

SUMMER 1976

# THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN



HECLA ISLAND, on the road to Gull Harbour.

Courtesy of "Manitoba Travel" Dept. of Tourism

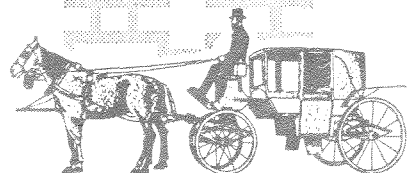


## OLD FASHIONED TENDER LOVING CARE IS WHAT MAKES EATON'S BREADS SO GOOD

Ever wonder what makes those crusty, crumby loaves in Eaton's Grill Room Products so good? It's the old fashioned way we make them. With old fashioned recipes and old fashioned ingredients (like the nine ingredients in our authentic Icelandic bread). And the timing. No rushing, ever. Our yeast dough is allowed to rise at its own speed, never forced. The final touch? Baking right on the bricks in our marvellous old fashioned ovens. That's how you get old fashioned goodness. Typical of every Grill Room product, from Eaton's own bakeshop.

Grill Room Products, Main and Third Floor,  
Downtown and Polo Park

# EATON'S



*Symbol of Service  
since 1894*

**BARDAL**  
funeral home

843 Sherbrook Street, Phone 774-7474

CAMPBELL SHARP NASH & FIELD  
CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS

415 — 305 BROADWAY AVE. — WINNIPEG, MAN. R3C 0R9

PHONE 942-8411

RAYMOND B. VOPNI, C.A.

NOW agricultural news and pronouncements as they affect you, every day with Jim Rae...

# RADIO NOON

is now

NOW consumer reports with Lynne MacFarlane, reflecting up-to-the-minute inflationary dangers and best buys...

NOW weather, markets, road reports, interviews — all commercial free and all tied together by host Gren Marsh



**CBC RADIO  
990**

THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN, SECOND CLASS MAIL—REGISTRATION  
No. 1909 — PRINTED AT 868 ARLINGTON ST., WINNIPEG R3E 2E4

## HAROLD'S MEN'S HAIRSTYLING

1065 ELLICE AVENUE AT WALL STREET  
DISTINCTIVE HAIRSTYLES — MEN'S HAIR COLORING  
SCALP & HAIR TREATMENT — HAIRPIECE SALES & SERVICE  
CONVENIENT APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE  
NO SATURDAY APPOINTMENTS  
8 A.M. TO 6 P.M. PHONE 775-0687 CLOSED MONDAYS

## TALLIN, KRISTJANSSON & SMITH

BARRISTERS and SOLICITORS  
300-232 Portage Avenue — Area Code 204 — Phone 942-8171

## FIAL MASONRY LTD.

BUS. PHONE 482-6240

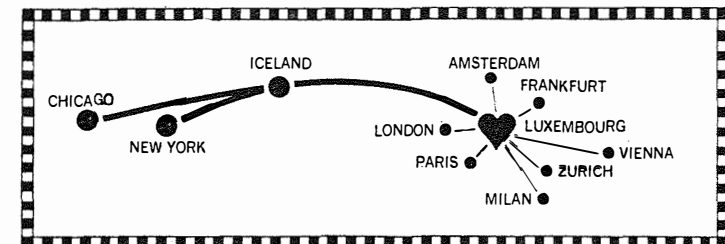
506 PITTSBURGH AVENUE — SELKIRK, MANITOBA  
SERVING THE INTERLAKE AND WINNIPEG  
COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

ALAN COOPER  
482-3035  
SELKIRK, MANITOBA

RAY THORNSON  
482-5531  
SELKIRK, MANITOBA

...NEW!

## Lowest jet fares non-stop to Iceland from Chicago



Icelandic Airlines (Loftleidir) now gives you a choice of non-stop scheduled jet flights to Iceland from New York OR CHICAGO! All with lowest jet fares of any scheduled airline to Iceland and to Luxembourg in the heart of western Europe.

ALSO, regularly scheduled jet service from New York or Chicago, via Iceland, to Oslo, Copenhagen, Stockholm, Glasgow or London. You can stop over and visit Iceland, at no extra air fare, on your way to the rest of Europe.

For full details and folders on new fares, see your travel agent or contact:



## ICELANDIC LOFTLEIDIR

630 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10020; Phone (212) 757-8585  
37 S. Wabash Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60603; Phone (312) 372-4797  
Phone Toll Free In Continental U.S.: 1-800-555-1212

# The Icelandic Canadian

Volume XXXIII, No. 4      Winnipeg Canada      Summer 1976

EDITORIAL: The Citizenship Council of Manitoba, W. Kristjanson.....	5
FEATURE ARTICLES	eeem2 eK o
The Order of Canada, G. Kristjanson.....	7
Early Icelandic Settlement in the United States, Valdimar Bjornson.....	11
Cathedral Organ on a Farm, Stephen Kolbinson .....	13
Jim Remembers Rockpile Days .....	30
Halldora Kristin Sigurdson .....	32
History of Anna Sigridur Bjornson, 1840-1882 .....	19
IN MEMORIAM: Mattie Halldorson .....	5
A. B. Edvald Olson Memorial Gift .....	5
MISCELLANEOUS: Pioneers of Hecla Island .....	33
Report of John Taylor .....	35
POETRY: Motherland, Paul Sigurdson.....	18
IN THE NEWS .....	17, 20, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 44 45
GRADUATES AND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS .....	26 27, 28

## THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN

A quarterly published by The Icelandic Canadian, Winnipeg, Manitoba

### MAGAZINE BOARD:-

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF EMERITUS: Hon. W. J. Lindal

EDITORS: W. Kristjanson, Editor-in-Chief and Chairman of the Board, 1117 Wolseley Ave., Winnipeg 10; Arilius Isfeld, Assistant Editor, 896 Palmerston Ave., Winnipeg 10; David H. Bergman, 532 Lindsay St., Winnipeg 9; Prof. Haraldur Bessason, 38 Greyfriars Rd., Winnipeg 19; Mrs. Kristine Perlmutter, 877 Strathcona St., Wpg.; Gustaf Kristjanson, 8 Selwyn Pl., Fort Richmond; Kristin Olson, 207-33 South Park Rd.; Axel Vopnfjord, 1206 Dominion St. Winnipeg, 3

SECRETARY OF THE BOARD: Miss M. Halldorson, 3-568 Agnes St., Wpg. R3G 1N9

BUSINESS MANAGER: Harold Johnson, 868 Arlington Street, Winnipeg, R3E 2E4

ADVERTISING SOLICITOR: Ted Axford, 273 Sackville Street, Winnipeg, R3J 1Z7

Editorial and news correspondence should be addressed to the Editor-in-Chief or to the Editor concerned. Subscriptions and business correspondence to the Business and Circulation Manager.

REPRESENTATIVE IN ICELAND: Björn Sigurðsson, Lönguhlíð 25, Reykjavík.

Subscription Rate: \$5.00 per year, Single Copies \$1.50

Second Class Mail Registration No. 1909, Post Office Department, Ottawa

## EDITORIAL

### THE CITIZENSHIP COUNCIL OF MANITOBA ANNUAL REPORT

The annual report of the Citizenship Council of Manitoba calls to mind the numerous and varied services of this organization on behalf of our host of new arrivals from many countries. At the last Court of Canadian Citizenship 1,861 certificates of Canadian citizenship were presented. The top ten countries of birth of the new citizens were the Philippines, Germany, Italy, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Portugal, United States of America, Greece and The Netherlands.

Immigrant services include accommodation, employment, legal assistance, counselling, and translation of documents. A language bank includes volunteer linguists and interpreters in 25 languages. Courses in English are offered at the International Centre and social entertainments are organized at the Centre. For example a club or

society will provide on a Saturday a daytime entertainment and refreshments, its members mingling with the members of the Centre, or on a week night more simply a social gathering over a cup of coffee.

Among some 75 organizations who are members of the Citizenship Council are the I.O.D.E. Provincial Chapter of Manitoba, the Canada Press Club, the Icelandic Canadian including the Viking Club of Winnipeg.

The Citizenship Councils and the International Centres of Canada offer Canadians of Icelandic descent, who celebrated their Manitoba Centennial last year to join hands in welcoming the host of newcomers from many lands arriving steadily, a part of our evolving Canadian social pattern.

W. Kristjanson

### A. B. EDVALD OLSON MEMORIAL GIFT TO THE ICEL. CANADIAN

A memorial gift in memory of the late B. Edvald Olson, in the amount of \$85.00, has been presented to The Icelandic Canadian.

This memorial gift is being donated by the Kristjanson family, cousins of Edvald: Jonas (of Regina) Gustaf (of Winnipeg), Marino (of Ottawa), Lily

Hearn (of Redlands, California), Una Stewart (of Ottawa), and Svava Seymour (of Vancouver).

For an account of Edvald Olson, see The Icelandic Canadian Spring 1976 issue, page 33.

The Icelandic Canadian expresses appreciation for this memorial gift.



Mattie Halldorson

It is with regret that once again we have to announce the death of a long-time and staunch member of The Icelandic Canadian Magazine editorial board. Miss Mattie Halldorson, secretary of board for many years past, died on April 16, 1976.

The story of Mattie's contribution to The Icelandic Canadian begins

shortly after World War II, when for many years she was in charge of "Our War Effort" in the magazine, which featured pictures and biographical details of some one thousand men and women of Icelandic descent who served in the Canadian and American forces in World War II. In addition she contributed numerous articles and items of interest about people and events.

Mattie was one of the early members of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Winnipeg, which was founded in 1938, and she served as President and was secretary for many years. She took her turn being in charge of the program at the Club's entertainment for Senior Citizens at Christmas.

Mattie's work in the Icelandic community in Winnipeg extended to other organizations. She was a member of the Winnipeg chapter of the Icelandic National League, and for some years past she was secretary of the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba committee. She was an active member of the First Lutheran Church. She sang in the choir for many years, served on the Council of the Parish, and was President of the First Lutheran Church Women.



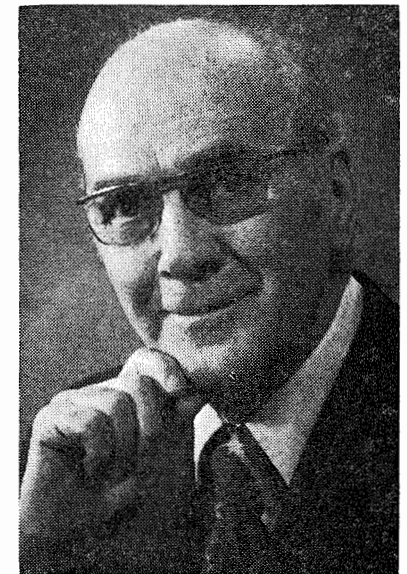
## DESIDERATES MELIOREM PATRIAM —

### THE ORDER OF CANADA

Although the granting of honours and awards for distinguished service and special merit has been a regular practice among most western nations, including the British, it was not until 1967 that a distinctively Canadian system of such awards was created. In April of that Centennial year, Prime Minister L. B. Pearson announced that "The Government considers that there is a need in Canada for some official Canadian method of recognizing outstanding merit and public service in different fields." The Order of Canada was established by letters patent as a means of granting official civilian honours to Canadians in recognition of merit. The "different fields" covers a great variety of areas indeed. Those who have been honoured include noted scholars, scientists, politicians, business leaders, churchmen, judges, writers, stars in the performing arts, and athletes. The Order provides a unique opportunity to recognize the contributions to our national life which have been made by the individuals selected. While the Order includes no titles and confers no special privileges, those who are appointed to one of the three levels of membership are permitted to use the letters CM (for member), OC (for officers) or CC (for Companion) after their names. The highest level — the Companion of the Order of Canada — may be awarded on the basis of exceptional merit relating to Canada or to the

community at large. The number of Companions may never exceed 150. The Governor-General of the day is the Chancellor of the Order. Membership is limited to 150.

Four citizens of Icelandic descent have been granted the honour of having been invested with the Order of Canada. Their contributions, like that of the membership generally, have been in widely different fields, but they share the distinction of having made a significant contribution to the life of their community and through it to the life of the nation.

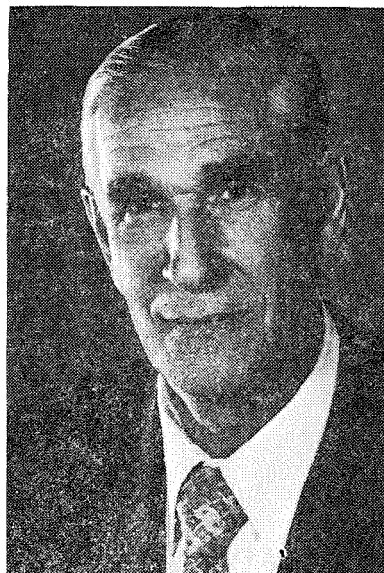


Dr. Percival Johnson,

The latest to have received the honour is Dr. Percival Johnson, CM, MD, FRCS(C), FACS. "For his de-

voted service over nearly forty years as medical practitioner and friend to the people of Flin Flon, Manitoba." He was named a Member of the Order in October, 1975. A graduate in medicine from the University of Manitoba in 1934, he opened a practice in Flin Flon the following year. During his years of service there he delivered over 3000 babies and performed a great deal of major surgery. The Flin Flon Clinic was organized largely through his efforts in 1943. He was also considerably instrumental in helping the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company and the miners' union to come to an agreement on a comprehensive health care plan covering all staff and dependents. It was not unusual for Dr. Johnson to spend all morning in the operating room, make a trip to the clinic in the afternoon, and spend the evening checking his patients at the hospital. There were also occasions when he was pushed or hauled across slush ice and open water in a canoe to attend the sick. Such were the "frontier" conditions that he worked in. In later years he became Chief of Staff of the Flin Flon General Hospital. He retired in 1972. To the people of Flin Flon he was a great friend and humanitarian, and they were gratified to hear of the honour bestowed upon him.

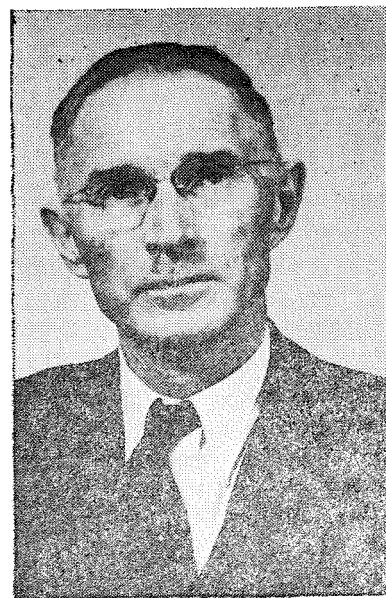
Another figure associated with our northern communities, Svein Sigfusson, formerly a farmer, fisherman, trapper, bush pilot, and finally a highway contractor, received his investiture as a member of the Order in June of 1974 — "For his service in the development of transportation



Svein Sigfusson

systems in northern Manitoba." His name is principally associated with the Sigfusson Transportation Company, an operation begun in 1942 by him and his brother, Skuli. This Company has built a network of winter roads into northern areas of Manitoba and northwest Ontario which are normally accessible only by air during the rest of the year. This is a very considerable operation which has proved a tremendous boon to the scattered Indian settlements, Hudson's Bay Company trading posts, church missions, and hydro and government installations which make use of it. An article on the Sigfusson Brothers' Transportation Empire of the North appeared in the 1970 Spring issue of *The Icelandic Canadian*. In his younger days, Svein was an athlete of recognized ability. He was a discus and hammer thrower who represented Canada at the British Empire Games in 1950 and 1954.

His father, Skuli Sigfusson, was a member of the Manitoba legislature for 25 years, and Svein himself ran as a candidate for Parliament in 1974.



Dr. Thorvaldur Johnson

Dr. Thorvaldur Johnson, OC, D.Sc., B.S.A., Ph.D., LLD, FRSC, is an Officer of the Order of Canada. He was appointed to the Order as recipient of the Medal of Service in December 1971, "For his research in the field of rust-resistant cereals." Born at Arnes, Manitoba, he graduated with his degree in Agriculture from the University of Saskatchewan in 1924. In 1930 he received his Ph.D. in Science. Dr. Johnson had a long and distinguished career in the field of research on plant diseases. In 1953 he was named Director of the Plant Pathology Division of the Dominion Research Laboratory, a position he held until his retirement in 1962. He

was Advisor on cereal rust investigations to the Government of West Pakistan, 1964-65. Honours have continued to come his way. In 1966 he was named a Fellow of the American Phytopathological Society in recognition of his long service to the field of plant pathology and outstanding contribution to plant research. In 1967 his alma mater (University of Saskatchewan) awarded him an honorary LLD degree. He is also the recipient of the Outstanding Achievement Award and the Elvin Charles Stakman Award of the University of Minnesota. His work on control of rust in cereal crops may well have saved billions of dollars for the western Canada Agricultural industry.

Incidentally, Thorvaldur Johnson has also been a contributor to this magazine on a number of occasions. The Autumn, 1969, issue of *The Icelandic Canadian* carried an article by him entitled "Ethnic Origin of Icelanders" as well as an article on Vilhjalmur Stefansson; and in the Winter, 1965, issue he paid tribute to the work of Dr. Thorbergur Thorvaldson.

Dr. P.H.T. Thorlakson, CC, MDCM, MRCS (Eng.) FRCS, Surgeon and Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg, was made a Companion of the Order of Canada in December, 1970, "For his services in this profession and in the development of Group Medicine." His reputation as a distinguished surgeon and leader in the community is so well known as to hardly require recounting. As founder and Director of the Winnipeg Clinic, as surgeon-in-chief at the Winnipeg General Hospital, as professor of surgery at the University of



Dr. P. T. H. Thorlakson

Manitoba, as a president of the Manitoba Institute for the Advancement of Medical Education and Research, as well as of the National Cancer Institute of Canada, and as author of innumerable scientific papers in his field, he has established a truly noteworthy reputation in the medical world. In recognition of this he was awarded an Honorary Fellowship in

the International College of Surgeons in 1968. Of special interest to the readers of this magazine has been his work as chairman of the committee for the establishment of a fund to endow a Chair in Icelandic Language and Literature at the University of Manitoba, the chairmanship of the Council of the Betel Old People's Home at Gimli, and the centennial project involving the erection of a memorial plaque in Ottawa to commemorate the discovery of North America by Bjarni Herjolfsson and Leif Eiriksson. There is also the part played by him in the amalgamation of the two Icelandic weekly newspapers and the prominent role which he has played with the Canada Iceland Foundation. Dr. Thorlakson has served as Chancellor of the University of Winnipeg since 1969. The government of Iceland had already recognized his contributions to the cause of Icelandic culture in America by bestowing upon him the Order of the Falcon. It is most fitting that the Government of Canada should have recognized his contributions in a larger sphere by making him a Companion of the Order of Canada.

—G. Kristjanson



## EARLY ICELANDIC SETTLEMENT IN THE UNITED STATES

(Excerpts from a radio address by Valdimar Bjornson in 1948 — Utah)

It was in 1851 that two young Icelanders from the Westmann Islands, Thorarinn Haflidason and Gudmundur Gudmundsson, arrived in Copenhagen to go to a trade school, for training in skilled crafts. The year before, two "apostles" from the Salt Lake City settlement of Mormons in Utah had come to Denmark as evangelists for their faith. Their work, and that of others, bore fruit both in Denmark and Sweden. Nearly 30,000 Scandinavians were converted to the Mormon religion, most of them moving to Utah. Of that number, about 15,000 of them were Danes. These two young Icelanders joined Danish friends in accepting the new faith, and the idea of moving far off to the westward to a new country caught their imaginations. These Icelanders, fired with something of the missionary's zeal themselves, were urged to go back to their homeland to convert more of their countrymen. They did so, confining their efforts mainly to their home district of the Westmann Islands, but getting over into the southern part of Iceland's mainland as well.

Thorarinn Haflidason drowned in 1852, but his companion continued the mission work, joined later by a Dane. There is no point in prolonging that detailed recital. It should suffice to say that the first Icelanders — only a very few — got to Utah in 1856, a larger number joined them the following year, moving in along with Danes to found a settlement in and near Spanish Fork, southeast of Salt Lake City.

Because of early hostility on the part of Lutherans toward the Mormon religion, which at this stage had polygamy as one of its tenets, Icelanders have seldom paid much attention to the Utah colony. It had no added recruits from 1857 until in 1874, with a few more coming between that time and 1892. I suppose that at its peak, including Icelanders and their descendants, the colony has never numbered more than 200. But they were proud of their cultural heritage. They sought to maintain the traditions they had brought with them, while becoming excellent citizens of Utah.

One of their number, writing about the Spanish Fork settlement as it existed in the early nineties, says it was acknowledged there that the best carpenter in the village was an Icelander, so was the best blacksmith, the leading painter, the best stonemason, the finest watch repairman — and the best handiwork was that of the Icelandic women. Descendants of this first modern Icelandic settlement in America have been particularly proud of their heritage, and have given that pride a more impressive tangible demonstration than has been the case in any other such community — through the erection, ten years ago, of a pioneer memorial, taking the form of a miniature lighthouse, with an appropriately inscribed plaque. As has been true in every Icelandic community in the United States and Canada, a very large proportion of the younger generation have gone on for advanced schooling, supplying more than their share of teachers and professional men.

The picture below is of teachers of Icelandic origin, teaching in the Shoal Lake-Lundar district in the Manitoba Interlake, near the beginning of the century.



Left to Right

Back row: Arni Stephansson, (07); Maria Kelly, Markland School; Thorbergur Thorvaldson, Vestfold School(06-M.A. Harvard, 1909); Mary Anderson (05); Franklin School (05).

Front Row: Emily Anderson, (06); Freda Harold; Guttormur Guttormsson, Vestfold School, (Arts '07); Steina J. Stefanson, Norður Stjarna School (North Star School).

## A Cathedral Organ on a Farm

STEPHEN KOLBINSON

Of all the musical instruments invented and developed by mankind, the pipe organ stands alone because of its range of tones from the deep thunder of the great 32 foot open pipe to the shrill, almost inaudible whistle of the top note of the 1 foot stop, less than a quarter of an inch in length. Besides this quality is the variety of tonal effects possible in a large organ; the statuesque grandeur of the Diapason Chorus composed of hundreds of pipes speaking at various pitches; the ringing brilliance of the Reed Chorus and Mixtures; the warm tones of the massed string pipes and the pure but no less intriguing sound of the solo flutes. It must be realized, however, that an organ capable of all these effects is costly; of large size, and requiring a reverberant acoustical environment in order to sound its best. Very few churches and auditoriums in Western Canada can meet all these requirements, and it is all the more remarkable therefore, that such an instrument was erected in a farm home in Saskatchewan, being the largest organ in that province. Built by the world-famous firm of Casavant Frères of St. Hyacinthe, Quebec, it contains over three thousand pipes, controlled by four manual keyboards and a set of pedals of 32 notes, being five divisions in all. The question may well be asked, how did

such an instrument come to be installed in a prairie farm home?

It all began when a boy was taken to an evening service in Third Avenue United Church, Saskatoon. Used to the wheezing tones of the small reed organs such as were then common in churches and homes in country districts, the sound of the Third Avenue three manual Casavant was a revelation. Like many others, before and since, the boy thought the gilded pipes in the case were all there were in the organ, and wondered how 43 pipes (he counted them during the sermon), could give such a variety of tones.

The lad was about twelve years old at that time and it would be several years before he would have the opportunity to enter the organ behind the casework and marvel at the beautiful workmanship and solid construction of the Casavant organ with its great bellows, and wind-chests carrying their serried ranks of pipes, of wood and metal.

The boy who was so captivated by the organ that Sunday evening was Stuart Kolbinson, son of Stephen and Theresa Kolbinson, Kindersley; and grandson of Thorthur Kolbeinsson and Guthrithur Jónsdóttir, immigrants from Myrasyslu, Iceland. Stephen Kolbinson, who later was to become well known throughout the



musical world for his collection of fine violins, and his wife encouraged the study of music by their children. Unfortunately for Stuart, the nearest organ was 120 miles away; learning to play the organ seemed an impossible dream.

One day Stuart noticed an article in a music magazine, with a picture of a small organ built in the wood-working shop by the boys of a school in England. The article mentioned that the boys had built their organ from plans and descriptions outlined in a book, "How To Build A Small Chamber Organ", by H. F. Milne, an Englishman. Eagerly, Stuart sent for the book, and after many months it finally arrived.

This book described the old fashioned mechanically operated, or tracker, organ, and required Honduras Mahogany, special leathers and access to second-hand pipes, all of which were out of the question as far as the resources of a prairie town were concerned. Reluctantly, Stuart had to abandon the idea of building his own practice organ, but that book was the first of a large collection, including rare volumes, in English, Dutch and German, which eventually lined his bookshelves.

Soon after enrolling in the University of Saskatchewan, Stuart sought among the churches for a practice organ, but met with little success. Clergy and laity, and all too many organists, know little, as a rule, of the mechanism of an organ and are of the impression that two or three hours of use a week would somehow wear it out, like a washing machine. Whereas the opposite is the case; a little used organ deteriorates much

faster than one that is played every day.

One result of the short-sighted policy of the church authorities of that time was, that they had to import their organists from England and the United States. Stuart vowed he would never be a church musician, but would someday own an organ of his own, better than any of those so zealously kept from students. Such an ambition seemed ridiculous at the time; how could someone who wanted to live in the country, dependent on the capricious prairie weather for his income, possibly earn enough to buy and install such a costly instrument?

One night, shortly after graduating with a B.A. degree, Stuart had a strange dream. He was in a shed, unloading great, golden pipes, like those in the organ case of Third Avenue Church, only much larger. And they belonged to him.

Shortly after this dream, he met an organ tuner from Toronto who invited him to come and work in the factory that winter. This chance meeting was the first step towards the attainment of the dream.

In Eastern Canada Stuart worked under the direction of Cyril Robbins, a master craftsman in woodcraft, and all the areas pertaining to the proper functioning of the mechanical portions of the organ. They became good friends and spent many happy hours together building the carefully crafted mechanisms on which the reliability of the instrument depended.

Of no less importance to the successful completion of the organ is the art of the voicer. He is the rare individual who is trained to take the

pipes as they come from the pipe-maker, complete but unable to sound, and brings out by means of delicate adjustments requiring a surgeon's skill, those glorious tones so beloved of Bach and Mozart. Stuart was fortunate in becoming acquainted with Eberhard Walcker, a voicer for Casavant Frères and a member of the greatest organ-building family in Europe. Under the guidance of Mr. Robbins and Mr. Walcker, Stuart learned many secrets of the organ-builders' art which were to prove most useful to him later on.

Meanwhile Stuart had been gathering pipes from various sources, and during the third winter he helped Robbins build the windchests and action for a fair-sized, two manual organ; Casavant Frères building the console. A special room, 12x10 by 12 feet in height had been built in his parents' house, and before seeding time in the spring Stuart had completed the installation of the organ which was opened in recital by Wilfred Woolhouse, organist of Knox Church in Saskatoon. The instrument contained over 500 pipes, including two 16 foot stops on the pedal, extended to 36 stops in all. Now Stuart could practise when he liked, except that the pipe chamber was next to his mother's bedroom and late evening concerts were not always appreciated! As it happened, he was not to own the organ for very long.

A beautiful farm nearby came up for sale a few months later and Stuart, who longed for a home of his own, decided to buy the property, if he could. His means were limited, and in order to make the required down-payment he had to sell the

organ which is now in a church in Saskatoon. It was not easy, but he comforted himself with the thought that he would soon be able to build another organ, even better than the one he had sold.

Unfortunately, Mother Nature decided not to co-operate those first years; one year, after a long winter with heavy snowfall and floods in the spring, not one shower of rain fell all summer. Then came years of heavy rainfall in harvest time, destroying, with the help of myriads of ducks, the grain as it lay in the swath. Then came early frosts destroying a beautiful crop; finally one year most of the crop lay under the snow all winter. Meanwhile, Stuart had married and now had a young family to support, and his dream of an organ of his own seemed farther away than ever. Then, without warning, an opportunity came.

Grace Church, Winnipeg, was once the "Mother Church" of Methodism in the West; the roster of its communicants at one time included many of the most prominent and wealthy citizens of the city. In 1907 they had bought a large and very fine organ from Casavant Frères which was praised by many recitalists of international fame including Marcel Dupre and Joseph Bonnet of France and Arthur Hollins of England.

As so often happens, the wealthier members of the congregation moved to the suburbs, and as the years passed the remnant of the congregation could not keep the old building in repair, so that it became somewhat shabby. About this time William Zeckendorf, the New York real estate developer proposed to buy the site in

order to build a huge "Merchandise Mart", naming an attractive figure. Old Grace Church was doomed, although some members of the congregation put up a valiant effort to save their building, the controversy being reported in the Winnipeg Press. Stuart had an Aunt in that city, and she, knowing of his interest in the organ, used to send him clippings of newspaper reports of the battle which dragged on for years.

One summer the Reserve Army, of which Stuart was a member, sent him and a number of others from Saskatchewan to Winnipeg's Fort Osborne Barracks for training. The first evening, while the rest of the platoon headed for the nearest bar, Stuart took a bus downtown to Grace Church. There he met a church official who told him the building was sold, and would be razed to the ground in four months' time. The organ had to be sold at once, but because of its great size no one was particularly interested in buying it. The official told Stuart he was authorized to sell the organ and without a second thought Stuart left the church that night the owner of the great instrument. He would worry about a place to erect it later.

Many days of hard labor were to pass before the organ was finally loaded into two large vans and shipped to the farm at Kindersley. After a day's work, Stuart and his helper, a retired railwayman, who had a good knowledge of organs, took on the appearance of coal miners. A half century of oily black dust had settled on every flat surface.

It was while unloading a 24-foot long Diapason pipe into a shed on his

farm that Stuart realized the situation was almost identical to his dream, or pre-vision, whatever it may have been, of years before.

It was no small task to stow the heavy parts, mostly in the barn loft, in a place of safety, but it was finally accomplished, all except a few of the heavy wooden pedal pipes. While lifting these into the loft a sudden blizzard came without warning; after the storm calmed three days later, the pipes were buried under ten feet of snow. Storm after storm followed that winter; when spring finally came Stuart managed to dig out the pipes before the melting snow caused any damage.

Several years passed before Stuart was able to build a music room large enough for the organ; with the help of friends, the previously prepared wooden trusses, thirty-six feet in length, were hoisted onto the twenty-six foot walls, eight inches thick and well insulated against the prairie winters. During a wet spell in harvest time, Stuart built four windows, each four feet wide by sixteen feet high, double glazed with 178 panes of glass.

As a matter of fact, building the music room and the connecting portion of the house seemed much more difficult and time-consuming than moving and rebuilding the organ.

Finally, piece by piece, the organ was set in place, on its frame exactly as it had stood in Grace Church. A new oak and mahogany console was built, the action changed from tubular-pneumatic to electro-pneumatic; a new blower imported from England was connected, and one day, seven years after the blizzard, the

first notes of the organ sounded in its new home.

All of the pipes had been washed and repaired; the reeds polished and re-set in the reed stops, and tonal alterations made to brighten the chorus in line with modern ideals. The rebuilt organ was first used in a Christmas concert attended by the neighbors, an event which was to be repeated annually for years.

During the summer, concerts were given; visiting organists from Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Portland, Oregon and other places gave recitals. Other visitors came, including journalists who wrote articles on the organ installation. Because of its isolation in winter time, few visitors came while the owner was not busy at his farm work.

One winter Stuart visited Victoria and fell in love with the West Coast. In 1972 he and his family bought a home in Victoria and moved to that beautiful city. The plan was to move the organ as soon as a suitable place could be found or built for it.

Unfortunately, land and building costs have soared to such an astronomical height, that plan had to be abandoned. Various schemes to keep the organ intact and in family ownership having collapsed, the great organ awaits the fate so narrowly escaped before. It will be probably broken up and sold for parts; the organ whose great voice accompanied thousands in worship will soon be no more.



#### A NEW ENGLISH MONTHLY LAUNCHED IN ICELAND

The following is taken from a dispatch by H. J. Hamar, of Reykjavik, Iceland, written after the Icelandic Festival of Manitoba Centennial version.

The Icelanders take pride in the settlement in Canada and in the preservation of the Icelandic language in Canada. Revival of interest in the preservation of the mother tongue among Icelanders in Canada has been a great satisfaction to the descendants of those who stayed home.

Contact between Icelanders here and in Canada has been difficult up to now and has been mainly on the cultural level. Mutual visits have been expensive—there is no direct link either by sea or air—and trade has not been extensive.

Logberg-Heimskringla plays a vital role in maintaining contact between

Iceland and Canada as do other publications in English such as the Icelandic Canadian, published quarterly in Winnipeg. In Iceland itself there are magazines published in English in order to reach those who may not read Icelandic but are interested in Iceland all the same.

These are the quarterly Atlantica and Iceland Review, a colorful, informative magazine which has many subscribers in Canada and a recently-launched, newspaper-like monthly called News from Iceland produced by the same publishers in Reykjavik.

It seems that much of the contact-keeping is left to such publications for the time being, but direct communications between Iceland and Canada would help strengthen the ties across the ocean.

## MOTHERLAND

Oh ageless Mother, frosty white,  
Let golden morning crown your head,  
Your robe the mountains' purple light,  
Your blood the sun's dark midnight red.  
You who instilled my heart with fire,  
Hark while I tune my silver lyre.

Oh Mother, Mother, from your spell  
Of fairy tale and giant tread,  
And from the skalds and sagaland  
The potent stuff of dreams is fed;  
Gentle and patient guard of days  
Hark to my joyous notes of praise.

Oh Mother, mountain goddess fair,  
Upright and staunch as truth might stand,  
Blessing your wayward western sons,  
Thy constant love, their guiding hand.  
Dyed till my death my blood must be  
I cannot stop my song to thee.

Oh Mother, steadfast and serene,  
You who released your child to roam  
Kept the candle for the wanderer  
Shining in your haven-home.  
Listen, dear Mother, at your shore:  
My ode in every billow-roar.

You loosed us, Mother from your will,  
And we sprung life in foreign land  
And yet our blood is still the blood  
Of Iceland's head and heart and hand,  
Thus gently 'slaved we yearn for thee,  
Forever bonded, tho set free.

Oh Mother, little island queen,  
Where nature's bounty failed to grow  
Bare blasted boulders mar your land,  
And stripped and naked moorlands show.  
And yet such treasure in thy keep!  
Too fine for all; age-rich and deep!

Oh matchless Mother, force eternal,  
Tho you bore your sons to pain,  
Kept the light through sunless winters,  
Poison ash and lava-rain:  
You stamped old marks of manhood on the brow  
For this I sing your praises, Mother, now.

— Paul A. Sigurdson

## HISTORY OF ANNA SIGRIDUR BJORNSON (1840-1882)

A PIONEER MOTHER OF NORTH DAKOTA

WRITTEN BY HER SON, M. F. BJORNSON

Her maiden name was Anna Sigridur Arnadottir. She was born and raised in Iceland. In her time there were no public schools for children, but all were confirmed in the Lutheran Church, which required some education. The children were taught at home or in the local pastor's home. Thus my mother, like other children of her age, learned to read and write Icelandic and the fundamentals of arithmetic, as well as the catechism.

Mother was very fond of literature, especially poetry, and composed some poetry herself. Through reading and self study she learned Danish, which gave her access to the literature of two nations. The Danish and Norwegian book languages are almost alike.

In 1863, she married (my father) Friðbjörn Björnsson (1831-1890), and in 1873 they, with four children, left Iceland and sailed for America (one child was left in Iceland who came later). They landed in Ontario and stopped there nearly two years. While there mother learned to speak and read English. In 1875, they moved to New Iceland, in Manitoba, on Lake Winnipeg, a swampy country, where an Icelandic colony was established that year.

My father's brother was married to mother's sister; the two families were almost inseparable and at first both families lived in the same house, a large one-room cabin. While we were thus situated, the small pox epidemic broke out and raged through the settlement. Hardly a home was spared, many died, and those who recovered

were marked with ugly scars for life. Our house with the two families escaped entirely, which was considered very remarkable.

Soon father built another house from square timbers, sawed by hand from native trees, with an upstairs, matched board floors and shingle roof. As far as I know this was the finest house in the whole settlement. The settlers were hard pressed and some did not believe in the future of the country, unrest prevailed and soon many were leaving.

In 1878, father's brother emigrated with his family to Pembina County, Dakota. Next year mother and father with six children left our good house. We went by boat to Winnipeg where we transferred to a train and arrived at Pembina, Dakota Territory, in the summer of 1879. In 1880, we moved to our homestead located one mile south east of Mountain in Pembina County, where another Icelandic Colony was established. The settlers soon prospered here and were happy. It is still known as the Icelandic settlement. Most of the old pioneers are gone and their children and grandchildren have taken their places. I know of only three homesteaders of the Mountain community, who are living at this writing.

Our new home, with its splendid trees and grassy meadows captivated our love on sight. Here was promise of a real future and everything looked bright, had it not been clouded with the failing health of our beloved mother. I was hardly nine years old

when mother died, but I remember her as rather tall and slender and beautiful but frail. She was the mother of ten children; the fourth and sixth child died in Iceland and the seventh child died in Ontario. I fear the grief over the loss of her babies, the hard-

ship of motherhood and pioneer life brought on her untimely death at the age of 42 on December 1, 1882.

Father died January 29, 1890 and was buried by mother's side in the Church cemetery at Mountain, North Dakota.



#### ICELANDIC CANADIAN YOUTH ORGANIZATION FORMED

Approximately forty-five young people attended the organizational meeting of the Icelandic Canadian Youth Organization, held at the University of Manitoba March 11.

The meeting was conducted by Kathy Arnason, who outlined briefly the aims and intentions of the new group. She hopes this will be a loosely knit social group, in which young people of Icelandic descent can gather to meet one another and learn of their mutual heritage and culture. She emphasized the fact that one need not be fluent in the Icelandic language to be a member.

Interest in folk singing, drama, folk dancing and greater participation in "Íslendingadagurinn" was expressed. It was agreed that Heiða Jónsson be coordinator for the folk singing and Maureen Arnason for drama.

The possibility of a cultural exchange program was introduced and well received by those present. Melvin McInnis said he would write to the Minister of Cultural and Educational Affairs and inquire further

into the matter.

Present at the meeting were representatives from Frón, Icelandic Canadian Club, Icelandic Festival Committee and the Icelandic National League of North America. Stefan J. Stefanson, president of the League, expressed his pleasure at the formation of the group, said he hoped it would be an active one. He emphasized the need for young people and new ideas in the work of the existent Icelandic organizations.

It was decided that a temporary executive be formed until fall, when a new executive is to be elected on a yearly basis. Kathy Arnason and Melvin McInnis agreed to coordinate the efforts of the group through the summer. Jeff Samson will be treasurer and Kris Palsson secretary.

A social meeting was planned for the last weekend in April where a guest speaker would comment on the Cod War and a reading of English translations of Icelandic poetry would be given.

## ÍFJALLKONAN - 1976



*Mrs. Lena Thorsteinson*

## BOOK REVIEW:—

## The Multilingual Press in Manitoba

The Canada Press Club of Winnipeg. CHRISTIAN PRESS, Winnipeg, 1975, pp. 248, \$7.50.

This book, published by the Canada Press Club of Winnipeg, makes its appearance at a time when multiculturalism has the official stamp of approval from the Government of Canada but is perhaps insufficiently appreciated or understood by the public at large. The Canada Press Club, a Winnipeg-based union of the various newspapers and periodicals serving the cultural minorities of the country, has been in existence for thirty-four years. As the President of the Club (Mr. H. H. Roeder) remarks in his foreword to this book, these newspapers "had common objectives: to assist newcomers in their trying periods of adjustment and adaptation to a new and sometimes strange environment; to guide them in the process of integration into the general stream of Canadian society." This theme is borne out throughout the book — indicating the ways in which the ethnic press has carried out the function of helping its readers to retain their own language and culture while at the same time becoming good Canadians.

This work is laid out in three parts. Part Two, the middle section, is the heart of the book, particularly as it might appeal to the general reader. In this section are twenty-five articles of varying length which chronicle the development (and, in some

cases, the demise) of the member publications of the Canada Press Club. It makes an interesting addition to the history of the immigrant experience in Western Canada. One is struck by the similar concerns that faced the various ethnic groups — German, Swedish, Norwegian, Hungarian, Jewish, Ukrainian, Polish, etc. Not the least of these concerns, in many cases, was simply finding the finances to keep them functioning.

Naturally the article of most direct interest to the readers of this magazine is the one entitled "Icelandic Canadian Publications in Manitoba" contributed by our own editor, Wilhelm Kristjanson. Although it is only a brief summary of the history of these Icelandic publications (the subject is dealt with in greater detail in Dr. Kristjanson's book *The Icelandic People in Manitoba*) it is nevertheless one of the most complete and ably presented articles in this section of the book. A brief background giving the historical basis of Icelandic immigration is presented as well as the circumstances that gave rise to the original Icelandic newspaper "Framfari". The trials and triumphs of the two weeklies, *Lögberg* and *Heimskringla*, and their eventual merging into one paper is recounted. It is somewhat unfortunate that some editor or proofreader has seen fit to use his own misguided spelling of *Lögberg* (it is spelled *Loegberg* in several places) but per-

haps one should expect to have minor errors of this kind occur. Also, Einar Hjörleifsson, was the first editor of "Lögberg", not "Framfari". A portion of the article is also devoted to the role played by *The Icelandic Canadian* in preserving an awareness of our Icelandic heritage among its readers, most of whom are of Icelandic descent.

Part Three of the volume is a sort of miscellany of ethnically related tidbits and is entitled "Non-Member Publications, Centennial Projects, Winnipeg's International Centre".

Part One is devoted to "History (of the Canada Press Club)", Ideology, and Messages. The various messages — from those who have been associated with the Club in an active way as well as from public officials and dignitaries who send their greetings and felicitations — give the volume somewhat the character of a "souvenir edition," which in a way it is. They will be of less interest to the general reader than to those who have been associated with the work more directly. Since the founding President and principal force in the

establishment of the Canada Press Club was Judge W. J. Lindal (for many years editor of *The Icelandic Canadian*) even this section is of more than passing interest, however. Watson Kirkconnell's article on "The Role of the Ethnic Press" is also both readable and extremely interesting. A special interest is added when one considers Dr. Kirkconnell's long contact with and interest in the Icelandic community in Manitoba. He reminds us in this brief article that "Not the least of the achievements of the ethnic press lies in its greatness as a vehicle for creative and scholarly literature. We must not forget that the ethnic press is the only Canadian medium through which the writer in a language other than English or French can have his work printed or find a comprehending and sympathetic audience." This tribute to the value of a multilingual press makes a telling point and those who have laboured for the Canada Press Club and its member publications may deservedly take a bow.

—G. KRISTJANSON.

### RITE OF PASSAGE

Today my daughter turned fourteen,  
And, by old fashioned standards,  
She became a woman.  
When I look at her, in her new age,  
I see the woman peeking out,  
But tenuously, and slyly,  
Watching that we not mark her  
As 'no longer a child',  
Or, place on her too quickly  
The burdensome weights of adulthood.  
A young girl who still stops her job  
Of shovelling the snow from the  
front walk,

To take the heavy, shovel-shaped  
chunks  
And make with them a circular fortress  
Which she will chink with soft snow to  
Create a hide-away for herself and her  
younger brother.  
Her job is too soon forgotten,  
And temptation overcomes obligation  
with play,  
And the little girl shows  
That she is still becoming a woman.

John S. Matthiasson



This picture was taken on the occasion of the visit to Gimli of Governor-General Lord Tweedsmuir, in 1936.

FROM LEFT TO RIGHT:

Dr. Sveinn E. Bjornsson, Mrs. S. E. (Maria) Bjornsson, Mrs. I. (Violet) Ingaldson, Dr. Rognvaldur Petursson, Aide Redman, Mrs. G. A. Paulson, (nee Magnea Bergman), Dr. B. B. Jonsson, Mr. Scrymgeour (nee Valdine Ingaldson), Mrs. S. Thorvaldson, C. P. Paulson, Sveinn Thorvaldson, Lord Tweedsmuir, Hon. Joseph T. Thorson, Mrs. C. P. Paulson (Mayor of Gimli, 1933-37), Norma Beason Sigurdson.

## Graduates and Scholarships

### GRADUATES

#### UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA

##### Master of Arts

JOSEPHSON, Wendy Louise, B. A.  
—Major and Ancillary: History

##### Bachelor of Arts Honours

HILLAND, Douglas Michael.

##### Bachelor of Arts

ANDERSON, Ronald Miles

ANDERSON, Wilbert Arnold

FINNBOGASON, Eve Margot

GOODBRANDSON, Gary Douglas

NARFASON, Laureen Olina

OLAFSON, Donna Lynn

OLESON, Signy Laura

##### Master of Education

BJARNASON, Mildred Caroline,  
—B.A., B.Ed. Major and Ancillary:  
Education.

##### Bachelor of Education

ANDERSON, Lena Veronica, B.A.  
—Winnipeg, Manitoba.

GOODMAN, Gloria Jane

MILLAN, Dennis Joel, B.A., Wpg.

RUMMERY, Robert Thomas, B.Sc.,  
—Winnipeg, Manitoba.

SILVER, John Elmar, B.P.E.

TOPP, Karen Sigrid

##### Bachelor of Home Economics

GUDMUNDSON, Elen Barbara

##### Certificate in Education

BJORNSON, Laurie Ann, B.A.

EPP, Erika, B.A., Winnipeg.

GUSTAFSON, James Allan, B.Sc.

HALDORSON, Larry Allan, B.A.

SIGFUSSON, Lois Olive Iris, B.A.,  
—Winnipeg, Manitoba

STETSKI, Wayne Leif, B.Sc., Honors.

THORLAKSON, Linda Gail, B.A.,  
—Winnipeg, Manitoba

##### Master of Science

KJARTANSON, Kelly John Thorkel,  
—B.Sc., (C.E.) Major and Ancillary:  
—Civil Engineering.

##### Bachelor of Science

EYOLFSON, Roy Stefan

GISLASON, Kathryn Margaret

JOHNSON, Jo-Ann Margret

##### Bachelor of Laws

BACKMAN, Phillip Douglas, B.A.

##### Bachelor of Social Work

BERGER, He'ga Margaret, B.A.

OEHLKERS, Gudrun, B.A.

ROLFE, Sigrid Jeanette

##### Master of Business Administration

JOHNSON, Harold Grant

MAGNUSSON, Warren Gunnie

PALMASON, Gudmundur

##### Bachelor of Interior Design

PETERSON, Joyce Frances

##### Bachelor of Music (Performance)

PETERSON, Mary Kathryn

##### Bachelor of Science in Engineering (Geological)

KJARTANSON, Bruce Henry

### Doctor of Medicine

JOHNSON, Dale Gustaf

STEFANSSON, Donald Arthur

### Bachelor of Science in Medicine

JOHNSON, Dale Gustaf

### Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy

EYOLFSON, Victor Thorstein

### Bachelor of Nursing

KRISTOFFERSON, Judith Bennetta

### Bachelor of Science in Agriculture

ARNASON, Ronald James

HELGADOTTIR, Aslaug

MARTIN, Sigurdur Lorne

SIGURDSON Signy Lou

### Bachelor of Physical Education

ARNASON, Christine Shonda

OLIVER, Nancy Sigrid

### University of Manitoba Graduate Physical Education

BUSBY, James Lawrence — Deans  
Honour list. His mother is Norma  
Ingimundson Busby formerly of Lun-  
dar, now living in Winnipeg. Grand-  
parents are Jacobina Breckman Ingi-  
mundson and the late Larus Ingimund-  
son formerly of Selkirk.

★

### UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG GRADUATES —1976

#### University Silver Medal for the second highest standing in the 4-year Science program

CHRISTIANSON, Keith Eldon

### Bachelor of Science

STEFANSON, Randall Laurel,  
—Dean's Honor List

THORLEIFSON Ian Clive, —Dean's  
Honor List.

WEBB, Laura Sigrun

### Bachelor of Education

DANIELSON, Dorothea Gayle

### Bachelor of Arts (Honours)

OLSON, Louise Ingibjorg

### Bachelor of Arts (General)....

JOHANSON, Sigmundur Clifford

JOHANSSON, Kenneth Raymond  
—Deans Honour List

STEVENS, Robert Donald —  
—Dean's Honour List

SWANSON, Larry John

★

CORRECTION re scholarship award,  
Spring issue, page 34, Niel Johannson,  
B.Sc., for \$75.00 read \$100.00.

★

### UNIVERSITY OF BRANDON GRADUATES

#### Bachelor of Science (General)

EIRIKSSON, Brian Ellis, son of Kris  
and Helen Eiriksson, Brandon. His  
grandmother on the mother's side is  
Vigdís (Sigurdson) Einarson, born at  
Viðivöllum, Arnes, Manitoba.

★

### I.O.D.E SCHOLARSHIPS—1975-76

The Jon Sigurdson Chapter I.O.D.E.  
awarded four scholarships to out-  
standing students entering university  
for the term 1975-76

**Johanna Gudrun Skaptason Memorial Scholarship of \$150.00**

GRANGER, Kathleen Margaret — of Sturgeon Creek High School.  
**2nd Johanna Gudrun Skaptason Memorial scholarship and a Jon Sigurdson I.O.D.E. Music scholarship**

STEPHENSEN, Sigurdur Albert of the Grant Park High school.

**Elinborg Hanson Memorial Scholarship of \$75.00**

ROGERS, Aileen Kim, of Dakota Collegiate.



Irene Alda Jakobson

Miss Irene Alda Jakobson, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. B. B. Jakobson of Neepawa, Manitoba has been awarded the Aikins Memorial Scholarship in English from the University of Manitoba. This award is offered annually for the student achieving the highest grade in the final examination for English 120.

★

Marion Johnson, of London, Ont., has been awarded a second Canada Council Fellowship, in the amount of \$6,500, to complete her studies in linguistics. She is scheduled to leave for Nairobi, Kenya, in the middle of June, for a three month stay

Ms. Johnson is the daughter of Mr. and Ms. M. F. Johnson, of London, Ontario, formerly of Winnipeg.

Eric Lorne Stefanson, formerly of Gimli, recently graduated from the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Manitoba.

Eric is a B.A. graduate, 1971, from the University of Manitoba and has his first year of Pre-Masters in political Science.

He has been active in sports, particularly in hockey, and played for the Selkirk Steelers in the major junior league, and for the Gimli Wolves, who won their league championships on two or three occasions.

Eric is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Stefanson of Gimli, Manitoba.



# ÍSLENDINGADAGURINN

87TH ANNUAL ICELANDIC FESTIVAL OF MANITOBA

GIMLI

MANITOBA



JULY 31<sup>ST</sup>  
 AUGUST 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup>  
 1976

PLAN TO ATTEND ONE OF THE MOST COLORFUL  
 GET-TOGETHER HAPPENINGS TO OCCUR  
 ANNUALLY IN MANITOBA

SOME OF THE ACTIVITIES:—

- Pancake Breakfasts
- Sky Diving Contests
- Fine Arts Displays and Handicraft Show
- New Iceland Drama Society Productions
- Festival 10-mile and 2-mile Foot Race
- Winnipeg Sports Car Club Race
- New Iceland Music and Poetry Program
- Delta Wing Kite Flying Demonstration
- Midway — Joyland Shows
- New Iceland Folk-Fest
- Community Singing
- Fireworks
- Dance Each Evening

TRADITIONAL FESTIVAL PROGRAM - MONDAY, 2 P.M.  
 GUEST SPEAKERS:

MR. HEIMR HANNESSON, Alternate Member of the Parliament of Iceland

MR. HAROLD S. SIGURDSON, Icelandic Consul, Vancouver, B.C.

— FREE ADMISSION TO GIMLI PARK GROUNDS —



## Jim Remembers Rockpile Days

Flin Flon, Man.—J. E. (Jim) Goodman arrived here on a cold February day in 1935 hoping to beat the depression. He began work as a rock picker at the Hudson Bay Mining and Smelting Company's crusher. Last week Mr. Goodman retired as general manager.

J. E. Goodman or just Jim as he is known throughout this northern mining centre, is a member of the well-known Winnipeg Icelandic family which produced Mike Goodman, a super star with the world champion Winnipeg Falcons in 1920 and Canadian speed-skating king.

The Goodman sisters — Goody, Babe and Frieda — played infield with the Winnipeg Rambke Rambles softball team which ran up a string of 103 consecutive victories in the mid-1920s.

When the future general manager arrived at the Flin Flon railway station loaded down with hockey equipment he thought his ability in this direction might be the key to future success. He had played with the Pittsburgh Hornets — an amateur team which offered its players "pittance pay."

This ambition was thwarted, he recalls, because before the next hockey season he was working on a job that kept him on night shift, seven days a week for a year.

"I will never forget arriving here in the middle of winter with no job and no place to stay. The first night I bunked in a tent. Eventually I got

living with an Icelandic family called Einarsson — some of them are still around Flin Flon.

"They had a suite which consisted of one good sized room, partitioned off. It was over a blacksmith shop. A lot of fumes would rise from the action below us especially when a horse was being shoed. There were three of the family and three boarders living in the place."

Heating was with two wood stoves. "By noon the heat would have descended to your shoulders," he says.

"I soon learned that inviting visitors to share what home you happened to have was part of the Flin Flon way of life in those days. Sometime you'd meet a fellow who had just arrived and thought nothing of asking him to crawl into your bed. People had needs and they had to be met. We'd all been through it."

After working six weeks as a sheet metal worker and at other odd jobs, Mr. Goodman finally landed a job with HBM & S as a helper in the crusher for 38 cents an hour — on steady night shift. Finally he transferred to production.

"It was during my second spring in Flin Flon that I really fell in love with the place. I used to walk out to those magnificent lakes with the fresh wind blowing across them. It was irresistible country. I guess I've never fallen out of love with it."

After five years millwork, Mr. Goodman began to think about education. He completed his grade

twelve at night school and in 1940 set out to take up metallurgical engineering at the University of British Columbia. In 1944 he returned to Flin Flon with an honors Bachelor of Applied Science degree.

In 1949, Mr. Goodman married Shirley Anderson, who was a matron at the Flin Flon General Hospital. They have four children — two living in Flin Flon, one in Winnipeg and the other in British Columbia.

Mr. Goodman has seen Flin Flon grow from a crude mining town to a well established city. During recent years he has been involved in the modernization of the HBM & S plant facilities which includes the construction of the 820 foot high smoke stack.

Equalling his technical ability has been his skill in understanding people. "I've walked a mile or two in the shoes of every man in that plant," he says, "I know what he is up against and how he feels." The truth of this remark is demonstrated when Mr. Goodman is called on to make presentations at various employee awards nights.

He likes to recall having been Bobby Clarke's boss when the Philadelphia Flyer's super-star and his teammate Reg Leach played with the Flin Flon Bombers. Commenting on Clarke's performance in the plant, Mr. Goodman said, "He works the way he plays — all out."

Mr. Goodman inherited musical talent from his father who was an organist at First Lutheran Church, Winnipeg. One of his first post-retirement activities is to direct the Flin Flon Glee Club in the musical Hello Dolly.

Mr. Goodman was in at the start of the local glee club — first as a singer and then, by accident, as a director. Two weeks before final rehearsal of a musical, the director was taken to hospital and Mr. Goodman was asked to take over the job.

Since then he's been in on the production of such musicals as Oklahoma, Brigadoon, The Merry Widow, The Music Man, Guys and Dolls and, now, Hello Dolly.

"The big thrill is to pick up a fellow out of a store on main street who never thought he could do anything on the stage but who has the personality and voice. You work with him for a winter and he blossoms on opening night," Mr. Goodman says.

As general manager, he found himself too involved to work with the glee club production. "There's just not enough space in one head to carry all the things you'd have to think about trying to do both things," he says.

Now at 65, Mr. Goodman is free to move into the world of music. He's also going to be free to travel to Miami, Florida, where his 78-year-old brother, Mike, is living. The former Falcon flash insists on taking his younger brother figure skating when he visits the south.

Having started out on the rockpile, Mr. Goodman says he's optimistic about the future of the "Manitoba rockpile" and the mines in northern Manitoba.

"Everything depends on two things — the world metal market and our ability to operate viably. I'm sure we can do the latter if they don't tax us to death. I know we have the metallurgical capacity to stay in business

for a very long time."

The Goodmans will continue to make Flin Flon their home. Mr. Goodman will remain on as a consultant to H B M & S Manitoba oper-

ations.

"I'm happy to stay in Flin Flon — as always it's a tremendous challenge."

— *The Winnipeg Free Press.*



### HALLDORA KRISTIN SIGURDSON

Halldora Kristin Sigurdson, who died suddenly in Los Angeles, California, last December, had gained international reputation in her work for the deaf and hard of hearing.

Halldora was born at Kristnes, Saskatchewan, but later moved to Arborg, Manitoba, with her family, where she completed high school. She attended Wesley College and Normal School in Winnipeg. She taught at Vidir and Framnes schools for three years.

In 1936, Halldora moved to Vancouver and began teaching at the school for the deaf and blind. She became so interested in helping handicapped children that she was sent to the Ontario School for the deaf and the blind to study their teaching methods, returning again to the Vancouver school, where she taught until 1944. Halldora then moved to Los Angeles and began teaching at the Speech and Hearing Clinic at the University of Southern California, and also at the John Tracy Clinic. She received her M.A. at the

University of Southern California and became a professor of speech reading, teaching hearing evaluation, speech and lip reading, and other audiological and speech subjects. Halldora then moved to Compton, Cal. where she was the director of their school program for the deaf and hard of hearing. Her innovative ideas in this program gained her international reputation in this field, and in 1966 she attended the International World Conference on the deaf and hard of hearing for otologists and audiologists.

She later went into private practice as an audiologist and at one time directed the audiology department at Dr. Howard House's Oto-Medical Clinic as well as the Oto-Medical Surgical Clinic of Dr. Victor Goodhill, in Los Angeles. Halldora was also very interested in art, and for several years owned and operated Halldora's Art Gallery in Palm Springs, Cal., specializing in paintings by Montanes.

## The Pioneers of Hecla Island - 1876

An important event of the Centennial Conference cruise on Lake Winnipeg in October 1975 was a dedication ceremony at Gull Harbour. This was the unveiling of a plaque of 31 Icelandic settlers on Hecla Island, in 1876.

The Bishop of Iceland, the Most Reverend Sigurbjörn Einarsson unveiled the plaque. Dr. P. H. T. Thorlakson read the names of the 31 pioneers, while the audience stood, in tribute to their memory.

### A LETTER FROM 31 PIONEER SETTLERS ON BIG ISLAND (MIKLEY) NOW HECLA ISLAND, 1876

Gimli, Keewatin  
8th February, 1977

John Lorne, Esq.,  
Secretary,

Department of Agriculture,  
Ottawa.

Sir,

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter translated from the Icelandic, signed by Jon Bergsveinsson and thirty-one settlers on Big Island, asking to have the survey of the Island carried out at once. And further requesting that the Lots fronting on the Lake on the east side of the Island may be laid out twenty chains wide with depth in proportion.

Having already written on this subject, I will only remark that it is of great importance for this colony that the above survey should be made at once in the manner set forth above.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servant,  
John Taylor,  
Icelandic Agent

Big Island, Keewatin

January 30th, 1877

Sir,

We, the subscribers, who settled on Big Island in August and September last, and have taken up claims on the east side of the Island expected that the Island would be surveyed this winter as on the main-shore, but as we do not know that any arrangements have been made yet for the survey of the Island, we do hereby apply to you asking that you will bring the matter before the Dominion Government requesting that the Island be surveyed this winter as soon as possible.

Many of us were obliged to, the season being so advanced when we arrived, to join together to build houses last fall; we therefore think it of importance that the land be subdivided before we build on the respective lots to prevent confusion that may arise from settling on un-surveyed lands, viz., that more than one settler be upon the same lot, obliging some to leave their improvements and more to another.

We have come to that conclusion that it will be to our advantage to settle so closely on the Lake shore as to leave each lot only 20 chains wide, and we do therefore apply to you to arrange that the lots fronting on the Lake on the east side of the Island be laid out 20 chains wide extending so far back from the shore as is required to have them contain 160 acres each.

We have the honour to be, Sir,

Your obedient Servants,

S. Jonsson  
J. Sveinsson  
Jon Sigurdson  
Egill Gudbrandsson  
E. Magnusson  
Jon Magnusson  
J. Sigurdsson  
B. Einarsson  
B. Petursson  
S. Eriendsson  
A. Egilsson

F. Jonsson  
R. Gudmundsson  
G. Gudmundson  
Hjalmar Gudmundsson  
Halldor Thorgilsson  
J. Gudmundsson  
J. Bjornsson  
J. Jonasson  
S. Jonsson  
B. Sveinsson  
M. Halldorsson

Jon Bergvinsson  
Js. Antoniusson  
F. Stephansson  
H. Fr. Reykjalin  
J. E. Straunfjord  
S. Thorvaldsson  
Kr. Jonsson  
Th. Halldorsson  
H. Tomasson  
T. Jonasson  
B. Sveinsson

To the correctness of the translation  
certifies,

Sigtr. Jonasson,

Assist. Icel. Agent

### EXCERPTS FROM THE REPORT OF JOHN TAYLOR, ICELANDIC AGENT TO THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, 1876

SIR,—I have the honour to submit the following report of the Icelandic Agency, for the year ending 31st December, 1876.

At the beginning of the year 1876, the Icelandic Colony was suffering from want of suitable provisions, but the appropriation made in February by the Department, relieved the distress and enabled the settlers to take food sufficient for their support during their more protracted stay at their distant farms or homesteads, ten to twenty miles from this village.

A school for teaching the children the English language had been very successful and popular through the winter. It was closed in consequence of the people going away to farm.

At my request the Icelanders elected, by regular voting, five persons to form a Council for the management of their affairs, and for regulating, generally, all matters among them. Applications for land were recorded until regular surveys could be made, and a statement made out showing what food and seed was required. The Chairman of this Council received the appointment of Justice of the Peace, jointly with the Agent. No cases have yet been brought before them.

The fishing in the winter through the ice did not repay the time and the suffering from exposure to the severe frosts. On the 23rd April, however, the fish were more plentiful, and a great number were taken

until the 8th May, when the ice became unsafe. On the 22nd May the ice disappeared, and the fishing was good for some time after. As other food was scarce, this abundant supply of good fresh fish was a great help to the people. Almost every family also saved one or two hundred for themselves. They were not saleable at Winnipeg. The best fishing stations were at Sandy Bar and Drunken River. The pike or jack-fish was the most plentiful, and the people prefer them to cod-fish. Very few fish were taken in the summer, but as the water became cool the fish returned to the shores, and had not the stormy weather prevented it, a larger number might have been taken. As it was, they saved, generally, from one to two hundred in each family, besides those used by them from day to day. Not many whitefish were taken this fall.

The sanitary condition of the Colony had been good, until, in March, the scurvy made its appearance. Sickly persons and women with young children were the chief sufferers. This disease was, no doubt, caused by the want of the usual milk diet to which the Icelanders, as a pastoral people, were accustomed, and which they were deprived of for nearly two years. The scurvy greatly increased in April and May. No recovery took place until some cows were brought down here in June, after which it quickly disappeared.

## BOOK REVIEW

### ICELANDIC SHORT STORIES

by Kristine Perlmutter

Selected, edited and partially translated by Evelyn Scherabon Firchow, with an introduction by Sigurður A. Magnússon.

Boston, Mass., Twayne Publishers, 1974. pp. 213.

This anthology of Icelandic short stories includes most of the great Icelandic authors of the 19th and 20th centuries who wrote short stories of literary significance. Evelyn Firchow says, in her introduction that she made her selection of which authors to include on the basis of how well each story reflected the "unique" aspects of Icelandic life during this period. She has arranged the stories chronologically according to the birth dates of their authors in order to show the historical development of the genre.

Mrs. Firchow has translated most of the stories which are included and has revised the translations of the remainder. She has managed to capture the quality and charm of the original Icelandic works, while at the same time making accessible to those whose interest in Icelandic literature is hampered by lack of skill in reading the language. If you happen to fall into that category, you will find this book a rare gem.

The stories themselves span a wide range of topics. Generally speaking, the

more serious stories seem to come off more successfully than do the humorous ones. If you happen to be interested in stories of people defeated by poverty or other misfortunes, you must read Halldór Stefánsson's "Blind Man's War" and "The Man in the Attic", and "The Woman on the Main Floor" by Jón Óskar. If the supernatural intrigues you, you will enjoy "The Wish" by Einar Kvaran. Lovers of animals will enjoy the dog "Skuggi" in "Rebellion at the River" by Stefán Jónsson. For a good laugh try "Two Big Shots" by Guðmundur G. Hagalín. In short, there is truly something for everyone.

The stories are firmly localized in the Icelandic countryside and the environment, landscape and farms are vividly depicted. Characters of outstanding individuality create psychological interest.

The introduction by Sigurður Magnússon is very interesting and provides a wealth of information about each of the writers represented.

Anyone wishing to sample what has recently been produced by Icelandic prose writers and to gain some insight into Icelandic literature will find this anthology more than adequate. The range of writers from well-known favourites to promising new writers provides a good cross section of Icelandic short story writing from the 19th century Realist Writers to the present day.



### IN THE NEWS

#### GRETTIR L. JOHANNSSON HONORARY DOCTOR OF LAWS DEGREE BRANDON UNIVERSITY

At its October 1975 Convocation, Brandon University conferred an honorary doctor of laws degree upon Grettir L. Johannsson, former Icelandic Consul for Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Grettir, for more than fifty years, has been one of the prominent and active members of the Icelandic com-

munity in Manitoba. Over and above his duties as Consul he has served on many committees for perpetuating the Icelandic language and culture. He was a member of the Board of Lögberg from 1942 to 1959 and was an active participant in the committee that brought about the amalgamation of Lögberg and Heimskringla. He was a member of the group of Icelanders who made the appeal to the Icelandic community at large, and raised the necessary funds to establish a Depart-



Grant Park Northgate Nairn & 59

ment of Icelandic at the University of Manitoba.

He is an honorary life member of the Icelandic National League. He served on the committee which organized the presentation by Icelandic Canadians of a plaque to the Federal Government commemorating Canada's Centennial Year. Mr. Johannson was the instigator of and took a major responsibility for microfilming all editions between 1877 and 1973 of eight Icelandic weekly newspapers and two annual magazines. At the time of the volcanic eruptions in the Westman Islands, Grettir was actively involved in raising funds in Canada in aid of the victims. —Kristin Olson

★

One of several projects for Riverton's centennial year, 1976, has been the establishment of a trust fund by the family and some friends of the late Dr. S. O. Thompson. The proceeds from this fund will be given each year to a Grade XII student at Riverton Collegiate who has shown general excellence during the session.

This prize will be known as the **Riverton Centennial Award** in memory of Dr. S. O. Thompson.

★

"Rumpelstilzkin", a children's musical play in two acts, was presented by the Icelandic Children Centennial Choir in the parish hall of the first Lutheran Church in Winnipeg on Tuesday, June 1. The production, under the direction of Elma Gislason, with Kristin Johnson as accompanist, was greatly enjoyed by the audience. This very talented young group is rapidly making a name for itself in the Manitoba Icelandic Canadian community.

The director of the choir, as well as the executive and everyone connected with it, are to be congratulated upon their fine work.

★

Awards for leading radio and television shows produced in Canada in 1975 were presented by the Association of Canadian Television and Radio Artists (ACTRA) in Toronto, on April 21. Best public affairs TV broadcasting award was presented to John Harvard, of Winnipeg for a show on the eye-glass industry, on the CBC Winnipeg 24-Hours program.

★

#### LAKE WINNIPEG BOATWORKS TO BUILD FIBREGLASS BOATS

Lake Winnipeg Boatworks, Gimli, have been awarded a \$15,960 grant from DREE (Regional Economic Expansion) to assist with expansion of a new fibreglass product, fibreglass boats.

The Gimli firm has been manufacturing wooden fishing boats for about twenty years. They have been

YOUR A.R.P. VALUE CENTRE

#### VIKING PHARMACY

Pharmacists:

Ernest Stefanson

Garry Fedorchuk

Centre and Fourth

GIMLI

Western Canada's only major manufacturers of fishing boats.

Manager and principal shareholder is Mr. Steve Johnson.

★

#### VILHJALMUR STEFANSSON'S DIARIES AND ENCYCLOPEDIA ON MICROFILM

The following account of Vilhjalmur Stefansson's diaries and Encyclopedia on microfilm is taken from "Folio", the University of Alberta Staff Bulletin.

Vilhjalmur Stefansson (1879-1962), famous Arctic explorer and scholar,

made three expeditions to the Arctic between 1906 and 1918. For each of his journeys, Stefansson left detailed diaries. The orderly, scientific record of his daily activities and observations is a rich storehouse of anthropological and scientific information about the North. The Library of the Boreal Institute for Northern Studies has acquired microfilm copies of the **Arctic Expedition Diaries of Vilhjalmur Stefansson** on three reels.

The Library has also acquired the twenty-seven reel microfilm edition of **Encyclopedia Arctica**, edited in the late 1940's and early 1950's by Stefansson. Sixteen comprehensive volumes of articles on the Arctic, written especially for the project by specialists throughout the world, were compiled by Stefansson and his staff. The **Encyclopedia Arctica** contains all manner of Arctic information, from articles on the flora and fauna of the North to brief biographies of noted explorers and others; there is also a wide range of historical information on Arctic trade and exploration. Until Xerox University Microfilms microfilmed the typescript drafts of most of the submitted articles, the **Encyclopedia** was unpublished. Now this hitherto unpublished material is available in the Library of the Boreal Institute and will serve as a valuable resource for anyone interested in the Arctic.

#### GILLIES FOOD SERVICE

1114 PORTAGE AVENUE.  
AT GREENWOOD PL.

QUALITY MEATS & GROCERIES

FREEZER BEEF CUT TO ORDER

GENUINE ICELANDIC BROWN  
BREAD

NORMAN GILLIES, MGR.

Cor. Academy Rd. and Wellington Crescent

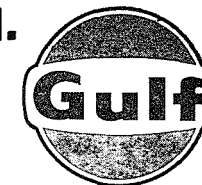
Phone  
452-2806 — 3 lines

#### Academy Road Service Ltd.

E. R. (Earle) HIEBERT, Manager

MANITOBA MOTOR LEAGUE SERVICE

— We Specialize in Simonizing —



## INTRODUCTION TO ICELANDIC

"Introduction to Icelandic" is a text book for beginners studying the language, written by Guðbjartur Gunnarsson and illustrated by Steinunn Bessason. It is informative and easy to follow, an essential aid to instructors and students alike.

The book is published by the Icelandic National League of North America. It is priced at \$10.00 and may be ordered from Mrs. H. F. Danielson, 869 Garfield St., Winnipeg, R3G 2M6.

★

## THE ICELANDIC CULTURAL AND LANGUAGE CAMP ON LAKE WINNIPEG

Courses in Icelandic language and studies of Iceland and Icelandic nationality were conducted at the Icelandic Cultural and Language Camp

at Gimli last year, with young people from the Western provinces in attendance. The Camp will operate this year in the Ukrainian Catholic Park some six miles north of Gimli, August 15 to 24th.

Mrs. Lorna Tergesen is the coordinator.

★

The Viking Club (of Winnipeg) annual meeting was held at Carling-O'Keefe's April 22. The attendance was good. In the absence of the President, Past President Magnus Eliasson chaired the meeting.

The Viking Club has had numerous social events.

The new executive includes three Icelandic representatives: Magnus Eliason, John Borgfjord, and Svein Sveinsson.

### Gimli Transfer & Dan's Transfer

GENERAL FREIGHT SERVICE — WINNIPEG — GIMLI

COAST TO COAST FURNITURE MOVING  
AGENTS FOR ALLIED VAN LINES

WINNIPEG PHONE 774-2259 — 2190 NOTRE DAME AVE.  
GIMLI PHONE 642-5269 WPG. BEACH PHONE 389-2692

Compliments of . . .

# MANITOBA SUGAR Company

FORT GARRY, MANITOBA

## AMALGAMATION OF THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB OF WINNIPEG AND FRÓN CHAPTER OF THE ICELANDIC NATIONAL LEAGUE

The amalgamation of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Winnipeg and the Frón Chapter of the Icelandic National League was agreed to in principle at a meeting, February 19. The amalgamated association will become a chapter of the National League.

A committee was appointed to decide on the name of the new organization, and its constitution.

The Icelandic National League was founded in 1919 and the Icelandic Canadian Club in 1938.

## THE BISHOP OF ICELAND VISITS SAN FRANCISCO

The Bishop of Iceland, the Most Reverend Sigurbjörn Einarsson, and his wife frú Magnea visited San Francisco last October. The Icelandic Society of Northern California held a reception for these guests of honor and for Reverend H. Sigmar and Mrs. Sigmar, from Yakima, Washington, who accompanied the Bishop on this part of his North American visit.

Donald Stoneson, Icelandic Consul in San Francisco, and President Vigdís Jakobsson, of the Icelandic Society, welcomed the visitors. Bishop Einarsson addressed the gathering, in Icelandic and in English.

His Worship, Joseph Alisto, mayor of San Francisco, sent his greetings to the Bishop and frú Magnea.

The Icelandic Society presented a fine silver tray to frú Magnea.

## RIVERTON TRANSFER LTD.

HIGHWAY TRANSPORTATION AND WINTER FREIGHT  
TO THE NORTH

1500 VALOUR ROAD, WINNIPEG

WINNIPEG PHONE 783-5085 RIVERTON PHONE 378-2394  
STEFAN O. OLAFSON, PRESIDENT

COMPLIMENTS OF

## ARNASON CONSTRUCTION

CO. LTD.

CONTRACTORS — ENGINEERS

LOT 7 — ROSSER ROAD

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

PHONE 633-2567

### ICELANDIC CANADIAN CLUB- FRÓN DINNER

A dinner and dance sponsored jointly by the Icelandic Canadian Club and the Frón Chapter of the Icelandic National League was held at the Fort Garry Hotel on April 10, 1976. The duties of master of ceremonies for the evening were shared by the two capable presidents of these organizations, H. J. (Dori) Stefansson and Iris Torfason.

Guest speaker for the evening was Mr. Norman Bergman, who is well known in the Icelandic community in Winnipeg. His message, "Looking Backward Into the Future" stressed the idea that we must move far afield in involving members from all areas of the Icelandic community in our projects and our organizations. He also proposed the idea of the formation of a national Icelandic museum in Gimli.

Greg Nordman and Linda Eggerer, two very accomplished singers, entertained with selections from the Broadway musicals "Oklahoma" and "Brigadoon". Mr. Nordman also favoured the audience with his rendition of the ever-popular "Draumalandið". They were accompanied at the piano by Judy Turner.

A dance, well coordinated by floor manager, Ted Arnason, brought to a close this most enjoyable evening.

Kristine Perlmutter

★

**BETEL** — This attractive book of 40-pages contains much information about the Betel Home Foundation from 1915 to 1975. The interesting text, written by Ingibjorg S. Goodridge, is enlivened by a number of historic pictures.

Price \$2.00 and can be ordered from Gardar Printing Limited, 67 St. Anne's Road, Winnipeg, R2M 2Y4. or phone 247-5140.



Inspector Lawson Eyman

Sgt. Lawson Eyman of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Detachment at Port Alberni, British Columbia, was recently promoted to the rank of Inspector and will assume his new duties as Assistant Officer in charge of the Vancouver Drug Section on the 1st of August.

Inspector Eyman is the son of Mrs. Lily Eyman and the late Grimur Eyman, of 337 Morris Avenue, Selkirk, Manitoba.

Inspector Eyman received his education in Selkirk and joined the R.C.M.P. on January 5, 1954. Since completing his training he has been stationed on Ottawa, Ontario, and in British Columbia at Haney, Castlegar, Rossland, Port Coquitlam, Courtenay, and Port Alberni Detachments.

★

SUBSCRIBE TO  
**THE ICELANDIC CANADIAN**  
\$5.00 PER YEAR

### VIKING PRINTERS

868 ARLINGTON ST.

Phone 774-6251

### DR. G. KRISTJANSSON

PHYSICIAN and SURGEON

PHONE 772-9453

WESTBROOK MEDICAL CENTRE

Logan and Keewatin

Winnipeg, Manitoba

### GREETINGS

FROM TWO BROTHERS

### PATRONIZE YOUR ADVERTISERS

COMPLIMENTS OF

### Sigurdson Fisheries Ltd.

Agents for  
**FRESHWATER FISH MARKETING  
CORP.**

Telephone 378-2456

RIVERTON

MANITOBA

### DR. T. A. NORQUAY

O.D., D.O.S.

OPTOMETRIST

CONTACT LENSES

304 CLANDEBOYE AVENUE  
SELKIRK, MANITOBA

3286 PORTAGE AVENUE  
WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

OFFICE PHONES: SELKIRK 482-3366  
WINNIPEG 837-6292



Your Neighborhood Taxi

### VIKING HOLDINGS LTD.

MANAGER: W. F. DAVIDSON

708 - 294 Portage Avenue  
Winnipeg, Manitoba

Telephone 942-7037

Compliments of . . .

### - ASGEIRSON'S - LIMITED

698 SARGENT AVE. 783-4322

★

Headquarters for

PAINT • WALLPAPER  
AND HARDWARE

**W. H. FINNBOGASON PROMOTED**

W. H. Finnbogason, formerly operations director in the works and operations department of the City of Winnipeg, has been appointed Personnel Director.

W. H. (Bill) Finnbogason was President of the Icelandic Canadian Club of Winnipeg in 1964.

★

**SUPPORT THE  
ICELANDIC CANADIAN  
MAGAZINE  
BUY A SUBSCRIPTION  
OR  
BUY ADVERTISING**

★

**RIVERTON FIRM BUILDS COAST  
GUARD VESSEL**

What is thought to be the first coast guard vessel ever built on the prairie is being built at Riverton Boat Works, at Riverton, Manitoba.

A federal ministry of transport spokesman said the lake boat will cost about \$1 million and have all the latest in navigation and communication equipment.

Compliments of . . .

**VIKING HOLDINGS LTD.**

★

Manager W. F. Davidson

★

708-294 Portage Avenue

Phone 942-7037

Winnipeg

The 110-foot ship, will be able to operate in a water depth as little as seven feet and will be manned by a crew of ten.

The coast guard boat will be mainly concerned with placing buoys, upkeep of beacons and supply of installations.

Chris Thorsteinson, president of Riverton Boat Works, said it is the largest vessel his company has ever built.

Riverton Boat Works, now in its third generation of building vessels for use in lakes and rivers, built a 105-ft. cruise ship, the Rowena, for Arctic Cruise Lines, that carries passengers on the Mackenzie River.

The boat works was started by John Thorsteinson about 1920 and was registered as Riverton Boat Works in 1940, when Chris took over. His son Kenneth, has continued the family tradition of boat building and will head the firm, which employs about 14 on a permanent basis.

Chris Thorsteinson said, "We aren't a big business so we don't need that much work to keep us going. We pretty well deal with the same customers year after year."

Although not widely known outside of shipping circles, Riverton has left its mark on the lakes and rivers of Western Canada.

It built all the ferries used by the province of Saskatchewan and most of the boats used commercially on Lake Winnipeg.

Mr. Thorsteinson said the mainstay of his boat yard are the commercial fishermen on Lake Winnipeg.

Riverton is on the west shore of Lake Winnipeg about 78 miles north of Winnipeg.

—Winnipeg Free Press.

**VIKING ARTIFACTS EXCITE  
PARAGUAY**

Paraguay is eagerly awaiting expert confirmation that Vikings once lived here and left behind inscriptions and artifacts that it hopes will create a tourist boom in this poor and landlocked South American country.

A group of Argentine geologists will arrive this month to study evidence backing the theory of French anthropological Jacques Mahieu, head of the Buenos Aires Institute of the Science of Man, that Danish Vikings and their descendants explored the mountains and plains of South America centuries before Christopher Columbus.

The central tourist office here is already convinced of the authenticity of the "Viking caves" discovered a couple of years ago in the northern province of Amambay and the Guaira region

in the east and is looking forward to the tourists they will attract.

The experts are expected to check 36 ceramic shards found in the Horoti diggings at the site of a long-abandoned village. Four of the fragments bear runic inscriptions, such as prayers to Odin, which can be deciphered by experts, as well as typical Viking symbols, sources here said.

One of the fragments is dated 1305, written in medieval Arabic numerals, while an illegible inscription found about eight miles away is dated 1457, the source added.

Some of the fragments are reportedly decorated with five stylized figures, such as a bird-man, exactly like ones found in Easter Island in the South Pacific Ocean. This is seen here as proof that the mysterious island was settled by Nordic white men from South America. —Free Press, Aug. 7/75

WHEN YOUR THOUGHTS TURN

TO TAX SAVING,

TURN TO US

*Investors*  
Syndicate

HEAD OFFICE: WINNIPEG

GET YOUR FUTURE GOING TODAY



COMPLIMENTS OF

**S. A. THORARINSON**

BARRISTER AND SOLICITOR

708-294 PORTAGE AVENUE

OFFICE PHONE 942-7051

WINNIPEG, MANITOBA R3B 1K8

**Greetings**

from

**A Friend**

**Greetings**

from

**A Friend**

COMPLIMENTS OF

**McKAGUE SIGMAR CO. LTD.**

MANITOBA'S LARGEST  
REAL ESTATE SERVICE

**SERVING ALL OF WINNIPEG**

WITH 6 OFFICES

**MURRAY SIGMAR**  
President and General Manager  
502-203 PORTAGE AVE.  
Head Office 943-1431 Res. 253-1979

*Index to Advertizers*

Academy Road Service Ltd.....	39	Dr. G. Kristjanson .....	43
Arnason Construction Co. ....	41	Dr. C. and S. Malkin .....	43
Asgeirson Paints and Hardware....	43	Manitoba Sugar Company .....	40
Bardal Funeral Home .....	Cover	McKague Sigmar Co. Ltd. ....	46
Brooke Bond Foods Ltd. ....	Cover	Dr. T. A. Norquay .....	43
Can. Broadcasting Corporation ...	1	Richardson and Company .....	48
Duffy's Taxi .....	43	Riverton Transfer Ltd. ....	41
Eatons of Canada .....	Cover	Sigurdson Fisheries Ltd. ....	43
Fial Masonry Ltd. ....	2	From A Friend .....	46
Gambles .....	37	Tallin, Kristjanson and Smith .....	2
Gillies Food Service .....	39	S. A. Thorarinson .....	46
Gimli Transfer and Storage .....	40	From a Friend .....	46
Harold's Mens Hairstyling .....	2	Viking Holdings Ltd. ....	44
Icelandic Airlines .....	3	Viking Pharmacy, .....	38
Investors Syndicate .....	45	Viking Printers .....	43
Íslendingadagurinn .....	29	Western Elevator and Motor Co. Ltd. ....	48
Kane Equipment Limited .....	Cover	Western Paint Co. Ltd.....	48

## THE WESTERN PAINT CO. LTD.

"THE PAINTER'S SUPPLY HOUSE SINCE 1908"

521 HARGRAVE ST., WINNIPEG, R3E 0Y1 PHONE 942-7271

J. A. SCHIMNOWSKI, PRESIDENT

VISIT OUR NEW ULTRA MODERN WALLCOVERING BUILDING

5E HARGRAVE & WILLIAM — FREE PARKING — PHONE 942-7317

## RICHARDSON & COMPANY

BARRISTERS AND ATTORNEYS AT LAW

274 Garry Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3C 1H5

Telephone 957-1670 (Area Code 204)

J. F. Reeh Taylor, Q.C.

Walter J. Kehler, B.A., LL.B.

James H. Cook, B.A., LL.B.

David I. Marr, B.Sc., LL.B.

Alan P. Scott, B.A., LL.B.

Robert R. Fabbri, B.A., LL.B.

Douglas J. Mackenzie, B.A., LL.B.

Charles R. Huband, LL.B.

Garth M. Erickson, B.A., LL.B.

Gary R. Smith, B.A., LL.B.

Richard K. Deeley, B.A., LL.B.

S. Glen Sigurdson, B.A., (Hons.) LL.B.

David R. Sellen, B.A., LL.B.

Douglas W. Regelous, B.A., LL.B.

### COUNSEL:

BERT V. RICHARDSON, Q.C.

M. BERNARD NEPON, B.A., LL.B., LL.M., (Yale)

MR. S. GLENN SIGURDSON ATTENDS IN GIMLI AND RIVERTON ON THE  
1st and 3rd FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

Offices are in the Gimli Medical Centre, 62-3rd Avenue, between the hours of 9:30 a.m.  
and 5:30 p.m. with Mr. Sigurdson and his legal assistant in attendance.

(TELEPHONE 642-7955)

In Riverton, Mr. Sigurdson attends in the Riverton Village Office, between the  
hours of 1:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m.

Compliments of . . .

**POWER & MINE SUPPLY CO. LTD.**  
**WESTERN ELEVATOR & MOTOR CO. LTD.**

GRETTIR EGGERTSON, PRESIDENT

123, PRINCESS STREET

— WINNIPEG, MANITOBA

at **Kane**  
EQUIPMENT LIMITED

We move  
the earth...  
in more  
ways than  
one!

WINNIPEG 1539 Waverley 284-0481	BRANDON 18th & Pacific 727-6474	SASKATOON 2410 Millar 244-0941	REGINA 715 Dewdney E. 523-9695
---------------------------------------	---------------------------------------	--------------------------------------	--------------------------------------

