MS 41

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My connection with the Winfield district dates from the beginning of 1909 when I took over the management of the Duck Lake Fruit Ranch, a position which I held for the following five years. This Ranch consisted of fifteen 10 acres lots owned individually by a group of men who with one or two exceptions were residents of Calgary. The leading members of this group were J. W. Humphrey, E. B. Curlette, A.L. Folke, Wayne H. J. Robie and F. G. Brown.

The original intention of most of these was to develop their lots and later become residents of the district. Only Messers Robie and Brown however retained their interest. The others named sold out at the end of five years at which time the syndicate was dissolved.

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tep to about 1920 the Winfeels dietical tras known as Woods Lake. The name Unifield has chosen as Woods Lake. The name Unifield has chosen a meeting of the United Farmers Local. A men of names reveseigned and after several ballet taken the final aboase was between Winfeeld am Woods dat. The former being chosen by a very small majority.

At the beginny of the period mentioned between the Rambiew Rhanh and Duck Lake are the ald ternou Road (the present road along Woods Lake in opened deering the summer of 1909) were those of Shermen Jusis. AD. Mones 10th. Robinson (the list Half way have). J. a Markishan Jack Meserif, and the old buildings on the Knop ranch obere the list way have the new conserting of a fog shore and have the base more bearies deering that run the shack was loon deem several years like form the shack was loon deem several years like form. Recent beuldings to the flat is Interestly that Make Petrus, James Pearsy the Wood Rauch Luddengs. Entress James Pearsy the Wood Rauch Luddengs.

Up to about 1920 the Winfield district was known as 'Woods Lake'. The name Winfield was chosen at a meeting of the United Farmers Local about 1920. A number of names were suggested and after several ballots taken the final choice was between Winfield and Woodsdale, the former being chosen by a very small majority.

At the beginning of the period mentioned between the Rainbow Ranch and Duck Lake are the old Vernon Road (the present road along Woods Lake was opened during the summer of 1909) were those of Sherman Jones, A. D. Monsees, W. W. Robinson (the old Half way house), J. A. MacKichan, Jack Metcalfe, and the old building on the Knox ranch where Mr. Draper lives now consisting of a log shack and barn. The barn was burned during that summer, the shack was torn down several years later. On the Dry Valley road there were the old McLure Ranch buildings. On the flats E. J. McCarthy's, Fred Baker, Petries, James Pearcy, the Wood Ranch buildings, E.W. Newton, Walter Hare? (now Middletons), Syd Edwards.

It was we the spring of 1909 that the Okamagan taking Land learning and 1909 that the circuits of Maddock Bros. the promoter who had carried are is direly med - 14 to that the Milkie of Isro specific representing the Eaction capitalists spe some meeks here at that time.

The first local manager of the new compares of first of Gladgary who later was arrived Brank Ray form. At the addock remained for a few months we charge of land sales.

The main line of the registers exclime had been completed by Maddock Bros. Het considerable work remained to be done as the latitude our practited by Maddock Bros. Het considerable work remained to be done as the latitude. Our a good deal of their was not finished to be of more practited was that season. Without the land the becomes of the whole diction was certified, and the becomes of the whole diction was resided at Okam Cuche. The Gordon Strickland at the full time that the carried in a general story described hay the form mas bods if when a general story described bought were intimed in the Lucencies and for a term the form mas bods if when a suffer a few months and Milkood. Misting bloods can war use of the a few months and Milkood later. The bods can are any as we are the or few months and Milkood later. The contribution is a comparation of the contribution of the c

It was in the spring of 1909 that the Okanagan Valley Land Company took over the interests of Maddock Bros. the promoters who had carried out the development up to that time. Mr. Wilkie of Toronto representing the Eastern capitalists spent some weeks here at that time.

The first local manager of the new company was Fred Starr of Calgary who later was succeeded by Frank Rayburn. H. E. Maddock remained for a few months in charge of land sales. The main line of the irrigation system had been completed by Maddock Bros. but considerable work remained to be done on the laterals and a good deal of this was not finished to be of much practical use that season.

While the old store at Oceola had been built by Clem Davis a year or two previously it was not then occupied and the business of the whole district was carried at Okanagan Centre. Gordon Strickland at that time carried on a general store business. In the following year Messrs A. Code and McLeod bought an interest in the business and for a time the firm was Code, Strickland and McLeod. Mr Strickland went out after a few months and McLeod later. Mr. Code carry on until his death a few years later.

Trong Rivier am Acception by best horbes had spend an years on South Africa was the provinces merchant of the Unificial of Estate He brught the bed naw accorded to Ralph Berry and benefit the present house warmy per of it for a star of from 190th weeks his death about 19 The business was corrected on by the score is been as the connection of Wenfield with the authority or the connection of Wenfield with the authority of the road from the Centre who a very important must be road from the Centre who a very important must be and at the cleep hill at Pewer. The precent commettes with the Raintest wood, also the south road is not apared with 25 me years later. So avoid giving prosepestive buyers a bad imprest was not an excern most thing for the complete was not an excern most thing for the complete was not an excern the best and.

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Franz Reiner an Austrian by birth who had spent several years in South Africa was the pioneer merchant of the Winfield District. He bought the lot now owned by Ralph Berry and built the present house using part of it for a store from 1910 until his death about 1913. The business was carried on by his son in law Wm. Grant for a short time after Mr. Reiner's death.

As the connection of Winfield with the outside world was largely by way of the C. P. R. Steamers the road from the Centre was a very important matter. The only outlet from the Centre was by way of the steep hill at Purves'. The present connection with the Rainbow road, also the south road were not opened until some years later.

To avoid giving prospective buyers a bad impression it was not an uncommon thing for the company representative to meet the boat at Kelowna and enter Winfield from the best end.

Between Okanagan Centre and the Old Vernon Road there had been very little development.

Frank Gales had a blacksmith shop near the reservoir for a time. He later moved to Salmon Arm.

Micessa Johnston and Carenall Lagan loggering open an what is now the faul componer orchard in T. foll of 1909. Bring to the following writer being your open the work was that logs had to be hauled to count's Lake and were favor there taken to Meuron at the head of Langhake.

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Some planting was also done by Clark and Edwards who beened the lot man owned by Ralph Berry and these which the Winfelly were new Stands and also as the John Edmenses

Messrs Johnston and Carswell began logging operations on what is now the Land Companies orchard in the fall of 1909. Owing to the following winter being quite open the work was not completed until the winter of 1910-11 as the logs had to be hauled to Wood's Lake and were from there taken to their mill at the head of Long Lake.

Prior to 1909, the only commercial orchards that had been planted were those Jack Metcalfe, E. W. Newton (now Frank McDonalds) and I think Sherman Jones, J. MacKichan, Max Major and A. D. Monsees had done some planting.

In 1909, Wm. Lennox who then owned the block now owned by J.H. Aberdeen and the Shanks Estate planted the greater part of it completing the work the following year. The orchard now owned by Mr. Greer and at that time owned by Mr. Monsees, Max Major's (now Harveys) and all the orchards south of the cross road with one exception were planted in that and the following spring.

Some planting was also done by Clark and Edwards who owned the lot now owned by Ralph Berry on which the Winfield store now stands, and also on the John Edmunds

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and Metcalfe lot which they then owned. They also for a time had a meat business their shop being across the road from where the Winfield Store is now.

The first meeting of the Wood's Lake School District was held at the residence of James Pearcy in the summer of 1909. At the meeting a provisional board of trustees was elected consisting James Pearcy, Sherman Jones, J. W. Fowler. School was opened in the house now owned by James Owen (then R. H. Dacre) the following February, Miss Asher being teacher.

The contractor for the new school which was opened after the summer vacation was E. Boettger of Okanagan Centre, E. W. Newton being the foreman on the construction.

Previous to this there was a school on the Fir Valley road about opposite the Baily place known I think as Duck Lake School.

The year 1909 also marks the opening of the Rural mail delivery RR1 Vernon. This being one of the first routes to be opened after the passage of legislation by Dominion Parliament. Before this those who wanted their mail delivered made private arrangements for it with Mr. Scott who for many years carried the mails between Vernon and Kelowna.

Devia Store Descript of Jammer Lon , come caused an a general lumines in this alore about 1999-10. They cold and Their bushors to Read of the cultivariational bodowday after callesting as f the cultivariational bodowday after callesting as f the stock are hand bodowday after collecting as f the stock are hand they bright a cer from W. R. Mayour giving the store as ceasirely and departed.

Land Cleaning tollowing the laggery operations of Johnston and Carrenell the cleaning of the land was dain by Sungthatt.

Mr. Hat who later held the positions of load foreman across the block mean owned by S. Reading. Phillips-and the block mean owned by S. Reading. Phillips-and the block mean owned by S. Reading. Phillips-and the Change on General about 1910.

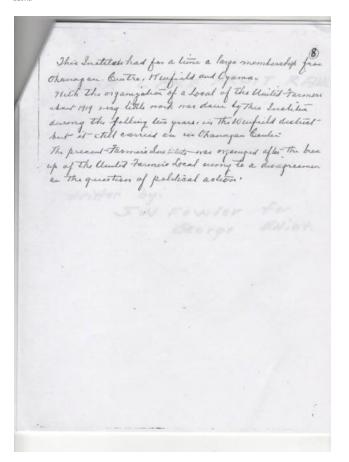
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I have most the less of officers, but accomp the leading members were Means Code Review. Hengelless. The leading was taken over to a great extend to the property cashes was to the spens to a great extend to the town to the Seathers was taken over to a great extend to the Towness or ground in 1912. The feel of fewires board of Encelose of the Seathers was the same See Tream Me. P. Williams.

Oceola Store Burnett and Hammerton carried on a general business in this store about 1909-10. They sold out their business to Reid & Cook two rather shady characters from south of the international boundary after collecting as many as possible of the book debts and disposing of the stock on hand, they bought a car from W.R. Megaw giving the store as security and departed.

<u>Land Clearing</u> Following the logging operations of Johnston and Carswell the clearing of the land was done by George Watt. Mr. Watt who later held the position of road foreman owned the block now owned by L. Reading, Phillips and Gill. He also for a time had the pay station of the Government Telephone.

Community organizations The first organization of this kind was the Okanagan Centre Board of Trade, about 1910. I have not the list of officers but among the leading members were Messrs. Code, Reiner, Harry Gleed, T.A. Gray and Goldie. This Board was quite active for a time, but its work was taken over to a great extent by the Okanagan Centre Farmer's organization in 1912. The first board of Directors of the Institute included James Goldie, President, J. W. Fowler Vice President, H. H. Evans Secy Treas, M. P. Williams.



This institute had for a time a large membership from Okanagan Centre, Winfield and Oyama. With the organization of a Local of the United Farmers about 1919 very little work was done by this Institute during the following two years in the Winfield district but it still carried on in Okanagan Centre.

The present Farmer's Institute was organized after the breaking up of the United Farmer's Local owing to a disagreement on the question of political action.