



# Silhouettes

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The Associates of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick

## From pen to pension: The New Brunswick education system



P128-118

*Teachers, Charlotte Co. Teacher's Institute, in front of St. George Superior School, 1929*

**T**HE PEN was indeed mightier than the sword in 19<sup>th</sup> century New Brunswick, and with every stroke it determined the fortunes and misfortunes of school teachers. The ability to write not only provided primary entrance

to the teaching occupation, but this skill also enhanced the most powerful political tool at a teacher's disposal: the petition. As early as 1784, prospective teachers penned and submitted petitions for licence directly to the Governor. At that

time, a teaching licence was granted by the Governor without an examination of the applicant's qualifications, knowledge of the subjects to be taught, or an inspection of the school. Before the advent of teacher training, penmanship

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was considered the most crucial qualification for licencing teachers in New Brunswick. So long as an instructor wrote in a fine hand, no licence would be denied.

The early provincial licencing system, clearly flawed, was unfortunately consistent with an education system that throughout the 19<sup>th</sup> century would be marked by indifference and disorganization. Although the exiled Loyalists had imported an education model forged in the former American Colonies, a credible and reliable school system was slow to develop in New Brunswick. At least initially the new province did not have the resources to devote to education. However, beginning in 1802, the introduction of a series of Parish School Acts demonstrated a governmental commitment to educating the youth of the province. None of these early school acts provided for an administrative body to regulate or set educational standards and practices. In the absence of a central authority or board of education, teachers had only the petition process available to them to request payment of salary (the Provincial Allowance), to lodge grievances, or to plead for pensions.

New Brunswick experienced an educational awakening during the 1830s and 1840s, culminating with school acts that transformed the delivery of instruction in this province. For the first time female teachers were specifically addressed in school legislation. The School Act of 1833 introduced limitations upon female employment, setting the limit at two schoolmistresses per parish. If the number of female teachers in a parish exceeded this limit, they were denied the Provincial Allowance, prompting schoolmistresses to compose caustic petitions demanding their due. The School Act of 1837 directed that three female school teachers per parish could collect the Provincial Allowance.

Even with this restrictive legislation in place, teaching became increasingly feminized. In 1856, women comprised forty-four percent of all teachers. Two decades later, more than half the schools in this province were taught by women. This progressive period also witnessed the introduction of an organizational framework with the creation of County Boards of Education in 1837, replaced by a provincial Board of Education in 1847. The 1847 Act initiated the professionalization of teaching by empowering the Board of Education to establish a teacher training school. Normal Schools opened in Fredericton and Saint John in 1848, with a total enrollment that first year of 109 teachers. The establishment of the Normal School marked an important step forward; professional credentials would finally supplant penmanship as the primary teaching qualification.

Popular opinion did not keep pace with the march of educational progress. Teachers still ranked at or near the bottom of the occupational ladder. Legislative efforts to elevate the system of education had failed, at least in the public mind. The harsh realities associated with teaching remained, which ranged from low pay and poor working conditions to occupational instability and uncertainty. Teachers cobbled together a paltry income from the Provincial Allowance combined with local subscription. However, a teacher only received the Provincial Allowance after completing the standard six-month term contract. Additionally, the community usually paid the teacher in room and board rather than with hard currency.

Dedicated teachers remained in the profession despite the poor work conditions. These career teachers even began to insist upon pensions for their long service. The quest for a teaching pension had begun in earnest by mid-century by a group of aged teachers who penned



*A Gibson School classroom, 1890s*

elegantly persuasive petitions. During the 1854-1855 session of the Legislature, Rachel Martin, Joseph Leggett, Alexander McRae, and Angus McPhee were each awarded an annuity. However, the annuity did not extend to any teachers other than the four aged petitioners. Superannuation would resurface periodically in petitions during the second half of the 19<sup>th</sup> century, and broken political promises would sour relations between teachers and government officials.

In 1883, Attorney General A.G. Blair began promising teachers a system of superannuation. However, Blair did not honour his election promises, and a number of disgruntled individuals voiced their displeasure at being duped. Besides breaking promises to aged

teachers, Blair also failed to introduce the proposed "Bill for the Relief of Indigent Apple Vendors," which he promised to a struggling fruit merchant.

With the dawn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the pension discussion gained renewed vigor. By 1910, a firm pension plan began to take shape. A pension was not only considered an integral part of the professionalization of teaching, but was intended and expected to encourage careers in the profession. Teachers over the age of 60 who had been teaching for 35 years would be considered eligible for a pension. The pension, equalling half the annual salary, would not exceed \$400 per year. Critics of the proposed pension refused to embrace the retirement concept. The Prime Minister and

older Senators were in this same age cohort, and yet they were still politically active and vital. Opponents to the teachers' pension bill also questioned the wisdom of superannuating those who only worked five hours per day; it hardly seemed fair or equitable given the fact that most labourers worked ten hour days without the promise of a pension. However, it was conceded that because teachers were public servants, they were entitled to a pension. In December 1910, the teachers' pension bill came into effect, with 14 teachers meeting the eligibility requirements at that time. New Brunswick was a pioneer in the push for teachers' pensions, ultimately achieved by the power of the pen. ■



# Teachers petitions hold a wealth of information on education in early New Brunswick

IN THE ABSENCE of a central body to administer education in New Brunswick, teachers wanting to obtain or renew a licence, request a transfer, apply for salary or the Provincial Allowance, or lodge a grievance had to submit petitions to the Legislative Assembly addressed to the Lieutenant Governor. The petitions include teacher's place of birth, current residence, age, marital status and religion. Depending on the petition's purpose, they may also contain information on the composition of the classroom, number and gender of students, subjects taught, condition of the school and problems teachers faced. Attachments attest to the moral character and success of the teacher.

Requirements and processes changed over the years with the introduction of Local Boards of Trustees, County Boards of Education and, in 1847, a provincial Board of Education. However teachers continued to petition until 1882 and 6645 petitions are preserved in RS655, holding a wealth of information on education in the early days of the province. Three examples follow.

## The petition of Solomon Inglee

*Humbly sheweth that your Petitioner has taught school in this Province (sic) for the space of eight years that he now considers himself a British subject and is Perfectly willing to take the Oath of allegiance that your Petitioner is more than fifty years of age and intends to spend the remainder of his life in this Government as he likes it much better than the Government of the United States altho he was born in the United States Your Petitioner begs leave to subjoin Certificates relative to his qualifications as a School master and Humbly Prays that Your Excellency would be pleased to grant him Licence to teach School so that he may be enabled to receive a part of the money appropriated to Teachers throughout the Province. Your Petitioner is keeping School at this time in the Parish of Newcastle Your Excellency's Petitioner in Duty Bound will ever pray.*

*Miramichi, New Brunswick Parish of Newcastle, 10 of June 1818*

**Rev. Oliver Arnold.** *This may certify Solomon Inglee has kept school in Sussex Vale who has brought on the Children in their Reading with more Rapidity than any person that I have ever met with and has brought them forward in other parts of their Learning to my entire satisfaction, that he boarded with my family the time he kept the school and which time he conducted himself with much propriety and that he has been a Communicant in the Church.*

*Sussex, New Brunswick February 1815*

**Thomas H. Peters Esq.** *This may certify that Solomon Inglee has kept school in the Parish of Chatham one Quarter that he has in that short time brought forward the Scholars sent by me to my satisfaction and advanced them in Reading and Spelling much beyond my Expectation and Others who had their Children under his Charge have expressed themselves satisfied.*

*Miramichi in the Parish of Chatham August 20 1817*



*Robert Douglass, pictured above in his advanced years and whose petition appears in the background on the following page, got his start in New Brunswick as a teacher. He petitioned for a licence in 1830 a year after immigrating from Ireland and taking a school in Kingston. He later taught in Shediac Cape and was also a surveyor and customs officer in Bouctouche.*

## The petition of Jane Danforth

*Humbly Sheweth That she is a Widow and has a helpless family of children, four of which are living home with her. That she has for upwards of three years last past been in the capacity of Teacher for a School in the Parish of Carleton and the number of scholars under her care has been from 23 to 50 during that period. That there is no other Female School in the Parish and the place in which she teachers is appropriated for the sole use of her school. That notwithstanding it has been well attended she has hard struggles to keep up her family by the small income arising from it and she is encouraged to hope by persons of respectability that by obtaining a Licence from your Honor and keeping such a school as shall be approved by the Trustees for the Parish she may be privileged to receive the Province allowance of £20 — should this be the case it will afford her much relief and she therefore humbly prays that Your Honor will be pleased to grant her a License and as in duty bound your petitioner will ever pray.*

*Carleton, June 14th 1830*

*We the Subscribers who send our Children to school to Mrs. Danforth the Petitioner do recommend her as a competent Person; and worthy of every support that can be obtained for her. [17 signatures follow.]*

**George Bond J.P.** *I hereby certify that I have visited Mrs. Danforth's school and found everything there highly satisfactory. She possesses qualifications as a Teacher in a common school, which can only be equaled by very few females. She is naturally of a strong mind, and in her conduct towards the children under her care she is positive, decided and uniform, so much so that she commands at all times their respect and steady attention. The encouragement it meets with in this neighbourhood under existing circumstances most clearly proves its utility.*

*And as the general quarter Sessions at their last sitting unanimously passed a certificate from the Trustees in favour of a Licenced female Teacher in the City recommending that she should receive the Province's allowance of twenty pounds, I therefore strongly recommend that Mrs. Danforth receive the same benefit as she has equal claims, and is in every respect equally as deserving.*

## The petition of the undersigned [Edwin Sharp, M.A.]

*humbly sheweth That he is the Teacher of the Superior School located in District No. 6, Parish of Studholm, County of Kings, that in the said District a neat and commodious School House has been at an outlay of about one thousand dollars (\$1000.00) erected and supplied with furniture and apparatus of superior quality; that the average daily attendance for more than a year previous to last Christmas exceeded thirty, and during the intervening time since that period it reaches 39¼; that of those in actual attendance at the present time, fifteen are Boarders (from St. John and elsewhere); that in the School twenty-three study Latin; fourteen Greek; seven French; twenty Algebra; twenty-three Geometry; sixteen Trigonometry; and eleven Chemistry — in addition to the more ordinary Branches: that in 1864, this School furnished the Provincial University with the Student who obtained the highest number of marks at the Matriculation Examination; that in 1865, another from the School was even more successful in this particular than his predecessor having beaten the best of his competitors about 9½% and having caused the learned President of the University to remark that seldom, if ever, had a Student on entering the University exhibited equal proficiency; that there are in the School about four pupils who will next September seek admission to the Classic Halls of the University; with many more who at no very distant day, hope to have their names enrolled on the Matriculation; and that in support of this School, no claim upon the Provincial Treasure beyond the usual Allowance three hundred dollars (\$300) per annum has been made.*

*Your Petitioner would therefore, in consideration of the above facts, most humbly ask that a Special Grant (of say one hundred dollars \$100) be made to the Teacher of the aforesaid School for the year ending 16th March 1866.*

*And as in duty bound will ever Pray*

*Edwin N. Sharp, M.A.  
Teacher, Studholm Superior School*

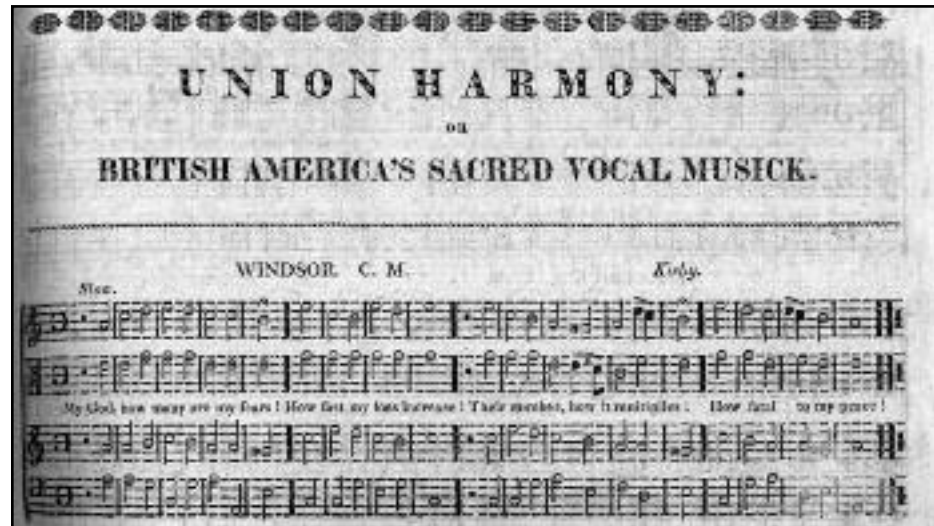
# Associates hold AGM for 2010 at the Moncton Museum

THE ASSOCIATES of the Provincial Archives of New Brunswick met on April 14, 2011 for their Annual General Meeting. The President reported on a number of initiatives of the Associates that supported the Provincial Archives in its programs and operations including the Juliana Horatio Ewing exhibit, a presentation on researching Scottish genealogy by the Archivist of the University of Dundee, a Hallowe'en fundraiser, and applications and funding for summer students.

Bernard-Marie Thériault, Joe Day, Cyril Donahue, John Thompson, and Nancy Vogan were elected to the Associates Board of Directors for the 2011-13 term. At the Board of Directors meeting following the AGM Gwen Davies and Bernard-Marie Thériault were re-elected President and Vice-President respectively.

Prof. Nancy Vogan entertained and informed the attendees with a presentation on tune or song books. A topic she has been researching for many years, she hopes the results of her work will lead to a book-length treatment of the topic. These artifacts have much to reveal about the culture and heritage of the early history of the region because, not only do the books provide insights to the religious past, but their publication can afford leads and tidbits about the publishing history of New Brunswick and the maturation of a colonial society.

Equally intriguing were her stories of how she has been able to track down extant copies of editions she had previously only heard vague reference to. She has received calls and communication from friends, acquaintances and



*A page from Union Harmony, a song book published by Stephen Humbert of Saint John in 1816.*

strangers who have heard of her interest. Often the leads are passed through several people before landing on her desk and years can have elapsed between someone learning of Nancy's interest and them

discovering a lead to pass along to her. Antique dealers and rare book dealers have been especially resourceful in steering her in the right direction. ■

## Tribute to a volunteer

DEDICATED, resourceful, cheerful are just a few words that describe Dorothy Wiggs, PANB's volunteer extraordinaire. For over 20 years Dorothy has worked, both alone and with archives staff, to make thousands of marriage, birth, and death records available to researchers. These major indices to vital statistics are now available on PANB's website, and they draw millions of "hits" each year. Dorothy's diligence and attention to detail are two reasons the indexing projects are such a success. The Associates and PANB salute



*Dorothy Wiggs*

Dorothy Wiggs for her hard work and dedication. Thank you and well done! ■

# Three retiring Provincial Archives employees



*Susan Hébert*



*Susan Shalala*



*Denis Noel*

SUSAN HÉBERT retired at the end of March after 9 years with the Archives. Her work in the Private Sector Records Unit will help provide access to records of many branches of the Women's Institute and of the IODE, and of various Anglican Parishes. She also prepared preliminary listings for the records of Aida Flemming, Kindness Club, Muriel Fergusson, Jack Fenety, Jo Lyman and George Fry. Susan was an appreciated volunteer at the Archives public programs.

SUSAN SHALALA came to work at the Archives in 2003 and retired at the end of April. She worked closely with the Associates assisting with membership and the organization of meetings and orchestrated a number of successful events including the Archives 40th anniversary Gala, a Halloween fund raiser as well as launch-

es of new web products and exhibit openings. She also had responsibility for the Oral History Unit, providing training and coordinating interviews carried out by groups and individuals including students and providing training. Her background in the print media and communications suited her well to promote the holdings and programs of the Archives.

DENIS NOEL retired at the end of May after an archival career that spanned 26 years. His first work involved arranging and describing various government records including those of the Executive Council and the Lieutenant Governors and assisting researchers as public service archivist. His last 18 years were spent in the Sound and Moving Images Unit where he built a fully equipped audio visual lab

(arguably the best in Atlantic Canada) and laid a foundation that will ensure the preservation and availability of unique and significant audio, video and film records that directly, indirectly and dynamically illustrate New Brunswick's past. Denis' interest in and knowledge of aviation, military, and New Brunswick history suited him well for his archival work as did the deep familiarity he developed with Irish-related sources in the Archives' holdings and the lives of New Brunswick's Irish settlers. He was an advocate for extending the Archives modest outreach efforts and pioneered programs for making the Archives known outside the institution's four walls beginning with small exhibits for the Irish Festival on the Miramichi and leading to participation in international events. ■

## Selected Recent Acquisitions

### Government Records

**RS232 Supervisor of Political Financing.** Financial Returns (Political Parties and District Associations). 1994-2002. 2.4m.; District Association Correspondence for Liberal, Progressive Conservative, New Democratic and Confederation of Regions Parties. 1985-2006 (.6m); Annual Reports, 1979-2001. ; Financial Activity Reports. 2001-2005(.4m)

**RS259 Water Resources Branch.** Minutes of Water Authority and Environment Minister's Meetings. 1958-1983 (0.07m)

**RS626 Department of Transportation.** Administration Branch. Studies include construction of the Fundy Trail. 1963-1990 (.6m)

**RS857 Business New Brunswick.** Photographs of a Bricklin. 1974. Plans for the ship Marco Polo II and Marco Polo Plans, Book III, Preliminary Ship Design Package. 1991-1992 (.05m)

**RS804 Macdonald Farm Records.** Several files on the history, restoration, conservation of and publicity for the Macdonald Farm historic site. 1979-1988 (3m)

**RS850 Forest Extension Service Records.** Twelve volumes of a serial publication entitled "Around Your Woodlot/AUTOUR DE NOS BOISÉS." Includes hundreds of slides and photographs documenting Forest Extension Branch work in association with woodlot owners. 1991-1996 (19.8m)

**RS405 Arts Branch Records.** Files covering several funding programs administered by the Arts Branch, including the program for Arts Festivals, Partnership Program for Community Activities and Presentation by Invitation. 2001-2003 (.2m)

### Private Sector Records

**MC1058 WWII Letters, written to Vesta Morell,** primarily from soldier Jim Morell, 1938-1945, but also a few other St. Stephen area soldiers overseas

**MC3586 Alice May Parks Straight diaries,** 1907-1951, teacher in rural Cambridge area and Silver Falls (Saint John)

**MC1609 Fredericton Rural Cemetery records** (1923-1946). Microfilm

**MC3506 Hennessy & Moran families, Bathurst area.** Correspondence – predominantly during WWII , postcards, photos (additional records to come)

**MC3546 Chatham Head Council, No. 9 Royal Templars of Temperance** (Minute book, 1885-1895)

**MC3545 Ernie Forbes records** (UNB History Professor, retired 1999)

**MC3550 Jean Frances Tweedie** (artist originally from Moncton area) (1940s -2006)

**MC3542 Parker Manderson.** Loggieville, Napan, Brookvale Farm and Point Cheval area)

**MC3533 Lyric Theatre** [1925-1926]. Marysville picture house/movie theatre – mostly correspondence

**MC3524 Peter Campbell,** 1791-1811 (several items) Loyalist, land owner in York county and Northumberland County, where he was JP and Justice of Inferior Court

**MC3523 Jessie M. Hill** diaries and correspondence, 1883-1916

## New Finding Aids

### Government Records

**RS539 Provincial Secretary: Judicial Administration Records.** 1790-1970. Series comprises seven sub-series: A. List of jurors (1790-1972); B. County clerk's return of magistrates (1830-1871); C. Magistrates returns of suits heard (1834, 1850-1876); D. Jail returns and correspondence (1828-1875); E. Returns or schedules of fines imposed by the General Sessions of the Peace (1837-1854); F. Executive Council (1785-1883); Prison Report in Reply to the Circular of 17 January (1865). 0.9m. Microfilmed

**RS141 Vital Statistics.** Births 1916, Late Registrations of Birth 1916; Marriages 1961; Deaths 1961. 5.4m. Microfilmed; index added to the PANB website

### Private Sector Records

**MC467 Sterling A. Limerick.** (1914-1964) Longtime employee of J.S. Neill Hardware Store in Fredericton. Primarily diaries illustrating a very active social life.

**MC473 Thomas Wetmore family** (major revision ) (1790 to 1881; predominant 1857-1881) (6cm) Personal records of 3 generations of the Wetmore family (Thomas, his son Timothy Robert, and T.R.'s son, Thomas Medley) of York and Queens Counties. Include some temperance records as T.R. Wetmore was a member of the Sons of Temperance.

**MC1084 John Babbitt McNair** (major revision) (1930-1968) (2 m) Premier(1940-1952), Judge, Lt. Governor – and a sheep farmer

**MC1713 Alden R. Clark family** (major revision) (2 m) Records of the President of J. Clark & Son, Fredericton, 1909-1994, representing his community involvement in Fredericton Public Library, York Sunbury Historical Society, Boy Scouts, Chamber of Commerce, NB Sports Hall of Fame etc.

**MC2843 New Brunswick Religious and Literary Journal** [23 January 1829-27 February 1830] (revision), microfilm F20736. Focuses on religion and includes biographies of religious notables, also sermons, poetry, some marriages and deaths

**MC3529 Dorothy Ravenscroft** (1973-1980) (8cm) Journalist and environmental activist in the Dalhousie area who helped found the Chaleur Environment Protection Association which opposed building nuclear power plants in NB

**MC3333 Black Family** (1821-1936; predominant 1821-1866) (6cm) documents of family of William Black, early NB administrator and mayor of Saint John

**MC3554 Charlie Russell** (1973-2004) (17cm) Popular DJ and eventual owner of CJCJ radio in Woodstock; writer of "The Bricklin" (satire) and other songs). (Archives also holds an oral history interview with Mr. Russell and recordings of his songs)

**MC3555 School District No. 16,** Bathurst Village (1879-1897) (1cm) (Minute book of school trustees covering the years of the Bathurst Schools Question)

## Sound, film and video records

**P683 Rosemary Withers.** Author, publisher. 518 images comprising her complete "Promoting New Brunswick" post-card series , her "Lighthouses of New Brunswick" and "Bridges of New Brunswick" collector cards, and prints of New Brunswick covered bridges. Also four publications that she produced

**P676 Greg Riordon fonds** (Pokeshaw & Black Rock, Gloucester County)

**P274 Promotional photos** (40) of Fredericton and area

**MC3581; M2010.310 Malcolm Family** films including shots of Youghal Beach, graduation ceremony, family, Kanna Beach, Kinrabank in 1960's, Campbellton, fishing trip

**MC3582; M2011.9 Gerry Taylor collection.** Musician and journalist. Audio recording of Wilf Carter's performance at the Irving Convention in 1970's

**MC3595; M2011.78 Fidele Theriault Collection.** Historian. Film footage of Maisonette in 1950s

**MC3573; M2011.10 Arthur Keith Family** Films shot in Kings County, Springfield, 1950s.

**MC2607; M2011.12 Moncton Fire Department** Films of fires of various buildings in Moncton

**MC3237; M2011.67 Jim O'Neil Collection.** Deputy Fire Chief Fredericton, built model circus. Jim O'Neill Bros. Circus: interviews, displays, collage TV program: City Council Awards with Jim O'Neill Bros. Circus

**MC3597; M2011.86 Mary E. Gibbon,** author of "Miscou Island" Audio, interviews with residents

## Additions to Archives' Website

**RS141 Vital Statistics:** 84,328 digitized images of original death records, 6,730 digitized images of original birth records. 19,569 birth records added to the database. ■





P800-38

# School Days

PERHAPS NO SUBJECT is more evocative than “school days,” a universal experience at a formative time. A key souvenir of those times and a trigger for memories of classmates and teachers is the obligatory class (or school) photograph. Early on, technology dictated that such photos be taken out of doors in black and white. ❖ Victoria Mill School on Lincoln Road, 1892 (later Morrison Mills School). Schools in New Brunswick were funded at the County level and were of varying types and conditions but Kingston was fortunate in receiving the beneficence of Sir William MacDonald whose tobacco fortune and interest in rural education led him to establish a MacDonald Consolidated School there. It had the first department of Home Economics and of Manual Training in the province, and students were instructed also in the natural sciences and their application to farm practice. ❖ Principal’s classroom (senior grade VIII and IX), ca. 1904, and garden plots used to teach students to prepare the ground, plant seeds, keep an account of their time and costs and share in the value of the crop or the loss, ca. 1910. Graduation was a major community event—the de rigueur suits and white dresses of graduates served for the ceremony, the dance, and in some cases, a wedding. ❖ East Florenceville graduating class, ca. 1930. A one room schoolhouse served most rural communities—with surprising effectiveness under a good teacher. ❖ Gregg Settlement School (Carleton Co.) in 1938. School buses were not as ubiquitous as they are today and vans were used in many districts with parents footing the bill for transport of rural students to a regional school. ❖ Students Reg. Joan and Eric Langen and driver George Pryor, Centreville, 1958. Holidays brought a happy change from regular lessons and were well celebrated. ❖ Hallowe’en at Avondale School, 1950. ❖ Christmas play in a classroom decorated with student-drawn creations in coloured chalk, Jacksontown School, 1958.



P85-4



P82-60

# Les années d’école

RIEN SANS DOUTE ne ravive autant de souvenirs que les années d’école, une expérience commune vécue à une période formatrice de la vie. Souvenir essentiel de cette époque, l’obligatoire photo de classe (ou d’école) rappelle à la mémoire camarades de classe et enseignants. Au début, les séances devaient se tenir à l’extérieur et le résultat était en noir et blanc. ❖ École Victoria Mill School, chemin Lincoln, 1892 (devenue l’école Morrison Mills School). Au Nouveau-Brunswick, les écoles étaient financées par les comtés et leur construction et leur état variaient, mais Kingston put bénéficier de la générosité de sir William MacDonald, qui avait fait fortune dans le tabac et dont l’intérêt pour l’éducation rurale l’incita à établir à cet endroit une école MacDonald Consolidated School. L’école fut la première dans la province à posséder des départements d’économie domestique et d’éducation manuelle; les élèves y apprenaient aussi les sciences naturelles et leurs applications en agriculture. ❖ Classe du directeur (niveaux supérieurs VIII et IX), v. 1904, et potagers où les élèves apprenaient à préparer le sol, à semer des graines, à noter leur temps et leurs dépenses, et à se partager les bénéfices ou les pertes après la récolte, v. 1910. La remise des diplômes était un grand événement communautaire : les incontournables complets et robes blanches des finissants étaient portés à la cérémonie et au bal, et servaient même, dans certains cas, pour le mariage. ❖ Promotion d’East Florenceville, v. 1930. La plupart des localités rurales avaient une école à une seule classe, où une bonne enseignante pouvait obtenir des résultats surprenants. ❖ École de Gregg Settlement (Carleton Co.) en 1938. Les autobus scolaires n’étant pas aussi répandus qu’ils le sont aujourd’hui, dans beaucoup de districts, ce sont les parents qui payaient la fourgonnette qui transportait les élèves des localités rurales vers l’école régionale. ❖ Les élèves Reg. Joan et Eric Langen, et le chauffeur George Pryor, Centreville, 1958. Comme heureuses distractions du travail scolaire, les jours de fête étaient célébrés avec enthousiasme. ❖ Fête de l’Halloween à l’école Avondale School, 1950. ❖ Spectacle de Noël dans une classe décorée par les élèves à l’aide de craies de couleur, école Jacksontown School, 1958.



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P26-17



P26-19



P26-12