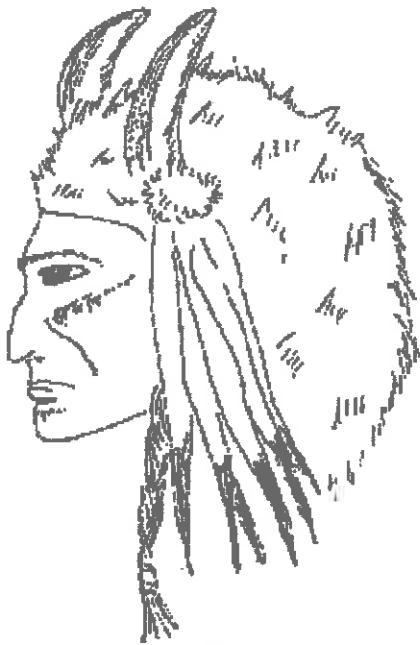


Medicine Hat and District Branch
Alberta Genealogical Society



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The purpose of the Saamis Seeker is to inform members of A.G.S. and Medicine Hat & District Branch affairs, to print material to further member's research, and to publish local resource and research materials.

Final authority regarding the acceptance of material rests with the editor. Neither the editor nor the Branch accept any responsibility for the opinions or errors on the part of the contributors.

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BOOK REVIEW

by Ruby Engler

"Remember Me As You Pass By" - Stories from Prairie graveyards written by Nancy Millar.

The writer has travelled throughout Alberta's graveyards. Medicine Hat has been mentioned several times. After reading an inscription on the gravestone, and wondering why the person died, she looks up historical records.

When the first wife dies, if there are children, the husband is usually buried with her. The second wife will be buried alone or cremated and she's put on her parents graves.

I took notice of Emily Murphy, who was active in women's rights, and was born in Cookstown, Ont. in 1868. My grandfather William James Dickson was born in 1863 in that area. I wonder if they knew each other.

This book tells so much about our Alberta history. All genealogists, I'm sure, will agree the author has written a fabulous book.

"Plains, Trains, and Wagon Wheels"

History book of Dunmore, Dauntless, Coleridge, Bullshead, Little Plume, Longfellow, Norton, Pashley, Rosebeg, Wisdom and Woolchester. These areas are south of Medicine Hat.

Stories about the people and their ancestors who came to settle the west and their hardships. In 1882 when the district of Alberta was created and land was offered for \$10.00 fee for 160 acres, more and more settlers came from Eastern Canada and the United States.

The European and Russian immigrants came with the arrival of the railroad in 1883 and thereafter. The immigrants left Halifax and journeyed by train to the land offices at Medicine Hat and Maple Creek.

In 1885 the N.W.M.P. had an outpost at Maple Creek and they enforced the law and custom regulations.

Schools of the districts are mentioned and interesting stories. Some wonderful colored pictures from pages 43 to 58.

Great book by author Grace Roth; who is a member of our Medicine Hat and District Branch Alberta Genealogical Society.

QUERIES

MCINTYRE, Daniel Robert / Robert Daniel b. 1846 ?, d. 1921 - m. Annie ?, d. before 1900. Family was from Breadalbane, Glengarry Co., ON - Children: - Hugh, last known to be living in Vancouver, married with 2 sons. - Angus, m. Minnie, had daughter Ursel and sons. - Duncan - Robert, m. Louise RICHARDS. - Albert b. 1879 ? - Malcolm, had sons Robert and Allen.

Anyone having information on this family, please contact: AGS#3449 Donald BENJAMIN 208 - 130A - 2nd Street N.E. Medicine Hat, AB T1A 5L2 or Medicine Hat and District Branch AGS, Box 971, Medicine Hat AB T1A 7G8.

HULL, LEROUX - Looking for the names HULL and LEROUX in Newfoundland. Thomas HULL married Louise LEROUX from Great Jervois. Samuel LEROUX married Susanna HULL also from Great Jervois, and Elizabeth LEROUX married John BRENNAN. Searching for any descendants of these families, or anyone searching in this area. Contact - Betty PADFIELD, Box 227, Dunmore, AB T0J 1A0 or contact: Medicine Hat and District Branch AGS, Box 971, Medicine Hat, AB T1A 7G8.

MAKING LINEN IN BESSARABIA

Submitted by Ferdinand Schwab

In the early nineteen hundreds our Bessarabian ancestors still made their own linen. This was a hard and tedious job. At first the farmer was only allowed to cultivate a certain percentage of his land. The rest was left for Community pasture. As the need arose, they got permission to break a small amount of this pasture. Probably only about one acre. On this new land they usually seeded flax. Flax had a good price. The straw was used for making linen. The flax grew to about two feet high.

When the flax was ripe, all the young women offered to help to pick it. They were looking forward to making their trousseau. When the day arrived the women were notified. Whoever helped got the flax straw for free. Every good handful was tied in a small bundle with its own straw. Each picker put her bundles in a pile. These little bundles were then made into a bigger bundle. These bundles were put into a shock. Each person kept track of how much they had picked. Then a day was appointed when all the pickers were notified to come and thresh the flax. The flax was beaten out of the bundles by flail or hitting it against a stone. After the seed had all been beaten out, each person got back the amount of straw that they had picked.

Now the straw had to be soaked in water for about eight or ten days. This was done by pounding a stake in a nearby stream. The straw was tied to this stake and weighted down with rocks to keep it covered with water. On a nice day the straw was retrieved and spread out in the sun to dry. The water had made the straw brittle. When the straw was reasonably dry it was moved again. This time as a rule it was spread out on the roof of a building to dry some more. The straw was left there until all the harvest was done. Then on an appointed day, the young people were notified to come for "breaking" straw.

A stand was made about three feet high. The top had two pieces of lumber with a space of about three inches wide. A third piece of lumber was fastened on one end with a bolt. One person laid the straw across this stand. Another would press the lever. This would break the course stems and leave the fine fibers. These fibers were then combed with a wire brush until no more stems were present. While they were working the young people would sing and make a party of it. Occasionally a drink of the new wine was passed around. When they were finished, they were served with baked goodies. Usually they had kuchen or plachindi.

These rough fibers were then ready to use for making sacks or ropes. For making linen there was more work involved. My mother gave the fibre a further combing with a fine wire comb. The end product was as clean as combing your own hair. Now the spinning wheel was set up. This too was often done, while visiting. The young women would meet in small groups. While they were spinning they would "gossip" or sing songs. They would gather in different houses. They worked quite late into the evening. There was always a light lunch before they went home.

When the spinning was done it came time to do the weaving. Not every household had a weaving machine. My Aunt Lena Zarbock, mother's sister had one. My mother being the oldest in the family, had to help her father. Aunt Lena was able to make some extra money by weaving. It would take too long to describe the procedure of weaving. Suffice it to say it was a slow and painstaking work. The usual size of the woven linen was about eighty centimeters wide and from six to eight meters long. The same procedure was performed many times. Ball after ball of linen was piled up. In the summer in July or August, the linen was spread out on the green grass. The cloth was sprayed with clear water. This dried fast in the summer heat. The spraying had to be repeated many times. This procedure bleached the linen to a perfect soft white cloth. Now the cloth was ready for various uses. Mother would make linen bed sheets, shirts for men and women, etc. Sacks were always in demand. Most of the grain was stored in sacks. Of course they did not have as much grain as a farmer has today.

STRAYS

SCHMITT - Samuel, d. 18 Feb 1991, Medicine Hat, AB, age 73, son of Reinhold and Wilhelmina (DEUTSCHER). Born at Lehr, North Dakota, USA. Married to Helene RUFF. Father of Deanna and Linda.

CULLEY - Ralph Victor, b. 8 Aug 1909, Forest, ON. d. 13 Feb 1991 Medicine Hat AB. Married Gladys FRULLING 1930. Father of John Donna and Frances.

HYLAND - Gladys Lavina Doris, b. 13 Dec. 1907 Stafford, Staffordshire, England to John and Mary MARTIN. d. 31 July 1991, Bow Island, AB. Married William Hyland 1947. Mother of Ron and Wilma.

YORK - Freda Inge Kristina, b. 31 Jan 1905 in Sweden, to Jonas and Martha ELDER. d. 23 July 1991 Medicine Hat AB. Married Keith York 1930. Mother of William, Stan, Marguerite, Kay and Patricia.

WALSH - James Patrick, b. 23 June 1904 Orillia, ON d. 12 Feb 1991 Medicine Hat, AB. Married Irene CAMERON. Father of Ken, Fred and Madaline.

LEMKE - Ewald "Ed", b. 6 Aug 1926 in Russia, son of Samuel and Martha (BUSS) Lemke d. 12 Feb 1991 Redcliff, AB. Married Evelyn Laura CLARKE 1952. Father of Sharleen, Heather, Cathy, Darrell, and Leonard.

EMANN - Meta, b. 27 Feb 1915 in Germany to Adolph and Pauline HAHN. d. 25 Feb 1991 Medicine Hat, AB Married Jacob Emann 1932. Mother of Leonard, Allen, Marvin and Merna.

CHRISTIANSON - Velma, d. 22 Mar 1991, Medicine Hat, AB, age 88, Born in Norway. Married John Christianson. Mother of Charlotte, Svien and Elvin.

MEDDINS - Martha Ellen, b. 23 Sept 1900, North Wales, to Richard and Elizabeth GETHIN. Married John Meddins 1919 North Wales. Mother of Ivor, Bert, Dennis, Dilys, Togwen, Gwen. and Trevor.

ROBBINS - Arnold David Garfield, b. 26 Aug 1929, Montague twp, Lanark Co. ON, son of Leon and Awrelia Robbins of Smith Falls, ON. d. 1 May 1990, Smith Falls, ON. Married Elsie FUNK. Father of Neil, Kelly, Gail and Donna.

MASCIUCH - Francis Mabel, b. 20 Sept 1916 Claremont, ON. Sister of Mildred, Lois, and Mercedes (nee) MANTLE, and Jack Mantle, all of ON. d. 12 Jan 1991, Medicine Hat, AB. Married Peter Masciuch. Mother of Larry HARDY.

SCHAFFER - Nick, b. 29 Aug 1912, in Dukial, Crimea, Russia to Philip and Elizabeth Schaffer, d. 26 Jan 1992 Medicine Hat, AB. Immigrated with his parents in 1925. Married Rose BOSCH 1939.

THACKER - Robert William, b. 29 Mar 1912, England, so of William and Florence Thacker, d. 23 Jan 1992, Medicine Hat, AB. Married Gert WYATT. Father of Jack, Barbara, and Patricia.

HOLMBERG - Eric, b. in Sweden, d. 25 Jan 1992. age 86. Medicine Hat, AB. Married Bertha CARLSON. Leaves one brother Thume BJERROFORS and one sister Brita RINGSTROM in Sweden.

HERN - Mary, b. at Hooker Oklahoma 83 yrs ago Married Halley Hern 1928, Leader, SK. d. 21 Jan 1992, Portland, Oregon.

LISTINGS FROM MEDICINE HAT PHONE BOOK 1907

- Adsit, W. N.
 Alberta Cafe - Restaurant
 Alberta Hotel - W.B. Marshall prop
 Alberta Land & Commission Co.
 Alberta Motor Co.
 Alberta Realty & Brokerage Co.
 Allen, J. R.
 American Hotel - Jas. Flemming prop.
 Assiniboia Music Co. - Store

 Babb, W. R.
 Bank of Commerce
 Becker, R. C.
 Beeton, O.
 Benson, Jno
 Beveridge, J. C.
 Beveridge, J.C. - Furniture
 Boyd, Dr. O.
 Boyd, Dr, O. Office
 Brougham, W.J. - General Store
 Brown, Fred. W. - Confectioner
 Binning, A. - Furnishings
 Burns, A.P.
 Burns, A.P - Office
 Burton, W.A.

 Canadian Pacific Ry - Station
 Carbert, J. A.
 Cawker, E.M. -Druggist
 City Stable - S.T. Fawcett prop
 Cochrane, L.B. & Son - Gen. Store
 Collins, Fred
 Cooper, H.C. - Livery
 Corbett & Co. - Barbers & Pool Room
 Cosmopolitan Hotel - T. Bassett prop.
 Cousins, W.
 Crawford, F.L.
 Crawford, W.
 Cross, W.M.

 Cypress Club

 Day, A.J.
 Day A.P.
 DesBrisay, A - General Store
 Dominion Express Co.
 Doty, W.H. - Confectionery Works
 Downey, M.M.
 Drinnan, J.K. - General Store
 Dunham, Mrs. H.B.
 Dunn, Robert - General Store

 Earl & Co. - Butchers
 Evans, W. Mac F.
 Evans, W. Mac F. - Store & Transfer

 Fatt, F.F
 Fewings, E.J - Office
 Fewings, E.J.
 Finlay & Co. - Lumber
 Fire Hall
 Foster, F. G.
 Foster, L.

 Gadsden & Lees - Real Estate
 Green, H.

 Hargrave, Dr. J. - Res. & Office
 Harlow, R.J.
 Harris, W. C.
 Hawk, Dr. W.R. - Veterinary Office
 Hawthorne, A. C.- Store
 Hawthorne, A.C.
 Hewett, J.J.
 Higdon, Mac - Pioneer Livery
 Hobson & Son - Ontario House
 Holt, Dr. T. - Dental Office
 Horner, J.H.
 Hospital
 Howson, Jno. E. - Wholesale Liquor

 Huckvale. W.
 Hunt, E.J.
 Hunt & Co. - Butchers
 Hutchinson, T. - Harness

 Ireland, Hy

 Kealy, O. W. - Barrister
 Kealy, O. W.
 Kennedy, Geo. R.
 Kerr, H.J - Livery

 Laird, Mrs, J.
 Lamond & Co. - Restaurant
 Lean, C. - Lumber
 LeBlanc, A.B. - General Store
 Leonard & Harris - General Store
 Lightbody, E. - Livery
 Long, Bob - General Store
 Luno, Chas

 Mais & Edwards - Livery
 Marshall, W.B.
 Marshall & Co. - General Store
 Masonic Hall
 Mayhew, Fred. H.
 McDonald, J. A.
 McKinnon, F. B. - Bakery & Store
 McLaren, Rev. A. E.
 McLellan, J.
 McVittie, A. W. - Surveyor, office
 McVittie, A. W.
 Medicine Hat Curling Rink
 Medicine Hat Land Co. - Office
 Medicine Hat Lumber & Manufacturing Co. Ltd.
 Medicine Hat Milling Co.
 Medicine Hat Trading Co.
 Merchants Bank
 Milligan, J.
 Milne, D.
 Mitchell, C.R. - Barrister

Mitchell, C. R.	Rae, Jas	Telegraph Office (C.P.R.)
Mitchell, Robert - Butcher	Rae, Jas. H.	"Times" (The)
Mitchell, Robert	Ready, T. V. Barber Shop & Pool	Transfer Co. - W. McF. Evans
Molson, J. D.	Room	Turpin, W
Moore & Moore - Furniture &	Reynolds & Stewart - Painters	Tweed, T
Undertaker	Revelstoke Saw Mill Co. - Lumber	
Morrow, H. - General Store	Yard	Union Bank
	Rhodes, T. H.	Union Restaurant - C. Ness, prop
"News" (The) - Office	Robertson, A - Confectioner	
Nicoll, Rev. W.	Robertson, A. - Bake Shop	Waldock, J.G.
Noble, Mrs. Geo.	Robertson, P.	Wales, S. S. - Butcher
	Royal Hotel - J. Brown, prop	Walton, R. E.
Paul, Jno - General Store		Wells, E. A.
Peard, J	Sackrider, M. C.	Wetmore, Geo. - Fruit &
Pingle, C. S. - Druggist	Schram, F. H.	Confectioner
Pingle, C. S.	Sissons, F. O.	Whiffin, A. E. - Store
Pingle, F. S. - Office	Smith, Dr. C. F. - Office	Whiffin, A. E.
Porter, E.R.D.	Smyth, Dr. C. E. - Office	White, D. G. - Barrister
Porter, W.E.	Souch, B. F. - Druggist & Optician	White, D. G.
Power House	Souch, B. F.	Williams, D.
Preston, Jas - Office	Spencer, J. H.	Williams, D. H.
	Starks, R. E.	Williams, W. T.
Quon, Koy - Restaurant	Steam Laundry - Green Bros., prop	Williamson, D. H. - Flour & Feed
	Stewart, Hy	Williamson, Wm
Rae, Jas - Hardware	Stewart & Tweed - General Store	Woodlands, Dr. G. - Office
		Woollen Mills

MORE ON THE MEDICINE HAT EARLY YEARS

submitted by Betty Padfield

Some facts taken from a book called EARLY HISTORY OF THE MEDICINE HAT COUNTRY by J. W. Morrow

First school held in Presbyterian Church 1888

First school building erected on Toronto Street 1889

First lumber company established 1884 by W. T. Finlay

First public bakery on 2nd Street run by Mr. M. Leonard

First water cart run by Fred Pope

First mail between Medicine Hat and Dunmore by Jack Clarke

First hotel run by the Casey Bros. on the river bank near the site of the present grand stand in the park

First brewery operated by Butler and Flynn

Earliest brick plant started by Ben McCord near the purmal brickyard.

Earliest doctors were Dr. Butcher, Dr. Cameron, and Dr. Shea.
 First drug store owned by Butcher and Haig
 Earliest storekeepers were Archibald and Kavanaugh.
 First blacksmith shop (other than the mounted police) was established by John Hay.
 First contractor in 1883 was Wm. Tom.
 One of the earliest pioneers was Mr. R. C. Porter.
 The first couple married in Medicine Hat were married by Rev. Bridgman.
 First white children born here were Baby Burrows, Baby W. Hawke, and Baby McCutcheon.
 First burial ground was down on the Flat by the Ogilvie Mills.
 First string team of twelve horses with freight was driven by Ezra Pearson.
 First baseball grounds and race track lay opposite the present CPR station.
 First hospital built in the North West Territories was in Medicine Hat in 1889.
 First matron of the hospital was Miss Reynolds (Mrs. Dr. Coulter)
 First doctor at the hospital was Dr. Oliver.
 First saddle and harness store was run by Thos. Hutchinson.
 First butcher store opened by H. Finn.
 First livery stable owned by Row and Haxton.
 First restaurant was run by Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Colter.
 First milk business was run by W. Bridgeman.
 First bank opened was the Merchants with Mr. Fewings as manager.

Some early residents of Medicine Hat were:

Jas. Hargrave, Robert Watson, George Connors, Robert McCutcheon, Bill Johnson, Sgt. J. H. G. Bray, Thos. Wilton, James F. Sanderson, W. Bridgeman, Jas. Fisher, Geo. McCuaig, W. C. McKay, E. D. Porter, Michael Leonard, Stan Hay, Bert Bassett, Thomas Tweed, Harry Ireland, W. Cousins, R. Rutherford, J. Hauck, John Ewart, H. Stewart, W. Finlay, W. Tom, Jas. Porter, Chas. Colter, Jas. Wilson.

This is just a few items of interest, much more information can be found in the above mentioned book.

SOME EARLY MINISTERS IN MEDICINE HAT CHURCHES

submitted by Betty Padfield

Memorial Salem United Church - formerly called Knox Presbyterian Church

1904 - 1910	Rev. A. E. McLaren
1910 - 1915	Rev. E. E. Hench
1915 - 1925	Rev. J. A. Claxton
1925 - 1929	Rev. Robt. McGowan
1929 - 1932	Rev. Joseph Lee

St. Barnabas Church

1884	Rev. W. E. Bolton
1884	Rev. J. P. Sargent
1884 - 1887	Rev. Hugh A. Tudor
1887 - 1890	Rev. Walter G. Lyon

1890 - 1891	Rev. G. Nelson Dobie
1891 - 1908	Rev. W. Nicolls
1909 - 1910	Rev. E. Cox Clarke
1910 - 1923	Rev. A. E. Davis

Westminster United Church - formerly Westminster Presbyterian Church

1914 - 1916	Rev. J. Watts
1916 - 1926	Rev. R. H. MacKinnon
1926 - 1928	Rev. Hugh McLeod

SOME GHOST TOWNS OF SOUTH EAST ALBERTA

submitted by Betty Padfield

1. Winnifred: originally known as whistle stop mile 31, designating its distance from Dunmore junction. It was named after a daughter of J. R. Whitlaw. Some early residents were; Savage, P. J. Demarco, William Hickmore, J.S. Fisher, F. W. Brown.
2. Whitla: located twenty miles south west of Medicine Hat and one mile north of highway 3. Named after J. R. Whitlaw a Winnipeg merchant. Settlers mostly from North Dakota; Sam Richardson, Alex and Chris Ashton.
3. Altarado: located three miles east and six miles south of the present town of Foremost. M. E. Lyons, James Sergent, Grady, Whitty, Dave Tariff, Dr. J.H. Duncan, Will Smith, J. P. O'Neil.
4. Nemiskam: east of Foremost, named after a Blackfoot word for "between two coulees". Carl Wek, Charlie Sutherland, Gerke.
5. Etizkom: nine miles east of Nemiskam. Named for a Blackfoot word for "valley". Post office at first called it Endon, then went back to calling it Etizkom. Bob Paul, Rice, Sewell, James Sergent, J. J. O'Neil.
6. Pakowki: the site of the present day Pakowki is reached by travelling six and a half miles east along highway 61 from Etizkom. Translated from Blackfoot meaning "bad water". Everston, Gilchrist, Dillenbecks, Potter, Smith.
7. Orion: eight miles from Manyberries, site of many Scandinavian settlers, Thompson, Charlie Robb, Charlie Long.

More information about these towns can be obtained from "GHOST TOWNS OF SOUTH EAST ALBERTA VOL. I", available at our local Medicine Hat and District Branch AGS library.

RIVER CROSSINGS (MEDICINE HAT 1883 - 1980)

submitted by Betty Padfield

- Ferry run by the N. W. M. Police in 1883 from Police Point.
- Wooden tressle bridge was built in 1883 for the CPR.
- Steel bridge was built in 1884, destroyed in a collision and rebuilt in 1912.
- Finlay Bridge opened in 1908 for traffic.
- Trans Canada Highway Bridge built in 1953.
- Maple Avenue Bridge built in 1974.
- Trans Canada Highway Bridge Twinning in 1980.

MEMBERS ANCESTRAL RESEARCH AREAS

Memory Myers	Box 154, Ralston, Alberta	T0J 2N0	AGS # 3149
MYERS, Clarence Morley, Benjamin Fredrick John William, William Franklin		Abbey, Sask; Langdon, Alta; Papinsville, Mo; Germany, Prussia	1995 - 1824
MAXWELL, Martha Ann, William Woothrow William, Nathaniel		Papinsville, Mo; Lockspring Mo; Chester Co. PA; Philadelphia PA; Ireland	1916 - 1741
KLINE, Sarah		Kansas; Langdon Alta; Lyons, Kansas	1943 - 1861
COONFER, Edith May, Aaron		Kansas; Langdon, Alta; Surrey BC	1962 - 1852
Rosina Braun	129 Burns Cres. NW, Medicine Hat, AB	T1A 6W2	AGS # 868
QUAST, Karl, Martin, Rosina		Alt Elft, Bessarabia	1900 - 1800
RUCH, Johann, Johann, Daniel, Gottlieb		Beresina, Bessarabia	1949 - 1760
LANG, Justina		Beresina, Bessarabia	1850 - 1800
GUST, Rosina		Arcic, Bessarabia	1860 - 1800
Ruby Engler	145 Burns Cres. NW, Medicine Hat, AB	T1A 6W2	AGS # 631
GRAHAM, Thomas J		Nicolston & Brampton, ON	1910
STANDING, John & Isabelle		Inglewood & Brampton, ON	1885
JOHNSTON, John & Sarah		Arthur, Luther twp; Kelso, Scotland	1862 +
GAMBLE, John & Jane		Arthur, Luther twp; Belfast, Ireland	1842 +
Debra Phillips	219 Fairchild St. SW, Medicine Hat, AB	T1A 7Z6	AGS # 3022
HUDSON, Margaret Ann, Robert, Henry		Renfrew Co. ON; England?; Scotland?	1925 -
HUTCHIN(GS), Ann, Joseph		Almnte, ON; Bkm, England	1800 -
HYATT, Jacob, Joseph		Ramsay twp, ON	Present - 1840
KEMP, Rebecca, Joseph		Ramsay twp, ON; Antrim, Ireland	1850 -
John L. Layton	Box 697, Medicine Hat, AB	T1A 7G6	AGS # 3227
LAPTHORN, William		Middlesex, England	1880's
LEWIS, Mary Ann		Middlesex, England	1880's
Helen M Young	72 Stratton Way SE, Medicine Hat, AB	T1B 3L4	AGS # 3225
ZISTERER, Mary (nee KOSTER/KASTER)		Brant twp, ON	1881 - 1949
KOSTER, Fred, Sophia (MONK), Rickie (LAWRENCE)			
KOSTER, John & ?		Neyberger, Merea, Germany	1837 - 1903
Adele M Johnson	218 Muir Cres. NW, Medicine Hat, AB	T1A 6W5	AGS # 1819
BALLENDEN, John, Harriet		Manitoba, Canada	1790 +
BARKER, William, James, Elizabeth		Barwick-in-Elmet, West Riding, York, Eng	1700 +
BRAY, John Henry Gresham		Worcestershire, or Herefordshire, Eng.	1840
BRAY, John Henry Gresham		Medicine Hat, AB, Canada	1892 +