

The 1930's saw some hard times when the Lodge almost fell by the wayside, but with the dedication of a few brothers it survived. The war years saw the Lodge pick up, thanks mainly to the Air Force Training School.

During these years the Lodge contributed funds to a swimming pool, a wading pool, playgrounds, and many community groups. These community contributions have increased over the years to include assistance to Extencicare, Pioneer Lodge, Boy Scouts, Little League Baseball, minor hockey, and many national charities.

Over the years these funds were raised by a variety of means including dances, raffles, suppers, and the like. All functions being set up to give the Lodge a high profile in the community.

### **Fort McMurray #475, Alta.**

The Fort McMurray Lodge was instituted on November 30, 1962 with 50 members.

Over the years the Lodge has been involved in numerous ventures some being a great success and others not fairing as well.

One of the successes was the School Safety Patrol Program whereby the Elks acknowledged the young people in the community who have kept it safe for those children crossing the streets at the schools.

Rodeos were attempted in the area, however due to high costs and Mother Nature's unwillingness to accommodate the area with pleasant weather, this venture was stopped after two years.

The most popular and long-lived event of the Lodge has been the annual Athabasca River Breakup. Tickets with a given minute of the day are sold. Using the Lodges own clock and barrel system the Lodge has been able to lock in the time, to the exact minute, that the river ice moves. Prizes are awarded for the exact minute and also for one minute and two minutes after.

Another success of recent times has been a Fishing Derby and Beerfest put on by the Lodge and assisted by local merchants, whose generous donations have made such prizes as fly-in-fishing trips possible.

With the help of the Purple Cross Fund the Lodge has been able to aid the community in such ways as putting an operating microscope in the local hospital, F.M. trainers in the schools of the area and assistance to some of the local children.

The Lodge has been going through a growth period as the membership had declined to such a point where people were not aware that the

Lodge was in existence. In the last two years the membership has been climbing steadily and the Lodge's public awareness has been given a favorable shot in the arm.

### **Fort Nelson #400, B.C.**

Bro. M. A. Moran was the Grand Lodge Organizer who, on November 26, 1955, instituted a new lodge in Fort Nelson, B.C. The first Exalted Ruler was Bro. W. G. Williscroft. Bro. Moran was able to get 70 members to sign up to join the new lodge.

By 1959 the lodge had purchased a building and a lot and was well on the way. It took an active role in the community by providing funds for clothing, food and assistance to families which had been burned out. In 1968 they built a new club facility. In 1973 the lodge began the development of an Elks Children's Park in the community. The lodge has continued to serve the community contributing to local organizations when the need arises.

### **Fort St. John #288, B.C.**

Fort St. John Lodge #288 was instituted by Bro. P. A. Miquelon on August 24, 1944. At the ceremony of installation Bro. H. E. Roche was installed as the Exalted Ruler. Bro. Miquelon got 96 members to sign up for the new Lodge.

By 1946 they had acquired their own facility. This facility burned down in 1947. The Lodge then proceeded to build a new building which was completed in 1949. The lodge developed a problem with regard to the finances surrounding the operation of the hall, but by 1960 these had disappeared and the lodge was well on its way to being a valuable part of the community.

Over the years the lodge has contributed a great deal to the community giving extensive donations to many charitable organizations and worthy causes.

### **Fort Saskatchewan #202, Alta.**

Very little is known about this, the original lodge of Fort Saskatchewan. The Grand Organizer's Weekly Report of June 27th, 1928 submitted by Bro. Paul Miquelon shows 49 members. The Officers elected and installed, according to the report, were: Past Exalted Ruler: R. A. Brown (to demit from Vermilion); Exalted Ruler: Bert M. Robinson; Secretary: P. R. Weber. The presiding Installing Officer was W. H. Heller, D.D.G.E.R. With no other information available, one can only speculate on the reasons why,

on August 6, 1928, Hodgeville #202 was instituted.

### **Fort Saskatchewan #399, Alta.**

This Lodge was revived on Sunday, November 13th, 1955 when 60 members were initiated. The charter of B.P.O. Elks Lodge #399 is dated May 4th, 1958.

From the very outset the members raised money to assist in furthering children's sports in the community. Baseball was the great summer pastime of that era and the Elks Lodge did its part in promoting that sport among the youth of the town.

One of the Lodge's more successful ventures is the operation of the Elks Minor Hockey Tournament. This event has been in place for 11 years and is the bench mark for other similar events around the Province.

While busy funding sporting activities among the boys and girls of the area the members have not lost sight of the needs of the less fortunate members of our society. Over the years the Elks Lodge and the Ladies of O.O.R.P. Lodge #212 have worked together to make the community a better place to live in. These two Lodges are similar to many Lodges in our Order, it has not been easy, there are many frustrations, but it is rewarding to know that somewhere, someone, is appreciative of the work that is being done.

The Lodge is especially proud of one of its members, Bro. Gordon Brewer, who was elected to the office of Grand Exalted Ruler and who served the Order well during the 1980-81 term of Office.

### **Bro. Gordon Brewer Grand Exalted Ruler 1980-1981**

Meeting an old time member of the Calgary Elks Lodge #4 in 1962 was Gordon's introduction to Elkdom. He was soon convinced that he should join and on February 25, 1963 he was initiated into the mysteries of Elkdom. At the election of Officers in 1963 he was nominated for the position of Lecturing Knight and was elected. He went on to become Exalted Ruler in 1966-67-68. Looking back it seems to be a natural for him to be actively associated with this type of organization. His father was an organizer and President of the Lindsay Branch of the Great War Veterans Association, a forerunner of the Royal Canadian Legion.

Gordon was born and raised in Southern

Ontario. It was in Lindsay and Newmarket that he spent the early years of his life. While living in Newmarket he met and married Dorothy Mortimer. Out of that union came two children, Marilyn and Gordon Bruce.

While employed in Hamilton, Gordon joined the R.C.N.V.R. and was discharged at Toronto in 1945. In 1956 his employer moved him to Calgary. It was after being again transferred, this time to Fort Saskatchewan, he became the President of the Alberta Elks Association.

At the Grand Lodge Convention in Edmonton he was elected to the office of Grand Esquire. He went on to become the Grand Exalted Ruler in 1980 at the convention in Penticton. Gordon and Dorothy reside in Fort Saskatchewan and are both active members of their respective Lodges in that city.



### **Fort William #82, Ont.**

This Lodge was instituted on April 15, 1924 with an astounding 215 members initiated at one time. One person stood for all, during the initiation. He was Walter Adams (whose Brother Jack, in later years became the General Manager of the Detroit Red Wings). The 1st E.R. was C. A. Rodman and the Sec'y. was C. F. Spittle. The Honorary P.E.R. was Mayor Newton Edmeston.

The year 1928 was a banner year for this Lodge, when they opened their own brand new brick building on Syndicate Ave., where it still stands. By this time membership had increased to more than 300.

The fall began in 1929, the year of the big Depression, and continued through 10 years of bad times when the membership was down to 113, in 1939.

A membership drive was conducted in 1942 and it paid off handsomely. By June 30, 1945 the roll showed 502 members, and there it hovered



Original Elks Lodge #82, Fort William, Ont. (1928).

for many years. Lodge #82 hosted its 1st Grand Lodge Convention in 1942, again in 1951, then 1963 and 1968.

The membership of this Lodge comes from all walks of life. Hubert Badanai, Charter member, Mayor and M.P.; Ted Freeman, G.E.R. (1959-60) and M.P.P.; Ernie Reid the first mayor of the city of Thunder Bay; Walter Assef, Mayor and Honorary Life Member; Bill Thoms, totally deaf International Clown, known as 'Maximillian'; Jim Jessiman, M.P.P.; Jack Oliphant, Charter member and treasurer for 33 consecutive years, Jack Masters the present mayor of Thunder Bay, with many of the members serving as Aldermen, presently Lawrence Timko and Ken Boshcoff. Doctors, Lawyers, Businessmen, Entertainers, Railwaymen, Grain handlers, Sports figures. On and on goes the list.

The Hall itself was doubled in size, a membership drive increased the numbers to more than

1000, where it remains today. The twin Cities of Fort William and Port Arthur, together with the surrounding Townships, were amalgamated into one city to be known as Thunder Bay.

At the Convention held in Sault Ste. Marie in 1970, the Lodge name was officially changed to "Thunder Bay Lodge #82".

Foster Hewitt of Saturday Night in Canada Hockey fame was a guest at Fort William Lodge #82 on the occasion of the Elks Pee Wee Hockey Championships 12th consecutive Tournament, in 1956.

### Trivia Titles Removed

At the Grand Lodge Convention in Fort William, Ont. in July, 1951, the titles of Provincial Exalted Ruler, Provincial Knights and Secretary were abolished and the former titles of President, Vice-President, restored at once.

**Bro. E. G. (Ted) Freeman**  
**Grand Exalted Ruler 1959-1960**

Born in Desoronto, Ont., he came to Fort William in 1935. He served in the Canadian Army in World War I, at 16 years of age, and was decorated several times. During his life-time Ted was a salesman, a business man, and a politician. He became a member of the Elks in Fort William Lodge #82 on June 19, 1940.

He immediately became active in Lodge work and served as E.R. in 1951 and again in 1952, followed by two years as D.D.G.E.R., then as Grand Trustee from 1953 to 1956, when he was elected Grand Lecturing Knight in 1957, reaching the Office of Grand Exalted Ruler in 1959. After completing his year, he spent the 1960-61 term as Chairman of the Board of Grand Trustees. Bro. Ted Freeman was a highly respected Citizen of Ontario's Lakehead. He died October 9, 1986.



**Fredericton #274, New Brunswick**

Grand Organizer Brother Paul Miquelon was the organizer and also officiated at the institution and installation of Officers of this Lodge on February 4, 1937. The 1st Exalted Ruler was Walter Vail and 1st Secretary was F. Cedric Cooper, with a total of 40 members initiated into Elksdom. Their Application for Charter was filed on July 26, 1937 and Charter received on September 7, 1937.

This active group of Elks immediately embarked on a membership drive and soon exceeded 100 members. They organized Christmas Parties for underprivileged children. They had a club building which was owned by a holding company. Their degree team was reported as "excellent".

In April 1956, plans were presented to the Lodge for a new home. In the beginning of May 1959, membership had gone over the 200 mark, they were supporting the Elks Purple Cross Fund and organizing sports activities for the youth of Fredericton. After almost 10 years, the planned new building became a reality at a cost of \$70,000.00 and this is a part of the dramatic rise in membership to over 300.

For some reason, the new building was sold at a tidy profit giving them a nice nest egg for future plans and they are now situated in excellent quarters at 218 Brunswick Street.

Brother Gene Wood served two terms as Regional Representative for the Atlantic Region and in 1987 was elected Grand Tyler.

**Fox Valley #212, Sask.**

Instituted Dec. 3rd, 1928 under Exalted Ruler Edward Code with his Secretary C. C. Mutschler. 52 Charter members were initiated but this is the end of the file and no closing date is shown.

**Frobisher Bay #570, N.W.T.**

The farthest north and most isolated Lodge of the Order (about 1500 miles north-east of Yellowknife and 900 miles north of Montreal) was instituted October 3, 1978 with 34 members, by Assistant Grand Organizer Brother Armand Laberge. The Grand Exalted Ruler, Brother Charlie Clarke read the dispensation and administered the Obligation. He also acted as Exalted Ruler, with the officers and members of Yellowknife Lodge #314 to conduct the Opening Ceremonies and Initiation.

Past D.D.G.E.R. Brother Bill Hettrick of Yellowknife installed the officers with Grand



Frobisher Bay, N.W.T. #570. The Lodge Sign at the airport.

Tyler Brother Don Green of Yellowknife as his assistant.

Brother Harvey Walsh was the first Exalted Ruler and Brother Ted Wheeler the first Secretary.

It is notable that immediately after their institution this lodge had already accumulated over \$240.00 for the Purple Cross Fund and were also able to make a donation of \$1,000.00 to the local Minor Hockey League. This was the proceeds from a corn roast, held in Frobisher Bay by the Elks organizing committee.

Within a year the lodge had acquired their own Elks Hall and have continued to serve the needs of this isolated community on Baffin Island.

### **Gainford #371, Alta.**

Organized and Instituted by Grand Organizer Paul A. Miquelon on April 30, 1953 with 96 charter members, 77 of which appeared for initiation. Howard M. Beebe was elected the first E.R. with Roland Ryley, Sec'y. The file covers more than 20 years but nothing is said about the community service the Lodge offered. In Nov., 1973 the E.R. wrote to all members of the Lodge stating: "Gentlemen, I am quite sure we can again have a happy working Lodge", indicating that there was trouble. The last letter in the file shows the elected officers for 1980-81. No closing date is revealed.

### **Galahad #307, Alta.**

April 2nd, 1948 was the date of institution of this Lodge with 55 members shown on the charter. All but 10 were present at the meeting with the first E.R. being Edward I. Deman and the Sec'y C. A. Meyer. G. O. Paul Miquelon was the Installing Officer assisted by F. J. Milaney. While much was expected of this Lodge, it turned out to be a disappointment to all involved. The report of the D.D. dated Jan. 10th, 1953 carried the message that the last regular meeting was held Jan. 31, 1950. Three years without a regular meeting spells total disaster. And so it goes, the Lodge was closed sometime late in 1953, no actual date being recorded.

### **Gander #310, Newfoundland**

Originally written up as Gander Airport Lodge No. 310 but changed to Gander Lodge, it was instituted on Friday, April 30, 1948 with 68 Charter members.

The first Exalted Ruler was Brother R. V. Adams and the first Secretary was Brother R. G. White. They had rooms to be used as a Lodge room from the very beginning and showed great promise of becoming an important link in the chain of Elkdom.

On the petition for an Elks Lodge, one name stands out: Brother W. F. Peddle, who is shown as being "absent-Canada". Bear in mind that in those days, the "Dominion of Newfoundland" and the "Dominion of Canada" were two separate entities but each housed Lodges of Canadian Elks.

Gander Lodge has made generous contributions to charity, to the Banting Memorial Hospital, Canadian Institute for the Blind, the Children's Ward of the Hospital, a Scholarship to a pupil of Grade XI in St. Joseph's School or Hunt Memorial Hospital. On January 10, 1955 they initiated 23 new members and set a record for attendance at a regular meeting. This Lodge, with the assistance of the Elks Purple Cross Fund, sent a young lad to Toronto Hospital for a successful "Hole in the Heart" operation. The boy's mother described Elkdom's efforts, as a "Godsend".

Brother Gerald Murcheson of Gander Lodge was selected as the member representing the Atlantic Region on the Grand Lodge Sports Committee in 1984 and 1985.

Brother Dick Galipeau was elected Regional Representative for the 1987-88 term.

### **Geraldton #354, Ont.**

Upon the application for charter from Bros. G. W. Powell, G. Whalen, E. Halpenny, G. A. Pile, E. McColl and R. D. Pascoe, Geraldton Lodge was duly instituted on January 31st, 1952 under G.E.R. Bro. Cece Pooles. These members made up the Executive Committee with 7 others elected to fill the rest of the offices. It is interesting to note that some members are still serving the lodge 35 years later. With 59 charter members the Lodge was off to a good start. Many times they have discussed building or buying their own home, but that dream has not yet been fulfilled. Their meetings are held in the Robert Frost room of the Legion Hall, with the membership remaining around the 50 mark. The town of Geraldton holds the Elks Lodge in very high regard, because of the many community services it performs. All senior citizens are invited to a special Christmas party and dinner annually and, of course, Santa



Geraldton, Ont. #354 The Elder Statesman, Bro. Al Keller and the promising young Bro. Mark McMahon.

comes every year for the kids. Their interest in hockey for the youngsters knows no bounds, entering their teams in inter-lodge and district tournaments, as well as the central Canada Pee Wee Hockey tournaments in Thunder Bay. Money is raised in the sale of hockey pool tickets, bingo, raffles, etc. and a pledge to the Geraldton District Hospital of \$3000.00 was fulfilled in 1984. This Lodge is a fine example of the smaller lodges doing big work.



Elks support young Hockey Stars, Geraldton, Ont. #354.

### **Gladstone #317, Man.**

The Gladstone Elks Lodge #317 was formed on the 13th of October, 1948, with 34 officers and members. The Portage la Prairie Lodge helped in the Initiation. The first E.R. of the Lodge was

John Schramm and early meetings were held in the Masonic Lodge, Dewar's store, and the Legion Hall. It was finally decided that a permanent location was needed. The Lodge bought Kennedy's Meat Market, added a basement and kitchen, and renovated it to its present day condition.

In the early years, committees were organized for town and park clean-ups, playground equipment was purchased or constructed, baseball teams were sponsored, as well as putting on casinos and carnivals for all ages.

The Lodge still has four of its original members — Edgar Poesch, Mike McIvor, Harry Reid and Howard Cook. They have also had eight District Deputies: Bernie Clayton, Harry Morton, Mike Werhun, Valdi Bjarnason, Mike McIvor, Jack McLarty, Danny Novak and Herman Hofer as well as two Provincial Presidents — Harry Morton and Valdi Bjarnason.

The Lodge has been always involved in curling and has hosted the Provincial Curling Playoffs twice. They have had two rinks represent Manitoba for the Elks Corby Cup, in 1975 and 1978, while their Seniors' rink played for the national title in 1986. #317 has provided many community services in the past. Some of these are: a donation to the local skating rink for artificial ice, totalling \$3,800.00; a group of members met Steve Fonyo on his journey across Canada for the Cancer Society as well as Rick Hansen on his journey for the Handicapped. In February of this year, the Brothers officially turned over to the Regional Health Centre, an I-MED Infusion Controller at the cost of approximately \$2,000. Donations have been made to the Purple Cross Fund, Cancer Society, Children's Hospital, and the local golf course and skating rink. In the community, the Lodge has helped with wedding receptions, family and fair barbecues, and providing services at cabarets and dances. The Lodge has a strong membership and Gladstone has benefitted from many years of Elkdom.

### **Glaslyn #368, Sask.**

Lodge #368 was instituted on January 22nd, 1953 in Glaslyn Community Hall by Bro. P. A. Miquelon, the Grand Organizer from Edmonton, Alberta. The Meadow Lake Lodge installed the new offices and donated the new Lodge four new stations and an altar. Presiding Exalted Ruler at the time of Institution was Bro. Harry Dube. There were 27 Charter members and 12

members were taken on charter from the Medstead Lodge #257, who were resident in Glaslyn.

The first Lodge meetings were held in the RCMP Garage, Glaslyn Elementary School and in the United Church Basement. On June 3, 1954 the Lodge bought the Lutheran Church at Belbutte. In August 1954 two large work bees were organized to build the basement and move the building onto its foundation.

On June 17th, 1954 the Lodge won the Bateman Trophy. This was presented for the most active Lodge in the province. In 1983-84 the Lodge received the Grand Exalted Ruler's Membership Award in recognition of the continued interest of the Lodge in encouraging new membership and retaining the interest of the order.

Some of the earlier projects were: 1) Sponsoring Mighty-Mites, Bantam and Junior Hockey teams, 2) Glaslyn-Fairholme local crests and ribbons for Field Meets, 3) Christmas Hampers for the needy families, 4) Sponsored a Joint Sports Day with the North Battleford Lodge at Little Loon — later an Invitational Golf Tournament held at Little Loon Regional Park, 5) Sponsored Wheat Queen's and Winter Ice Carnival Queens, 6) Helped out destitute families who had lost their homes in fires — this is a continuing project, 7) Sponsored swimming lessons at Turtle Lake, 8) Purchased Ball Equipment for the Bantam League, 9) Elks sponsored a Walk-a-thon



Glaslyn, Sask. Lodge #368. Bateman Trophy for most active lodge.

from Fairholme to Glaslyn, 10) Participation in a Children's Playground equipment (Space Station Slide).

Some of the most recent projects: 1) Sponsored a Target Rifle for the Northern Lakes Air Cadets, 2) Supported the Glaslyn and District Recreation Board (purchased a Zamboni), 3) Equipment for the Glaslyn Medical Clinic.

The highest office held by Lodge members in the order were Bros. Gordon Fraser and Harry Zubiak who presided as District Deputy Grand Exalted Rulers.

Bro. Franklin E. Foley was the E.R. from 1957-58. He was Principal at the Glaslyn Central Schools for 15 years and became a Supt. of Schools for the Kerrobert School Unit. He was also a Liberal MLA for the Turtleford Constituency for one term.

Glaslyn Lodge has hosted many District Meetings and inter-lodge visits.

### **Glencoe #507, Ont.**

Glencoe Lodge No. 507 was formed in 1966 with R. K. Coulling as Grand Exalted Ruler of the day. The first meetings were held in the Royal Canadian Legion.

The same year plans were made to purchase the property on which the hall now stands.

In 1967 the lodge purchased a van and remodelled it into a hotdog wagon to raise money at fairs. Funds have also been raised through dances and their yearly stag. By the middle of 1971 the present hall was erected with the hard work of its members. Later that year it was officially dedicated.

In 1973 an adjoining parcel of land was purchased. It was levelled and awaited the use of the lodge.

In 1976, after five long years the celebration of the mortgage burning was held.

Donations over the years have been made to Newbury and Strathroy District Hospitals, to the Retarded Workshop, the Children's Summer Care programme, the arena fund, The Purple Cross and Provincial Charity, to name a few.

Glencoe Lodge supports an Elks Hockey team and as well, participates in many sports, such as, the District golf tournament, broomball and curling. They are actively involved in local parades, fairs and carnivals. The membership of this Lodge is a hard working, dedicated group who are highly respected in the community.

### **Golden #452, B.C.**

Instituted Sunday, Sept. 25, 1960, 51 Charter members had been signed up and 37 appeared at the initiation meeting. The first E.R. was Harold Carson, the Sec'y. Gilbert W. Grant. The G.O. was Verne Taylor who had set up the Lodge and officiated at the Institution. Application for Charter was granted by Grand Exalted Ruler Stan F. Otto on June 17, 1961. The Lodge owned property on which they hoped to build a home but due to lack of interest and poor attendance at meetings a letter was forwarded to the G.E.R. Bro. Russ Jackman expressing their "desire to have their Charter temporarily surrendered". This request was granted and the Charter was picked up on Apr. 10, 1975. The Lodge property had been donated by the Society to the Museum some time previously.



Golden, B.C. Lodge #452. Kids Picnic.

### **Gore Bay #352, Ont.**

Grand Organizer Mike Moran was, with some difficulty, able to get this new Lodge underway with 31 Charter members, on Oct. 24, 1951. The first E.R. was Clifford Boyd and the Sec'y.-Treas. Godfrey Porter. The members were very interested in sports — hockey and curling being favored. They held a lot of stag parties (or so the wives said) and when they changed to socials, things began to look better. They donated to the 'Save the Children Fund' until the 'Elks Purple Cross Fund' was organized, when they made their donations to the Purple Cross, faithfully. All seemed well, and they appeared to be progressing. But on March 10, 1958, the Sec'y. of the Lodge wrote to Grand Lodge stating "There is not sufficient interest in the Elks Lodge in Gore

Bay to warrant carrying on for another term". While an attempt was made to re-organize, it was unsuccessful and the Lodge closed, at their own request.

### **Granby #65, Que.**

The institution was carried out on April 26th, 1923 with Bro. W. Frank Murphy of Montreal Lodge #56 in charge of installation of Officers. 38 members of the Montreal Lodge made the trip to Grandby for the ceremonies where 56 Charter members were initiated at the meeting. (It is noted that a five-piece jazz band of Bro. Elks also attended). The first Exalted Ruler was Harley Chartier. The elected Past Exalted Ruler was (honorary) George H. Bovin, M.P.P. and the Sec'y was F. A. Wallace. Grand Organizer Lon Cathro stated that he had secured over 80 applicants in all, and the balance would be initiated at the next meeting. Over 100 people sat down to a complimentary banquet in the Windsor Hotel. No information is supplied as to why this Lodge did not succeed and no date of closure is shown in the file.

### **Granby #560, Que.**

Very little information in the file. The Lodge received its charter in 1976 but could not seem to get motivated. The E.R. was Maurice Gagnon and the Sec'y was Luc Gendreau. On Oct. 18th, 1977 the Grand Secretary-treasurer wrote "It appears as though any chance of having this Lodge become active has disappeared". No date of closing is shown in the file.

### **Grande Cache #559, Alta.**

The Lodge was instituted in Grande Cache on February 21, 1976. It was organized by Bro. Jack Giesen, the Grand Organizer. The Lodge began with 40 members. The ceremonies were performed by the Lodges from Beaverlodge and Grande Prairie. The installation of the Exalted Ruler Bro. T. Scott and his officers was carried out by D.D.G.E.R. Bro. G. Lougheed. The Grande Prairie Patrol team assisted in the ceremonies.

### **Grand Centre #464, Alta.**

Institution of this Lodge took place Sunday July 16th, 1961. The meeting was opened by the Officers of Edmonton Lodge assisted by Marwayne and Elk Point Lodges. Grand Organizer H. H. Greaves, P.G.E.R., read the Dispensation



and addressed the members. 60 Charter members names are inscribed upon the rolls, with the first E.R. being O. Jorgensen and the Sec'y. Don Cook. The wives of the new Lodge members indicated their desire to have an O.O.R.P. Lodge instituted and P.S.H.R.L. Phoebe McCullough promised to make the necessary arrangements, having the ladies sign the proper application form. All appeared to be progressing well. The Lodge acquired their own hall and were involved in Community activities, but by 1970 the enthusiasm had begun to dissipate, Lodge attendance was reduced to nil and their per capita tax was in arrears. As a result, on August 27th, 1974, the Grand executive Committee advised that the Grand Lodge Convention in Saskatoon recommended cancellation of the Lodge Charter. And so the Lodge was closed. There is much correspondence regarding the building known as the 'Elks Hall' which was sold five years after the closing of Grand Centre Lodge.

### **Grand Falls #59, Newfoundland**

In the early years the Lodge was formed under the "Aitken" group of Elks and although it was never chartered it was in force for about two years. Then in 1922 two men were sent to the Grand Lodge Convention in Winnipeg to learn more of the workings of the B.P.O. Elks of Canada. They were N. H. Gay and M. J. Nugent and as a result of their findings, they were given Authority to institute a lodge in Grand Falls. Lodge #59 was instituted in 1922 (no exact date) with 59 charter members.

After institution they became immediately involved in community service when they built a swimming pool and playgrounds for the children, which was given high praise by the town. They visited patients at the hospital at Botwood where everyone received a parcel of fruit and candy for Christmas right from Santa's hands. Owning their own home was a proud moment

**This Sound Proof Booth  
donated to the  
Central Newfoundland Regional Health Centre  
by the  
B.P.O. Elks Lodge No.59 and the Order of  
the Royal Purple Cabot Lodge No.65  
Through their Purple Cross Deaf Detection  
and Development Program**

and the mortgage burning occurred June 6th, 1957.

Bro. William Christian, P.E.R., was elected to life membership in 1931. Bro. Bill was considered as the Father of Elkdom in Newfoundland.

The first D.D.G.E.R. to come out of the Dominion of Newfoundland was Bro. M. J. Nugent.



The Lodge Flag.

### **Grand Falls #365, N.B.**

Grand Organizer Mike Moran spent a considerable amount of time and energy getting this Lodge organized and it finally came about on October 7, 1952. Bro. Mike conducted the ceremonies with 68 members being initiated and some of the officers installed. The 1st Sec'y. was Bro. L. J. Kavanaugh, but the 1st Exalted Ruler had resigned and another would be elected at the next meeting. By November the Lodge had signed a lease for their quarters. This lodge ran into many difficulties. Other organizations were gaining ground in the community, the bar and games (slot machines) were hurting the wrong people and families were complaining. On September 20, 1955, Bro. Paul Charette, Lodge Sec'y. wrote to Col Royal Burritt, Grand Sec'y.-Treas. making this statement "It is with deep regret that we cannot continue to function as a Lodge in Grand Falls, N.B." And so it closed.

### **Grande Prairie #187, Alta.**

The first Grande Prairie Lodge was instituted in 1928, operated for eight years, closing in 1936.

### **Grande Prairie #285, Alta.**

On July 8, 1940 Grande Prairie Lodge was instituted. It began with 43 members, with Bro. Lee Strand as the Exalted Ruler. The organizer was Bro. P. A. Miquelon.

During the first year the lodge was in good shape financially but it seemed to be disorganized. It also had to overcome a reputation that an earlier lodge #185 had obtained. Bro. Miquelon was called back to Grande Prairie in 1944 to help get the lodge moving again. At this time he obtained applications from 43 more brothers.

In the late 1940's the lodge owned two lots and a small building. In 1955 the hall was renovated. In 1960 the lodge bought two more lots, then in 1963 they constructed its present facility.

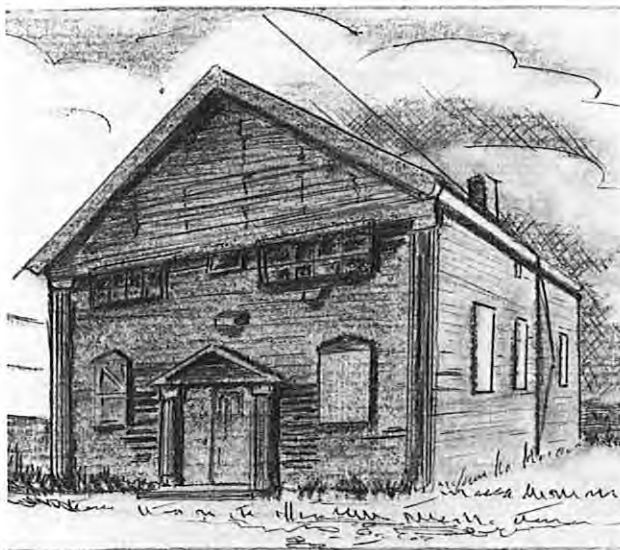
Grande Prairie has always been an active participant with other lodges in the Peace Country. Its patrol team was always active travelling to many lodges. The Lodge was also active in the Provincial Association, hosting the Provincial Conference on 4 separate occasions.

The Lodge has been very active in the community supporting many youth groups and charitable organizations.

### Granum #109, Alta.

In 1925 Elkdom was more or less in its infancy in Alberta and it took considerable time to acquaint the people with the high quality of Elkdom. The Lodge Organizer, Bro. Tony McKinley, took considerable time to get the Elks Lodge underway in Granum. Bro. Tony contacted Nanton Lodge, along with several Grand Lodge officers to come to Granum to institute and install the Lodge. This came to be on June 8, 1925, when Bro. Dave Leyden was installed as Exalted Ruler.

It did not take long for the Granum Lodge to become active. They started a Carnival and the



money raised was used to build a playground. They next established an Elks Night on March 17. This is still held in the Blunden Hall. The Elks Night has been highlighted by some unusual decorations like a waterwheel with running water and a ferris wheel with each seat containing dressed dolls. Other community projects receiving the assistance of the Lodge have been the Community Hall, Sports Teams, Cubs and Scouts, Brownies, The Granum Library and a Drop-in Center. The Lodge continues to remain active, canvassing for the Canadian Cancer Society, building ball diamonds and assisting the community after the two major fires which struck the town.



Granum, Alta. Lodge #109. (the original Hall) Where Granum meets today.

### Grimshaw #278, Alta.

The Charter for this Lodge was issued October 6, 1937 under Grand Exalted Ruler Alex McIntyre from Leamington, Ont., with 68 charter members forming the Lodge. Unfortunately the minutes of meetings between 1937 and 1946 have gone astray, so the names of the first Officers cannot be recorded here. This Lodge owns their own hall and have made many improvements over the years. Their community spirit is high, having taken part in the skating arena, the new building that houses their own hall, Arts and Crafts, the Library and Curling rink. They have helped many children to get medical aid, glasses, special shoes, plus many donations to the hospital. They also packed and distributed many food hampers for those in need. They have raised money through a car bingo. In the 1970's they operated the curling rink for 2 years, which helped in its reorganization. The new hall was recently completed and the membership is very proud of this accomplishment.

They remember the trials and tribulations and a few disappointments over the years, but consider that these were offset by the many successful projects that were completed, and their praise of the assistance granted them by the Royal Purple Lodge physically and financially knows no bounds. Grimshaw #278 must be applauded and congratulated on celebrating their 50th Anniversary, and this Lodge is a fine example of good management, good fellowship and devotion to the principles of Elkdom.

### **Guelph #76, Ont.**

Little is known of this Lodge. No date of institution is shown and the file consists of only 7 reports, the earliest of which is dated Sept. 30, 1924 signed by the Sec'y. R. B. Ward. The last report dated July 25, 1927 shows that the Lodge had initiated 111 members in these three years. The Grand Organizer is referred to only as Bro. Bickford and the Sec'y.-Treas. was W. J. Sheridan. No further information in the file.

### **Guelph #230, Ont.**

Re-organized on May 13, 1930 with G.O. Bro. Cornell and a membership of 15, the Lodge was unable to carry on during the Depression years. No date of closure is shown.

### **Gull Lake #164, Sask.**

The Gull Lake Elks Lodge was instituted on Aug. 4th, 1927. The first Exalted Ruler was P. J. McCue.

The first meetings were held in the Oddfellows Hall until 1940 when construction was started on a hall of their own. The hall was constructed from material from a C.P.R. shed,



thus they had a hardwood floor. All the labour for the hall was volunteer so the expense wasn't as great. Throughout the years the hall has served the community well and only in 1979 was there a new hardwood floor installed along with an addition for a games room.

Over the years the Brothers of the Gull Lake Lodge have donated generously to many organizations within their community and have had their share of projects. Like all other lodges they have contributed their fair share to Purple Cross Fund.

After being organized for almost 60 years only two of the original charter members are remaining and they were honoured in 1986. The brothers are Frank Bester and Bro. Jim Jensen who has celebrated his 100th birthday.

During the lifetime of this lodge they have had three D.D. and Bro. Russ Bryant served as Saskatchewan Provincial President in 1969-70.

### **Gwendale #579, Alta.**

On January 19th, 1985 this Lodge received their Dispensation to form the Gwendale Lodge of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of Canada, signed by Grand Exalted Brother Joe Dumontel. The first Exalted Ruler was Robert McLerie and the Secretary was Ken Morison.

There were 75 members signed for the installation of the Lodge, some of whom would be holding dual membership.

As of this writing there is no Lodge of the Order of the Royal Purple in Gwendale.

### **Hairy Hill #304, Alta.**

Hairy Hill Elks Lodge was instituted on November 4, 1947. The Lodge was organized by Bro. P. A. Miquelon. Brother N. Poohkay was installed as the Exalted Ruler.

The Lodge has maintained a high profile in the community. It was instrumental in the building of the curling rink at Hairy Hill. The members gave both financial support and volunteer labor in its construction. In the late 1940's the Lodge collected clothing which was sent to needy families in Europe. In the 1950's it sponsored a Mother's Day program as well as giving scholarships for outstanding achievement. In 1951 the Elks subsidized the Mutual Telephone Company at Hairy Hill. In the 1960's the Lodge gave money to the Cancer Fund, Red Cross, C.N.I.B. and other worthy charities. These contributions and activities have been carried on through to today.

The Lodge has given constant financial assistance to the Hairy Hill Community Hall for the maintenance of the premises over the years.

The Lodge has always been active in the District and in the Provincial Association. It has hosted the district curling playdowns, won the Travelling Gavel trophy on several occasions, and in 1979-80 won the Grand Exalted Rulers Membership Award. Members of the Lodge like to travel about the province, so much so it has won the Alberta Elks Association Fraternal Elk Award for the highest number of points accumulated during a year for visitations in 1971, 1983 and again in 1984.

### **Halifax #136, Nova Scotia**

The date of institution was set at Sept. 27th, 1926 with an expected membership of 150 charter members. Col. Royal Burritt D.S.O. was to attend the initiation, and installation of Officers. Over the years this Lodge has contributed to many local charities, such as the Hallowe'en Party for underprivileged children, later followed by a Christmas party. One of the outstanding members of the Lodge was Bro. A. C. Pettipas who served as Exalted Ruler for seven years beginning in 1930. He was also the Mayor of the City and a District Deputy Grand Exalted Ruler as well as the Publicity Director. Tragedy struck when a disastrous fire claimed the life of the Caretaker, whose wife was seriously injured. The Lodge activities included Bowling and Snooker tournaments, monthly dances and socials held in their Elks clubrooms at 61 Hollis St. At one time they imported a well-known Country-Western group to raise funds, and as a result were able to donate \$1500 to the Elks Purple Cross Fund. As the year 1987 drew to a close, Halifax Lodge #136 was under trusteeship. Hopefully they can regain the interest once shown and become rehabilitated to the point of again being a vital part of the Community as they had been for over 60 years.

### **From the Canadian Elk of October 1927**

In January 1923, Stanley Baldwin age 15, of the 16th Troop of Boy Scouts, Halifax, N.S. wrote New Year's Greetings to the Right Honorable Stanley Baldwin, Chancellor of the Exchequer, who subsequently replied by writing "Dear Namesake (in part) you would not be a Scout if you did not mean to pull your weight in the boat. We will both try and it will help each of us to

know that the other is pulling away in all weather as hard as he can". Good Luck to you always, Stanley Baldwin.

Four years later when Mr. Baldwin was Prime Minister a small package came to him. In it was a pair of cuff-links addressed "to the Right Honorable Stanley Baldwin from Stanley Baldwin".

The Prime Minister invited the 19-year-old to Government House where he spent nearly an hour with Mr. and Mrs. Baldwin, who wished him luck and promised to keep up an interest in his future.

The young man in this story was the son of Brother Thomas Baldwin who was the historian of Halifax Elks Lodge #136.

### **Halkirk #361, Alta.**

On May 19, 1952 Bro. P. A. Miquelon completed the task of organizing Halkirk Lodge #361. A total of 44 members joined the lodge. The number would have been larger had the weather been better. The officers of Castor Lodge assisted with the ceremonies. Bro. Miquelon installed Bro. W. H. Sandall as the Exalted Ruler. Visitors from Castor, Trochu, Lousana and End-Moor were present at the ceremonies.

The Lodge meetings have been held in the Community Hall for many years.

### **Halton Hills #540, Ont. (Georgetown)**

Situated on the western outskirts of Metropolitan Toronto, this Lodge was instituted on June 17, 1972. The ceremonies were under the direction of G.O. Bro. Wilson Brown. The obligation and initiation were carried out under the leadership of Grand Trustee Ron Witherell of Creighton-Lively, assisted by members from Sudbury Lodge. Installation was conducted by D.D.G.E.R. Bro. Robert Garbig, assisted by a drill team from the North Bay Royal Purple Lodge. The 1st E.R. was Bro. Joe Severin and the Sec'y.-Treas. was Bro. Ian Barrett. Congratulatory messages were received from G.E.R. Bro. Bill Peddle and the Grand Sec'y.-Treas., Bro. Jack Idler. Visiting Lodges included Belleville, Creighton-Lively, Elmira, Espanola, Levack-Onaping, North Bay, Picton, Scarborough, Sudbury and Trenton. The name of this Lodge was changed to Halton Hills although the Lodge Hall is still situated in Georgetown.

### **Hamilton #28, Ont.**

This is one of the early Lodges organized

under the C.B.P.O.E. which was incorporated in Ontario in 1903. The prime movers of this Order turned out to be more interested in lining their own pockets than in fraternal service and as a result these would-be leaders were ousted and the organization faded away. Hamilton was next instituted by Grand Organizer C. E. Redeker, P.G.E.R., on Sept. 18th, 1914, assisted by Officers from Toronto and Woodstock, Ont. Lodges. The first Honorary P.E.R. was Dr. George C. Leach. The first E.R. was Wm. A. Smith and the Sec'y. James A. Warner. During the war periods of 1915-1918 adverse conditions were severely felt but the Lodge managed to hang on. However, while no date is shown, this Lodge must have been either closed or re-organized, since a dispensation granted by Grand Exalted Ruler W. A. Cantelon was dated Dec. 1st, 1922 and a charter was requested on Feb. 6th, 1923, at which time they had 132 members. (The Past Exalted Ruler was Wm. A. Smith who had been the E.R. in 1914).

In Sept., 1927, Hamilton hosted the 15th National Convention of the Grand Lodge and in June of 1930 Col. W. F. Eaton of Hamilton was elected president of the Ontario Elks Ass'n, the first Provincial Ass'n ever formed.

It would appear that the Lodge members lost interest. The last per capita tax was paid Sept. 30, 1931 and nothing further is recorded in the file.

### **Haney #430, B.C.**

Grand Organizer Verne A. Taylor set up the Lodge which was instituted on Sunday Mar. 16th, 1958. The Dispensation was signed by Grand Exalted Ruler W. J. Alton, with the first Exalted Ruler being Herbert W. Hardwell and the Sec'y. Curtis A. White. 51 Charter members' names appear on the rolls, 33 of whom were present for the initiation, installation and institution of the Lodge. Neighboring Lodges in attendance were from Coquitlam and Mission, B.C. and the Grand Lodge Chaplain, Jack Idler, also assisted in the ceremonies. This Lodge was situated in a highly overorganized area which made it very difficult to recruit new members. As time passed, the membership began to drop, and on May 20th, 1962 permission was granted for the voluntary surrender of the Dispensation. Many of the Haney members transferred to nearby Lodges so there wasn't a total loss. By mid-July, 1962 the Lodge was closed.

### **Hanley #153, Sask.**

Hanley Elks Lodge was instituted on May 30, 1927. Grand Exalted Ruler was Col. Royal Burritt. The first Exalted Ruler was G. H. Singleton.

The lodge sponsored their first sports day in 1928 and operated the skating rink in 1928. They also sponsored Saturday night dances. They took part in many activities, making Hanley a better place to live.

Since that time the lodge has been involved with minor sports, providing music at the rink and supporting many charities.

In 1955 they finished the paddling pool and in 1957 their hall was constructed with volunteer labour.

In 1966 money was donated to the Hanley and Dundurn Centennial. In 1968 a rink skipped by Stan Austman won the Provincial Elks Curling Championship.

In 1977 they celebrated their 50th Anniversary with many Past Exalted Rulers present. The lodge made large donations to the curling rink, Centennial Hall and built a new fire hall.

In 1986 they were honored by a visit from Grand Exalted Ruler Vic Dyck who was born in Hanley. In 1987 they celebrated their 60th Anniversary.

During the years different brothers have served as District Deputies. Bro. C. O. Cooper served as an M.L.A. in the Provincial Government. Bro. Jack Reynolds served as Provincial President in 1963-64 and Brother W. R. Bradley in 1933-34.

### **Hanna #127, Alta.**

After 21 years of community service the original Hanna Lodge was forced to surrender its charter in 1947.

### **Hanna #451, Alta.**

Lodge #451 was set up by Grand Organizer Brother W. W. Hassett. The Lodge was instituted on Sept. 15, 1960 with Brother C.K. (Keith) French as honorary Past Exalted Ruler. The 1st Exalted Ruler was Brother J. A. Thompson and the Secretary was Brother K. F. Oliver.

The Lodge history has been highlighted by the initiation of the sixth Brother of the Gall family into the Lodge in 1969, and it was also very pleased to have several of its members being involved in the film 'Why Shoot The Teacher'.

In December 1975 it was recorded that their membership had reached 163 and by June of 1983 they were over the 200 mark.

Active in community service, this Lodge is highly regarded in the area.

### **Bro. Clinton Keith French Grand Exalted Ruler 1949-1950**

Born in Wetaskiwin, Alta. on Dec. 24th, 1907 he graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Pharmacy. In June of 1946 he and his wife Lillian moved to Hanna where he served on Council for many years and part-time as Mayor. He was the MLA for the Hanna-Oyen constituency from 1959 until 1975. For his community service, Keith was presented with the Centennial Medal in 1967 and was awarded the Robins Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service as a Pharmacist. Keith French was initiated in Lodge #156 in 1938, served as Provincial President in 1944 and Grand Exalted Ruler in 1949-50. Bro. Keith died on August 8th, 1987 in Edmonton, Alta. He is survived by his wife Lillian who is a Past Supreme Honored Royal Lady (1974-75), three brothers and one sister and he was predeceased by a brother, Jack.



### **Hardisty #167, Alta.**

The Hardisty Lodge had the opportunity to be instituted on two different occasions. The Lodge was first Instituted on August 19, 1927 with R. J. Ward being installed as the Exalted Ruler. The records of the first Lodge were destroyed in a fire in the 1930's. Over several years the first Lodge gradually dwindled away until it lost its charter.

By 1946 renewed interest was shown by the

community in having an Elks Lodge there. On August 26, 1946 some 41 members were Initiated and the Lodge was reinstated with J. A. Keegan as Exalted Ruler. They also retained their original number.

The Lodge has been very proud to have as a member Bro. O. C. Cheram. This Brother attended 50 National and Provincial Conferences between 1927 and 1977. He attended his last conference in Thunder Bay. On returning home from Thunder Bay Bro. Cheram passed away.

The Hardisty Elks have been active in the community supporting many local groups throughout the years.



Bro. O. C. Cheram, Hardisty, Alta. #167 received a special plaque from P.G.E.R. Al Eamer for having attended 50 National and Provincial Conventions.

### **Harris #197, Sask.**

This Lodge was instituted on April 10th, 1928 with a total of 26 members. The first Exalted Ruler was James O'Malley and the Sec'y. J. S. Anderson. There is no correspondence in the file and the last Per Capita Tax and Membership report shows 21 members as of Dec. 31st, 1931. No reason or date of closure is recorded.

### **Hartney #357, Man.**

The Hartney B.P.O. Elks Lodge was instituted on April 9, 1952 when 38 Charter Members, were initiated with Bro. Fred Turner installed as the First Exalted Ruler. The cere-

mony was conducted by G.E.R. Bro. Cece Pooles of Winnipeg, Man., assisted by the members of Souris Lodge #21 and D.D.G.E.R. John F. Bate of Portage la Prairie. Lodge meetings were conducted in the Legion Hall up until 1964 when their own hall was ready for occupation. This hall was completely built by volunteer labour and was financed by selling shares. The first Lodge meeting was held in the Elks Hall on Jan. 8, 1964 and the retarded children were also using the hall as a school. This Lodge has donated equipment to the hospital; they purchased an ambulance and provided ambulance service with volunteer drivers and attendants, members, who have taken the St. John Ambulance Course. They support Minor Hockey, supplying uniforms and equipment, a free show for the kids at Xmas time; supplied their hall rent-free to the cubs, were instrumental in building the community swimming pool and paid for installation of electricity in the campgrounds. In this Golden Anniversary Year of 1987, Hartney Hodge #357 celebrates its 25th Anniversary, continuing as a prime example of Elkdom in action.

#### **Hawarden #468, Sask.**

Hawarden Elks was instituted Dec. 9, 1961 with 54 members. The Organizer for the ceremonies was Dick Graham assisted by Jack Bate. Installing Officer was D.D.G.E.R. Jack Fritchel of Saskatoon. Lodge #468 was sponsored by Hanley Lodge #153 with E.R. Bob Longmire and Leading Knight Jack Reynolds acting as Assistant Installing Officers led by the Hanley O.O.R.P. drill team. The 1st E.R. was Bro. Gordon Sivertson and the Sec'y. was Roger Slatnik. The first meetings were held in the Legion Hall, then the meetings were moved to the Masonic Hall. In 1965 the Hawarden Centennial Hall became the permanent meeting place. Over the 25 years the Lodge has sponsored Sports Days, Candy Bags and Santa at Christmas, also Christmas hampers to the Outlook and District Pioneer Home and the Sportsman's supper. They sponsor a child at Camp Easter Seal each year and large donations have been given to Purple Cross Fund, Hawarden Skating Rink, Cubs and Scouts and Elks Senior Citizens' Homes. They sponsor Minor Sports (with uniforms and finances).

The Hawarden Centennial Hall was renovated by the Elks in 1965 with an addition built on in 1983. The Hall, although owned by the Village, is maintained and operated by the Elks and Royal

Purple. Within 12 years, #468 has had 3 District Deputies; Bros. Gerry Cooper, 1966, Roger Slatnik, 1970, and Robert Blenkinsop, 1978. Bro. Gerry Cooper held many Provincial Offices, first elected in 1968 and Prov. Pres. in 1975. He now serves as National Sports Representative for Grand Lodge. One of the Charter Members, C. O. Cooper was a Member of Parliament when the Lodge was instituted. Several Pin Nights have been held over the years. Hawarden Lodge won the Prov. Bateman Trophy for General Lodge proficiency in 1971, and the Prov. Elks Expansion Trophy in 1976. The Lodge has assisted in the Institution of the following Lodges; Delisle, Bladworth, Outlook, Asquith, Strongfield, Allan, Radisson and Coronach. The Hawarden Elks instituted the Hawarden O.O.R.P. in 1964. Delegates have attended many Prov. Conferences and Dominion Conventions since 1966. They have participated in the Elks Senior Curling and the Elks Provincial Curling, also the last 2 years in the Provincial Elks mixed curling. The present membership is 73.

#### **Hay River #534, N.W.T.**

The Hay River Lodge No. 534 was instituted on February 21, 1970 by Grand Lodge organizer Bro. Arnold Smith, with 49 charter members. The first Exalted Ruler, Bro. Walter Kudelik, later became a town councillor and served a term as mayor. He is presently serving on town council as Deputy Mayor and is active in the lodge, holding the position of Secretary-Treasurer. Another charter member, Bro. Henry Lefebvre, served two years as District Deputy and has also served on town council. Several Brothers have served as District Deputy and Bro. Kudelik served a term as Northern Region Grand Lodge Representative.

At present there are four charter members still active in the lodge after 17 years.

Over the years the lodge has given financial assistance to minor hockey, volleyball, curling, gymnastics, minor ball, cross-country skiing and track-and-field. They also sponsor an honours award program for the grade 12 graduation class each year.

One annual event which they sponsor is called the "Elks Fall Classic." It is for cross-country running and takes place at the Elks Community Golf Course every September. This year they introduced a new annual event called the "Elks Nordic V." This is a five level skiing competition for all ages and held in five events over the

winter. The Elks Community Golf Course has been the site for a very active cross-country skiing club that seems to be getting more interest with each year.

In 1976 the lodge undertook a major project: the construction of a nine-hole golf course for the community. After ten years of hard work, many hours of donated labour and approximately one-half million dollars, the golf course was finally opened in the spring of 1985 for public use.

This year the lodge donated a \$5800 cardiac arrest unit called a Life Pak 8 Defibrillator to the local hospital. They also sponsor an annual Christmas party at which they supply bags of candy, nuts and oranges to each of the children in the primary schools, playschools, kindergartens, and day-care centers, with the assistance of Santa Claus.

Fund raisers have varied over the years with raffles, bingos, etc., but over the last seven years the major source of funds has been a TV bingo on one of the local channels every Saturday night and which they find very successful, thanks to the volunteer hours of our members.

This lodge has never had many members (12-15 active members for the most part) but those they do have are very dedicated to the Lodge and the Order and are extremely active in fund-raising and working in the community.

### **Hearst #137, Ont.**

C. A. Rousseau was the Grand Organizer who put this Lodge together with 32 members at the Institution, held on Sept. 23, 1926.

The Honorary P.E.R. was Dr. Duval, the first E.R. appears to be Hubert Sprickerhoff with William Stansfield, Sec'y. All went well until the depression years arrived when, like many other Lodges, there was no money, membership declined and people were too involved in taking care of their own families to be able to assist others. An effort to reorganize, with the help of

the Grand Lodge proved to be unsuccessful. No date of closure is shown. The last letter in the file is dated June 7th, 1933.

### **Hedley #272, B.C.**

The Grand Organizer who set up this Lodge, Irvin Miller, held high hopes for the spirit displayed by the members. They had immediately set to work getting deeply involved in the sports aspect of the Community and also had set a goal for themselves of 50 new members before the Summer. Instituted Jan. 12, 1937 with the 1st E.R. being John Love and the Sec'y. Gordon A. Clark. 38 names appeared on the Charter under a dispensation granted by G.E.R. Alex McIntyre. Unfortunately the high hopes of these Brothers were just not to be. After only 3 years, some of the mines closed, death took some of the more influential members, and the Lodge just stopped functioning. The last letter in the file acknowledges receipt of the final assets of the Lodge. The date was March 21st, 1941 and some members indicated a wish to transfer to Princeton Lodge #280.

### **Heisler #305, Alta.**

On December 10, 1947 Bro. Miquelon with the assistance of the Camrose Patrol Team conducted the institution of the Heisler Lodge with 127 names listed on the Charter. The first Exalted Ruler was Bro. Clarence Hauch.

In December 1948 the Lodge purchased a hall owned by Carl Roth and proceeded to renovate the building, which is still used today.

This Lodge is very active in the community, giving support to the Boy Scouts, the Daysland Hospital, minor sports, and many others. Other events conducted by the Elks include a Pancake Breakfast, a Kiddie's Day, Auctions, curling bonspiels, and bowling days. The Lodge actively supports the Provincial Elk-a-thon and the Purple Cross Fund.





Heisler Lodge #305 with cheque in aid of little Nadrine Badry who lost a limb in a farm accident.

### **Herschel #191, Sask.**

Herschel Lodge was instituted on March 14, 1928 with 64 chartered members. Bro. Joseph F. Morris of Vanc., B.C. was the G.E.R. The 1st meeting was held on March 28th, 1928 with James Gavin as E.R. and George Mann, Sec'y. In 1932 two delegates were sent to the Provincial Conference at Prince Albert, Sask., and in this same year they held their first Santa Claus Day which is still in operation. Meetings were held in the Memorial Hall or the school auditorium until 1960 when the Lodge purchased the Lumber and Hardware building and converted it into a home, which they operated for 12 years. It was then decided that two halls in a small village was one too many, so they demolished the Elks Hall and gave the salvage, plus \$1000.00 to the Memorial Hall for the new kitchen.

The Lodge has sponsored Baseball and Hockey teams and contributed to sports of some kind over the years. In the early '30s they held a Flag Day and a Field day for the kids.

Throughout the years the Lodge has contributed financially to many charities. They participate in Curling, Golf, Bowling and donate to the Twin Towers Ski Hill at Stranraer, Easter seal campaign, Camp Tamarac, the Elks Purple Cross Fund, C.N.I.B., Senior Citizens Homes and Sask. Telemiracle. In 1938 the Lodge spon-

sored a Radio Talent Show and in 1939 helped convey school children to Saskatoon to see the King and Queen. In 1948 they purchased a wheel chair which was donated to the Rosetown Hospital. During the war years they contributed to the Cigarette fund for troops overseas and also purchased Victory Bonds.

This Lodge has been represented at every Sask. Elk-A-Thon. They run a very successful Turkey Shoot and Vegas Nights. In a slightly different role, the members look after the Cemetery grounds.

This Lodge has produced 9 District Deputies. Bro. J. P. Cheyne served as Councillor and Reeve of the Municipality and on the Hospital Board. Bro. Bob Fines served as Councillor and Reeve for 8 years and on the Hospital Board for 30 years. An active Lodge for 60 years and still providing service to the Community.

Herschel, Sask. Lodge #191 in 1933 decided to construct some card tables but the price was not to exceed \$1.00 per table. In 1932 it is recorded that the Lodge was unable to present a Past Exalted Ruler's jewel because of a lack of funds.

### **High Level #508, Alta.**

High Level Lodge was instituted and its officers installed on June 26, 1966. The lodge was organized by Bro. Geo. Muelaner. The initiation

ceremony was carried out by the officers of Peace River, Grimshaw and North Star Lodges. Bro. T. Diebert with the assistance of the Peace River O.O.R.P. Drill Team installed Exalted Ruler Bro. C. Glen and his officers.

High Level has been an active lodge in the community of High Level. In 1977 the lodge developed a Devonian Foundation Minipark in High Level. The lodge contributes a large amount of money to many local groups and charities.

### **High Prairie #279, Alta.**

P. A. Miquelon, the Grand Organizer, instituted and installed the officers of High Prairie Lodge #279 on November 3, 1937. Sixty-five members were on the charter. Bro. C. S. Spaulding was installed as the Exalted Ruler.

High Prairie Lodge has always been active in the community. The Lodge has operated its own building since the early 1940's. One of its largest ongoing projects has been the operation of an Elks Rodeo. This was started in the late 1950's.

### **High River #120, Alta.**

Grand Organizer P. A. Miquelon set this Lodge up with 107 members enrolled. Institution took place Sept. 30th, 1925 under Col. Royal Burritt, D.S.O. who was the Grand Exalted Ruler of the day. The Honorary P.E.R. was N. A. Weiser, the E.R. was Herbert L. Spankie and the Sec'y J. F. Casteel. The Lodge prospered and expanded, at one time their membership was 175, in a small town with many organizations looking for members. Then the Depression struck and things began to go bad. However in a letter from G.E.R. Dr. W. E. Spankie on Mar. 26, 1934 this line appeared "We cannot in any way dampen the new enthusiasm taken on by High River". A new start was being made, new members were signing up and things looked good. The lodge rented adequate club rooms and Lodge room, but fewer and fewer members were coming out to meetings, even the newer members. Things were not as bright as they had seemed, so a request was made to voluntarily surrender the charter effective Dec. 31, 1945. One more attempt to reorganize was contemplated but without result. After more than 20 years of Community service and respect, the Lodge was closed.

### **Hines Creek #322, Alta.**

Instituted Feb. 8th, 1949 under the guidance

of Dominion Grand Organizer Paul Miquelon, this Lodge began with 57 Charter members. The first E.R. was A. L. Olstad and the Sec'y. G. R. Gorius. The correspondence in the file does not carry any of the activities of the Lodge, so we must assume that they were involved in the normal community services common to all Elks Lodges. Their membership did not go much beyond 60 over the years and the last report in the files is dated Dec. 31, 1977. No date of closure is recorded.

### **Hinton #420, Alta.**

Hinton Lodge #420 was organized by Bro. P. A. Miquelon. The lodge was instituted on May 15, 1957. Bro. H. A. Switzer, P.D.D.G.E.R., installed Bro. W. G. Allen as the Exalted Ruler. Bro. Miquelon was able to sign up 134 members for the lodge.

The membership in the lodge started out being fairly large but as the years have progressed the membership has gradually decreased. In 1987 the membership stood at 23.

### **Hodgeville #202, Sask.**

Hodgeville Elks Lodge #202 of the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the Dominion of Canada and Newfoundland was instituted August 6th, 1928 with Grand Exalted Ruler Gerald Sims and Grand Secretary S. S. Savage signing the charter.

In 1928 William Taylor contacted Grand Lodge and asked if they would send a representative to Hodgeville as there was a number of men interested in forming an Elks Lodge. He contacted Mr. W. Taylor and asked him to be Exalted Ruler. After contacting a number of men in the community, the officer's positions were filled. Institution of the Lodge was carried out with twenty-eight charter members signing the roll.

Throughout the years the Hodgeville B.P.O. Elks #202 have had many projects, such as annual sports days, donated toward junior baseball, softball, hockey, curling, swimming pool, used the hall as a community hall, sponsored amateur hours in the fight against tuberculosis, gave the hall for blood donor clinics, put on shows for the community, granted scholarships for deserving students, assisted in many ways during World War II, held Santa Claus days for the children of the community, made donations to the Purple Cross Fund, ran bingo games,

dances, assisted needy people of the community and worked closely with the Order of the Royal Purple on many projects. This gives some idea of the projects that the Hodgeville Elks have undertaken throughout the years.

During the span of 60 years of Elkdom in Hodgeville they have had four D.D. come out of their lodge. The Brother Elks of Hodgeville will be continuing to strive to make men better and the world happier.

### **Holden #296, Alta.**

The Holden Lodge was organized in 1945, when 67 new members were initiated. The first Exalted Ruler was Bro. E. Hardy. It should be noted that 35 of the charter members are still around to enjoy the Lodge.

The Holden Elks give much visible and some invisible support to the Village of Holden. It supports local sports among the youth in the area with leadership and financial aid. The Lodge will always be found assisting the needy or helping out the senior citizens organization. The Elks helped the community complete the mezzanine in the sports complex. The Lodge holds a Stampede in conjunction with the community Sports Day and a New Years Eve Ball to help raise funds.

Wherever something must be done for the betterment of the community the Elks will probably be there donating their time and enjoying it.

### **Hope #372, B.C.**

Dispensation to form a Lodge was granted by Grand Exalted Ruler Ken Lawson dated May 26th, 1953, the institution being carried out on June 7th. Visitors from Port Coquitlam, Princeton, Chilliwack and New Westminster were on hand to witness the proceedings. The first E.R. was Carl Smith and the Sec'y. was Henry Wejr. Of the 50 charter members on the rolls, 39 attended the initiation, installation and institution ceremonies which were carried out by D.D.G.E.R. Fred Warman. Becoming active in community service from the beginning, they gained the respect of the citizens of Hope and increased their membership to more than 100 in 3 years, and they owned their own building and furnishings. In the mid-60's problems arose. Membership was down and continued to sink, attendance dropped drastically, resulting in round-table discussions due to a lack of a quorum. Much was done to try to re-organize but on Nov. 19th, 1973 the lodge submitted a

petition to voluntarily surrender its charter. By the end of 1973, the closure was completed.

### **Houston #533, B.C.**

Houston Elks Lodge #533 was instituted January 31, 1970. There were 36 members and the 1st meeting was held in the Royal Canadian Legion hall in Houston. The Legion hall was used for approximately three years, after which time the old Houston Clinic was purchased by the Elks and moved to the original Elks property on Kanata Avenue. The Houston Clinic building foundation was logs brought in by local loggers, and this first Elks building was in use until 1985. The present building was moved from its old location at Poulton and Highway 16 by Hamblin Bros. of Houston and Mr. Johnston. It was brought to the site on Kanata in the Spring of 1983 where it still stands, and after much renovation work was ready for use 2 years later in 1985. At the time the lodge was instituted in 1970, the O.O.R.P. came into being and was active until 1982.



Houston, B.C. Lodge #533. Their new Home.

### **Hudson Bay #456, Sask.**

Hudson Bay #456 was organized by Grand Organizer, Bro. Jack Bate and was instituted on March 8, 1961, with 68 members initiated into Elkdom. Sponsored by Weekes Lodge #445, the first Exalted Ruler was Bro. W. A. Ross and the reigning Grand Exalted Ruler was Bro. Stan Otto of Regina. This Lodge supports many projects in the town including, the swimming pool, the Boy Scouts, the skating rink and the Hudson Bay Curling Club.

### **Humboldt #397, Sask.**

Harry H. Greaves, P.G.E.R. organized the Lodge and was instrumental in its institution on

Oct. 30, 1955. Lodge members from Saskatoon, Hanley, Meadow Lake, Regina, Prince Albert, Shellbrook, Viscount, Arborfield, Melfort, Foam Lake and Big River were present, with several high-ranking Officers of the Order, including G.E.R. Bro. J. D. Jackson and P.G.E.R. Bro. Joe Willey. The first E.R. was B. J. Wilson with the Sec'y. R. L. Ross. 42 names appeared on the Charter. In less than 6 months this Lodge was hit by a problem. A religious problem, and without going into details, it was a very serious problem. So serious in fact that the Lodge closed its doors due to drop in membership and lack of interest. The Lodge paraphernalia was picked up on June 6, 1957.

### **Hythe #236, Alta.**

On August 7, 1930 Hythe Lodge #236 was instituted and installed. Bro. G. H. Kelley, the Exalted Ruler and his officers were installed by Bro. P. A. Miquelon. Bro. Miquelon was able to get 44 members to sign the charter.

The members of the lodge have been active in the community. The lodge has purchased playground equipment, built shelters, and given to many community groups. These funds were raised with bingos, socials, raffles and dances.

The membership has remained at around 60, except for a low point of 30 members in 1940 and a high point of 95 in 1982.

### **Indian Head #385, Sask.**

Indian Head Lodge #385 was instituted on September 30, 1954, by Bro. H. H. Greaves of Swift Current, with the help of Regina and Milestone Lodges. There were 44 chartered members. At the present time (1987) they have 85 members, including 6 charter members.

Money making events at that time were bingos, bottle drives and cabarets. The profits were used to sponsor Little League Baseball, donations to the local Hall, and the building of a Kiddies Play Park.

The first cabaret dance held in Indian Head was sponsored by the Elks in 1956. Admission was \$1 per person, with dress optional. Also that year the Elks held a car Bingo, the grand prize being a 1956 Customline Ford valued at \$2800. The tickets were \$2 for 20 games.

The first project undertaken by the Elks was a Kiddies Play Park. The Park, which was finished in 1959, is complete with a paddling pool, change house, swings, teeter totters, slides, etc. In later



The Walkathon at Indian Head, Sask. Lodge #385 raised almost \$32,000.00 in 1980.

years three minor baseball diamonds were added. Also a swimming pool was built by the Town of Indian Head, aided by a \$10,000 donation from the Elks.

October 1979 was a busy month for the Indian Head Elks, as they had their 25th Anniversary complete with banquet and cabaret. They sponsored the very successful provincial Elk-A-Thon, the final receipts being \$31,452. They also instituted the Balgonie Lodge.

Other projects they have donated to over the years are: \$600 to the Boy Scouts so the boys could attend the World Scout Jamboree; \$1530 to the Town of Indian Head to aid in the purchase of the "Jaws of Life."; \$700 to the Indian Head Hospital for purchase of a "Crash Cart."; \$500 to the Indian Head Fire Fighters towards the purchase of a "Rescue Van."; \$1300 towards the purchase of a cover for the local swimming pool.

This Lodge has always supported the Purple Cross Fund, and in the 65/84 campaign they were able to meet their objective of \$65 per member. They also furnished a room in the new wing of the Golden Prairie Home at a cost of \$2500.

They support the music festival, high school graduation, Legion Remembrance Day, Kiddies Xmas Party, 1st of July celebrations, the local school band, and "Meals on Wheels."

Their latest project is the rental of "Infant Car Seats". This is a service to the community at cost, not a money-making project.

Over the years, the B.P.O. Elks #385 have played a very active part in the community of Indian Head, Saskatchewan.

### **Innisfail #97, Alta.**

No file available for this Lodge but information which is available indicates the Lodge operated from 1924 to 1929. There is a conflict here, since Lacadena was supposed to have been in existence from 1927 to 1934 also under the number 97. This would mean that from 1927 to 1929 Innisfail and Lacadena had been operational under the same number, proving that history must have inaccuracies.

### **Inwood #537, Man.**

This Lodge was instituted at Inwood November 27th, 1971 with 47 members by Grand Organizer Jack Giesen. Others taking part were P.G.E.R. Al Eamer, Grand Chaplain Jim Dark and D.D.G.E.R. Gordon Richards of Arborg.

The first Exalted Ruler was Peter Masniuk and Secretary-Treasurer Alex Martin. First Lodge meeting was held at Inwood on December 12, 1971.

Among its community activities, the lodge has organized an annual snowmobile poker derby, built a float annually that publicizes Elkdom at fairs and parades in the area, donated to Inwood Senior Citizens' Home, the Stonewall School for the Retarded, and many others.

Local children have been assisted by the lodge, through the Purple Cross Fund, and equipment was donated to area hospitals.

The lodge won the Manitoba "Centendance" Trophy in 1983 for the best meeting attendance throughout the year. They have sponsored the Essay and Poster Contest in the area schools.

One brother, Peter Masniuk, served as M.L.A. from 1966-69, M.P. from 1972-1979, and Reeve from 1984 to the present. Bro. Alex Martin served as Municipal Administrator for 38 years.



Inwood, Man. #537. Members riding their prize-winning float.

### **Irma #366, Alta.**

Irma Lodge #366 was organized by Bro. P. A. Miquelon. The Lodge was instituted on October 15, 1952. At the ceremony Bro. L. E. Meier was installed as the Exalted Ruler. Fifty-seven names appeared on the Charter.

The lodge first met in Hedley's Hall, then in 1964 the lodge moved its meetings to the Legion Hall.

The membership has changed very little over the years. It has remained very close to 50 members.

### **Iroquois Falls #64, Ont.**

Instituted on Feb. 8th 1923 in the Town Hall by Bro. Claude Morrison, P.E.R. of Cobalt Lodge #24 with 54 candidates being initiated. The 1st E.R. was Wm. Triney and the Secretary Joseph F. Smith. Bro. Morrison and Bro. F. W. Browne, esquire and secretary of Cobalt Lodge conducted the ceremony of installation of officers.

From the Dominion Elk May 1923:

This local lodge has initiated some seventy-nine pilgrims and have about fifty waiting, so its future should make it outstanding in the locality if not in the entire province, considering the population of this town with 2027 inhabitants, signed:

Joseph F. Smith, Secretary  
Iroquois Falls, Ontario

### **Jasper #116, Alta.**

Instituted Sept. 14, 1925 with 67 members present. Unfortunately the files, while lengthy, do not reveal the names of the originating officers of the Lodge. There is a large area of time not reported and the jump from 1925 to 1945 leaves much to be desired as far as information is concerned. We do know that in 1934 the 22nd National Elks Convention was held in Jasper under Dr. Wm. E. Spankie, G.E.R.

This Lodge was plagued by trouble over the years and almost failed. In 1940 G.O. P. A. Miquelon made an attempt to rehabilitate the lodge but it didn't really work and on Oct. 10, 1945 the Charter of Jasper Lodge was suspended. On Oct. 28, 1946 another re-organization was completed and the Lodge was reinstated, this time with 46 charter members and the Lodge settled down to business.

As the year 1987 closed, this Lodge was under trusteeship.