



Johanna Gaetz and son Mike

In 1918 the flu epidemic came and everyone remembers the heart break and sorrow it caused. The flu took old and young alike and also took their second oldest sister Katie who was then Mrs. George Gerwing. Mr. George Gerwing was their first postmaster. Mike Gaetz served at the first Mass and Rev. Father Dominic was their first priest.

For entertainment the Gaetz men went in for hunting and at one time captured two bear cubs, after having a fight and finally killing the mother bear. The coyotes did not have much freedom. At times they had as many as 30 and sometimes got \$3 to \$3.50 and as high as \$30 a pelt.

In the old days music was a great pastime at house parties, and in 1905 Mike Gaetz's dad, John Sr., started a band. These are some that took part: John Gaetz played the bass; Dad Gaetz the coronet; George Gerwing, bass; Chris Gerwing, snare drums; Joe Gaetz, the baritone; Pete Gaetz the trombone and coronet; Bill Gerwing, alto; Herman Wesling Sr., drums; Nick Schemenauer played tenor; Frank Suckey and Mike Abel played coronet; Mike Gaetz coronet and clarinet.

Soon after the pioneers came they had a store at Dead Moose Lake and the railway came through Humboldt in Dec., 1904.

John and Johanna raised a family of 11 children. John Gaetz Jr. married Elizabeth Schmitz. They lived north of the family home for a few years before they returned to Minnesota with their family.

A double wedding—Annie Gaetz married Mike Abel on May 15, 1906. They farmed and lived in Lake Lenore all their lives. Their family still lives there. Katherine Gaetz married George Gerwing on May

15, 1906. They farmed west of Lake Lenore. They went to B.C. in 1914 but returned. She died of the flu in 1918.

Joe Gaetz married Ida Lynch in March, 1911. They lived in Lake Lenore for a time, then in Anaheim. They went to Oregon in 1923. Some of the family lived in Washington. Their daughter Florence entered a convent in Seattle, Washington and taught school in Alaska for 10 years.

Peter Gaetz lived at home but worked in St. Brieux until he became game warden at Eagle Lake till his death.

Mike Gaetz married Mary June. He was the Pioneer Elevator agent in Lake Lenore and then in St. Brieux. The family moved to a farm east of St. Brieux. His wife Mary farmed with the family after his death.

Frank Gaetz farmed the home place till grandfather and grandmother Gaetz retired. He was the National Elevator agent in Lake Lenore till it burned down.

He married Helen Wourms in Nov. 1929. Later he moved to Port Alberni where he died.

Frances Gaetz married John Ryan and lived in Lake Lenore where John was agent for British American Oil Co., until they moved to Saskatoon with their family. She died there.

Mary Gaetz married Bob Walker in Nov. Bob joined the Mounted Police Force and they lived in Prince Albert until he went overseas. She then went to stay with her folks. After the war they, together with Peter Gaetz, opened the hotel in Lake Lenore. Later they moved to Port Alberni where Bob died. She is still living there. Their oldest son, Theodore, was killed in action at Pearl Harbor.

Tony Gaetz went to Lakeland, Florida and married there. They came to Lake Lenore and lived on



John and Johanna Gaetz and son Anthony in 1931