



University of Calgary

PRISM: University of Calgary's Digital Repository

University of Calgary Press

University of Calgary Press Open Access Books

2011

Happyland: a history of the “dirty thirties” in Saskatchewan, 1914-1937

McManus, Curtis R.

University of Calgary Press

McManus, Curtis R., "Happyland: a history of the “dirty thirties” in Saskatchewan, 1914-1937".

Series: The West series 5. University of Calgary Press, Calgary, Alberta, 2011.

<http://hdl.handle.net/1880/48647>

book

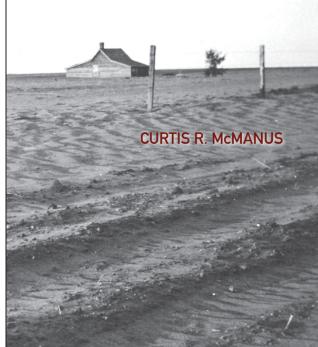
<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

Attribution Non-Commercial No Derivatives 3.0 Unported

Downloaded from PRISM: <https://prism.ucalgary.ca>

Happyland

A History of the "Dirty Thirties" in Saskatchewan, 1914-1937



HAPPYLAND: A HISTORY OF THE "DIRTY THIRTIES" IN SASKATCHEWAN, 1914-1937

by Curtis R. McManus

ISBN 978-1-55238-574-6

THIS BOOK IS AN OPEN ACCESS E-BOOK. It is an electronic version of a book that can be purchased in physical form through any bookseller or on-line retailer, or from our distributors. Please support this open access publication by requesting that your university purchase a print copy of this book, or by purchasing a copy yourself. If you have any questions, please contact us at ucpress@ucalgary.ca

Cover Art: The artwork on the cover of this book is not open access and falls under traditional copyright provisions; it cannot be reproduced in any way without written permission of the artists and their agents. The cover can be displayed as a complete cover image for the purposes of publicizing this work, but the artwork cannot be extracted from the context of the cover of this specific work without breaching the artist's copyright.

COPYRIGHT NOTICE: This open-access work is published under a Creative Commons licence.

This means that you are free to copy, distribute, display or perform the work as long as you clearly attribute the work to its authors and publisher, that you do not use this work for any commercial gain in any form, and that you in no way alter, transform, or build on the work outside of its use in normal academic scholarship without our express permission. If you want to reuse or distribute the work, you must inform its new audience of the licence terms of this work. For more information, see details of the Creative Commons licence at: <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

UNDER THE CREATIVE COMMONS LICENCE YOU **MAY**:

- read and store this document free of charge;
- distribute it for personal use free of charge;
- print sections of the work for personal use;
- read or perform parts of the work in a context where no financial transactions take place.

UNDER THE CREATIVE COMMONS LICENCE YOU **MAY NOT**:

- gain financially from the work in any way;
- sell the work or seek monies in relation to the distribution of the work;
- use the work in any commercial activity of any kind;
- profit a third party indirectly via use or distribution of the work;
- distribute in or through a commercial body (with the exception of academic usage within educational institutions such as schools and universities);
- reproduce, distribute, or store the cover image outside of its function as a cover of this work;
- alter or build on the work outside of normal academic scholarship.

To my mother and father.

Acknowledgments

It is a great pleasure to be able to acknowledge the people who have helped in the process of writing this book. I wish to thank Donna Livingstone, John King, and the staff at the University of Calgary Press for their efficiency in putting the book together. They were a pleasure to work with.

I extend thanks to the two anonymous readers who read the manuscript and who offered suggestions and comments on ways in which it might be improved; their suggestions were of high value and the book is better because of it.

The hard-working administrators at most of the RMs I visited provided open and ready access to their archives. Coffee was provided, lunch breaks were shortened, exceptions were made, additional materials were offered, and questions were answered. Mike Sherven of Mankota and Quentin Jacksteit of Golden Prairie (Big Stick) were especially helpful.

The staff at Lakeland College in Lloydminster, where I teach history, has also been of immense help. Bryan Moon was always willing to discuss the book and offer suggestions; Judy Sarsons allowed me to take the necessary time off to complete it; and Kelly Mutter, who after finding out about the book and the fact that it mentioned Hatton ("My grandparents were born there!"), made arrangements for me to meet with his father Mr. Ralph Mutter to talk about the dry years.

I owe a great spiritual and intellectual debt to the University of Saskatchewan and the men and women of the history department. Dr. Bill Waiser has been a great source of encouragement, support, assistance, help, advice, and guidance. I happily acknowledge my debt to him. I wish also to thank the following history professors: Christopher Kent, Martha Smith-Norris, Gordon Desbrisay, Brett Fairbairn, and Jolanta Pekacz. From these professors, I took inspiration and enthusiasm for the study of history.

Dr. Man Kam-leung taught Asian history and ignited in me a lifelong interest in the subject. (He also taught me the value of using unique and surprising sources in the study of history.)

I would also like to publicly honour and acknowledge a special debt to Dr. Robert C. Grogin (retired). When I think of my education in history, I think of him.

Additionally, the staff at both branches of the Saskatchewan Archives Board were helpful, especially Tim Novak at the Regina office. I thank Dr. David Jones for demonstrating that prairie history need not be dull, drab,

and boring. I also acknowledge that Dr. Jones was the first historian to explore the dryland crisis between 1914 and 1923 and that *Happyland* was possible only because of his work in this area.

I thank Scott McMillan of Cameron Street Creative (formerly lead singer for the now-defunct White Boy Blues Project), for his help with the graphics and photographs. I would also like to thank “The Reactionary,” “The Driver,” “Mr. Culham,” and “Prime Time” for tolerating my discussions about farmers planting fifty-acre plots of crested wheat grass.