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gone alone because there were no rivers to cross. There were no physical hazards. And in those days there weren't any fences, and you could wander, at will, across the prairie. But later the fences came. They used barbed wire. But they would go either to the Red Deer River which was thirty-five miles south or they would go to another area that was northeast, which is what my father did with Norman Stewart. And they cut small poplar trees to make fence posts. My father worked with Norman Stewart--this is the winter before Mother and I came--to cut poplar trees into fence posts. They left in a beautiful sunny day--it was winter--Norman had his sleigh and team. They would have gone. I suppose, about twenty or twenty-five miles, something like that, northeast of the homestead. And while they were there a terrific blizzard blew up. And when the blizzard finally blew out it was very, very cold and they had to walk behind the team to keep warm. And my father wore out his overshoes, and he also got snowblind from the brightness of the sun. It didn't affect Norman but it did my father. And he had to walk behind the sleigh--with his hand on the box to keep direction. So on their way up they had camped overnight in a homesteader's shack, which was the custom. As I said, the doors left: With her mother, Jessie on leave from the Halifax Military Hospital, December 1941. Right: Jessie (in white) serving at the Sydney Military Hospital, June 1942. were never locked. And they had food. And didn't they find a pair of overshoes that my father could wear! It was miraculous! And they finally got home....

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