.

That old time picture house brought Reston its first glimpse of the marvellous people of Hollywood, and such stars in Charlie Chaplin. The program also included the famous serials, thrillers that were shown one reel a week. The reel always ended in great suspense, the hero or heroine in deep trouble or danger. Some may yet recall such serials as "The Black Hand,," "The Fight for Millions," and "The Perils of Pauline." A break in the film was likely to occur anytime, perhaps half a dozen times in one evening. The operator from Souris got a split of the proceeds, and he also made extra by selling advertising to the Reston merchants. The ads were on slides, shown through a projector much like the old home magic lantern. The slides had to be handdrawn, backwards, to read properly on the screen. The theatre venture lasted less than two years during World War One.

Prices in the theatre in 1918 were fifteen and twenty-five cents and two cents tax. The theatre closed for a time but about 1920, Ted Bushby and Robert Mckay opened it again. They installed a gramophone and played appropriate music during the shows. William Lockhart took it over but operated there only a short time and moved the shows in 1922, to a more convenient spot, the Manitoba Theatre.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 471.

Mennie's Hall

The hall on the southeast corner of Main and Railroad Avenue was part of the business establishment erected by T. W. Jackson in the early days of the village. It passed through the hands of Gregg Brothers and Hill and Co. and became Mennie's Hall in the early twenties. The hall was reached by twenty-two open steps leading up from the north. It was the full size of the building and contained a stage which was used in early days for concerts. Before the Masonic Hall was built, it was used regularly by the fraternal organizations for their meetings. Committees and other groups gathered there and sometimes the gathering was in a lighter vein.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 471.



Local theatrical group in 1915.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Medical Services

Nurse and Midwife Anne Matthews

HISTORIAN Ellen (Bulloch) Guthrie paid tribute to unsung pioneer heroes like Anne Matthews in *Pioneers of the Pipestone*:

Special tribute must be paid here to two of the women of those early days, namely Mrs. Fairlie and Mrs. Ann Matthews; with the skill born of their many experiences, and their unfailing attitude of helpfulness they came into the homes and proved a real blessing; many times they were sent for in cases of illness and they never failed to respond to the call. The generous service rendered by such women can never be fully appreciated and to all such, we of a later generation, pay tribute. Both have passed on to the Better Land but the memory of their good work lives on.

In the year 1884 Mrs. Anne Matthews, a widow of many years, arrived in Manitoba from Huron County, Ontario. The family settled on the south half of 15-8-27. She brought out seven boys and five girls, some of them already old enough to apply for homesteads of their own.

Mrs. Matthews served her community as an unofficial nurse and coroner – she would line the coffins in her home where her son Albert constructed them.

Mrs. Matthews was always available in the surrounding districts when illness struck and help was needed. She was a mid-wife to many of the early settlers but when she lost her own daughter Edith (Mrs. Dave Wynn) in childbirth she refused to go out again.

In the early years church services were held in her home for those of Hillview south and east for many years. The Ewart Women's Institute paper observed the first wedding was Amelia Matthews to George Hartley. Reverend Beymore was the first minister. He preached in Anne Matthew's home for seven years. Mrs. Anne Matthews died in 1918 at the age of eighty-one and is buried at Enderby, B.C.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 249 and from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 30.

Life as a Nurse and Midwife

Mrs. Gladys Slifka (Bulloch) was a registered nurse and often accompanied Dr. Clark on cases out in the country. She recalls that they travelled in every conceivable kind of vehicle. Often they would go part way by car and be met by a member of the family. The rest of the journey might be by wagon, by buggy, by rack, or even by stoneboat. It is amazing that the doctor and nurse were still fit for their duties when they arrived. Mrs. Slifka recalls that there were often all night sessions and they would return to Reston at daybreak by the same means as they had gone.

Most births took place at home and a neighbor came to stay and care for the mother and babe and the rest of the family after the doctor left. At least two ladies were midwives who took cases into their homes. Mrs. Holton lived next door to Dr. Clark and had a maternity home. She would accommodate two mothers and it was necessary to book ahead to be sure of getting in. She is still remembered as a wonderful lady. Others who took in maternity cases were Mrs. Helen Kay, mother of Mrs. Jack Guthrie, and Mrs. George Fraser.

There were early registered nurses, many of them married, who were available in times of sickness. They went into the home and stayed until the patient recovered - or died for though the local doctors and nurses worked many miracles, they did not have the medicines and drugs to work with that are available today. Mrs. Walter Brown recalls the killer flu epidemic of 1918 and how not only nurses but neighbor women risked their own lives to go to the homes where often whole families were down with the disease. Mrs. Brown remembers that while they

did not know medicine, she and the other women kept the households going by mixing mustard pasters, making soup, and showing loving concern.

Mrs. Buddy Burge was a registered nurse and, as she had no family, was able to go to homes and stay. Miss Challener had trained as a missionary nurse and came to Reston where she married the local butcher A. E. Smith. Mrs. Smith nursed before and after her marriage. She always kept household help so she too was free to go. Mrs. Davies was a sister to Mrs. William Wilkins and came to Reston with her son who worked in the bank. Though elderly, she was a fine nurse and found plenty of work. She stayed from 1907 to 1919. Nurse Heron arrived in 1919 and did nursing at the home the W. H. Donald. Other early registered nurses were Mrs. Buck who became Mrs. Dan McIvor and Miss Georgia Brady, sister to Mr. Brady who owned the hardware. She lived in a suite above the store. Jean Guthrie did nursing locally and Marjorie Naughton did some when at home.

Adapted from Trails Along the Pipestone, page 480.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Politician

M.L.A. Robert Mooney



ROBERT HENRY MOONEY was born at **Wingham**, Ontario, on August 10, 1873, the son of Alexander Mooney and Susan Orr. The following year he came to Manitoba with his family. They lived at **Katrimie** near Gladstone until 1883, when they came to the Woodnorth area.

Robert was educated at Virden. He taught school there for three years, and farmed. On April 4, 1901, he married Margaret Kirk, daughter of George Kirk of Kenora, Ontario. He served as a Councillor of the Rural Municipality of Pipestone from 1911 to 1922. He was active in the community on school, church, and recreation issues and was on the Pool elevator boards and other projects.

Robert Mooney was first elected to the Manitoba assembly in the 1922 provincial election for the constituency of Virden. Running as a candidate of the United Farmers of Manitoba, he defeated Liberal incumbent George Clingan by 677 votes. The United Farmers of Manitoba won the election, and governed as the Progressive Party; Mooney was returned by acclamation under this label in the 1927 election.

The Progressives and Liberals merged prior to the 1932 provincial election. Again running as a candidate of the governing coalition, Mooney defeated Conservative candidate G.H. Heenan by 432 votes in this election. In the 1936 election, he defeated Conservative O.S. Ross by 205 votes. Mooney was returned by acclamation in the 1941 and 1949 elections, and defeated a candidate of the CCF in 1945.

*Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 743 and *Memorable Manitobans* / The Manitoba Historical Society.*

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Municipal Administration

William Wilkins

WILLIAM EDWARD WILKINS was born in 1868 at Nethercote Farm, Bourton-on-the Water, in the English Cotswolds. He was the second son of his parents, and was under six years of age when his father died. The four little boys and their mother stayed on in their big stone house until the boys were able to take care of themselves. In his teens, Will became a school teacher, and was assistant principal of a boys' school in Bourton when he met his wife, the former Beatrice Rose Powell, who was principal of a school in nearby Clapton.

Will preferred the outdoor life, and eventually realized his dream of immigrating to Canada to farm. He came to the area in 1890, where he worked for Mr. William Lothian for the first year before taking his homestead, one and one half miles northwest of Reston.

In 1894 his fiancée Beatrice, arrived in Canada, and they were married in Virden on June 13. They began their married life in a tiny wood frame house on the homestead.

Will was one of the founders of the Reston Baptist Church, and served as a deacon for years. He was also a soloist and member of the choir. The sons and daughters often recalled the interest their parents took in the religious side of their upbringing. Will played the organ, and the young children had frequent sessions of hymn-singing and Scripture reading. His devoutness went

back to boyhood days when his chums had called him "The Rector."

In 1918, while harnessing a horse, it reared and fell on him and broke one of his legs. The fracture wasn't discovered at first and the result was a crooked leg. This accident precluded his full participation in farming activities, and he and Beatrice moved into Reston in the fall of 1922. Will was already working as assistant to the secretary-treasurer of the Municipality of Pipestone, the office being located in Reston. He remained in the capacity until 1933, when he was appointed secretary-treasurer. He retained this position until 1945, when he resigned because of ill health at age seventy-six. The municipal auditor called him an able and painstaking secretary-treasurer, and, at the time of his funeral in April 1949, a former councillor paid tribute to a man "who was recognized as one of the most efficient secretaries in province."

He had also served on the Reston School Board from 1903 until 1933.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 608

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Politician

Senator Robert Forke



BORN AT GORDON, BERWICKSHIRE, Scotland on 2 June 1860, son of George Forke and Isabella Lothian, Robert Forke was educated at Westruther Public School. He came to Manitoba in 1882.

Mr. Forke walked from **Brandon** to Pipestone to take up his homestead on Section 30-7-26. He was one of the early trustees of Lanark School, and he served as Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Pipestone, and as President of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities from 1911 to 1912.

On 8 December 1892, he married Elma Christie MacGregor.

During World War One he was a member of the Manitoba Public Welfare Committee from 1917 to 1919 and of the Returned Soldiers Committee from 1915 to 1918. He was a member of the Manitoba Tax Commission from 1920 to 1922.

He was very active in all farm movements – United Farmers, United Grain Growers, Good Roads Association, and was elected to the Federal Parliament December 6, 1922 by the Progressive Party representing **Brandon** Constituency. Robert **Forke** became leader of the party in 1923.

He was appointed Minister of Immigration and Colonization in the Liberal government of Mackenzie King, from 1926 to 1929. He was appointed to the Canadian Senate in 1929. He died in Winnipeg on 2 February 1934.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 364.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Services

Lawyer A.K Cates

The first lawyer to open up an office in Reston was a Mr. McMillan but he did not stay long. His office was in the Berry Block just north of the Manitoba Hardware. The lawyer who lived out his life in the town was A. K. Cates. He was a public spirited citizen and took part in all community activities. When he graduated from law school, he enlisted in the Boer War in Africa but he never saw active service as peace was declared just as his boat touched land. Soon after 1900, he came to Reston and entered into partnership with I.W. Guthrie. This did not last long and in 1908 he opened up his own office in a building which records say was "opposite" Dr. Chapman's house where the Bank now is. In 1918, he moved temporarily to another site on Main Street and began fixing up the block near the southeast end of Main where the Co-op hardware was later built. This block, after he purchased it, became known as the Cates Block and remained in his hands until his death in 1946.

Lawyer H. W. Forrest of Souris who took over the practice takes up the story. "I came out of the services in the fall of 1945 and joined my father's firm in Souris. Mr. Cates died in December, 1945, and Mrs. Cates telephoned and requested assistance, pending sale of the Reston practice. I therefore commenced going to Reston once a week on a temporary basis. Mrs. Cates had difficulty finding a buyer for the practice and eventually, I purchased it.

Practice was carried on in what was known as the Cates Block and subsequently we purchased the building and later sold it to Square Deal Co-op, who demolished the building to make way for its current building. We are still using the original equipment from the Cates building including the safe and the antique furniture. Most of this equipment would date around the turn of the century. If in its original surroundings, it would probably be typical of a law office of that period.

I particularly remember, that for the first few years after 1945, I had no car and went to Reston each morning on the Reston Wolseley and returned on Tuesday afternoon on the same train. The Reston Wolseley was heated by a coal and wood stove and early in the morning in winter weather, it was far from comfortable. The trips to Reston were always interesting and I became quite fond of them. Subsequent trips by car were much more comfortable however."

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 482.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Arts and Literature

Historian Ellen Guthrie Bulloch

ELLEN GUTHRIE was born in Lanark County Ontario in 1887. She came to the Reston area in 1884 with her parents, Mr and Mrs. W. R. Guthrie, who were pioneers the Lanark district. She married Thomas A. Bulloch. in 1910. At first they resided on N 27-7-27, then moved in to the town of Reston in 1911.

In 1929 Ellen wrote the booklet *Pioneers of the Pipestone*. This had been a project of the Women's Institute to raise funds for the up-keep and beautification of the Reston Cemetery. All proceeds from the sale of these booklets have gone towards that worthy cause.

The booklet has been recently republished, and in 2012 is a valuable record of the life and times of the early settlers as told by a reliable and observant witness to the events.

In the preface to the booklet (see opposite) Mrs. Bulloch thanks her sources, which include a good representative sample of the people who “Made the R.M. of Pipestone.”

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 499, 528.

Pioneers of the Pipestone

PREFACE

In gathering together the local history contained in these pages much generous and kindly help has been received from many sources, and to name all those from whom it came would not be possible, but special thanks are due to Mr. William Lothian, Victoria, B. C.; Mrs. James Lothian, Mr. D. Morrison, the late George Campion, Mrs. John Mitchell and Mr. George Roe, of Pipestone; Mr. Thomas Baldwin, Mr. Joseph Skelton, Mr. Alex Wilson, Mr. Robert Bulloch, Senior, and Mr. Albert Smith, of Reston, and to Mr. E. Stevenson, of Sinclair. Many others have given help and to all my grateful thanks are tendered.

ELLEN GUTHRIE BULLOCH,
October 24th, 1929
Reston, Manitoba.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Entertainers

The Chautauqua



Chautauqua performers at Reston.

PERHAPS THE MOST SPECIAL and exciting days in Reston from about 1917 to the early 1930s were the six days in summer when the Chautauqua came to town. Children had trouble pronouncing the word but they knew it meant time out of school and a very special week of programs in the big tent usually set up close to the school. They did not know that the word Chautauqua originated with the town of Chautauqua on Lake Chautauqua, in New York State. Muriel Elsie (nee Bulloch), a sister to Mrs. Doris Robinson, was an advance agent for Chautauqua and has written a description of what it was all about:

“Canadian Chautauqua had a summer and a fall circuit. The summer one was a six day series which took place in tents provided by the organization and the fall series was four days and was presented in local hall of theatres. For my Chautauqua work, I was known as an advance agent, arriving a few days prior to the start of the series, checking on ticket sales, and staying on through the series to act as mistress of ceremonies. The program consisted of music, lectures and plays, and brought entertainment to many towns that had no other entertainment except what was arranged locally. Reston was on the summer circuit, performances taking place in a big tent. All the actors, musicians, lecturers, etc., were professional and no local talent was used for the performance. On the six day circuit especially there was always a special afternoon program for children, featuring a clown, music, puppets, etc. In 1918, the Chautauqua took place in a lull between summer fallow and harvest time. The week was successful and people came from Waskada, Tilston, Ewart, Ebor, Elkhorn and Virden.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 432.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Municipal Administration

Arthur P. Power



A .P. POWER was born in **Bangor**, Wales. The family later moved to Liverpool, where he completed his education and began his employment in the shipping industry which took him to the far East, India and Singapore. Because of failing health he returned to England and with his brother John came to Canada in 1882. They came west as far as railway steel had been laid (about Oak Lake) and set off across country with oxen.

The time and place of his marriage to Ada Mary **Stacey** is at the moment unknown, but their first and only child was **born** in the sod shanty on the homestead on August 24. Later they **constructed** a large two-storey home faced with cement blocks poured and cured on the farm.

A.P. became Secretary-Treasurer of the Rural Municipality of **Pipestone** when it was organized in 1884. When the position, which included management of the Municipal Telephone System required more time, he **built** a house in **Reston**. Shortly after moving his work to the newly completed Municipal building, he became ill and passed away March 26, 1919 – probably a victim of the great Influenza Epidemic that followed World War I.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 596.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Military Service

Colonel James Grant Rattray



BORN AT BANFFSHIRE, SCOTLAND on 15 January 1867, the son of Alexander Rattray, John immigrated to Canada, with his parents and settled near Pipestone where his father farmed and operated a blacksmith shop. John, after graduation from the Ottawa Normal School, came to Pipestone in 1890 where he was that community's first school teacher. He later operated a hardware business. He was land inspector for Canada Life Assurance Company for some years.

He served as Reeve of the Rural Municipality of Pipestone (1902-1904). He attended the 1905 founding meeting, in Brandon, of the Union of Manitoba Municipalities.

He was active in military affairs. He had joined the 19th Manitoba Dragoons and in 1910 raised the 20th Border Horse. He went overseas in 1914. He commanded the 10th Canadian Battalion staff at Witley and Bramshatt Camps during 1917 and 1918 and was Q.C. Seaford in 1919 until returning to Canada in September 1919, with the rank of Colonel. In January 1916, he was awarded the D.S.O. for distinguished service during World War One.

He was called to Ottawa to head the Soldier Settlement Board in 1927. He lived in Winnipeg from 1919-1927 and was a land Inspector with Osier Hammond and Nanton. He was also Chairman of the Veteran's Assistance Commission in 1937 and was in charge of the Conscientious Objectors camps during the Second World War. He died at Ottawa, Ontario on 23 June 1944, and was buried at Pipestone, Manitoba.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, page 385 and from *Pioneers of the Pipestone*, page 12.

We Made the R.M. of Pipestone Sports and Recreation

Curler Clyde Caldwell



ALEXANDER CLYDE CALDWELL was born in 1893 in the Hillview District at SW 6-8-27. He started school in the old original Hillview School. Later when the family moved to the Prairie Rose District they resided at SW 26-7-28 and he attended the Prairie Rose School.

In 1915, Clyde and his two brothers Charlie and Jack belonged to the famous Prairie Rose baseball team that played thirty-one games and only lost two.

In 1921 he married Sarah Alma McKinnon, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Gregor McKinnon, who had come to Manitoba from Bruce County, Ontario in 1882. In 1918 she came to the Hillview District where she taught school until she was married in 1921. Clyde and Alma started farming on SE 25-7-28 in the Prairie Rose School District.

The tribute written by the local editor of *The Reston Recorder* at the time of his death, November 25th, 1971 captures Clyde's character:

The Reston community has been fortunate in having a man of Clyde Caldwell's stature living his lifetime in the district, for he was a man who believed in the district and backed his belief with action. The Reston Community Hospital is an example of his devotion. He was chairman of the board during the difficult building period and also for many years after. Not only was he the chairman but it could be said that he was also the caretaker, for when work was needed, he was on the job, even to the extent of putting on and taking off the storm windows.

The Reston Community Rink too is another example of his concern for the betterment of the district. If all his hours of work were added up on this project they would indeed total a great many. And then there was such other things as serving as councillor, as a trustee, a director of the Pool Elevator and so on — without the thought of any reward.

In 1942 Clyde was elected councillor for Ward Two. His main ambition was to build an all-weather road, which has been nicknamed Hillview 52. In 1948 Clyde was appointed from the council as the official board member to the Virden and District Hospital Board, which was to include the building of a large hospital in Virden and two smaller ones in Reston and Elkhorn. Clyde was chairman of the Reston Hospital board for fourteen years.

All his life Clyde was interested in the rink and curling. The winter before his death he organized a Monday afternoon senior curling group, which became the Reston Senior Curling Club under the able leadership of Foster McDougall. The first event of the annual senior bonspiel has been given a trophy by the family in memory of Clyde. In 1971, June 8th, Clyde and Alma celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary.

Adapted from *Trails Along the Pipestone*, pages 399, 509.



Inside the curling rink in 1911.



Attendees at the Reston Bonspiel of 1909.

The Prairie Rose Baseball Team

Late comers to the community missed something for not having the opportunity of seeing this team in action. The curve that Bill Munro could pitch with his left hand could trick the most skilled batters. Each player just suited his position in the infield and outfield and played with precise co-operation. Jim Donald is of the opinion that the team could have matched favourably with the teams of the major leagues of that day. The team practised and played their home games on the diamond in the pasture of Mr. W. W. Hunter. The crowning year of the team was 1915 when they played 31 games and lost just 5.

In 1908 the players were: Pitcher W. Munro, Catcher W. McDougal, First Base N. Paul, Second Base S. J. Paul, Third Base K. Paul, Short Stop P. M. Munro, Right Field C. Caldwell, Left Field B. J. Caldwell, and Centre Field C. A. Caldwell.

The Prairie Rose Baseball Team in 1915.



Tennis in the Pipestone Area

There were private tennis clubs in Reston as early as 1920. Dr. Clark had a court on the lawn of his residence on Fifth Street South. This is now the grounds of the Howard and Jennie Dempsey residence. Lawyer A.K. Cates had a court opposite his home, now the Russell Manning residence on Main Street North. The nets and other fixtures were only removed after Mr. Cates died and the grounds became Manning property. Tennis courts were in the original plan when the Memorial Park was started in 1921. They were levelled and made ready by the next year with the grass surfacing being done by tennis club volunteers. In 1938, the courts were surfaced with clay from the nearby dugout and they were fenced with a wire netting eight feet high. Steel posts were constructed from old boiler flues. The work was overseen by I. McMurchy and A. D. Anderson of the parks board and paid for by the tennis club. It functioned for a number of years and then interest died out and the tennis club disbanded.

The Push-mobile Races

In the late twenties, the sporting event of the year was the push-mobile derby held on Main Street in late summer. Youngsters lined up to race in their home constructed soap box push cars. Fathers were there to cheer for most of them had a big hand in the construction of the little vehicles. The little wagons were covered with every imaginable type of front from radiator shaped to stream lined circular models. There was a seat for the young driver, a steering wheel, and something for the pusher, who ran behind, to hang onto comfortably. Few events stirred the youngsters of Reston as much as these races. They also put the town on the map for a few days and pictures of at least the May, 1929 race appeared in the Winnipeg Free Press. That year there were thirteen entries but numbers seemed to have no significance to the enthusiastic young people or the officials. That year, 450 spectators lined Main Street to watch the race. Main Street was gravel then so it was not the easy pushing that it would be today.



Sinclair tennis courts, 1909.

Parting thoughts

One of the pleasant things about small town life is that everyone, whether rich or poor, liked or disliked, has some kind of a role and place in the community. I never felt that living in a city – as I once did for a couple of years.

— Edward Abbey

History overflows time. Nothing is ever lost, and we are compacted together forever, even by our failures, our regrets, and our longings.

— Wendell Berry