

Occasionally someone who had been imbibing too much would get angry over some fancied slight. He was always hustled outside to cool off. One humorous incident occurred when two men tried to call off the same square dance at the same time. The real caller got a bit annoyed but the matter was resolved peacefully.

Credit should be given to the Earl Grey Chapter of the I.O.D.E. in Brandon who have for many years sent books, toys, candy, and clothing and latterly, money to help the Christmas fund every year.

A list of all the teachers is not available, but besides the ones previously mentioned these names come to mind: Gertie Eggertsson, Jean Tweed, Kay Smith, Margaret Main, Margaret Lambertsen, Walter Dziadow, Georgina Seymour and Rosa Johnson. There were many others.

The present staff consists of Cecil Desjarlais, Esther Johnson, Beverley Johnson, and kindergarten aid Gladys Pelletier.

Dog Creek School is part of Lakeshore School Division at present. For a few years it was under an official trustee but before that had a local school board. Barney Eggertsson may have been secretary-treasurer from the time the school began until he resigned in 1956. Certainly he spent many years in this demanding and responsible position, receiving twenty-five dollars per year for his expenses and work. Albert Seal became secretary-treasurer in 1956.

Dog Creek School is sometimes incorrectly called Vogar School. The name "Dog Creek" is historic, and at one time the post office was also under that name. When it was changed to Vogar, the school retained the old name of Dog Creek.

The name is explained by the following rather gruesome story. It seems a white man had incurred the anger of some Indians who pursued the "dog" as they called him, along a creek, (Dog Creek), around a small lake, (Dog Lake), until they caught and hung him at Dog-Hung Bay.

Dog Creek School is the only rural school now remaining in this area. Though it has changed greatly since its early days, it remains an important centre of the district.

The Vogar Métis Settlement

by E. Seal

The Métis settlement at Vogar, consisting of about one hundred and twenty-five people is of interest and historical importance. Métis are of mixed Indian and European descent, the original Métis being children of Indian women and white fur traders. Names such as Desjarlais, Chartrand and Pelletier indicate French ancestry. Monkman and Spence being Scottish.

As with many Métis settlements, Vogar grew on the fringes of an Indian Reserve and a strong social bond and much intermarriage exists between the Métis village and nearby Lake Manitoba Indian Reserve.

The earliest settlers at Dog Creek, as Vogar was then called, seem to have been William Monkman, Joe Pelletier, Joe Bone, Andrew Spence and their families.

Gradually other families moved in, squatting where they wished on government land, building log houses, having travelled in wagons over trails through the bush from Oak Point, Lundar, St. Laurent and other areas.

They lived mainly off the land: hunting, fishing, trapping, cutting wood, growing their own vegetables and working seasonally for farmers in the district.

Later the Provincial Government divided the land occupied by the Métis settlement into two acre lots on which people were allowed to build and live for a small yearly fee.

From the descendants of these early settlers and other sources the following stories have been pieced together. As the information was acquired solely by hearsay, there are sure to be inaccuracies, misinformation and many omissions which are to be regretted. Even so, it forms a unique page in the history of the Interlake area.

Excerpts from Tales of Early Manitoba

by E. Seal

An excerpt from *Tales of Early Manitoba* by Edith Paterson, may or may not have any connection with the Vogar Monkmans. It says, "In conjunction with his large family of sons, Joseph Monkman, usually referred to as Old Joe Monkman, established a salt-making plant on the north-west shores of Lake Winnipegosis and operated it successfully for many years."

It goes on to describe how the brine, flowing from springs or wells dug on low wet flats, was poured into flat sheet-iron pans which were heated on flat stone fireplaces until the water evaporated, leaving sparkling white crystals. The finished product was packed in bags or in "rogans", a form of birch bark barrel made by the Indians. A bushel rogan of salt sold for around \$1.25. No date is given for this early industry which provided a "boon for the pioneers".



Fishermen on Ghost Island, 1929 or 30. Left to right: Ingvar Sveistrup, Bill Seal, J. S. Johnson, Ole Larson Sr., Eiki Johnson, Ole Larson Jr.

Sketches from the Interlake The Dog Creek Indian Reservation No. 46

by Oli Johnson

The Dog Creek Indian Reserve is the next community to the east of the Sigrunes Settlement, although the two are separated by a narrow stretch of water except for a mile and a half towards the north end. There it abuts the community along sections 3 and 10 in Township 23 — Range 9 W.

When the first Icelandic settlers arrived, one of the Indians, "Mannaman" George Bone, was living on the S.E. 1/4 of sec. 10. He had his buildings in an oak bluff close to the reserve boundary, but in on the quarter.