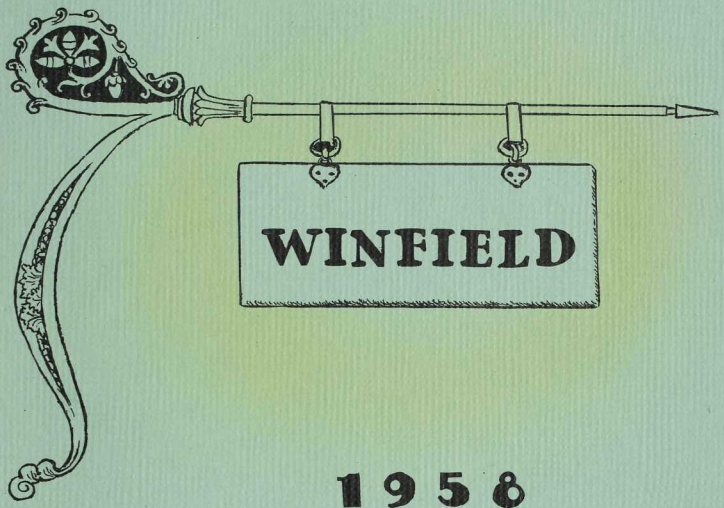
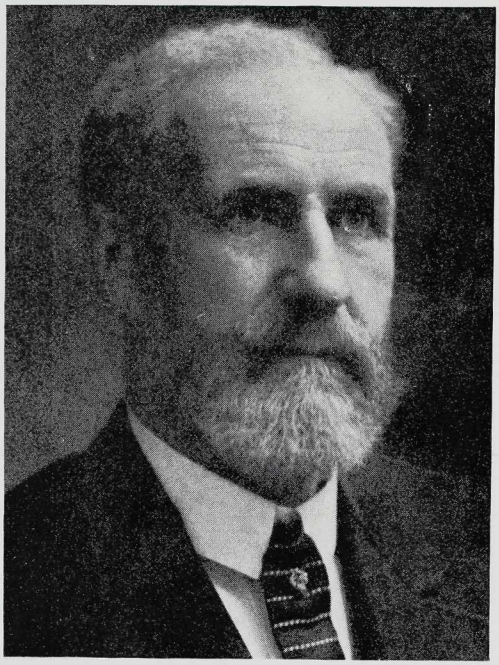


1958

EARLY DAYS of WINFIELD, B.C.

Compiled by
Mrs. W. R. POWLEY



Thomas Wood, J.P.

Early days of Winfield, B.C.

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Sponsored by

Winfield Women's Institute
for
British Columbia Centenary
1958

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Compiled by

Mrs. W. R. POWLEY

Winfield Nov 4/57

It has been the intention in this history of Winfield to mention all who lived in the district before the First Great War, and those who came shortly after, and to bring the story of their lives up to 1957. If any have been omitted it is unintentional, as human memory is frail.

The following history of the early days of Winfield is the B.C. Centennial project of the Winfield Women's Institute. We must acknowledge, gratefully, that all the compiling and writing has been done by one member, Mrs. W. R. Powley, who also has designed the cover.

Mrs. Powley has always taken a very active interest in her community since she came in 1912. She is a charter member of the Winfield Women's Institute. Recently, to show our respect and affection, she was made a Life Member of our organization.

Winfield, British Columbia

For time out of mind the district now known as "Winfield" was called by the Indians who were then its only inhabitants, "K'Lakokum" meaning "the open flat", and "Wood's Lake" was called "Pelme-wash".

Winfield is that part of the Okanagan Valley midway between the cities of Kelowna and Vernon, roughly four to five miles in length. The boundary on the north is about three-quarters of a mile north of the south end of Wood's Lake, and it is bounded on the south by Duck Lake or "Schoocum Lake" in past history. On the east is the rangeland of the hills, including Fir Valley and extending to Beaver Lake (the source of irrigation for the district) and the adjacent chain of lakes. The western boundary is the crest of the hills dividing the brow of Okanagan Lake and that occupied by Wood's and Duck Lakes.

The western portion of the Winfield district, which is mostly bench land, is almost entirely in orchards, the bottom land in mixed farming and some orchards, and the eastern ranges in cattle grazing.

Above the benches, in the timber land, is a chain of 15 beautiful mountain lakes, comprising the Beaver Lake group. The best known lakes in Beaver lake vicinity are Crooked Lake, Deer Lake, Island Lake and Dee Lake.

Some of the lakes have no outlet, which necessitates their having to be stocked for fly fishing purposes. The Kelowna Rod and Gun Club carry on this work of stocking with outstanding success, and some of the best fly fishing in the Northwest is to be had in these lakes—full of the finest fighting trout.

Fishermen come regularly from points in the U.S.A. and return just as regularly with their limit. There are two camps for fishermen or others with cabins and boats.

There is also good fishing in Wood's Lake—trout, whitefish and kokanees.

For hunters, there is game both big and small—pheasants, grouse, partridge, duck, and in the hills deer and black and brown bear.

Winfield at the present time has a population of about 1,550 fruit growing, dairying and vegetable growing being carried on extensively. Two Packing houses are in operation—the Woodsdale plant of the Vernon Fruit Union at the south end of Wood's Lake, built in 1936, and the Winfield plant of the Vernon Fruit Union in the central part of the district, built in 1948 and one of the largest and most up-to-date packing houses in the Valley.

Until the year 1920, the Winfield district was known rather

vaguely as "Wood's Lake". "Winfield" was chosen at a public meeting when a more definite name was desired for the district. A number of names were suggested and after several ballots were taken the final choice was between "Winfield" suggested by W. R. Powley and "Woodsdale" suggested by M. P. Williams, the final vote going to "Winfield". This was the name of the first ranch in the district—Winfield Lodge—owned by Thomas Wood, from whence also came the name "Wood's Lake".

INDIAN LIFE

(Excerpts from articles by Mr. Reginald Atkinson and Mr. W. Brent)

Before the coming of the white man, the fertile bottom land of Winfield was dense forest, with occasional oases of small natural meadows, while the present orchard benchlands were covered with pine trees, etc. Large herds of deer roamed the ranges and bunch grass was plentiful everywhere, and grew so tall and lush that anyone passing through left a trail of bent grass.

The lakes and creeks were abundantly stocked with fish, and there was a prolific supply of all kinds of wild fruits, herbs and roots, so that conditions were ideal for the earliest inhabitants—the Indians of the Salish tribe.

They were a nomadic race, following the seasonal berry and harvest, fish and game. As dwellings they used a lean-to made from saplings, chiefly evergreens or a moundlike dwelling covered with pile matting. Contrary to general belief, the teepee was not used by the Okanagan Indians. Their winter habitations were of a more permanent nature, situated on or near the banks of a creek or adjacent to a lake. In making these winter homes the Indians excavated a circle from three to five feet deep, over which a framework of pole was erected. This formed the roof and was covered with coarse pile matting with earth laid on top of this. The sole entrance was from the centre of the roof, which served also as a smoke exit or chimney. A single pole, notched in the manner of steps, served as a ladder.

Less than 200 years ago the Salish Indians were in the same primitive state as were our forbears, 2000 years ago in Western Europe!

Iron, bronze and pottery were unknown, clothes were made from skins, woven grasses and other fibres, and so far nothing has been discovered which would indicate the Indians were an agricultural race. There was no need for them to be when nature so

abundantly supplied their needs. Great resourcefulness was shown in their use of at least 34 different species of native flora for food, medicine, raiment and dyes.

Their tools, weapons and implements were made from both common and semi-precious stone, wood, horn and bone. From these very limited resources the Indians fashioned bows, arrows, awls, chisels, scrapers, pestles, mortars, hammers, fishing implements etc. Many of these found in the Okanagan are beautiful specimens of art and craftsmanship and prove the Indians to have been an industrious and artistic people, who explored the mountains, streams and valleys in their search for suitable material for a specific purpose.

Like the people of today the Indians took pleasure in self adornment and many relics have been found of beadwork, using quills etc. Necklaces, armbands and hanging ornaments had animals' teeth, shells and stones incorporated in their designs.

The men, and possibly the women also, appreciated the comfort of a pipe before the campfire, usually made from Steatite (soapstone) and for tobacco they used the leaves and inner bark of the kinickinick and the red willow (or dogwood).

The fine art of craftsmanship of the woven inner bark of trees died out with the preparation of raiment from hides and the coming of white men. It is not difficult to visualize how this was brought about. The Northwest Trading Co. (The Hudson's Bay Co.) at Keremeos, Hope and Kamloops would trade a musket for beaver or marten hides piled up to the height of the musket.

Every Indian saw to it that he earned a musket, and thus commenced the depletion of wildlife. It did not take long for the Indian to cast aside the beautiful stone implements, made with such care by the aid of other stone implements, to hunt in the easy way of the musket. It was this innovation more than any other which materially influenced the Indians' mode of living.

The Salish Indians were not idolators, they did not worship idols. Their religious tenets were simple. They believed in good and bad spirits and that it was necessary to propitiate both. Alexander Ross in his book "Adventures on the Oregon or Columbia Rivers" has this to say of the Okanagan Selish Indians.—"The men led an active life between fishing, hunting and making their implements etc., they were always busy. Nor were the women less busy, curing fish, drying meat and collecting roots and firewood; with their family and domestic affairs their whole time was occupied and indeed they may be said to have served in the double capacity of wife and slave labour."

The Indians had steam cleansing or purifying baths. They cut willows or small saplings and bent them over to hold a man stooping—one end pushed into the ground and then bent over, and the other end forced into the ground to hold it. This was all covered

with skins, blankets or bark to make it steamtight; stones were heated and placed inside the enclosed space. The Indians got water —(the baths were usually built in the bank near a stream or creek) crouched down, pulled a flap over the entrance, poured the water over the hot stones and had a good cleansing bath, producing a heavy perspiration. Then he jumped into the cold water of the stream to wash away all impurities.

When white men settled in this district and land was cultivated, a portion of land at the north end of Duck Lake to the present Beaver Lake road was set aside by the Government as Indian Reserve.

The first written record of a white man passing through this country was in the year 1811, although there is reason to believe that Spaniards visited this district at a much earlier date.

In 1811, David Thompson the explorer, was despatched from the Saskatchewan with orders to get to the Pacific before the Americans, and he arrived at the mouth of the Okanagan river in July 1811.

The trip made by David Stuart from Fort Okanagan to Kamloops in the autumn of 1812, on the occasion when Alexander Ross accompanied him to the forks of the Similkameen, was one of the most momentous events in the history of the province. It inaugurated that great line of communication from the Columbia river northward, through the Okanagan Valley and on to Stuart Lake and Peace River countries. In 1813 the Northwest Fur Co. took over the Northwest Brigade Co. and established communications between the Columbia and Fraser rivers, via Okanagan Valley and Kamloops, and all furs and merchandise were taken in and out this way.

David and Robert Stewart travelled down Okanagan Lake on their way north to trade with the Indians in the fall of the year 1826.

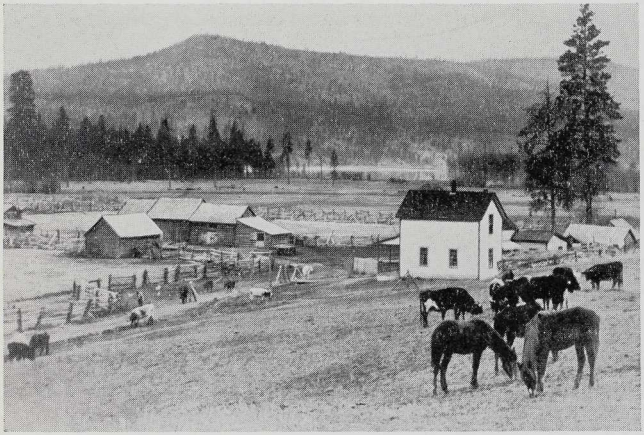
It was in 1858 that the first "wagon train" the Palmer and Miller expedition, went through the Okanagan Valley. A group of adventurers outfitted wagons and filled them with merchandise on the American side of the line and travelled the old Hudson Bay trail through to Kamloops. They made rafts and crossed Okanagan Lake somewhere in the Okanagan Mission or Kelowna area, following north on the east side of Duck Lake and supposedly following along Okanagan Lake on the east side and then the old Commonage road to Vernon. Also there was a Hudson Bay trail that came up through Winfield from the Similkameen on the way to Kamloops; this was in existence in 1860.

The trip was not easy in those far off days. If a hill was too steep to climb, teams had to be doubled up; if a steep decline was encountered ropes had to be attached to the wagons, with the ropes

being turned round nearby trees to act as brakes for the wagons. So difficult a task was it, in fact, that when the party reached Kamloops they abandoned the idea of travelling homewards in the same way and the wagon train disbanded. However, they had made a good profit and each of the 36 in the party was well satisfied.

In 1856 the Oblate Fathers—Father Pandosy and Father Richard, with Brother Surel, started their first mission in the Valley, and their first camp was at the south end of Duck Lake, then called Schoocum, meaning "shallow water". They were accompanied by Cyprian Lawrence who continued south and the following year staked the first preemption claim in the Kelowna district. The Fathers had only tents for habitation and the winter was an intensely cold one. Deep snows made it difficult and almost impossible to procure game. They suffered great hardships, eventually killing their pack horses for food, in addition to which they had only the bake moss and dried berries and roots which were the staple foods of the Indians.

In spite of their own privations they were indefatigable in administering to the Indians and one white squatter family on the "Postill" ranch, and in trying to teach them husbandry as well as Christianity. In the spring of 1866 the Fathers moved to Mission Creek and established a permanent mission. One of the buildings is still standing and one of Kelowna's streets is named in memory of Father Pandosy who was beloved of all who knew him.



T. Wood's Ranch, Wood's Lake, 1904
The Winfield Ranch

From 1860 a steady settlement of the Valley took place and among the first four cattle men who came in was Thomas Wood. He first had a cattle ranch with Connie (Cornelius) O'Keefe, north of Vernon but soon moved to the Pelmewash lake, now known as Wood's Lake, utilising the rangeland on the east side of the lake for grazing his herds of cattle. Thomas Wood was the son of a clergyman in Newfoundland. He built a log and whip-sawn lumber house and named his ranch "Winfield Lodge" from which this district has taken its name. Mr. Wood married a sister of Mr. Whelan, an early settler in the Ellison district and father of Mrs. Clement, Sr. of the Winfield store. There were three daughters of the Wood's family — Florence, May and Ruth.

Mr. Wood's ranching was chiefly in stock, but he planted a small orchard around the house and there are still a few trees remaining. A private telephone was constructed between the Wood's ranch and the Postill ranch, the first by many years, in the district.

The wild grass was so luscious that no provision was made for winter feed for cattle—they had to rustle; but in the very hard winter of 1892 when thousands of head of cattle died from starvation between Penticton and Kamloops, Thomas Wood saved a large proportion of his cattle by cutting brush of willow, pine and fir and strewing it round for feed. That year, when the ice of the lake broke up it was found to be three feet thick.

Tom Wood brought in the first plow and hay mower into the district, fetching them from Sicamous, where they were taken to pieces and brought the rest of the distance by pack horses.

At first no flour could be obtained and Tom Wood gathered the bunch grass, flailed it at home, and took the grain or seed, to Brent's grist mill on Mill Creek a few miles south and had it ground into flour.

WINFIELD LODGE (T. WOOD)

The Woods ranch house was demolished for the Canadian National right of way, in 1923 by Edmund Standing and part of the lumber was used by him in construction of the house at the corner of the "lower road" — diagonally across from the Roman Catholic church, formerly owned by Jack Sommerville and now by the Walker family. There are a few hand-hewn timbers still in splendid condition. Mr. Thomas Wood was the first Justice of the Peace.

The first directory of British Columbia was published in 1860, by E. Mallendale, but the 8th directory published in 1882 was the first to cover the Okanagan Valley. The names are given with Post Office address and one notes that of "Wood, Thomas, J.P., Stock Raiser, Winfield Lodge, Mission Post Office", showing that at that time Mr. Wood had to collect his mail at the Okanagan Mission Post Office.

In 1868, Fred Brent, a former United States Scout, bought the ranch later known as the Postill Ranch, for $300.

At this time there was an abandoned cabin made of whip sawn boards on the strip of land at the north end of Wood's Lake, known as the "Railroad". There seems to be no record of the owner of the cabin, or of how the lumber got there (quite a problem at that time), but Fred Brent carried the boards (either by making a raft and floating them down the lake, or more probably by packhorse along the range) to his new ranch at Schoocum or Duck Lake, and built a cabin for himself there, this giving him the first cabin with a sawn floor and roof. Two years later he sold to Mr. G. W. Simpson, a cattleman from Oregon and Mrs. Swalwell's father, who in turn sold again around 1872 to the three Postill brothers.

The Postill family came from Yorkshire, England, to Ontario and from there to British Columbia via Panama Isthmus in 1872 and bought the ranch at Duck Lake. There were three brothers—Alfred, William and Edward and they divided the ranch among themselves. William Postill took the north block extending from the north end of the Indian reserve to where the main pipeline built for the Maddock brothers now is, and which makes the orchards possible. William's father-in-law, Wm. Frank, then took up the adjoining benchland which included the present orchard land of Mr. Reg. Moody and Mr. Cecil Metcalfe. A few years late a nephew of Wm. Frank, named E. Panell, settled on land west of his uncle along and above the present highway, and had a stock ranch where later were the orchards of Mr. McDonagh, Mr. Arnold and others.

That Winfield was an important cattle country in the early days was evidenced by the fact that large corrals were early fixtures on the southwest corner of the Wood's ranch, and now part of the Koyama property east of the Roman Catholic church.

Livestock on Wood's Meadows

Here, first Harper and then Joe Graves, a noted stockman of the Nicola Valley, had their round-ups, taking out thousands of head of stock. Tom Stewart, who worked for Joe Graves, owner of the Douglas Lake Cattle Ranch, relates of him that in driving the cattle he had purchased in the Okanagan to his ranch in the Nicola, he had to cross the Salmon River bridge, and where the road climbs to the bench beyond the river he took possession of the cattle and paid the ranchers on a big stump on the hill—the cattle being at the Owners' risk until delivered at the stump.

There was also a sawmill a little east of the corrals, run by Charlie Brewer for two or three years. In this connection the sawmill was surrounded by stumps six feet or more in height, and on being queried as to why the timber was cut so high, the reply was that the snow that winter was six feet deep!

At this period the nearest store north for the few inhabitants of Winfield and district was at Kamloops, and to the south Mr. and Mrs. Eli Lequime's little store at Okanagan Mission which they started in the year 1864. Mrs. Lequime was the first white woman who came to live in the Valley.

The Lequimes walked from Rock Creek to Okanagan Mission in the late summer of 1861, packing their clothes and belongings on a horse, and the two children on a cow. Mr. Lequime prospered and soon became a successful stockman and trader. He had his

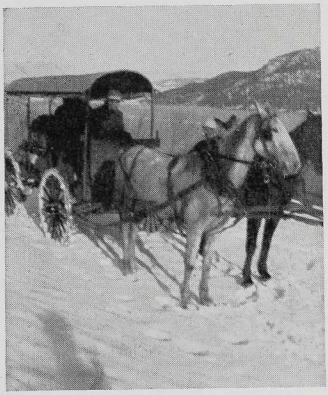
goods for the store packed in by horses and mules in summer over the Hope Trail. It was a hard trip and they only brought what was really necessary. The settler then could buy nothing but tin dishes, plates and cups—no saucers. Everything was tin and all cooking was done in open fireplaces. They used a Dutch oven, which was a big iron pot with a heavy lid. Everything—bread, meat and pies—was cooked in these pots, the method being to make a good fire in the fireplace when bread was set to rise and by the time it was ready to bake there would be a bed of hot ashes and coals. They would then dig a hole deep enough to set the pot in, cover it with more ashes and leave till baked.

After the wagon road was built in here, all kinds of things were brought in, including stoves and crockery dishes, and housekeeping became easier for the women.

Probably the two oldest buildings in Winfield now, are the two log buildings by the creek on the Wm. Postill property (now the orchard of Walter Middleton) presumably house and barn. The former is of hand hewn logs and is wonderfully well made and preserved. The barn is of rougher construction but both are still used for farm purposes.

A Post Office at Okanagan Mission was opened in 1872 and mails came from Kamloops to O'Keefe's, a few miles north of Vernon. From there they were taken to the Mission post office by a rancher of Swan Lake named Charles Lawson, on horseback. It was his custom to shout at the top of his voice as he passed ranches so that it would be known that the mail had gone through to the Mission, and it is also related of him that he always wore his best clothes when carrying the mail. When asked the reason for this he said that should he meet with an accident he "would be ashamed to be found in his old clothes whilst in charge of the Royal Mails". Following the Lawson saddle horse delivery, mail was driven from O'Keefe's to Mission by Alex MacDonnell of the B.X. district, coming over the east side of Wood's Lake down to the Flat by Tom Wood's; he then angled across the Flat by the east of the creek, and from there across the Indian Reserve to the west side of Duck Lake and on to the Mission.

Until 1875 the only road was the trail, which passed through the Wood's ranch and along the east side of the lake to the "Railroad", as Oyama was then called, and there crossed to the west side of Long Lake. But in 1875 a Government contract was let to James Layton, who then constructed the old stage road on the west side of Wood's Lake. Later, about 1910, this road was again changed and built along the beach of Wood's Lake.



Mail Stage, Vernon to Kelowna, 1907

With the advent of a stage road a mail stage was driven between Kelowna and Vernon. There was a halfway house north of the "Railroad" at the eleven mile post, where teams were changed and driver and passengers, if any, could obtain a meal. The through trip took one day, so that mails came on alternate days and was put in heavy bags and left at the various gates passed, payment for this service being made by private arrangement with the mail carrier.

Just before the advent of motor cars, W. R. Powley, with S. Hillyard, had arrived from the Prairie in 1904. S. Hillyard bought the George McCauley property and W. R. Powley bought the adjoining Howard property, thereby unwittingly inheriting the Halfway House. Later he wished to be relieved of it and the then driver Wm. Scott arranged with Valentine—a one-time partner of N. H. Caesar of Okanagan Centre, to build a stopping place at Winfield, at the top of the hill known as Robinson's hill, where there was a good spring to supply water. The horse stage changing shortly after to motor vehicle made a half way house unnecessary. Wm. Scott's first car was a brilliant red, a McLaughlin, with a cab in front and open box behind trimmed with brass rail.

Bob Hall was the first carrier, followed by Gideaon Thompson, Robert Munson, Walter Pritchard, Mike Healy and Wm. Scott. Walter Pritchard later farmed near Kamloops and the station "Pritchard" was named after him. Mike Healy, who had a livery barn in Vernon, had the mail contract following Pritchard. The first day he arrived at the then Halfway House (Powley's) very late, with a beautiful smile on his face, red rose in his buttonhole and a half empty jug under the driver's set. Not being in a condition to stand, but still able to drive, he declined to descend for his meal, there being no passengers, and with a fresh team he continued his way to Mission. Next day he was later still and the next did not come at all and that ended his contract!

Wm. Scott remained as mail carrier for many years until horse stage was changed to motor, and after—his "gaddup" to his horses was well known and could be heard for a considerable dis-

tance before he arrived. Mr. Scott was followed by Mr. Jack Wyatt, who is carrying on to date in the South End.

At that time (about 1875) there were a considerable number of Indians on the Reserve, but after this date they gradually left for other reserves until only the highly respected Chief Enoch, Mr. and Mrs. Dave MacDougall and family and Mr. and Mrs. Victor Boriot, remained.

There were two Indian Chiefs, one was Enoch, who lived at the Duck Lake Reserve, and the other Chief Pantherhead who lived at Westbank. He had two sisters, one married to G. W. Simpson, the well known pioneer and the man who brought the first cattle into the Valley from Oregon, and was the mother of Mrs. J. E. Swalwell of Winfield. The other sister of Pantherhead married a Frenchman named Boriot who had a cattle ranch near Kamloops. He went on a visit to France and whilst there was conscripted and killed in the Franco-Prussian war. His widow came back to live with her brother Chief Pantherhead and later married Chief Enoch and lived on the Duck Lake Reserve. Both Chief Pantherhead and Chief Enoch were highly respected by both the Indian and white settlers.

Boriot's son, Victor, married a daughter of G. W. Simpson (his first cousin) and they lived on the Duck Lake Reserve until Victor's death. Mrs. Victor Boriot lived on the Reserve until her death in 1955. A tale is told of a dance which Victor gave one time at his house on the Reserve and to which he invited some of the nearby whites, including "Cap" Clark of Fir Valley. He was a large, powerful man and Victor was not—some of the guests becoming too hilarious and objectionable, Victor went to "Cap" Clark and said to him—"You knock 'em down, I trow 'em out."

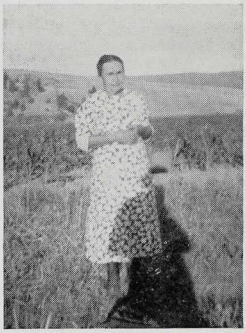
After his wife's death Chief Enoch moved to Penticton, where he died.

Mr. Dave MacDougall died in 1934 in Kelowna. Mrs. MacDougall was famous for her work with buckskins, in the making of gloves, coats, moccasins etc. Dave MacDougall was noted for his wide knowledge of the country and as a guide in locating irrigation water. Mrs. MacDougall was educated at a convent in eastern Canada, and was skilled in tanning buckskins and making them up.

One of the colorful figures of early days was Dr. Jones, a negro dentist who travelled the country with a horse and buggy. He had with him a machine for drilling teeth which looked like an old-fashioned spinning wheel and was worked with a foot "treadle".

In 1881, Wm. Pelissier Swalwell, a native of Bothwell, Ont., came into the district via the Hope Princeton Trail from Vancouver ,and a few years later bought Wm. Postill's land as a stock ranch. He was a cousin of the Postills. He married Eliza Jane Jones, widow of T. Jones of Ellison and daughter of G. W.

Simpson and sister of Mrs. Victor Boriot of the Indian Reserve. After farming in Winfield for a few years he sold his ranch to George Woollen and moved to Ellison; a few years later he bought back part of the land and came back to Winfield, where he again farmed for a number of years until illness forced a move to Kamloops for medical care and where he died in 1926.



Mrs. E. J. Swalwell

Mrs. Swalwell returned to the Winfield farm and lived there with her son, T. Jones until her death in 1945. Eliza Swalwell was born on the Captain Hauton Cattle ranch where Vernon now stands, in 1868. Her father, G. W. Simpson was then managing that ranch, but two years later in 1870, he bought the Postill Ranch and the family moved there. Mrs. Swalwell therefore, knew the district from her earliest days and her memoirs give a good idea of life as it was lived then. She writes:—"I remember this Valley in its wildest state, when not even a wagon road was here and everything had to be brought in on packhorses and mules. The nearest Trading post was Kamloops. The settlers took turn about trips to bring goods in until the wagon road was built. Then there was great rejoicing over the fact that things could be brought in by wagons. The pioneers made all their implements of wood—wagon wheels being made of sawed off blocks of wood with holes drilled in the middle. When a wheel split as it often did, all the farmer had to do was saw off another block from the log. In those days everybody had to learn to ride horseback as it was the only way to get anywhere. The first buggy to come here caused a great deal of excitement and I was grown and married then."

The Rev. James Turner, Methodist, was the first minister to hold church services in Winfield district. He was appointed in 1885 and so great were the distances between his preaching places that he was constantly in the saddle and obtained the name of "The Saddle-bags missionary". His district extended from Soda Creek to Osooyos and Keremeos and from Lillooet to Spallunchеen.

He moved to the Nelson district in 1887 and was succeeded by the well known Presbyterian minister Rev. J. A. Jaffray. Services were held in the ranch houses, usually the Wood's Ranch or the Postill, at first at very infrequent intervals, but as more ministers came into the field their districts became smaller, and naturally they could hold more frequent and regular services; even so they

covered long distances, often holding services in the morning in Vernon, at Winfield in the afternoon and at Benvoulin in the evening, covering the distance on horseback.

It also required courage and determination on the part of the members of the congregation to attend the services. An instance of this is the christening of Mr. Fred Munson of Benvoulin. For this occasion his parents, Mr. and Mrs. R. Munson, travelled from Benvoulin to the Postill ranch, this being the only service then, by means of heavy springless wagon and team, and arrived with the few weeks old baby in plenty of time for the 11 o'clock morning service.

An Italian named Carlo Balagno came from California in 1887 and settled on the land later owned by Mr. Griess and now by Mr. Gleddie, and shortly after sent to Italy for his wife. She made the long trip via Cape Horn, arriving at Victoria, B.C. They built a log house which afterwards burnt down, but for some years there were remains of other of their buildings and of the old log fence which enclosed a garden just east of the Dry Valley road (now Glenmore Road). They had a beautiful garden and also kept a quantity of chickens, both apparently, being unusual accomplishments in those days. His wife died after a few years and Balagno went back to California.

A contemporary of C. Balagno was A. B. Knox of Kelowna, who had rangeland over what became the Duck Lake Properties and on that property he had a house of the dugout type. In later years this was used for a time by John McClure.

In 1885 Mr. W. R. Megaw, who was one of the first to recognize the possibilities of the site of Vernon as the commercial centre for the development of Priest Valley, opened a general store there, soon followed by W. F. Cameron's and the first Hudson's Bay store.

About this time the first Government offices in the Valley were built on land which, until the arrival of W. R. Megaw, had been part of the cattle ranch of Frank Delory.

Trading with the Indians at first was largely by skins, a coyote skin fetched a plug of tobacco, a silver fox $1 worth of groceries or tobacco, etc. The Indians were very eager to own muskets and trades were made by beaver or marten skins laid on the floor and piled up to the height of the musket in exchange for the musket. The coming of stores comparatively close made life easier and added to the comfort of everyone. A trip to "town" from Winfield now became an event, although attended by a certain amount of hardship. It was a long weary drive in a springless wagon on a rough road, and it is not surprising that a refreshing drink or two with convivial companions at the journey's end was sometimes enjoyed by the men on the occasional outings. And so it was that wives, who might otherwise have been left at home to

take care of house and ranch, also got a trip to town, and proved their usefulness by driving the team home!

A most interesting influx of settlers to this district occurred in 1893, when Bruce Prather and wife, Jeremiah Clark, better known as "Cap" Clark, and family, and others trekked in over the long trail from Oregon, Idaho and Washington by covered wagon and team. Both the Prathers and the Clark family first took up land at Black Mountain and farmed there for a few years. Later Mr. and Mrs. Prather rented the Woollen house in Winfield (where now Mr. Bill Lodge is living) and Mr. and Mrs. Woollen moved to Armstrong. Still later the Prathers bought ten acres on the east side of the Flat by the Beaver Lake road and built a house, which property they sold in a few years to Mr. and Mrs. R. H. Wayne, who in turn sold to Mr. McCarthy and Mr. Arthur Day bought the adjoining ten acres. It is interesting to note that Dave Hill, well-known "cow boy" of Winfield, worked in the early days for Mr. Woollen.

In 1899, "Cap" Clark moved to Wood's Lake, as the district was then called, and took up a pre-emption in Fir Valley. About the same time John McClure and his wife drove in from "across the line" and settled on Busheries Flat, Rutland, but they too soon moved to Fir Valley, and pre-empted land south of and adjoining "Cap" Clark's.

About the year 1890 John Bailey and his family and William Lewis and his wife (sister of John Bailey) trekked in from the States, and took up land at Westbank, but they were unable to obtain irrigation water and after a hard struggle for some years they were obliged to give up their farms. John Bailey moved his family and settled in the Canyon by Wood's Creek, and soon after Wm. Lewis and his wife took up a pre-emption near to "Cap" Clark. There were now sufficient children to start a school, and one was built in 1899, near the junction of the Beaver Lake and Intake Roads, and was known as the Duck Lake School. The first teacher was Miss Effie Etheridge, who later taught at Rutland, and married Mr. Harold Newby of Kelowna. Both Mrs. J. Sommerville and her brother Archie, of Winfield, attended this school, also four McClure, five Bailey, four Simpson, and three MacDougall children. It is interesting to note that "Cap" Clark's eldest son, Archie, worked for Mr. Tom Wood as a boy, and that later he built the road to Beaver Lake which has been the mecca for fishermen ever since He also located the "White Elephant" mine on the west side of Okanagan Lake.

Mr. and Mrs. William Wilson came from Dumfriess, Scotland, where they had a stock and dairy farm, in 1898, and pre-empted and bought land on the southwest of Wood's Lake. They farmed here until 1908 when Mr. Wilson died as a result of getting his legs and feet frozen. Mrs. Wilson continued to live there for many years.

Early in 1902 Mr. Thomas Wood subdivided his ranch, and Mr N. H. Caesar, now of Okanagan Centre, bought the first lots, in the middle and east side of the "Flat"—Mr. Sidney Edwards bought several lots, and Mr. Jack Grady bought two lots.

Sale of the property was apparently very slow, for in 1903 an auction of the lots was held. It was about this time that Mr. M. P. Williams arrived in the district from Berkshire, England.

Mr. Williams purchased 1750 acres of bottom and range land at the southeast end of Wood's Lake, as a stock and sheep ranch In 1906 he built his house and barns, and brought Mr. and Mrs. W. Petrie from Scotland to assist him. Mr. Williams established the first dairy herd in the district, purchased at the Coast, and later discontinued this and had beef cattle and sheep. Mr. Archie Weighton was manager of the ranch for a number of years until Mr. Williams' death, when he purchased an orchard at Rutland, and he and Mrs. Weighton moved there Mr. Williams was quite prominent in the Farmers' Institute and in church work, and wrote verse. Shortly before his death in 1936, he sold a portion of his lakeside property to the Vernon Fruit Union, which in turn built the Woodsdale Packing House and Cold Storage Plant there, and Mr. Williams' house is now a boarding house and part of a camp for packing house employees. The ranch land was bought by Mr. George Reiswig, who came from the Peace River District.

Taking up land in the district at about this time, (1902-1906) were—Sidney Edwards, now stock farming in New Zealand; Jack Grady, who went to Pemberton Meadows; J. Pearce, A. C. Chatterton, M D. Major, J. Metcalfe, and coming into the district around 1907 or thereabouts were Wm. and Mrs. Petrie, George Mew, W. Robinson, Wm. Lodge, G. Parry, A. D. Monsees, J. W Fowler, H. Horsnell, F C. Baker, Gus MacDonnell, Ike Johnson, Scotty Campbell, Ohashi, and others.

Sidney Edwards was one of the most successful sheep and cattle men, and it was also through his efforts that a road was made making connection from where the Roman Catholic church now is to the south end of Woods Lake, it having previously been just a chopped out road by Johnston and Carswell for hauling logs in winter time. Mr. Edwards cleared a great portion of his property before farming it. He now has a successful sheep and stock ranch in New Zealand.

Wm. Lodge came to Winfield in 1907, and worked first for M. P. Williams and later for Sidney Edwards and others of the earlier period. He, with Archie Macmasters—who with his family had come to live in Fir Valley—built a considerable portion of the railway fence through Winfield. He also, among other projects, helped to build the irrigation flume in 1922. He was for many years school janitor, and worked at several construction jobs, including Clements' store. In 1910 Wm. Lodge's eldest brother, Charles, came from England and joined him at Winfield; he kept

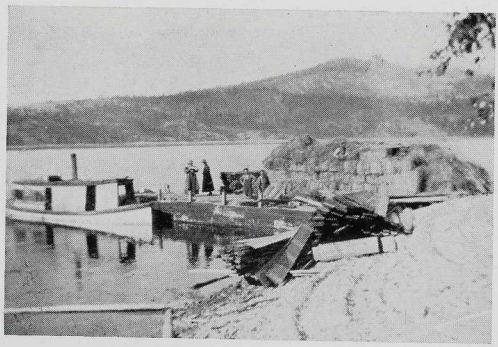
bees and later on was Postmaster at Alvaston Post Office. In 1913 a younger brother, Alf, and a sister, Nancy, now Mrs. Middleton of Chilliwack, also came from England to Winfield

A. Monsees and Sherman Jones had land on the Old Stage road, and with several of their neighbours grew quantities of strawberries commercially. In passing, A. Monsees was famed as a complete and efficient orchestra in himself, playing a number of musical instruments simultaneously, with hands, feet and mouth. Mrs. Sherman Jones was school trustee for some years until she died ,and Mrs. John Arnold succeeded her.

F. C. Baker came from Manitoba about 1906 He was the grandson of the first postmaster at Ottawa. He bought 20 acres north of the Roman Catholic church and cleared a good portion of it. He was a handy carpenter and helped in the construction of a good number of the houses in the district. He was joined in a few years by his brother, Jack, who had been in the Klondyke, and together they had a small mixed farm. Jack was also quite clever at blacksmithing for his neighbours, and also a good watch and clock repairer—besides cutting hair—mostly gratis! Later, a younger brother, Sydney, came. He was an electrician, and generally "handy with his hands". The three brothers were bachelors

The Wood's Range (of the Tom Wood's Property) to the east of Wood's Lake, was sold to the Wood's Lake Fruit Company, and is now part of the orchard lands of Oyama.

Prior to the winter of 1906-1907 the rich western portion of the bottom lands of Winfield were a virgin forest. In that year the well known logging contractors of Long Lake, Johnston and



The First Shipment of produce from the south end of Wood's Lake. The "Maud Allen," 1909.

Carswell, commenced operations, and for the next three years carried on the work, at first on the "Flat" and later on the Land Company's Property. The logs were drawn by team to Wood's Lake where they were boomed, and their boat, the "Maud Allan" towed them to the sawmill at the end of Long Lake, a canal having been made at the "Railroad" made this possible.

The logging camp was on the site of the present Powley house and bridge, which at that time was just a ford. Many axe heads and horseshoes are being dug up yet.

Upon completion of their logging operations in Winfield itself logging was commenced in Fir Valley, the logs being brought down over the range of Mr. M. P Williams to Wood's Lake by means of a log chute, part of which still remains.

During the logging and before, more settlers came and bought up available land, among the earlier ones are, E. J. McCarthy, E. C. Shanks, Yerbury Towgood, Dan (Donald) Clark, Avery Phillips, V. R. McDonagh, Tom (father of Mrs. McDonagh) and Jim Lidstone, three Baldwin brothers, W. R. Powley, and F. G. Hayward and others.

E. C. Shanks came from Scotland, and after a few years in Manitoba, came to Winfield. He was an orchardist, and for a period was secretary of the Co-Operative Packing house. He was for many years Secretary of the School Board until his death in 1935.

Mrs. Shanks came from Woodstock, Ont. and taught in the early days in the Winfield school and later acted as substitute teacher when the need arose. She was for years organist for the United Church, and was a very able and devoted President of the Women's Institute for a long period.

Dan Clark was born in Ontario, and came to Armstrong before the turn of the century. From there he went to the Coldstream Ranch, coming from there to Winfield about 1911, and bought a 10-acre lot, and built a neat log house. Mrs. Clark soon joined him and they were hosts to many of the early school teachers. Dan Clark worked on the irrigation for many years and probably knew more of the system than any other individual.

W. R. Powley was born near Orillia, Ont., homesteaded in Saskatchewan in 1899 ,and joined the Indian Treaty Commissioner to the Peace River. Returning from that came to the Okanagan in 1904, settled at Long Lake and later moved to Winfield in 1912 and bought uncleared land from George Woollen. He later went into dairying and brought the first herd of registered Guernsey cows into the Okanagan. W. R. Powley was chairman of the School Board for 26 years until integrated into the large school district 23. He was president of the Kelowna Creamery for 25

years until retirement, director and vice-president of B.C. Dairymen's Association and life member of the Farmers' Institute.

G. F. Hayward came from England about 1910. He first settled in Lumby, then in Oyama, coming to Winfield with the Powleys. He joined up in the First Great War, where he was wounded, coming back to Winfield after the war he bought a small farm from Sydney Edwards and here carried on dairying until his death in 1946. G. F. Hayward was accompanied by a nephew, Godfrey Clarke, who later became supervisor of Cow Testing in the Okanagan for the Agricultural Dept. and is now serving in that capacity in Victoria.

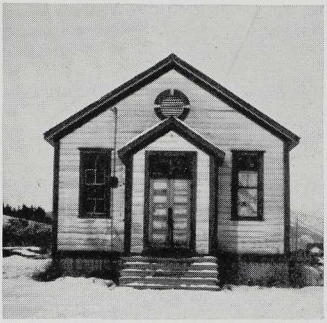
The lands comprising the Knox, Balagno and Panell properties, including part of the Wm. Postill bottom land and a portion of Okanagan Centre, were bought about 1908 by Maddock Brothers, cleared and subdivided for orchards. An irrigation system, the origin of the present water system was launched, and the knowledge and experience of John Bailey, of Fir Valley previously mentioned, was used in locating and developing the water system for irrigation purposes, and settlement and development of the land took place rapidly. The pipe was purchased from the Pacific Coast Pipe Co., and the manager, G. Perry, spent considerable time here in its installation. In connection with this, George Watt worked on the clearing of this land, and Rome Rice was blacksmith.

Orchards were planted by Jack Metcalfe, V. R. McDonagh, Jack Arnold, F. Brady, E. W. Newton, Sherman Jones, J. Mackeehan, A. D. Monsees, Max Major and the Duck Lake Orchards, including F. C. Brown, manager of Western Canadian Cordage Co., and others.

In 1909 too, Wm. Lennox, who then owned the block which later belonged to J. H. Aberdeen and the Shanks estate, planted the greater part of it, completing the work the following year. In 1910 all the orchards southeast of the Glenmore road, with one exception, were planted.

The year 1909 seems to have been a memorable date in the history of Winfield, for that year marked the opening of the rural mail delivery, R.R. 1, Vernon, this being one of the first routes opened after the passage of legislation relative to this by the Dominion Parliament. Prior to this, those who wanted mail delivered made private arrangment with the carrier and had their own canvas mail bag. In this year too, 1909, the first post office in the district was opened, being known as Alvaston, and the first postmaster was A. Chatterton, followed by H. Horsnell, and in 1916 by C. Lodge until it was closed in 1919. The postmaster had to meet the stage on the main road to get the mail bag.

There were now so many more settlers in the district that in 1909 it was felt that the Duck Lake School was unsuitable both as to size and locality so two schools were built, the first in Winfield and later on one in Fir Valley. The first meeting of the Wood's Lake School District (Winfield) was held at the home of James Pearcey in the summer of 1909. At this meeting a provisional board of trustees was elected, consisting of James Pearcey, Sherman Jones and J. W. Fowler. School was opened the following February in the small house owned by Dacres, and later by James Owen.



The first Winfield School, later the first Community Hall (with addition)

The first teacher was Mrs. Asher, whose daughter also afterwards taught at Winfield. Both the Simpsons, Harvey and Charles, Mrs. Avery Phillips, then Margaret Metcalfe, and Hazel, daughter of Tom Lidstone, attended this school. A new school, built on the site of the first Community Hall, was opened in the fall of 1910 and this school remained in use until 1921. In that year a committee consisting of M. P. Williams and W. R. Powley went to Victoria, and obtained from the Government a gift for the community of the land and building of the old school, and it was later enlarged and became the Community Hall. A new two-room school was built on the main road, a few hundred yards directly west and above it, to replace the old one, 1923. This school has twice been enlarged to its present capacity of six class rooms. In addition there is also a good two-room school for use of the Seventh Day Adventists.

Among later settlers, (not necessarily in correct order, and with apologies for any unintentional omissions) were: Job Richards, who worked for many years for the Okanagan Land Company, Mrs. Bradshaw, son Peter and two daughters, Charley Gunn, T. Brinkman, Richard Lloyd, now of California, L. Prior, Seon, Joe McDonald, who completed the construction of the canal at Oyama, 1910, and his son, Frank, one time manager of the Co-Operative Packing House for a short time, F. C. Dyke, John Coe and family, who came from England in 1919 and bought the property and orchard of J. Metcalfe. J. Seaton, member of a pioneer family of Peachland, who till recent years had considerable orchard acreage, but has consistently followed

logging contracting, and who for many years has been chairman of Winfield and Okanagan Centre Irrigation Co. (he married Miss E. Coe). L. Reading, L. W. Prowse, Ingram, E. Koyama, S. Holton, and the Duggan family — they started with dairying on the bottom land and continued it for a number of years until the family dispersed following Mrs. Duggan's death. Tom Duggan bought the orchard of W. Prowse, was manager of the Vernon Fruit Union Packing house at Oyama, also director of the Vernon Fruit Union, School Trustee for a period and has also taken a prominent part in the Farmers' Institute. Fred Duggan bought an orchard and planted grapes and other fruits, and now has a motel on the shore of Okanagan Lake; George Watt, James Owen, Wm. Read, who later became chief Fruit Inspector for B.C., Wm. Cresswell, now living in California, Ernie Orr, Stan. Edwards, Claggett, Munro, Hoffman, Vic Allan, Leslie, Tom Blakey, Wm. Cornish, Lancaster, Standing, Frank Williams, well known as an active church worker, and for his skill as a gardener, John Edmunds and family who came here from the Prairies, J. Stark, Charles Draper and family, Laing and family, George Pretty, G. Brodie, the Johnson Brothers, Jocelyn, Walmesly, Wm. Cook and family, W. Sadler, Shishido, M. Bolbecker, A. Smith, H. Mitchell, E. Lawley, R. Berry, Colin Coates, W. Keen, Offerdahls, father and son, the former surveyor for the construction of the Canadian National Railway section in this district, and the latter married a daughter of Job Richards, R. White, H. Bond, H. Scarrow, (the aforementioned were all orchardists), N. Hitchman, the Beasley family, son Alec engaged in extensive poultry after a few years dairying, Sam Tyndall for many years in dairying till present time, Lionel McCarthy, carrying on the dairy farm started by his father, E. J. McCarthy.

For the first few years after the orchards commenced bearing, the fruit was hauled by wagon to Kelowna, but with the rapid growth of both Winfield and Okanagan Centre a packing house closer at hand became a necessity, and one was started at the latter place, followed by one owned by Mr. J. Seaton at Winfield. This was later burnt down. In 1922 the Winfield Co-operative was built on the railroad grade before the steel was laid. For the first two or three years it was operated by the Kelowna Growers Exchange, under the supervision of Mr. Slater, followed by E. C. Maile, Frank McDonald and Tom Duggan—till absorbed by the Vernon Fruit Union in 1935. In 1928 the '.B.C. Orchards" built a packing house just north of the Winfield Co-operative. This was later taken over by Mr. J. Seaton in 1930, and run for awhile under the management of Mr. J. Coe. The Okanagan Land Co., finally took over control of this packing house, and use it more or less for storage.

For the hauling needs of the district since motor trucks came

into use, one of the first trucks in the district was owned by J. Coe, and driven by John Coe, Jr. who is now a prominent fruit grower of Penticton, and E. J. McCarthy, who had the first contract for hauling cream for the Kelowna Creamery, now, and for many years the contract being taken over by Fred Duggan. Others in trucking business were John Laing, Stan Duggan, Cecil Metcalfe, and Nelson Arnold, the only one to continue to date, under the firm name of Arnold and Son.

Another industry of the district is the making of cement blocks, by the Winfield Construction Company, and Mr. J. Arnold among other things, built many boats.

The pioneer merchant of the Winfield district was Franz Reiner, an Austrian by birth. The store was on the left hand corner of the "Gully" and the old stage road, and he used part of his house for a store from 1910 until his death in 1911. The business was carried on by his son-in-law Wm. Grant for a short time after. Then on what is now the main road a small general store was started by Wallace, on the diagonal corner to the school, and this was later run by Ernie Lawley. This store was burned down and a new one built by E. Lawley a little south and on the opposite side of the highway—now, enlarged and with post office addition, owned and operated by Les Clement. Since then there are several stores, operated by, Mrs. J. Arnold, Sapinsky, Matt's Hardware and Grocery, Al's Cafe, S. Kobayashi, Lake Shore Store, Samchenko, and in addition, four garages.

OSCEOLA

It is understood that "Osceola" was the Indian name for a townsite planned at the southwest end of Wood's Lake, by C. Harvey of Kelowna. Although a store was built there about 1907, it had been used very little until Bennett and Hamerton carried on a general business there 1909-1910. They quit in a short time, and the building remained empty for a few years, and was finally torn down.

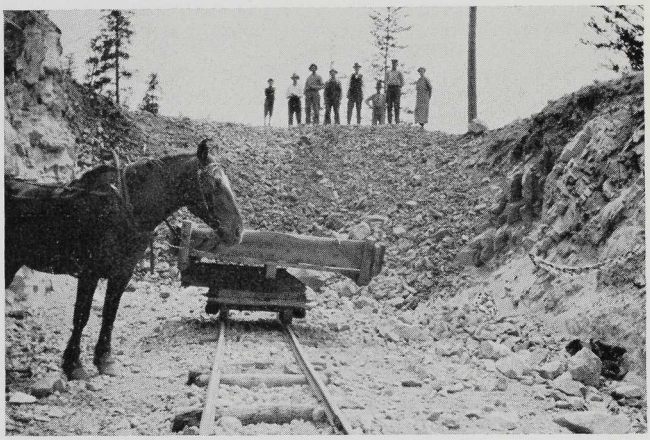
A veteran of the American Civil War, by name, Andrews, bought about 12 acres at Osceola, and on the lake shore. He came from Alaska, where among other things, he built the Government Federal building at Nome, he being a graduate architect and engineer of Yale University. He operated a small sawmill in a limited way, and lived in a small shack. His tastes were simple—he ate "anything", including mud hens, gophers, groundhogs, etc.—anything was "grist for the mill", and was known for his "bread" into which he put "everything", including saskatoons.

The first tea room and auto camp of the district was started at Osceola by Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Petrie, and called the Lake Shore Inn. There are now two more auto camps on the beach of Wood's Lake, The Spot and The Lodge, and another on the main road near Beaver Lake road.

LIBRARY

In 1937 Winfield became a branch of the Okanagan Regional Library, being located at first in Clement's General Store, with Mr. E. L. Clement in charge, but it soon outgrew the accommodation there and was moved to quarters in the school building, where it still plays a very useful and entertaining part in the district's activities.

RAILWAY



Building the Railway, Winfield

The completion of a railway from Vernon to Kelowna by the Canadian National Railway on September 11, 1925, was a very important step in the history of Winfield and the Valley. At first, a single diesel coach was used for passengers, and named "The Galloping Goose". This, however, soon proved inadequate and was succeeded by passenger trains of the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways.

ELECTRICITY

The great boon of electricity came to Winfield in 1935.

THE WINFIELD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Winfield Women's Institute was first organized in the summer of 1916, combining the Okanagan Centre and Wood's Lake districts, but as the number of members increased it became unwieldy, and in February 1921 it was divided into two distinct institutes, one the Okanagan Centre Institute and the other the Wood's Lake Institute. Later, in February 1926 the latter was again officially changed to the Winfield Women's Institute.

The Institute has been consistently fortunate in its presidents, and the aims and ideals of the Institute—"For Home and Country" have been fully maintained, to the benefit both of the women of the district themselves, and the welfare and advancement of the district and beyond. Outstanding in this work was Mrs. Avery Phillips—affectionately known as "Margaret" to all and sundry, and her nobility of character, and untiring and unselfish work to help wherever and in any way she could, in district, institute and church work will long be remembered, and be an inspiration to all who were fortunate to know her, and who mourned her early death.

In June 1956 the combined institutes of Okanagan Centre and Winfield celebrated their 40th "Birthday", it taking the form of a social afternoon and tea at Okanagan Centre, and which Mrs. Gummow, Superintendent of Institutes of British Columbia, attended, as well as a number of one time members.

THE FARMERS' INSTITUTE

The Farmers' Institute was formed in 1912, and included members from Okanagan Centre, Winfield and Oyama. Meetings were held in Mr. M. P. Williams house until he joined the forces in the First Great War. Then, until the Community Hall was available in 1923 meetings were held at the home of W. R. Powley. A library was formed for the use of members and their families, and many useful lectures were also given from time to time on various branches of agriculture. Mr. M. P. Williams represented District G on the Advisory Board at Victoria for several years.

Winfield can justifiably be proud of its efforts in both World Wars. The population at the time of the First World War was very small, but 21 men enlisted, of whom three paid the supreme sacrifice. The list follows:

V. G. Mortimer
Frank Mulroy
M. P. Williams
Harvey Simpson
Frank Hayward
Ray Sherman Jones
Bert Graham
Avery Phillips
Wm. Lodge
John Hussey
George Simpson
Stanley Clark.
Lieut. F. C. Brown
John Bailey
R. E. Shotten
Charles Simpson
Perry F. Jones
Capt. F. C. Dyke
David McDougall
Edward Jenkins
Alfred Lodge

Frank Mulroy, Bert Graham and Stanley Clark gave their lives.

In the Second World War, 46 men and three women joined the forces, and seven men paid the supreme sacrifice:

F/O Dick Coe	Margaret Smith
W/C Frank Powley, DFC, AFC	
Wilfred Reiswig	P/O Deryck Bond
Arthur Ziprick	Wilfred Brodie
Raymond Miller	Robert Miller
Fred Karan	Clarence Borie
Ted Crowder	George Finnigan
Bill Cook	Jim Clark
Leslie Cook	Joan Bond
Archie Cook	Cpl. Norman Hitchman
Percy Simpson	Verne Miller
Albert Simpson	Billy Steele
D'Arcy Gill	Leonard Bailey, M.M.
Ernest Simpson	Fyfe Sommerville
Ralph Berry	Cameron McClelland
Eldred Berry	Claud Clark
George Berry	Jimmy Sherritt
Hume Powley	Harry Beers
Rex Powley	Austin Beers
Jack Friesen	Stanley Jones
Murray Sherritt	Leslie Hart
Arthur Pollard	Walter Williams
Alan Elliot	Bob Coe
Marjorie Burns	Jack Crundall

Dick Coe, Frank Powley, Percy Simpson, Jack Friesen, Deryck Bond, Clarence Borie, and Verne Miller gave their lives.

CHURCHES

The Missionary services of travelling ministers of the Presbyterian and Methodist churches were held in private houses until the appointment of resident ministers, the first being Rev. F. A. Cassidy, Methodist, and the Rev. Colin Campbell-Brown, Presbyterian. Then, with the union of churches, called The United Church, services were held in the Community Hall, in 1923. The first annual meeting was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Petrie, those present being Miss Mary Owen, W. W. Robinson, Alex Campbell, Dan Clark, E. C. Shanks and J. W. Fowler. In 1926 Rev. J. A. Dow was minister in charge, followed by Rev. Young in 1930 till 1932, when Rev. J. C. King came from Enderby. In this year, 1932, the United Church building at Ellison was given to the Winfield district, taken down and moved to Winfield, where the congregation, men and women, combined to put it up again in its original form. Outstanding in this work was Mr. J. Arnold. The Rev. King was injured during the building of the church when he

fell whilst working, about 12 feet to the floor below and injured his arm and shoulder. Mr. King left in 1936, and was followed by Rev. Tench, and in 1941 by Rev. Wm. Petrie and by Rev. R. C. S. Crysdale in 1948. In 1949 the Winfield United Church burned to the ground, and has been replaced by a fine new church, with big basement for parochial purposes. The Rev. P. H. Mallet is now in charge of the parish, and there is a flourishing Sunday School, and a very efficient W.A. to help in the work.

The Anglican Church of St. Margaret's was built in 1931, up to which time services had been held in the first Community Hall, first by Rev. A. V. Despard of Oyama, followed by Rev. Humphrey Pearson, until his retirement due to ill health. He was succeeded by Rev. C. S. Wright, in 1937, and Rev. A. Lett in 1940, the present Rector being Rev. R. W. S. Brown. Later, in 1946, a Sunday School and parochial hall was added to the church, enlarged in 1952, and then a kitchen added to the hall in 1954.

St. Margaret's Anglican Guild was formed in 1930 and from this has sprung two auxiliary Guilds, The Evening Guild at Winfield, and the Okanagan Centre Guild, all three doing useful work for the welfare of the church and parish.

The Roman Catholic Church of St. Therese was built in Winfield in 1948, under the supervision of the Priests of Vernon, with Rev. Father Janssen taking charge of the new parish, followed later by Rev. F. Dunn, now in charge. The church was built by volunteer labour.

May, 1947. After being an organized group for one year, the Winfield group of Seventh Day Adventists met in the little church school to discuss the erection of a church building. After careful study it was decided to buy two ¾-acre lots from Mr. Howe, then the proprietor of the Woodsdale store. The Winfield Seventh Day Adventist Church was organized in August 1947, with 36 members at that time, but was not dedicated until Feb. 10,it 1951, when it was completely finished and out of debt—this being the rule of the Seventh Day Adventist denomination. The present District Leader and pastor is A. E. Hempel, Kelowna, B.C. Membership to date is 92.

THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH

In December 1945 the Free Methodist Society of Winfeld, B.C. was organized. Rev. C. P. Stewart of Kelowna held services in the old Winfield Hall each Sunday afternoon. Rev. J. H. Coxson of McLeod, Alberta, was the first resident pastor, taking up residence in the newly constructed parsonage in 1946. The Sunday services were still held in the Winfield Hall while a new church was being built, which was ready to occupy in September 1947. The present pastor is Rev. Schnell.

THE MISSIONARY METHODIST CHURCH

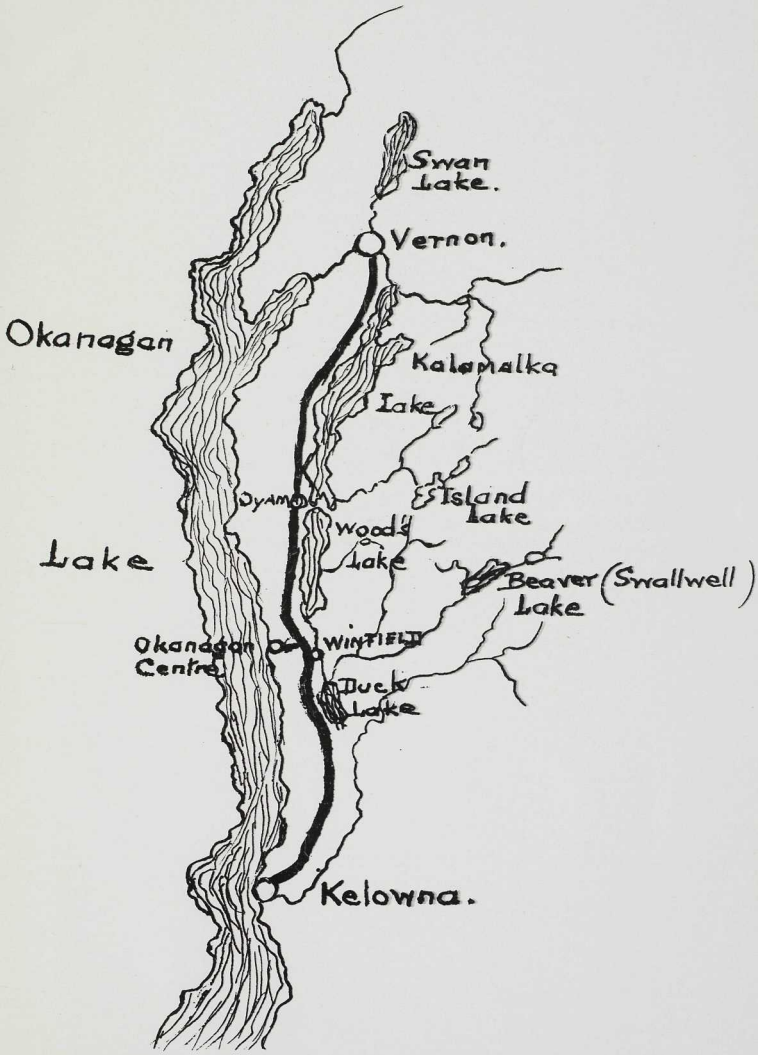
The Missionary Methodist Church was built entirely by voluntary labour, and took eight years to complete, the Rev. Don Taylor being the first pastor. There is a thriving Sunday School of 60 students and a branch of the Women's Missionary Society to assist in the work of the church. The present pastor is Rev. W. D. Annett.

There could be no more fitting conclusion to this little history with sincere apologies for omissions or errors, and thanks to anyone who helped in any way) than the following, of which all Winfield is very proud:

"Don Arnold and Wayne Pretty went east to St. Catharines to the Olympic Trials in July 1956. Don stroked a crew of four, to break the world record by 30 seconds, and the eight broke the record and qualified them both to enter the Olympic Games.

In November, 1956, the crews went to Melbourne, Australia, for the Olympics, and Don Arnold stroked his crew to be the winner in the Fours, thereby bringing Canada her first Gold Medal for Rowing. The Eights, of which Wayne Pretty was a member, brought Canada a Silver Medal by coming in second."

Don Arnold is younger son of Nelson and May Arnold, and grandson of Mr. and Mrs. John Arnold. Wayne Pretty is son of Mr. and Mrs. George Pretty, all of Winfield.


Swan Lake.
Vernon.
Okanagan
Kalamalka
Lake
Island Lake
Lake
Woods Lake
Beaver (Swallwell) Lake
Okanagan Centre
WINFIELD
Duck Lake
Kelowna.

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