



Julius and Olga Neilson.

Steed very quickly had everyone safely out of the building, and they watched the roof go flying by, and land about 100 yards from the building.

They lived one and a half miles from school and went on horseback, walking in good weather, and in the winter, they enjoyed many sleigh rides to school with their father in a bob sleigh. There was a lake located very near the school, and many good times were had, skating and watching the boys play hockey.

In 1928 a very severe blizzard blew in just as the children were about to leave school. It blew the snow so hard it made travel almost impossible, and many were stranded and had to stay where they were. Julius and other neighbors were at the school with teams and bobsleighs. However everyone stayed at the Neilson's home that night and the blizzard raged until daylight. It took many days to get everything back in order, and to find many animals buried in the huge snow drifts.

Haying time was a highlight of every summer. Many hayrack loads of sweet smelling hay were pulled to the top of the barn loft in a big rope sling, with pulleys and a horse at the other end for the lifting power.

Julius was a faithful church worker all his life. He worked in the MIA, Sunday School, and as a councillor in the bishopric. Sometime after this he moved with his family to Salt Lake for two years.

Julius had a very soft touch with children and people who were ill. Very often he was called to the homes to give assistance to the sick and the bereaved.

In 1949 Julius underwent several operations at the Holy Cross Hospital in Calgary. He passed away July 31, 1949 in his 60th year. Olga resided on the farm with her sons and with her daughters. She passed away July 4, 1975 following a severe stroke a few days before, in her 86th year.

Their children are: Doris Elva (married Morgan Walter Smith), Ralph August (married Jane Evelyne Lowry), Delbert Julius (married May Hallin), Verna (married Duane H. Forsyth), and Mary Mathilda (married James R. Carlson).

AUGUST SWEN NEILSON MATHILDA (JOHNSON) NEILSON

August Swen Neilson was born in Sweden June 7, 1867. He came with his parents, two brothers and two sisters to Spring City, San Pete County, Utah. He married Mathilda Johnson, who was also born in Sweden, December 21, 1862. They were married in the Manti, Utah L.D.S. Temple, December 26, 1888. Two children



August S. and Mathilda Neilson.

were born to them in Spring City, August Julius, and Edna Christina Mathilda.

While they lived in Utah, August was away from home during the spring and summer herding sheep, and during the winter months he worked in a local butcher shop. He was sure that a homestead in Alberta would offer a much brighter future.

On the first of June 1899 he arrived in the Cardston area by team and covered wagon. His wife Mathilda and son Julius, who was nine years of age at the time, arrived by train the same summer. Traveling with August in another covered wagon was his brother-in-law Julius Johnson. They first settled in Cardston, until a piece of land was located that suited them. August was almost back to the U.S. border when he chose the land he wished to file for his homestead. Julius Johnson applied to homestead an adjoining quarter of land.

These early settlers were very self sustaining and skilled in many trades. Their first home was a one-room log house. Later a two-room house was built and it is still in use with additions which have been made in later years. August Swen was heard to say that he was very happy in his Canadian home, and felt like he was enjoying all the luxuries there were to offer.

In 1918 August Swen and his wife Mathilda moved back to Utah, as they thought a warmer climate would help Mathilda's poor health. They purchased an acreage in the East Mill Creek area of Salt Lake City and operated a chicken farm and orchard. Mathilda passed away September 2, 1925 when stricken with pneumonia, and was buried in Spring City, Utah.

August continued with his chicken farm and fruit growing, until his health failed in 1932. His son Julius brought him back to his former home in Taylorville,

My Memories of the Julius & Olga Neilson Family of Taylorville.

As remembered by Dale Lowry, Dec. 3, 1989.

As a young boy our family lived neighbors to the Neilsons. I remember how kindly they always treated us. As youngsters growing up in a community where everyone seemed interested in and very concerned for the welfare of every other member of that community, it was an excellent place to live. Not that we had all of the luxuries of life, but that we had each other as friends and made good things happen. The people who lived there all have many fond memories to cherish. Julius & Olga seemed to be older people to me from the time I can first remember anything about them, they would have been forty at the time I was born and I think people in that era, at that age, did seem quite old to young eyes. I'm sixty now myself and I don't think of myself as being old, so I guess in reality they were just younger folks with a lot of life's experiences and responsibilities tucked under their belts. I use to like to go to their place to get the mail, I wonder if it was for the mail or the fact that I could see Mary. She had a multitude of cats and it seemed that she always had one or two in her arms. We started to school together and went to the same classes at church and I like to think that we were good friends. We had some good times and parties together as a group of young people. As we grew up I remember how she looked up admiringly to her older brothers and sisters, she seemed especially happy when Delbert would drive her around in the green Chev car of his, or maybe it was the family car, that I'm not sure of now, but then that doesn't really matter, it was a Chev and it was green and so was I, I suppose with envy.

Delbert was a fun loving popular guy of his age group. He was in high school when I was in the elementary grades and I used to like following the big guys around, going home from school etc. As a member of the Taylorville Tigers team in the Boundary Baseball League he excelled as a pitcher. He had a strong arm and a swift pitch that won him fame in the league, he was also a good batter, I'm sure if sports were as easily accessed in the big leagues then as they are today he would have had no problem qualifying for big league ball. He played to win and always put his whole heart into the game. It was always a thrill to see our team play and win. Baseball was a favourite sport in the district and surrounding communities. Saturday afternoons were for baseball. The Taylorville baseball diamond was, for as long as I can remember, on the Neilson flats just south across the road from their barns, and a good diamond it was. Delbert loved sports and was admired and respected by friends and fans alike. I admired his stature, I being a bit on the short side for my age at the time. He was the kind of a guy that suited me just fine. (I am attaching one of the ribbons from those baseball days)

I remember thinking that Ralph looked so much like his Pa, as Julius was so affectionately called by his family. Ralph was, it seemed, always fixing something whenever I saw him - he got good at that. He was also good on the violin and I used to like to hear him and dad on their violins accompanied by Jane on the piano. Verna, with her pretty auburn shiny hair, also carried a strong resemblance to her dad's side of the family, whereas Elva, Mary and Delbert resembled more of their mothers side. Elva was quite grown up, married and gone before I was very old, but I've always appreciated how Elva would, almost without exception, tell me how much I looked like my dad whenever she would see me, which I always considered a compliment. She has always been so considerate of Mother & Dad. She has certainly been appreciated by our family through the years. I remember Verna being in school and taking charge while Wilma Tyler, our regular teacher, went to town one afternoon to see the show, "Gone with the Wind." I remember a few days before we had been playing ball at the school diamond and Mary was running to first, I was catching and threw the ball to first base, unfortunately it hit Mary in the back of the head and needless to say hurt her quite badly, it was not intentional and I felt badly about it, but I think some of the people must have thought that it was for I recall overhearing Verna say that when she was in charge she would certainly get me. I was very concerned that day until school was out, and especially pleased that Mary was OK and that I wasn't punished as I supposed that I was going to be.

Neilsons have been a main stay family of the Taylorville Community, generations and families have come and gone and the Neilsons have stayed on. It is nice to have a recollection of the fond memories and the good times we had while living in Taylorville, to me that is home, a place I am proud of and will always remember and cherish. Security, good friends, good times and being happy, what more could a little guy want.