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Doc. 5/78

Hi!

The copies of 2 letters
will be self-explanatory.

I thought of you immediately
but I too have a batch
of photos etc of Ty Van.

Do write me your ideas.

Sorry but I have been
quite active during this
hunting season - will

write more later.

Doc.

5928 18th Ave.,
Regina, Sask.,
Oct 1 1978.

Mr. G. de Savoye,
Edmonton, Alberta.

Dear Mr. de Savoye,

Material for a history of the community of Tyvan, Saskatchewan is being assembled. One of the first residents of Tyvan was a Mr. H. de Savoye and Mr. Stuart Houston who is one of the few original settlers still living tells me that he believes you are a son.

I hope you do not mind me writing you on the off chance that you are a son. We know that Mr. de Savoye built for his family the first house in Tyvan, and that he sold lumber. A few photographs that we have show his name as the photographer. He was probably the only pioneer who had a camera. I am wondering if you or other family members could still have photographs that Mr. de Savoye took of Tyvan buildings, people or village or farm activities such as oxen working the land, or threshing.

Any pictures that we have been able to get from former residents we have had

reproduced and returned the originals, unless it was stated that they did not wish to have them returned.

If you are a son and have any recollections of anything your father may have told you about pioneering in Tjvan, I'd be anxious to have you share it. It would seem that the de Savoyes came with the first settlers in 1904. When they left - we don't know, but a group photo of ladies of the village (supposedly 1907) has a Mrs de Savoye. We'd be interested in knowing where the de Savoyes lived before they arrived in Tjvan - where they went - names of children upon arrival, and those born in Tjvan.

Again I hope you do not mind me writing you. When researching something that took place seventy-five years ago one can not leave any stones unturned.

Thanking you,

Sincerely,

Myles C. Kinney

P.S. I was born at Tjvan in 1914.

Ste-Foy, November 21st 1978.

Dear George,

Upon our return from a trip to Lake St. John, last week, I received your "Miles C. Kinney" letter, and I have hastened to be able to reply.

I have looked through my collection of photos, and I cannot find any that usefully relate to Tyvan. Also, I have no recollection of stories about Tyvan.

However, I have prepared the enclosed short "write-up" which contains essential facts (to which France and you may add further details if you will). Also, I have indicated a source of further information, which may be of use to our researcher friend in Regina.

When you write to Mr. Kinney, I presume that you will be sending him several photos of Tyvan (as you say that you have a batch), asking him to return these original pictures to you.

I might suggest that you request him to send you a copy of the group photo of the ladies of the village (in which Mrs. de Savoye appears), offering to reimburse him for the cost thereof.

If I can be of further service in this connection, please let me know. And I would be pleased to know ^{how} Mr. Kinney's work proceeds, if and when he writes back to you.

With best regards,

Michel de Savoye

Henri de Savoye

Henri de Savoye arrived in Canada from France in 1901 at the age of 30 and, married in Assiniboia in 1902, he came to Tyvan in late 1904 with his wife, Marie, and sons Louis and George, born in Batoche and in Francis in 1903 and 1904, respectively.

Active and resourceful, Mr. de Savoye built for his family one of the first houses in Tyvan. Besides his endeavours in various business ventures, he found time to do photographic work.

The family resided in Tyvan until late 1907, when they moved first to Medicine Hat, then in 1909 to Edmonton.

After serving in the First World War, Mr. de Savoye became a professor of French at the University of Alberta, in Edmonton where he resided until his decease in 1963.

Note:

While in Francis, and also I believe while in Tyvan, Henri de Savoye was associated in a business relationship with a Mr. Plisson. A daughter of the latter, Mrs. Marcelle Guinness (born around 1895) resides in Vancouver (6001 Vine Street, Apt. 704, Vancouver V6M 4A4), and as she was around ten or eleven years of age at the time, in Francis or Tyvan, it may well be that she conserves memories, souvenirs or photos of those days.

Also, a son of Mrs. Guinness, Mr. Pierre Guinness, resides in the same apartment building in Vancouver.

P.S. I have found a small photo of Louis and you, seated outside, on small chairs which stand on boards laid on the ground. No house is visible, only the bare prairie in indistinct background. You appear to be around 2½ years old, so it must be in Tyvan. You certainly must have a such photo available.

I have also found a photo, which may have been taken at Tyvan (of which a photo-copy is enclosed). There are no notes on the back of the photo.

However, I tend to believe that the children may well be Louis (with mother holding his hand) and you in the carriage (with a help-maid pushing the said carriage). In the background may be seen a few prairie buildings!

What do you think?

I have no photos of our parents at Tyvan. I presume that you will have, for Mr. Kinney, photos of our parents and of Louis and you, at the time of Tyvan, in addition to general photos of Tyvan!

Bonne chance!

Michel