

## LOGGING WITH UNCLE JAY

Uncle Jay homesteaded a quarter section of land north and east of Glenevis. It was not far to the woods from his place. There were many pine, spruce and poplar trees in this timber land. There were a few birch trees. Uncle made lumber from trees.

This lumber he used for his house and barn. From the birch he made flooring, eveners for the plow and harrows, and sleigh runners. Tamarac like birch was hard. It made good fence posts. In the winter the pioneers could haul on the smooth ice of the lakes and rivers. It was fun to cut down trees and saw them into logs. I liked to help Uncle Jay fell the trees.

### SOME QUESTIONS TO ANSWER

1. How did the pioneers in the West near Edmonton get materials with which to build their homes?
2. Where did Uncle Jay live?
3. What kind of lumber was hard wood?
4. What kind of trees did Uncle Jay fell near his homestead?
5. How did he use the lakes and rivers in winter time?

## A SURPRISE WHISTLE

Uncle Jay came to his new farm before there were any roads. There was only an old Indian trail. His homestead was on section 12, township 56, range 4, west of the fifth meridian. This meridian goes north and south through Stony Plain, twenty miles west of Edmonton.

Uncle Jay built a log house of poplar and spruce logs. He peeled the bark from the logs so that they would not rot. He used poles for roof rafters and floor joists. He dug two wells at the foot of the hill just south of his new log house.

One day Uncle Jay heard a train whistle. He shouted for joy. It was the first C.N.R. train on the new branch to Glenevis. It was a long way off but it made Uncle Jay happy. Glenevis would be more than a store and post office now.

"I'll ride down to the station, it is less than four miles," thought Uncle Jay. "Wouldn't it be fun if I were to get a letter on this first train?"

### MORE THINGS TO DO:

1. What made Uncle Jay happy?
2. Trace the road he would ride to town west of sections 1 and 12 and south of two and three. It was not as straight as it looks on the map. Why?