

**The Depression**  
**October, 1929 to September, 1939.**  
**Personal Recollections of One Kid who Lived Through It**  
**By George Campbell**

Many books have been written about the ten terrible years known as the Dirty Thirties. What follows here isn't aimed at saying anything new about the period – for everything possible has already been said many times.

Rather, this is the Depression as I saw it, personally. These are my own experiences and observations. What I say here is either what happened to me, personally, or else what I actually saw happen to someone else, or saw others do.

I was born in Kelliher, Saskatchewan on May 25th, 1926. My family moved to Brandon, Manitoba in late October, 1929, when I was three years old. Thus, I grew up in Brandon throughout the Depression, and left home during the war in the early '40s. I remember the Depression from the perspective of a carefree boy.

And what does that mean?

Simply that while it was happening, I was too busy having normal "kid" fun to notice that I was noticing anything. Mom and dad had all the worries. I was just a kid, far too busy being a kid, to take in what was really going on. It wasn't until the war that we began to hear the word "Depression". And then, as I heard it talked about, I began to remember the things that I had unconsciously noticed without realizing that I was absorbing anything.

What follows is what I remember seeing, feeling, doing . . . or . . . whatever. Follow the links to find out about life when I was young!

George Campbell,  
January, 2004.