

Tuenis Jan 'John' Ploeg
Dutch Immigrant
Ryndam
December 6, 1954



I arrived at Pier 21 from Holland aboard the Ryndam on Dec. 6, 1954 just three weeks before my 18th birthday. The voyage was quite uneventful until three days out of Halifax when the seas become extremely rough until we docked at Pier 21.

I travelled by train to Manitoba where I worked in a bush camp. Later I moved to northern Ontario and worked in pulpwood and to Vermillion Bay and worked on the trans-Canada pipeline. After moving around Northern Ontario and Manitoba, I settled in Barrie Ontario in December 1958. Here I worked in a tannery until I met and married Weipke (Wendy) DeJong in July, 1962. Wendy and I purchased a farm in Minesing Ontario and raised two sons, Terry and David and a daughter Amanda. Along with the children, Wendy and I built a successful dairy operation which we now operate with son Terry. I still love to travel and each winter, Wendy and I manage a trip to Holland or to a beach somewhere in the sun.