

# Schools In Our District

## BRUNO SCHOOL

### Events and Information of Interest:

— School opened in 1910. There are no registers available for that year, but the 1911 register states "2nd year of operation".

— May-June-July, 1913 -- school closed for scarlet fever epidemic.

— April 20, 1914 -- note at the bottom of the register page notes "private school opened April 20, 1914" (Academy).

— October-November-December, 1919, large number of absenteeisms with note across bottom of the page "mumps prevalent".

— 1922-1923 notes indicate absenteeism for threshing, potatoes, cleaning oats, etc.

— March 2-6, 1925 -- school closed because of scarlet fever.

— December 15-17, 1924 -- school closed because of blizzard.

— January 23 and 24 -- school closed because of measles.

— December 4, 5 and 6 -- school closed because of measles.

— February 10, 1947 -- school closed because of fuel shortage.

— November 20, 1947 -- school closed because of the wedding of Princess Elizabeth.

— October 17, 1951 -- school closed because of Princess Elizabeth's tour of Saskatchewan.

— February 5, 1952 -- school closed because of funeral of King George VI.

— June 2, 1953 -- school closed because of coronation of Queen Elizabeth II.



Bruno's first public school, 1905. (Known as 'two by four' school.)

— September 27, 1969 -- school closed because of Provincial Flag Ceremony for one-half day.

— June 11, 1970 -- school closed because of funeral of principal, E. C. Donahue.

— February 19, 1971 -- school closed because students attended the Canadian Winter Games in Saskatoon.

— In earlier years, the school was closed for all religious holidays and Saint's days.

— 1971-1972 -- Dana Radar Base High School students attend Bruno School.

— Special Education classes began in 1972-1973 with Mrs. Pat Pantella teaching (Sister Augustine had volunteered half a day in 1967 for Special Ed.).

— With the completion of the new gymnasium, physical education classes began in 1972-1976 with James Jones instructing.

— Mrs. Lucille Tegenkamp became the librarian in 1969-1970.

— Industrial Arts classes began in 1975-1976.

— Resource Room Services began in 1980-1981.

— Mrs. Gaetane Pulvermacher was hired as a teacher's aide in 1975.

### Teachers of Bruno School

Andre Pothier, 1911

Joseph G. Gaynor, 1912

Margaret Robertson, 1912

Michael Hanratty, 1913

Mary O'Callaghan, 1913



Bruno High School

Lawrence C. Walch, 1914  
 Sister Antonia Mackay, 1918-1925  
 Sister Magdalen Weber, 1920-1922  
 Sister Therese Muench, 1921-1927  
 Sister Petra Waldbillig, 1922-1923  
 Helen Waldbillig, 1922  
 Sister Scholastica Bolwin, 1924  
 Mother Xavria Sutcliffe, 1926-1929  
 Sister Aquina Schulte, 1925, 1929  
 Sister Mary Agatha Schromeyer, 1927  
 Sister Mary Agnes Groppe, 1926-1928  
 Josephine Skalicky, 1927  
 Sister Rita Berthold, 1927-1934  
 Susan Schwingamer, 1928  
 Sister Catherina Distel, 1927-1930  
 Sister Aloysia Duak, 1928-1929, 1940-1947, 1950-1956  
 Sister Clementine Roliling, 1929-1930  
 Armella Schmitz, 1929-1930, 1938-1939  
 Sister Benedicta Plemel, 1930-1933, 1941-1945  
 Irene LaBrash, 1930-1932  
 Beatrice Ruest, 1930-1931  
 Sister Dolores Moorman, 1931-1940, 1960-1961  
 Sister Martina Zoller, 1932-1934  
 Louis Costello, 1933-1936  
 Sister Elizabeth Kloster, 1934-1935  
 Sister Bernadette Ehman, 1934-1936  
 Sister Perpetua Plantholt, 1935-1936  
 Sister Aloysia Dauk, 1935-1936  
 Adam Giesinger, 1936-1942  
 Sister Patricia Mackay, 1936-1943, 1971-1975  
 Sister Felicitas Hornisch, 1936-1938, 1946-1952  
 Sister Ambrosia Nenzel, 1936-1938, 1949-1955  
 Susan Giesinger, 1939-1940  
 Sister Bonaventure Von Wehde, 1939-1941  
 Sister Walburga Mussmann, 1940-1944  
 Sister Augustine Koett, 1940-1941, 1944-1949  
 Jacob Hollicky, 1942-1959  
 Sister Veronica Plemel, 1943-1944  
 Sister Carola Halbach, 1944-1945  
 Sister Andrea Steinke, 1945-1946, 1961-1974  
 Walburga Reincke, 1945  
 Sister Thoma Bernhard, 1946  
 Sister Stanislas Limacher, 1946-1947, 1956-1959, 1967-1968  
 Sister Carmelita Kolla, 1947-1952  
 Sister Imelda Doepker, 1947-1950

Sister Theodore Reineke, 1948, 1968-1972  
 Sister Catherina Distel, 1950-1951  
 Ilona Domotor, 1959-1960  
 Sister Helena Misura, 1959-1971  
 Lawrence Fisher, 1959-1961  
 Lydia Czerniak, 1960-1961  
 Adeline Hilkewich, 1960-1961  
 Sylvester Gulansky, 1960-1961  
 Sadie Urban, 1960-1961, 1963-(1984)  
 Edward Donahue, 1961-1970  
 Esther Weiman, 1961-1975  
 Sister Irene Puetz, 1961-1963  
 Lucille Tegenkamp, 1961-(1984)  
 Mathew Tarnowski, 1961-1977  
 Thomas Orzynski, 1961-1962  
 Melvin Matkowski, 1961-1966  
 Wayne Hackl, 1962-1963  
 Dale Ebert, 1962-1966  
 Louis Domotor, 1963-1965  
 Leona (Schewaga) Medernach, 1963-1964  
 Mary Schwark, 1963-1964  
 Sister Esther Hinz, 1963-1964  
 Sharon (Christiaens) Domotor, 1964-1966  
 Michall Zmood, 1964-1967, 1969-1973  
 John Cherneski, 1964-1968  
 Susan Bourauel, 1965-1968  
 Sister Teresita Maier, 1965-1966  
 Anne Martinka, 1965-1966  
 Sister Gabriel Hinz, 1965-1966  
 Sister Bernadine Fetter, 1966-1967  
 Marvin Schultz, 1966-1967  
 Anne Danchura, 1966-1967  
 Sister Cecilia Bartsch, 1951-1952, 1959-1967  
 Sister Mercedes Raab, 1952-1960  
 Sister Ignatia Billesberger, 1952-1955  
 Sister Joan Ewen, 1955-1956  
 Sister Xavier Hinz, 1955-1959  
 Sister Ursula Ehmann, 1956-1958, 1964-1967  
 Sister Tarcisia Gerwing, 1958-1959  
 Kenneth Kulrich, 1958-1960  
 Louis Jule, 1958-1959  
 Dennis Hunt, 1959  
 Sister Ruth Junk, 1959-1961  
 Laurier Lepage, 1966-1981



**St. Bruno's School, 1918**



**Bruno School, 1959**

Wakaw School Unit No. 48

Programme

Unit Board

Mr. T. J. Nieman, Chairman  
Mr. P. M. Bourauel  
Mr. A. E. Prefontaine  
Mr. B. J. Shabaga  
Mr. M. J. Holinaty, Vice-Chairman  
Mr. H. J. Begrand

Secretary - Mr. W. E. Chobotuk  
Assistant - Mrs. K. Herman

Bruno Central Board

Mr. N. Dirk, Chairman  
Mr. A. Gerding  
Mr. J. J. Krenn  
Mr. J. P. Seidel  
Mr. V. Bendig  
Mr. P. M. Bourauel, Secretary

Staff

Mr. J. J. Hollicky, Principal  
Sister Xavier  
Sister Mercedes  
Sister Stanislas  
Sister Ursula

Mr. C. D. Peters, B.A., B.Ed.,  
Superintendent of Schools.

Chairman - Mr. N. Dirk

1. O Canada
2. Hoisting Flag - Bruno Boy Scouts
3. Bugle Selection - Bruno Band
4. Song - Bruno Public School - "Song of Saskatchewan Helen Dempsey"
5. Chairman's Remarks
6. Address of Welcome - Bruno Overseer
7. Address - Rev. Father Bernard
8. Song - Bruno Public School - "The Lord is My Shepherd"
9. Mr. P. M. Bourauel - Subunit Trustee
10. Mr. T. J. Nieman - Chairman of Wakaw Unit Board.
11. Song - "Song of The Mountains" - arranged by Rj Staples - Ursuline Academy Glee Club
12. Mr. John C. Webster - Architect
13. Presentation of Keys:  
Mr. F. Nieman, Contractor  
Mr. N. Dirk, Bruno School Board  
Mr. J. J. Hollicky, Principal
14. Song - "Fairylnd" - Ursuline Academy Glee Club.
15. Mr. C. D. Peters, Superintendent  
Address - Mr. C. H. Logie,  
Supervisor of School Administration

16. Hon. James A. Darling, M.L.A.,  
Speaker, Saskatchewan  
Legislature - Official Opening

17. Song - "Bless This House" -  
Ursuline Academy Glee Club

- God Save The Queen -

Tour of School

Lunch - served by Bruno Girl  
Guides

David Marshak, 1966-1968  
 Elizabeth (Nielson) Tegenkamp, 1966-1983  
 Louise Tetzlaff, 1967-1975  
 Norbert Tetzlaff, 1968-1975  
 Ursula Popovitch, 1967-(1984)  
 Marlene Dengler, 1967-1968  
 Bernadette Greuel, 1967-1968  
 Anton Wandzura, 1967-1973  
 Michael Pantella, 1968-1975  
 Petrunella Pantella, 1968-1975  
 Roy Lesyshen, 1968-1970, 1973-1975  
 Mary Schriml, 1968-1971  
 Bernard Huber, 1968-(1984)  
 Mervin Marshak, 1968-1983  
 Diana Weiman, 1969-(1984)  
 Randy Warick, 1970-1974  
 Matilda Schreiner, 1970-1971  
 Lyle Hassen, 1971-1973  
 Paulette Honatzis, 1971-1972  
 Sister Laura Suchan, 1971-1972  
 James Jones, 1972-1973  
 Delores Wengranowski, 1972-1974  
 Margaret Huber, 1972-1973  
 Marjorie (Dust) LaBrash, 1973-1977  
 Ronald McCann, 1973-1974  
 Marlene Manderscheid, 1973-1975  
 Judy Manderscheid, 1973-1974  
 Nestor Stakiw, 1973-1976  
 Diane (Kusch) Buckle, 1974-1982  
 William Kreeft, 1974-1975  
 Gail (Lasko) Dust, 1974-1981  
 Terry Thorimbet, 1974-1976  
 Cecelia Johnston, 1975-1976  
 Robert Gerow, 1975-1976  
 Sylvester Solar, 1975-(1984)  
 Marie Warick, 1975-1981  
 Starr (Robert) Basset, 1975-1980  
 Cecile (Mercier) Bender, 1975-1979  
 Sister Lenore Moldenhauer, 1975-1979  
 Garry Sibley, 1975-(1984)  
 Jacob Jmaeff, 1975-(1984)  
 Sister Antonia Zintel, 1975-(1984)

MaryLea Basset, 1976-(1984)  
 Gail Huber, 1976-(1984)  
 Donald Horncastle, 1977-1983  
 Aurelia (Yuzdepski) Sibley, 1977-(1984)  
 Heinz Schulz, 1979-1981  
 Vern Zakoski, 1979-1981  
 Estelle Lepage, 1980-(1984)  
 MaryAnn Gerwing, 1980-(1984)  
 Geralyn Hall, 1980-1982  
 David Willenborg, 1980-(1984)  
 Linda Billo, 1981-(1984)  
 Lisette Detillieux, 1981-(1984)  
 Melvin Kelley, 1981-(1984)  
 Bernadette White, 1981-(1984)  
 Marilyn (Vaughn) Gilewicz, 1981-(1984)  
 Dennis Deminchuk, 1983-(1984)  
 Patti Lough, 1983-(1984)

All of the dates in brackets ( ) indicate that the teacher is still with the staff of the Bruno school.

## Administration

### Principals

Louis Castello, 1933-36	Sister Dolores Moorman, 1960-61
Adam Giesinger, 1936-42	Edward C. Donahue, 1961-70 (deceased June 7, 1970)
Jacob John Hollicky, 1942-59	Laurier Lepage, 1970-1976
Dennis Hunt, 1959	Bernard Huber, 1976-(1984)
Nelson Boyer, 1959-60	

### Vice-Principals

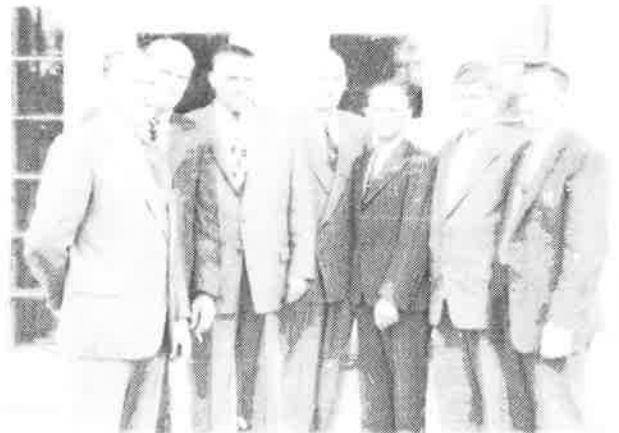
Sylvester Gurlanski, 1960-61	Bernard Huber, 1970-76
Melvin Matkowski, 1962-66	Elizabeth Tegenkamp, 1976-83
Laurier Lepage, 1966-70	Sadie Urban, 1977-(1984)
Mathew Tarnowski, 1966-77	MaryLea Basset, 1983-(1984)

## School Board Members

- 1910: W. F. Hargarten, secretary-treasurer
- 1911: Frank Hamm, secretary-treasurer, W. F. Hargarten and John G. Bourauel (auditor for year end accounts).
- 1912: Michael Ebner, chairman; Frank Hamm, secretary-treasurer.
- 1913: Frank Fisher, chairman; C. Honish; John G. Bourauel (auditor).
- There are no records between 1913 and 1927.

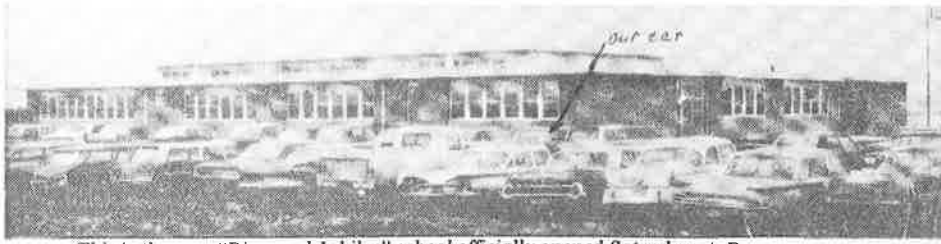


L to R: M.C. Nick Dirk, Father Bernard, Mr. Peters (superintendent), P. M. Bourauel (Unit trustee), R. J. Schwinghamer (Mayor), Frank Nieman (contractor).



Board of Trustees for the Bruno school, June, 1958. L to R: Albert Gerding, John Seidel, F. Nieman (contractor), Nick Dirk, P. M. Bourauel, Valentine Bendig and Joe Krenn.

# Bruno opens Diamond Jubilee School



*This is the new "Diamond Jubilee" school officially opened Saturday at Bruno.*



*Part of the crowd at Saturday's opening of the new Bruno school.*



*Mayor Ray Klassen of Bruno addresses the audience at the opening of the town's new "Diamond Jubilee School." The centralized school was opened by Mrs. Sally Merchant, MLA and legislative secretary to the education minister, Saturday afternoon. Behind Mr. Klassen, above, is School Board Chairman Peter Bourauel.*

OFFICIAL  
OPENING



DIAMOND JUBILEE  
SCHOOL

JUNE 13, 1965 -- 2:00 P.M.

*Peter Bourauel*

BRUNO CENTRAL SCHOOL BOARD

Mr. Peter Bourauel	Chairman
Mr. L. Schulte	Trustee
Mr. Alex Dust	"
Mr. F. Pulvermacher	"
Mr. M. A. Leuschen	"
Mr. W. Hergott	"
Mr. H. Hilgers	Secretary

WAKAW SCHOOL UNIT BOARD

Mr. T. J. Nieman	Chairman, Cudworth
Mr. J. F. Warick	Dana
Mr. W. J. Bodnar	Frudthomme
Mr. J. Skakun	Alvena
Mr. H. J. Holinaty	Vice-Chairman, Wakaw
Mr. H. J. Bognand	St. Louis
Mr. W. E. Gieseler	Secretary-Prudhomme

TEACHERS OF BRUNO SCHOOL

Mr. E. C. Donahue  
Mr. N. J. Matkowski  
Mr. D. P. Ebert  
Mr. L. A. Domotor  
Mr. M. H. Tarnowski  
Sister Cecelia  
Mrs. Sadie Urban  
Sister Esther  
Mr. M. Zmud  
Mr. J. Cherneski  
Mrs. E. E. Weiman  
Miss S. Christiaens  
Sister Andrea  
Sister Ursula  
Sister Helena  
Mrs. L. Tegenkamp

PROGRAMME

Chairman	Mr. P. M. Bourauel
Raising of Maple Leaf Flag	Bruno Cadets
O CANADA	
Invocation	Rev. Father Edward
Address of Welcome	His Worship Mayor Ray Klason
Addresses:	
Bruno Central School Trustee	Mr. H. Hilgers
Bruno Home & School President	Mrs. Ray Schlosser
Wakaw School Unit Chairman	Mr. T. J. Nieman
Wakaw School Unit Superintendent	Mr. P. W. Kolnick
Zone 5 High School Superintendent	Mr. G. Nowfeld
Bruno High School Principal	Mr. E. C. Donahue
Sask. Teachers' Federation	Mr. G. D. Famer
Subunit Trustee	Mr. J. F. Warick
Member of Parliament - ROSTHERN	Mr. E. Manserden
Member of Legislative Assembly-WATROUS	Mr. W. Broten
Musical Selection - Grades VI, VII, VIII	"When Over Sunlight Paths"
Guest Speaker - - - - Mrs. Sally Merchant	Executive Secretary to The Minister of Education
Musical Selection - - - -	"Pless This House"
Presentation of Keys:	
Mr. Peter Graham, Graham Construction, Contractor	
Mr. Frank Moore, Architect	
Mr. J. F. Warick, Subunit No. 1 Trustee	
Mr. P. M. Bourauel, Chairman of Central Board	
Mr. E. C. Donahue, Principal of Bruno School	
Cutting of Ribbon - - - - Mrs. Sally Merchant	
Tour of School	
Lunch by Home & School Association	

program

- W. F. Hargarten, 1927-1949 (chairman ten years and secretary-treasurer 12 years).
- Henry Tegenkamp, 1927-1935 (secretary-treasurer eight years).
- Henry Dust, 1927-1936
- Harry Stumborg, 1933-1952 (secretary-treasurer four years and chairman 12 years).
- John Seidel, 1938-1960
- Frank Leuschen, 1937-1941
- Ben Dust, 1938-1941 (chairman one year).
- C. Boehm, 1934-1938
- Michael Linde, 1934-1938 (chairman one year).
- John Kellerman, 1941-1943 (chairman three years).
- Alphonse Schwinghamer, 1941-1946
- Albert Gerding, 1943-1959
- Francis Pulvermacher, 1947-1949; 1960-1970
- Peter Bourauel, 1949-1959; 1961-1967 (secretary-treasurer 11 years and chairman three years).
- Nicholas Dirk, 1949-1961 (chairman seven years and secretary one year).
- Frank Spennath, 1950-1952
- Fred McNeill, 1952-1953
- Joseph Krenn, 1954-1960
- Francis Schwinghamer, 1959-1963 (chairman two years).
- Herbert Hilgers, 1959-1970 (chairman three years and secretary-treasurer five years).
- Loretta Bendig (Credgeur), 1960-1965
- Martin Leuschen, 1961-1969
- Alex Dust, 1961-1966

- Laurence Schulte, 1963-1967; 1969-1973 (chairman two years).
- Wilfred Hergott, 1966-1983
- Raymond Schlosser, 1966-1982 (secretary seven years).
- Peter Tarnowski, 1967-1979 (chairman seven years).
- Alfred Koob, 1967-1979
- Leon Stahl, 1967-1970
- Lawrence Weiman, 1967-1979
- Roman Stadnyk, 1968-1979
- Allan Krentz, 1969-1979
- John Keehborn, 1971-1979
- Leonard Dust, 1971-1982 (secretary)
- Jerome Pulvermacher, 1976-(1984)
- Alain Tremel, 1979-(1984) (chairman)
- Gen Doetzel, 1979-(1984)
- Cecile Bender, 1982-(1984)
- Terry Schlosser, 1982-(1984)
- Gregor Kehrig, 1983-(1984)

Note: Trustees originally represented Bruno School District and when the rural schools started to close and those students attended Bruno School, each rural school district had the opportunity to apply for representation of one member on the Bruno School Board. When the Education Act came into effect in 1978, it was decided to establish the Bruno Board of Trustees at six members, three from town and three from the rural areas, which were divided by township lines. Trustees were originally elected by public elections. Members of the Wakaw School Division for Subdivision No. 1: P. M. Bourauel - January 1, 1953 - December 31, 1958 and J. F. Warick - January 1, 1959 - (1984).



First Unit Board. Wakaw School Unit Board, 1953. Back, L to R: Mike Holinaty, P. A. Goudet, Mr. Samson, Peter Bourauel. Front Row: Walter Chobotuk, Ted Nieman, A. E. Prefontaine, Sam Hawryluk.

**SASKATCHEWA**

Province of Saskatchewan  
 Department of Education  
 and  
 Department of Training  
 and  
 Development

**AGREEMENT  
 BETWEEN TRUSTEES AND TEACHER**

The Board of Trustees of The 1st School District No. 1 of the Province of Saskatchewan hereby contracts with and employs Archie J. P. Bellin who holds a first class Certificate of Qualification from the Department of Education of the Province of Saskatchewan as Teacher in the said District at the rate of Eight Hundred and Fifty from and after the 1st day of September 1978 and it further binds and obliges itself and its successors or assigns to pay the said Teacher, during the continuance of this agreement, the sum of sums for four months or a shorter term in accordance with the Provisions of the School Ordinance.

And the said Teacher hereby contracts with the said Board and its successors or assigns and binds himself to teach and conduct the school of the said District according to the provisions of the School Ordinance and Regulations of the Department of Education.

This agreement shall continue in force for four months from the 1st day of September 1978 unless the Certificate of the said Teacher shall in the meantime be revoked, and shall not include any teaching on Saturdays or on other lawful holidays or vacation decided on all such holidays and vacations being at the absolute disposal of the teacher without any deduction from his salary whatever.

The vacation mentioned shall consist of \_\_\_\_\_

This agreement is subject to the provisions of the Section of The School Ordinance which is as follows:

"The salary of a teacher who has been engaged in any district for four months or more continuously shall be estimated by dividing the rate of salary for the year by 210 and multiplying the result obtained by the number of actual teaching days within the period of his engagement."

"Provided that if a teacher has taught more than 210 days in a school year he shall only be entitled to a year's salary; and it is understood that the terms of the said section shall apply to this agreement in the event of the engagement of the teacher under this agreement continuing for four months."

Archie J. P. Bellin  
Archie J. P. Bellin

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 1978

Signed on behalf of the Board:

Witness to Chairman's Signature

Witness of Teacher's Signature



Archie J. P. Bellin  
 Chairman  
Archie J. P. Bellin  
 Teacher  
 Signed and dated at Wakaw, Saskatchewan  
41 08  
20 78

200 1-10

**Agreement between trustees and teacher**

Year	Enrollments	No. of Classrooms	Grades	Enrolment	Teachers	Comments
1911-		1	1-8	18		attended as few as 6 days per term
1912-		1	1-8	23		some attended 6 days
1913-		1	1-8	19		some attended 2 days
1914-		1	1-8	17-48		
1922-1923		4	1-8	125*	4	
1923-1924		4	1-8	115*	4	
1924-1925		4	1-8	107*	4	
1925-1926		4	1-8	105	4	
1926-1927		4	1-8	97	4	
1927-1928		3	1-6	127	3	
1928-1929		3	1-6	134	3	Gr. 1&2 (55 students)
1929-1930		4	1-6	143	4	Gr. 1&2 (59 students)
1930-1931		4	1-7	163	4	
1931-1932		4	1-7	147	4	
1932-1933		4	1-7	145	4	
1933-1934		5	1-11	183	5	
1934-1935		4	1-12	176	4	Gr. 7-12 (9 students)
1935-1936		4	1-11	159	4	Gr. 3-5 (59 students)
1936-1937		5	1-12	191	5	
1937-1938		5	1-12	200	5	Gr. 1&2 (53 students)
1938-1939		5	1-12	194	5	Classrooms enrolments were in the 40's
1939-1940		5	1-12	187	5	
1940-1941		5	1-12	195	5	
1941-1942		5	1-12	177	5	
1942-1943		5	1-12	182	5	
1943-1944		5	1-12	171	5	
1944-1945		5	1-12	157	5	
1945-1946		5	1-12	154	5	
1946-1947		5	1-12	156	5	
1947-1948		5	1-12	155	5	
1948-1949		5	1-12	155	5	
1949-1950		5	1-12	146	5	
1950-1951		5	1-12	159	5	
1951-1952		5	1-12	146	5	
1952-1953		5	1-12	153	5	
1953-1954		5	1-12	160	5	
1954-1955		5	1-12	146	5	
1955-1956		5	1-12	190	5	
1956-1957		5	1-12	155	5	
1957-1958		5	1-12	181	5	
1958-1959		7	1-12	215	7	
1959-1960		8	1-12	249	8	enrolments per classroom were in the 30's
1960-1961		9	1-12	274	9	
1961-1962		10	1-12	277	10	
1962-1963		11	1-12	305	11	
1963-1964		13	1-12	344	13 ½	enrolment split for Gr.5 in Nov. high enrolment
1964-1965		13	1-12	375*	13 ½	enrolment in classrooms were in the 20's
1965-1966		16	1-12	413	17	
1966-1967		16	1-12	410	17	
1967-1968		16	1-12	418	17	
1968-1969		17	1-12	430*	18	
1969-1970		19	1-12	468	21	
1970-1971		20	1-12	519	22	
1971-1972		19	1-12	532	22	
1972-1973		19	1-12	513	23	
1973-1974		19	1-12	494	23	
1974-1975		19	K-12	492	23 ½	
1975-1976		19	K-12	460*	23 ½	
1976-1977		18	K-12	440	22 ½	
1977-1978		18	K-12	404	22 ½	several rooms had enrolment under 20
1978-1979		18	K-12	403	22 ½	
1979-1980		18	K-12	390	22 ½	
1980-1981		19	K-12	389	23 ½	Kindergarten 31 students
1981-1982		19	K-12	355	22	Gr. 12 -- 43 students
1982-1983		18	K-12	328	20 ½	
1983-1984		17	K-12	299	20 ½	



# TERM RETURN

Of the Bruno S.D. No. 1587 of Saskatchewan

For the Term ending December 31, 1912

## TREASURER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Frank Namme Treasurer of the Bruno School District No. 1587 of Saskatchewan

do hereby certify:

- That the name of the teacher for each class for the 1912 department, in the above district during the term was:
  - 1. Wm. E. O'Callaghan
- That the class of continuing school term, by the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That I have examined the school accounts for the term ending December 31, 1912, and find that the school was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That the school was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That this is the 1912-1913 year class for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That the school was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That the school was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913
- That the school was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
  - 1. 1912-1913

Dated at Bruno this 23 day of July, 1912.

Frank Namme Treasurer

## JOINT CERTIFICATE

We, F. F. Schaefer Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the above school district, and W. E. O'Callaghan Teacher of said school, do hereby and severally certify that the school in the said district was closed for the term ending December 31, 1912, and that the number of pupils for the term ending December 31, 1912, was:
 

- 1. 1912-1913

 and that it was in the interests of the public health that the school be so closed.

Dated at Bruno this 23 day of July, 1912.

F. F. Schaefer Chairman Board of Trustees  
W. E. O'Callaghan Teacher

## PENALTIES FOR FALSE STATEMENT IN RETURNS

Section 174 of The School Act reads as follows: "Any person who subscribes to any statement, declaration, return or other document prescribed herein or by the minister under the provisions hereof and who knowingly makes any false statement shall be guilty of an offence and liable on summary conviction to a penalty not exceeding \$25."

Form 46-5,000-September, 1913

## Term Return

## Building, Closures, etc.

- 1905: Parochial school opened
- 1910: One room school opened -- located at site of present elementary school.
- 1919: Brick parochial school opened -- two storey, four rooms. The one room school was retained as the high school.
- 1959: Eight room elementary school opened on Mayer Street. Old one room school nicknamed "the two by four" was sold. It was closed because of skunk problems. It is currently used as a storage shed on the Roman Urban farm.
- 1960-1961: Grade 1 classes held in the old brick parochial school because of insufficient room at the new school. This old school continued to be used for classes for the elementary grades for several years, as needed.
- 1963: St. Cunigunda School moved into Bruno as a portable classroom. This was used for several years on an intermittent basis. It was located directly east of the elementary school. The school was sold to Gary Dust in 1974, who converted it into a residential building.
- 1964: High school built north of the arena on 3rd St. East.
- 1971: Gymnasium/Auditorium addition to high school.
- 1973-1974: Dana School moved to Bruno as an addition to the elementary school.

## Support Staff

- Secretary**
- Irene Schwinghamer ..... 1966-1975
  - Sharon Smith ..... 1975-1979
  - Marilyn Dagenais ..... 1979-1980
  - Phyllis Borysko ..... 1980-(1984)
- Janitor**
- Jacob Sartar ..... ?-1952



Bruno Public School, 1937. Standing, L to R: Willie Honatzis, Ervin Kellerman, Mike Kozak, Ernest Gantefoer, Ralph Smith, Don Schwinghamer, Walter Zacheral, Reg Clarke, Wilf Gottselg, Arnold Gantefoer, Randolph Lauer, Alvin Meyer, Bill Kellerman, Peter Kozak, Donald Kellerman, Jerome Stumborg, Norbert Dus.. Front: Robert Massier, Ray Schlosser, Fritz Lemke, Clayton Gerlinski, Rita Fisher, Gertie Blaseg, Eleonore Battel, Lea Kreig, Marie Fisher, Eleonore Scheidel.

Nick Skarra .....	1952-?
Joe Weiman Sr. ....	1952-?
Fred Haller .....	?-1958
Hubert Schwark (brick school) .....	1960-?
Peter Daniels (elementary school) .....	?-1969
William Breit (high school) .....	1965-1975
Albert Sobush (elementary school) .....	1969-1975
Andy Reeves (elementary school) .....	1975-(1984)
Carol Hafner (high school) .....	1975-(1984)



1958: First Grade 8 class at the new school. Front, L to R: Dianna Felix, Antonia Ewanishin, Christina Tegenkamp, Yvonne Dirk, Elreda Hergott. Second Row: Anton Ewanishin, Alphonse Spenser, Melvin Weiman, Rosella Weiman, Margaret Schwinghamer, Susan Bourauel, Jane Lummerding. Back: Elmer Breit, Elmer Dust, Richard Meyer, Carl Kuhn.

## Abstract of Receipts and Expenditures of the Bruno S.D. No. 1587 of Saskatchewan for the year 1910

### RECEIPTS

Cash on hand .....	172.23
Proceeds of Debentures .....	1,003.15
Taxes collected for the current year .....	801.29
Government Grants received by treasurer .....	148.92
Pupils' fees .....	1.50
Amount borrowed by note .....	120.00
Received from other sources .....	
Interest arrears .....	6.10
<b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>	<b>2,253.17</b>

### EXPENDITURES

Teachers' salaries .....	700.00
Officials salaries .....	125.00
Debenture payment .....	125.65
Paid to redeem notes (including interest) .....	972.15
Construction of and repairs to school house, stable, outhouses, etc. ....	
Purchase and improvement of school grounds, fences, well, etc. ....	
School furniture, desks, stove, cupboard, etc. ....	8.20
School library and reference books .....	13.85
Apparatus and equipment, globes, maps, charts, etc. ....	23.20
Supplies - stationery, postage, chalk, brushes, pais, etc. ....	23.10
Caretaking .....	21.00
Insurance .....	
Other Expenditures .....	65.05
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>2,193.70</b>
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>	<b>59.49</b>

## BRUNO SCHOOL



1963-1964 Grade IV Class. Back Row, L to R: Esther Weiman (teacher), Kerry Thiel, Gregory Thoms, Dennis Weiman, Johnny Hnatiw, Leslie Leuschen, Donald Polanik, Harold Weiman, Jerry Lemke, Jerry Winnicott, Gerry Kirzinger, Gregory Volk, Ricky Weyland, Roland Wollmann. Center: Marci Mesenchuk, Wendy Urban, Josephine Polanik, Corrine Weiman, Joan Monz, Debbie Schlosser, Annie Sawicki, Patsy Weiman, Sharon Lingel, Mavis Dufort, Rosemary Harriman, Karen Ebner, Mary Lou Bendig. Front: David Schulte, Rodney Blaseg, Gary Duford, Clarence Stadnyk, Leslie Stadnyk, Paul Rieger.



Back, L to R: Esther Weiman, Richard Polanik, Brian Weiman, Trent Ebner, Mervin Weiman, Gerald Weiman, Dale Weyland, Vawn Kramer, Keith Brown. Second Row: Allan Ewanishin, Douglas Krentz, Lyla Weiman, Donna Tarnowski, Mary Leuschen, Theresa Lueke, Mervin Collin, Alan Tarnowski. Front Row: Lorl Dufort, Colleen Boak, Karen Weyland, Kathy Bendig, Denyse Honatzis, Glenda Streitenberger, Jacqueline Burr, Darlene Sand.

by Esther Weiman

In the fall of 1961, 38 grade 3 children were my introduction to the school in Bruno. All these little people more or less the same age, no older brothers or sisters, here. The wee grades 1's were not with us either, as in the rural schools. But as my grade 3 pupils adjusted, so did I. In no time, I wouldn't have traded my class for any other. With 23 boys there wasn't any trouble organizing baseball teams.

At that time, the Bruno elementary school as it is today, had grades 3 to 12. Grade 1 and 2 were taught in the Parish School. There were ten teachers in all on staff; Mr. E. Donahue was the principal.

The following year, when some of the students from the country schools came to Bruno, we needed an extra classroom. Grade 3 was then moved to the Parish school. I taught this grade there for a year. More rural schools were closed so grade 4 was moved to the Parish school as well. I taught this grade. I enjoyed having my class with me again. They were such a fine group!

Mr. Peter Bourauel was a member of the school board, as he was for many years. Whenever the furnace at the Parish school caused problems, he never failed to come to our rescue. We know he must have often been called at the most inconvenient times!

The new high school was being built, but was not yet completed. In order to accommodate the students being brought in by bus as more schools in the area were being closed, another classroom was needed. My grade 4 class and I moved to the basement of the Catholic Church, the next fall. Mr. Donahue named me the "Suitcase Teacher". It was as though we were in a country school again. We didn't need to share the washrooms, record player, physical training area, or playground. Yet there were always teachers or the principal to help when needed. We enjoyed those months.

Shortly after the New Year, the high school building was opened, so we were all in the elementary school again. We enjoyed being with the other classes and teachers. Those on staff were most helpful in every way as was the principal, Mr. Donahue.

In later years, when teachers exchanged subjects, I taught in other grades but always had in my home room, Number Six, a grade 4 group. This was now Division Two, Level One.

We were all saddened in June of 1971 when Mr. Donahue passed away. He had been a wonderful help and inspiration to us all. His consideration for the students and teachers will never be forgotten. Mr. Lepage, the vice-principal, carried on the work. The month of June is, at best, a time of some confusion. He is to be commended for the way he helped students and teachers. It wasn't easy, after all he had just lost his principal and dear friend, also.

In June of 1975, I resigned from the Wakaw School Unit as Sylvester and I were moving to Humboldt. The Board and staff of the Wakaw Unit No. 48 presented retiring teachers with a silver tray that year. Mine had the inscription: "In recognition of professional services, 1953-1975." This we received at a party held in the Sheraton Hotel in Saskatoon, given by the Unit Board, Staff and Superintendent, Mr. T. J. Nieman (chairman), Cudworth, Mr. Ed Perozuk, Prud'homme, Mr. John Warick, Bruno, Mr. Joseph Sikorski, Alvena, Mr. Denis Roy, Domremy, Mr. James M. Swab, Wakaw, Mr. A. Prokopishin, Superintendent and Mrs. Katherine Herman on staff.

Bruno Central School gave us a desk set at a farewell gathering in the school. At the fall convention, tribute was paid to the superannuates of the year. The councilors delivered the Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation gifts, which were leather wallets.

We were most grateful to be remembered in such a generous way by these friends and colleagues. They are all with the same goal, to promote "Education".

The years spent as an employee in the Bruno school were ones of educational growth and pleasant association. The parents, children, fellow teachers, principals, members of the Local and Unit School Boards, superintendents, as well as the priests and Sisters, who so generously helped with our religious programs, were responsible. Thanks!

## BRUNO KINDERGARTEN

written by Mary Weiman

Kindergarten in Bruno started in 1967 at the Bruno high school library. It was a six week course during the spring taught by Mrs. Ray Freistadt. Mrs. Ursula Popovitch took over the kindergarten class after Mrs. Ray Freistadt resigned. From 1973-81, the kindergarten class was taught by Mary Weiman and in 1975-76 the teacher's aide was Estelle Lepage. During the 1976-77 term, Gaetane Pulvermacher was the teacher's aide.

In 1973, the kindergarten class was taught in the basement of the Town Office. It was still a six week course. Since there was a large enrolment, the group was divided into a morning and an afternoon class.

In 1974, kindergarten was taught in the "little school house" across the street to the east of the elementary school. There was, again, a morning and an afternoon class.

In the fall of 1975, kindergarten started classes at the elementary school. The program was also operated year round, with school two days a week during the fall and three days a week in the spring.

In 1980-81, there was again a large enrolment; Diane Buckle taught one class of kindergarten and Mary Weiman taught the other class.

In 1981-82, Mrs. Weiman taught until October when she broke her leg and then Mrs. Buckle finished the school year. From 1982 to the present (1984), Mrs. Bernadette White has taught the kindergarten class.



1974 a.m. class. Back, L to R: Wayne Kish, Tammy Weiman, Lisa Solar, Todd Borstmeyer, Mitchell Polanik, ?, Ian Marrant, Bradley Borysko, Sylvia Hnatiw. Front: Wayne Thoms, Richard Thoms, Wendy Thimm, Brian Wollman.



1973 a.m. class. Back, L to R: Curtis Krentz, Glen Paydli, Betty Korkoza, Randy Renneberg, Janet Johnston, Wayne Paydli, Randy Keehorn. Middle: Tracy Wehrhahn, Lita Thimm, Leanne Hamm, Lise Warick, Sandra Thoms, Bruce Hafner. Front: Shelley Weiman, Mark Pfeil, Donna Serblowski.



1974 p.m. class. Back, L to R: ?, Michelle Kainer, Muriel Koob, Mark Kehrig, Dion Niebrugge. Front: Kelly Bendig, Chris Seidel, ?, ?, Terry Lamping, Carmichael Moritz.



1973 p.m. class. Back, L to R: Alain Tremel, Kathy Dust, Rene Jule, Belinda Monz, Bradley Kehrig, Monique Lepage, Richard Glaser. Front: Jody Seidel, Shelly Kun, Donna Bendig, Yvette Basset, Yvette Jule, ?.

## CRANICH LAKE SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 3317

A meeting was held on June 4, 1914 at the home of M. Pray with 11 ratepayers present. Joseph Buchler was chairman with John Huhn as secretary-treasurer. At the

meeting, it was decided not to build a school that year, but taxes should be collected, which would amount to \$236.69. The salary for the secretary-treasurer would be \$40.00 per year and trustees would receive \$2.00 per meeting with no more than four meetings held in a year.

On Jan. 12, 1915 at a meeting, a vote was taken and the decision made to build a school house that year. Trustees elected were: Joseph Buchler, three years; Mike Kovack, two years; and Jacob Huhn until John Huhn's return, one year. In 1915 it was decided to borrow \$700.00 on debentures to build the school and raise the tax levy from five to eight mills. They bought two acres of land on the southeast corner of S.W. 1-37-25.

Plans were given out and bids taken for building the school. The bid of \$1,125.00 by G. J. Roles was accepted and the school was built. Jacob Huhn was to haul the school furniture from Bruno and Mike Kovack to meet the teacher at Bruno on May 29, 1915. Jacob Huhn and John Stahl got the job of oiling the inside woodwork, fumigating the building and setting up all the furniture for a fee of 30 cents per hour each. Jacob Huhn also got the job of buying the stove, stovepipes, bed cot, mattress, quilt, one pillow, and a table for the teacher's house.

A well was dug by Mike Kovack but was closed again. On December 10, the teacher was given \$300.00 as a salary and was let go as there were no children coming to school.

The annual meeting on Jan. 15, 1916 had motions to have the school open about Apr. 15, 1916 with a Roman Catholic teacher holding a second class certificate. George Kosokowsky became the new chairman as the old chairman was not a ratepayer, but at the next meeting, Fred Kosokowsky was appointed the secretary-treasurer; John Stahl was elected chairman and John Kosokowsky was elected as auditor for the year 1916.

A stable 16 feet wide and 26 feet long with a shingled roof was built in 1920. The contract was given to George Kosokowsky for \$365.00.

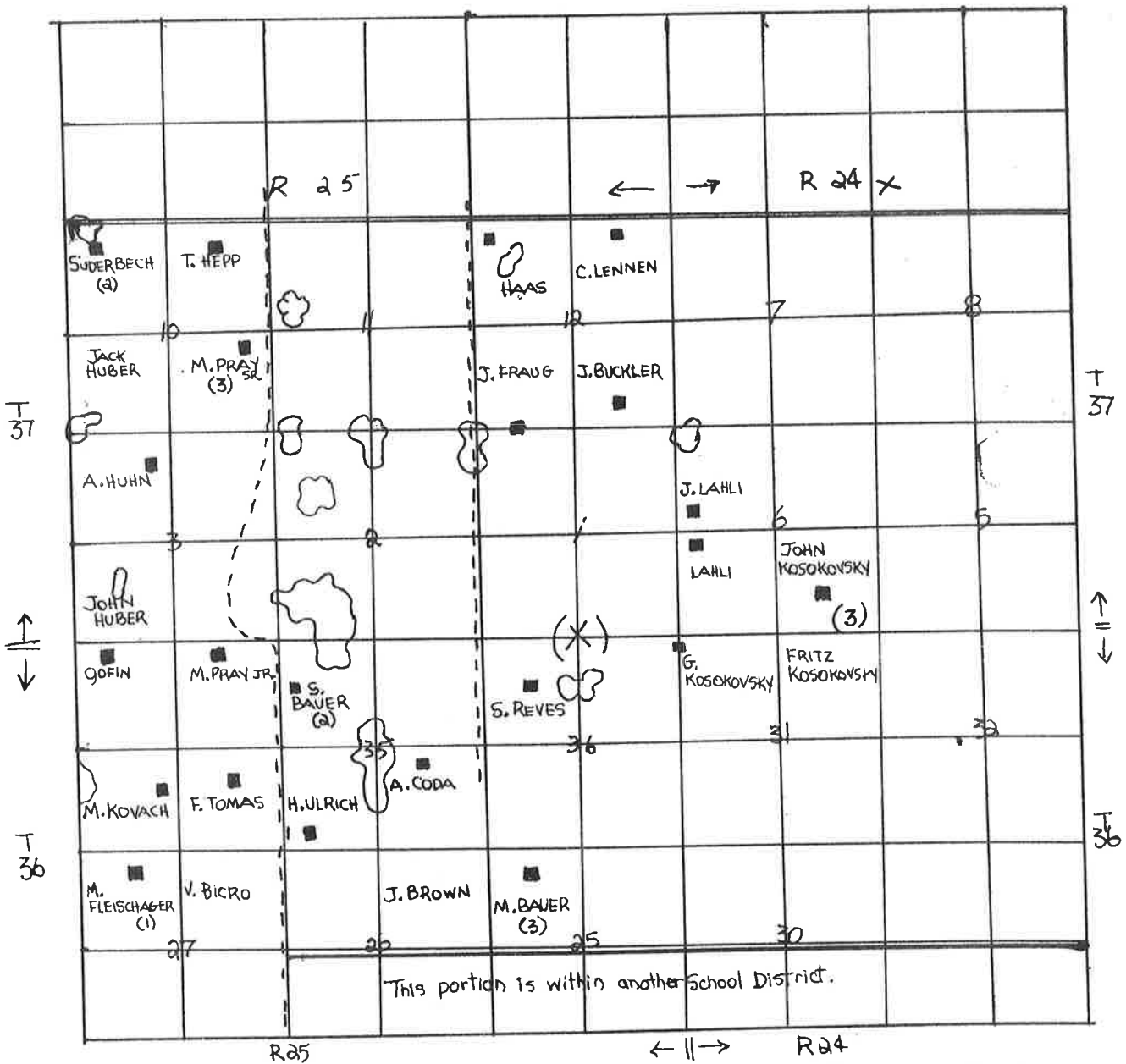
Roads were poor to the school, so finally in April of 1922, a petition with 13 ratepayers names, was sent to the Bayne municipality to open a passable road for the west side that spring.

In the 1930's, the salaries kept getting lower until January of 1936 when a motion was made to raise the teacher's salary from \$425.00 to \$500.00 per annum plus fuel.

A record of the teachers over the years:

Salary	Teacher	Time Taught
\$ 900.00	Leo F. Kustush	April 8, 1918 - July 31, 1918
?	Agnes MacFarlane	August 1, 1918 - October 31, 1918
?	A. P. King	November 1, 1918 - December 20, 1918
The registers for 1919, 1920, 1921, 1922 and 1923 are missing.		
\$1,100.00	J. A. Holland	July 1, 1924 - December 22, 1925
\$1,250.00	Robert Hartt	January 21, 1926 - July 30, 1926
\$1,100.00	Sydney G. Stewart	September 1, 1926 - December 23, 1926
?	Fred T. Cassin	January 12, 1927 - April 29, 1927
?	J. A. Holland	May 1, 1937 - ?
The registers for 1928 and 1929 are missing.		
?	Mary J. Brockmann	July, 1930 - June 30, 1932
?	Frances M. Hoffman	July 4, 1932 - June 30, 1936
?	Mrs. C. A. Venne	July 1, 1936 - December 23, 1936
?	Miss Geraldine Kuechle	January 2, 1937 - February 28, 1939
?	Mrs. C. A. Venne	March 1, 1939 - November 28, 1941
\$ 800.00	Paul A. Giesinger	January 26, 1942 - June 30, 1943
\$1,000.00	Matilda A. Schreiner	July, 1943 - August 30, 1943
\$ 900.00	Doreen A. Schmeiser	September 13, 1943 - June 29, 1945
\$1,200.00	Michael A. Buchinski	August 1, 1945 - June 27, 1946
\$1,250.00	Irene M. Niezzoda	August 1, 1946 - June 26, 1947
\$1,300.00	Agatha A. Pernitzky	July, 1947 - June 30, 1948
\$1,400.00	Stella M. Kosakowsky	September 12, 1948 - June 30, 1949
\$1,600.00	F. L. Charest	August 8, 1949 - June 29, 1951
\$1,700.00	Dorothy C. Jessel	July 31, 1951 - June 25, 1952
\$2,000.00	Howard R. Cadwell	August 2, 1952 - June 30, 1953
\$2,200.00	William Iwasiuk	August 24, 1953 - June 29, 1954
\$2,400.00	Mrs. Mary Bryck	August 1, 1955 - June 28, 1957
	Mrs. Jean V. Elchuk	August 26, 1957 - June 30, 1959
\$3,000.00	Rebecca E. Carlson	August 17, 1959 - June 30, 1960





- 1) Number of children of school age residing on each quarter section (1), (2), (3), etc.
- 2) Proposed School Site - (X)
- 3) Lakes, Sloughs, and Swamps -
- 4) Travelled Roads - (-----)
- 5) Location of Houses -

There were 14 pupils enrolled at Cranich Lake School in 1918. The names of those pupils as per register are: Ben Kosokowsky, Alex Froess, Annie Kosokowsky, Juli Pray, John Fortowsky, Joseph Fortowsky, Martin Schoderbeck, Katie Schoderbeck, Annie Fortowsky, Fred Engele, Joe Engele, Joe Harworth, Sarah Harworth, and George Bauer.

The trustees of the Cranich Lake School are as follows in the order of chairman, secretary-treasurer, and trustee: 1918 - George Kosokowsky, Fred Kosokowsky and Joe Bauer; the registers are missing for 1919 to 1923; 1924 - Fred Kosokowsky, William Godfrey and Joe Bauer; 1926 - Fred Kosokowsky, William Godfrey and Steven Pray; the registers for 1929-29 are missing; 1930 - Val Froess, George Kosokowsky and Jacob Huhn; 1932 - Joe Koffing, Jacob Huhn and Ben Kosokowsky; 1934 - Joe Koffing, Ben Kosokowsky and George Kosokowsky; 1937 - Joe Koffing, Ben Kosokowsky and Steve Besenski; 1939 - Steve Besenski, Ben Kosokowsky and Val Froess; 1940 - Steve Besenski, Ben Kosokowsky and Joe Koffing; 1941 - Joe Koffing, Ben Kosokowsky and Fred Engele; 1942 - Joe Koffing, Fred Engele and Val Gerlinsky; 1944 - Joe Koffing, George Kosokowsky and Val Gerlinsky; 1946 - Val Gerlinsky, George Kosokowsky and Joe Koffing; 1947 - Joe Koffing, George Kosokowsky and Steve Fleischaker; 1948 - Joe Koffing, George Kosokowsky and Tony Tesch; 1950 - Steve Besenski, George Kosokowsky and Fred Monz; 1952 - Fred Monz, A. Kosokowsky and V. Klashinsky; 1954 - George Bauer, Fred Monz and V. Klashinsky; 1959 - George Bauer, T. Kosokowsky and V. Klashinsky; 1960 - V. Klashinsky, George Bauer and Alex Kosokowsky.



Cranich Lake School

by Frances (nee Hoffman) Hutmacher  
teacher, 1933-36

In the days of the country school, children looked forward to such special events as the Christmas concerts and field days which happened during the year.

For the concert, everyone took part in one way or another and the highlight of the evening was the arrival of Santa Claus with his bag of gifts and goodies. Members of the school board or ladies of the district purchased gifts through the catalogue and bagged nuts, candies and oranges for the pupils. The whole family would travel by team and sleigh to see the concert. Community life in those early days centered around the school.

In spring, children began to practice for the annual Field Day. On that day, each school proudly carried their banner in the parade which was followed by the sporting events. At noon all enjoyed a picnic lunch. After the competitions were over, everyone went home tired, some happy, others disappointed but determined to put forth their best effort again next year.

Many of the leaders of our country, governments, professionals, business people and farmers began their early education in just such a one-room school. So in praise of the "Little Country School" I would say children learned the "Golden Rule" to help one another and become self-reliant which proved to their advantage as they went on to higher education and life in general.



Students at Cranich Lake, 1957

submitted by Mary Bryck

I commenced teaching at Cranich Lake No. 3317 in August of 1955. Mr. G. Bauer, Mr. F. Monz and Mr. Klashinsky were on the local school board, working along with the secretary, Mr. Chobotuk of the Wakaw School Unit, and Mr. Peter Bourauel, the school unit trustee.

After several years in teaching various districts and schools, coming to this school, I must say, was more than a challenge. The first day I did very little teaching. Instead we did house cleaning, planning and hoping. Enrolled were 21 students, all eager and ready to help. The condition of the school's contents and supplies were far from fair, as well as the yard.

After we familiarized with each other and took the registration, our clean-up began. It is really unfortunate





The cast of the "Bishop's Candlesticks" -- a play performed by the following students of Cranich Lake. Back Row, L to R: Agnes Huhn, Arnold Gerlinsky, and Margaret Kosokowsky. Front Row: Anton Froess, Duffy Besenski, Alphonse Froess, and Alfred Gerlinski.

that these children could not enjoy the bare necessities that every school or child should have.

In the remote corner, at the rear of the one-room classroom, was a dust covered, rain-beaten, little cupboard meant to be a library, with a few battered books you could count with one glance. And in that same corner, above this would-be library, was a double window facing the south. Both window panes were broken, and the dust and birds flew in and out at their mercy.

At the front of the classroom was a four by eight foot piece of grey-scarred and faded blackboard nailed to the wall. The desks! Oh yes, the desks were missing running boards, screws, book drawers, top, and last but not least some varnish. There were no school supplies, that is, exercise books, pencils, erasers, neither textbooks sufficient to go around.

For several days we tried our best with what we had. Then with a few phone calls to the Wakaw School Unit, and with the help of Peter Bourauel, we managed to get some supplies. When another week went by, we then received the rest. We finally got the ball rolling.

The walls in the school got re-covered, blackboard space was increased and painted, windows were re-

paired and washed, and the floors were painted. A new oil heater was installed. The doors were also winterized. A complete new step and platform was constructed on the outside, as the old one was rotten and dangerous to tread on. Teeter-totters and swings were added to the playground, as there was no equipment there. The outside toilets were repaired, relocated, and painted.

The yard was cleaned by the children, my husband and myself. A new flag-pole was added, and a new Union Jack was obtained upon request from the school board.

We had another big problem, and that was with the drinking water. It was delivered to the school in a cream can with an occasional spider and the taste of cream. Well, I guess, better some than none at all. The children could wash their hands at least. We requested a drinking water-jug, instead of the dipping cups into a pail, which we were given. The school needed a well. With a certain amount of phoning, driving around trying to find a well-digger, and with the help of Mr. Alex Kosokowsky and Tony Kosokowsky, two local farmers, we found a well digger. The well was dug on the west side of the hill from the school and teacherage. The well supplied the school, us and some of the people, with some fairly good drinking water.

When the Christmas season was fast approaching, we got our heads together on Friday afternoon during Red Cross meetings and decided how we could raise some



Cranich Lake at Bruno Field Day, 1934. Peter Kosokowsky, Leo Suchan, Joseph Froess, Annie Bauer, Cecillia Froess, Gregor Huhn, George Kosokowsky, Joseph Bauer, Mary Heber, Edward Gerlinsky, John Gerlinsky, Margaret Huhn, George Bauer, Edward Froess, Anton Suchan, Anton Kosokowsky, Anton Gerlinski, Peter Froess, Elizabeth Heber, Mike Kosokowsky, Elizabeth Froess, Alice Huhn, Harold Koffing, Clarence Koffing, Arthur Huhn, Leonard Froess, Cecillia Kosokowsky, Alexander Kosokowsky, Arnold Gerlinsky, Karl Kuczak, Adolph Bauer, Steve Borisco, Rudolf Besenski, Raymond Besenski, Agatha Froess, Margaret Kosokowsky, Katie Heber and Agnes Huhn.

money for our Christmas candy, nuts, oranges and gifts. We decided on a raffle, a dance, and if anyone wished to bring anything extra for a better gift, they did.

We had a beautiful Christmas concert. Leo Felix supplied the music. All the children fully participated and the parents were just willing to help to make the concert a success. And it was!

Supt. Samson visited the school on Aug. 6, 1955 as to all the needs and requests. And once again on Oct. 27, 1955.

So on October 27, he examined the school and grounds, also saw about the work that was being done in the classroom. He was very pleased with the progress in the pupils, as well as the surroundings.

Many thanks went out to Mr. Steve Besenski who organized a snow-club to keep those winter roads open, especially in "them 'thar' hills". When everybody's road was open -- it was then too late for him to open the roads. Steve went out of his way to go and pick up the plow from Schulte's Bros. in Engfeld so that the snow-club had their own plow.

I enjoyed working with these children, as they were always willing and co-operative. I remained teaching there until June 30, 1957.

Some of the children are now in their own profession, or business. For example: Bill and Jim Monz, Humboldt Lumber Mart; Don Klashinsky, K's Electric, Humboldt; Viola Felix (now Mrs. Myers), a hairdresser in Bruno; Henry Pray, a very good farmer and mechanic. The others I'm apologizing, for I have lost track of them.

## HOFFMAN SCHOOL

Hoffman School was built by Peter Hoffman on an acre of his land because he believed that the young people needed an education. Mr. Hoffman also taught in the school for one year until they were able to get a qualified teacher.

The records from the building and the opening of the school have been either misplaced or perhaps destroyed. We do know that Leonard LaBrash started teaching at the school on June 9, 1928 and resigned on June 30, 1942, completing 14 years. In 1943, Harold Fullerton taught until Christmas and the rest of the school year was completed by Miss Ann Brennan. In 1944, Jean Missouri taught for six months and Ursuline Missouri taught the rest of the year. In 1945, Esther Weiman started to teach at Hoffman and stayed until 1961, when Mrs. Mary Weiman took over. Mary Weiman taught during the 1961-62 school year.

The following are submissions from teachers and students involved with Hoffman School. We hope that they will help to piece the history of Hoffman School together.

by **A. Leonard LaBrash**

A fire in our farm home destroyed most of my records so I am afraid my information will be rather skimpy.

I took over the Hoffman school on June 9, 1928 and the community put up with me until June 30, 1942. To me, they were 14 wonderful and pleasant years.

On my first morning, I faced 54 students in six grades. The picture of the students in front of the school was taken in the early '30's and the two girls standing off to the side are Madeline Stahl and Sophie Just. They were taking correspondence courses for their high school years. By that time, the enrolment was down considerably.

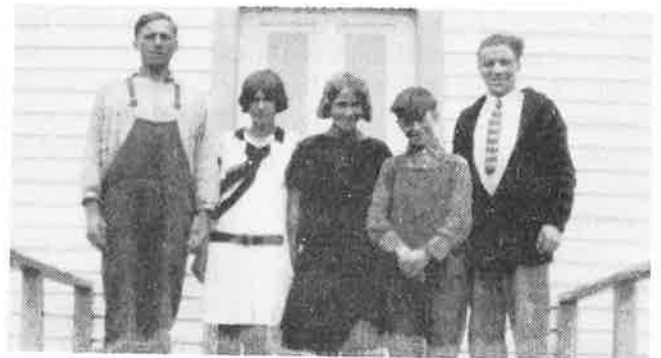
The other picture, with the four students and myself, were my first grade 8 students. They were Martin Schriml, Sophie Just, Madeline Stahl and Dennis Kellerman. At that time, they had to go to Bruno to write the provincial exams. The two girls returned as correspondence students and completed their grades 9 and 10. Sophie continued and completed her grade 11. She was the first to achieve this and as far as I know, the only one. I tried to help them in my spare time and after school hours.

I hope this small contribution is sufficient and I say hello to the good people that remember those years.

N.B. Sophie Just, now Mrs. Leo Wurm, is our neighbour here in Nanaimo.



Hoffman School. Leonard LaBrash (on left); the girls off to each side are Madeline Stahl and Sophie Just.



L to R: Martin Schriml, Sophie Just, Madeline Stahl, Dennis Kellerman, Leonard LaBrash (teacher). Leonard's first grade 8 students.

by Esther Weiman

I began teaching Hoffman School No. 2189, four miles north of Bruno, in the fall of 1945. Enrolment was 33 with grades 1 through 9. Grade 9 used the Government Department of Education correspondence courses. These lessons were to be corrected by the teacher, available at any time for the superintendent's supervision.

Mr. George Gebauer, Mr. George Streitenberger, Mr. Louis Just, Mr. Bruno Thimm, Mr. Peter Bender were some of the members of the local school board during the years I taught in the district.

The school building was one room, with two coat rooms on either side of the entry. Each coat room had a door leading to the classroom. The rooms were kept reasonably warm by a Waterman-Waterbury type heater. It was placed in the back of the classroom between the entry doors. The stove was connected to a chimney at the opposite end of the room with a length of overhead eight inch stovepipes. When these pipes parted in the center it wasn't exactly the kind of excitement we relished. Later, we had an oil burning stove with no lengthy pipes which was greatly appreciated.

A teacherage was available for a teacher, in return for sweeping and building the fires in the school. Scrubbing was done by a family in the district.

When the school was redecorated in the 1950's, it was also wired for power. This was a time for rejoicing. No more dark winter days when clouds in the late afternoon left us with little light. Now we could use a radio and record player. Music and school broadcasts were available. With all the school aids of today, these may not seem that important, but then, they were a great help. School was more exciting!

The children worked hard, helped each other and appreciated all the help they could be given. With so many grades, they worked alone a great deal of the time. This helped them to become independent and enterprising in many ways. We were like a family working together.

The people of the district were very co-operative and interested in the welfare of their children. To beautify the grounds, they planted trees around the yard. Card parties and picnics were held to raise funds for Christmas presents and other treats for the children. They also helped anyone in need with their funds.

My husband Sylvester's sister, stayed with me in the teacherage from Monday until Friday. She cared for our baby daughter, Rosella and helped in many other ways. Sylvester came for us Friday after school. We spent the weekends on our farm.

In 1951, I resigned as we moved to Bruno, where Sylvester worked. The following school year I did not teach. The fall of 1952 I resumed teaching at the Hoffman school, driving the car out each day. When the road to

the school was closed with snow, Sylvester drove as far as the road was open; from there I walked.

The snow plow club to which we all contributed, did their best to keep the roads open during the winter. The winter of 1955-56 it was a losing battle. The roads were blocked more often than otherwise for cars.

Again, the neighbours were ready to help. Mr. Bruno Thimm would come with his team and caboose to town on Monday morning and provide me with a ride to school. Friday after school, Mr. Frank Weiman would take me back. Their sacrifice and inconvenience on my behalf was surely appreciated. Many other parents in the district helped in various ways during these stormy days. They sent food with the children, lest I be out of groceries, invited me to their homes, and offered help in many other ways.

The last years I was in this school we had student teachers in the spring and fall. They were fine young men and women who helped us as much as we helped them. The highlight of their stay was the visit of a few of the professors from the Teacher's College in Saskatoon.

The last of June, 1961 I resigned to take a teaching position in the Bruno Public School. I've never forgotten the wonderful friends I met and worked with in the rural school districts. Without their help many teachers couldn't have survived. A great deal of the credit given us, belongs to these dedicated people.

Before I left the district, the children and their parents surprised me with a farewell gathering. Good wishes and expressions of appreciation exchanged left us with the happy feeling of companionship.

The generous gifts I received are also still treasured. Thanks to all!



Hoffman School, 1951-52. Marcella Just, Ronald Just, Doreen Doetzel, Florence Weiman, Joyce Just, Delores Streitenberger, Marrion Helminck, Ewald Thimm, Blanche Streitenberger, Werner Bender, Diane Olchowski, Rosaline Bender, Lorraine Weiman, Garry Just, Dennis Bender, Bernice Weiman, Sylvia Weiman, Roslyn Streitenberger, Emma Lammadee, Jeanette Streitenberger, Donna Just. Mr. Bert Brown (teacher).



Hoffman School after it was redecorated with the new oil burner. The class is singing for the visitors at the Christmas party.



Hoffman School, 1954. Back, L to R: Delores Streltenberger, Lorraine Weiman, Jeanette Streitenberger, Diane Weiman, Emma Lammadee. Middle: Karl Grueter, Ewald Thimm, Jane Blaseg, Roselyn Streitenberger, Sylvia Weiman, Marlene Weiman, Ronald Doetzel, Dennis Bender, Werner Bender. Front: Lornie Lammadee, Lucilla Weiman, Melvin Doetzel, Elaine Blaseg, Neil Weiman, Beverly Bender.



The road to Hoffman School! Spring of 1956.



Winter fun. L to R: Alphonse Thimm, Elmer Weiman, Cyril Hering, Raymond Streitenberger, Werner Streitenberger. Leo Thimm and Ronald Bender in front.



Esther (Roberts) Weiman



Hoffman School, 1957. Top, L to R: Sophie Koenig, Marlene Weiman, Jane Blaseg, Diana Weiman, Lorraine Weiman, Dennis Bender, Ewald Thimm. Middle: Ronald Doetzel, Elaine Blaseg, Lucille Weiman, Sylvia Weiman, Neil Weiman, Melvin Doetzel, Lornie Lammadee. Front: Larry Weiman, Marlene Bender, Elaine Bender, Lloyd Doetzel, Larry Bender, Janiene Weiman, Beatrice Weiman and Gerald Doetzel.



by Mary Weiman

What do I remember about teaching in Hoffman School during the 1961-62 school year?

— I learned to drive and got my license so I could drive from town each day to teach at Hoffman.

— I had to stay at Benders one cold stormy winter evening. I was driven to school with the horse and sleigh the next day!

— Seventeen students in grades 1 through 8. There were eight subjects to teach in every grade. What a lot of work!

— The kids really respected each other, the teachers, older people and the superintendent.

— Everyone in grade 1 through 8 played ball at recess. Sometimes the recesses got quite long. During the winter there were snow banks to play on and when the first signs of spring came, the activities changed to include snowballs, and snow forts.

— The outdoor toilets were something to remember -- the cold!! There was an all day parade of students back and forth — wonder if it was mom's cooking or just a good way to get out of school work! What a headache for the teacher!

— Kids really had big responsibilities those days. They drove to school with horses and caboose. Children had to take care of their horses and make fires in their own caboose.

— Hallowe'en was a good time with the students dressing up and apple bobbing.

— I had a holiday for 20 days during Christmas to have twins!



Hoffman School, 1961-62. Back, L to R: Neil Weiman, Larry Weiman, Marlene Bender, Beatrice Weiman, Lucille Weiman, Elaine Blaseg. Middle: Gerald Doetzel, Larry Bender, Lloyd Doetzel, Donald Bender, Melvin Doetzel, and Corrine Weiman. Front: Ken Weiman, Harold Weiman, Theresa Bender, Rodney Blaseg, Ray Bender. Mary Weiman (teacher).

by Florence (nee Weiman) Arthurs

My memories of Hoffman school days!

I recall the years that Dad took on the job of janitor. One of the jobs was going to the school early to start the stove. Well, this one morning I was to go light the stove. I decided to take a shortcut across the field and didn't realize just how deep the snow was. Well I jumped and sank into snow up to my knees. When I finally got to school my boots were packed with snow and my feet almost frozen. I was so cold I couldn't light the stove. By this time, Streitenbergers had arrived at the school and they managed to get the old pot-bellied stove going. A lot of times we had to leave our jackets on until noon before it warmed up.

We were usually lucky enough to get a ride to school. The families that lived further away would stop by with their children and pick us up. It was nice getting into a warm caboose! We only lived a quarter of a mile from the school, so Dad wasn't about to hook up the team.

Another fascinating thing for us was to sleep over at another family's house. One night it would be Streitenberger's and the next Bender's. I was really brave, once, and I stayed at Bender's for three days in a row. When I finally decided to go home, Mom was waiting for me. Her punishment was for me to kneel in a corner and not just for 15 minutes either! That put an end to the visiting.

I also remember the year that we had a male teacher, Mr. Brown. He loved to play ball but most of us were scared of a fast ball. We played rain or shine. Mr. Brown then arranged for us to play another school. Needless to say, we never came home the winners. As I recall, George Koenig was one of the only good ball players.

Speaking of George, I remember how he used to try to teach us how to ride his bike. He walked many a mile at recess hanging on to a wobbly rider.

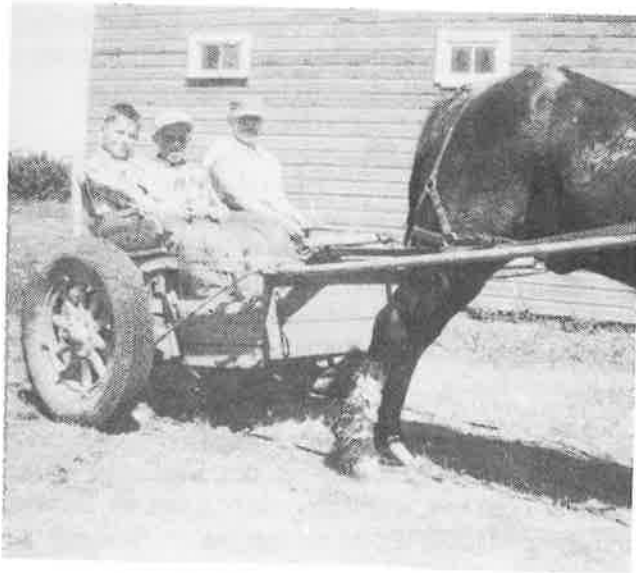
I also remember our gallon syrup pails we carried our lunch in.

After leaving Hoffman School, I worked for several families before going to Regina where I started working at Simpson Sears. I worked there for five years until my marriage to Gerald Hepp. We had two children, a daughter, Kim, born in 1965 and a son, Carey, born in 1967. Gerald passed away in 1974.

Since then, I married Colin Arthurs of Saskatoon and have been working at the Saskatoon Sanatorium for the past 12 years.



Going to school in style: Lucille, Corrine, Rosalinda and Janlene Weiman, 1961.



Larry, Harold and Kenneth Weiman, 1961

## IRONSIDE SCHOOL No. 1310

submitted by Agnes S. Lummerding

On Aug. 3, 1912 the R.M. of Bayne held a meeting at which a resolution was passed to establish a school district and build a school in the vicinity of Sec. 2 T39 R26 W2. This was to be the Ironside School District No. 1310 named after E. K. Ironside, one of the early settlers of the area and apparently the first secretary of the school board.

The annual meeting of the ratepayers of this district was held on Feb. 10, 1914 and the following trustees were elected: James Felix, Anton Schmirler and Frank Schmirler.

The first meeting of the new school board was held on Feb. 18, 1914. It was then decided to contact Frank Janocki about two acres of land in the northeast corner of S.E. 2-39-26 W3 for a school site. This, however, did not prove feasible.

At another meeting, held on Apr. 3, 1914, it was decided to purchase two acres of C.N.R. land of S.W. 1-39-26 W2 for \$50.45. The contract for the building was let out on tenders, specifying that the school must be completed by June 15, 1914. A small teacherage was also built about that time and a larger teacherage built in the 1950's.

Miss Lena Arsenault was engaged to teach the first five months at \$65.00 per month, starting at the opening of the new school on July 6.

At a school meeting on Jan. 14, 1915 the remuneration for the trustees was set at \$2.00 per meeting and the secretary's salary was \$30.00. The wood and water for the teacher were supplied free by the district, however the teacher had to start the fire for the school and sweep it without pay. In 1920, the teacher was paid 25 cents per day for janitor work. Starting in 1921, the caretaker job was given out by tender.

In 1918, Frank Hamm was appointed the auditor, a position he held intermittently for a number of years. Frank Schmirler was delegate to the Saskatchewan School Trustees Convention in Regina held on Jan. 22 and 23, 1919.



Ironside School, 1941

In August of 1920, a mild epidemic of measles closed the school for two weeks. Christmas concerts with short plays and goodies for the children were held most years. In July, 1934 a picnic was held at Poplar Beach, together with the children from Hoffman School; costs were equally shared between the schools.

As not all records of the school are available, some highlights of this history are missing.

Mrs. Ellen Bindle was the last teacher, 1963-64. The highest enrolment in any one term was 39. The school closed in June of 1964, at that time there were 12 pupils who were then taken by bus to the Bruno school.

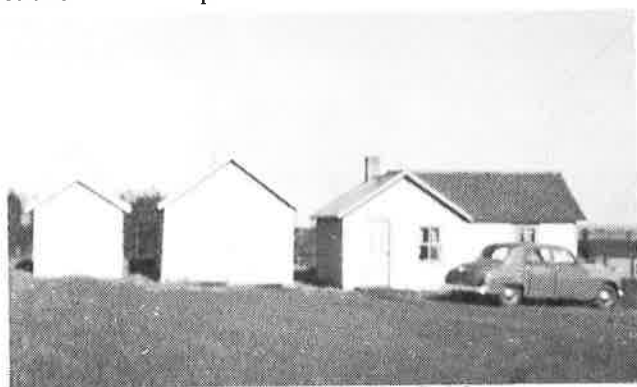
The following is a list of teachers that taught at Ironside School until it was closed and taken over by the Wakaw School Unit. The register for the years 1915-20 are missing. The first amount listed is the salary that the teacher received per annum.



1942 pupils of Ironside. Family names: Miko, Prieger, Reves, Helmink, Wolfe, Sobush, Koenig.



Ironside class, 1945



Ironside teacherage, 1950

\$1,500.00	M. E. T. Crough
\$1,500.00	R. E. Cribb
\$1,200.00	W. Garden
\$1,200.00	Mrs. Wood
\$1,200.00	W. Garden
\$1,200.00	Mrs. Wood
\$1,200.00	Mrs. Marg Garner
\$1,200.00	Louis Byrne
\$1,000.00	Bernard LaBrash
\$ 900.00	Martin Hantke
\$ 700.00	Mrs. E. Gyselinch
\$ 900.00	Bernadine Kirzinger
\$1,200.00	Mary Handzich
\$1,250.00	Helen Thiel
\$1,200.00	Sylvia Hryciw
\$1,350.00	Mrs. Gert Perzuick
\$1,400.00	Leo Hering
\$1,500.00	Peter Zaichkowski
\$1,600.00	Regina Kirzinger
\$1,800.00	Cliff Lummerding
\$1,800.00	Olga Ferniuk
\$2,400.00	Anne Perzuick
\$2,100.00	Mary Schlosser
\$2,250.00	G. A. Smolkowski
\$3,400.00	B. A. LaBrash
\$4,200.00	Mrs. Ellen T. Bindle

1918 - 1922  
 1923 - December 25, 1925  
 January 1, 1925 - January 1, 1926  
 January 1, 1926 - June, 1926  
 June, 1926 - December, 1927  
 January, 1927 - March 1, 1927  
 March, 1927 - January, 1928  
 February 1, 1928 - December, 1932  
 January 1, 1933 - February, 1938  
 March 1, 1938 - June, 1942  
 July 1, 1942 - December, 1943  
 January 1, 1944 - June, 1945  
 July 1, 1945 - December 20, 1945  
 January 7, 1946 - June 28, 1946  
 September 3, 1946 - June 20, 1948  
 August, 1948 - April 29, 1949  
 July, 1949 - June 30, 1950  
 July, 1950 - June 30, 1951  
 August 20, 1951 - June 30, 1952  
 August 25, 1952 - October 30, 1952  
 November 3, 1952 - June 30, 1953  
 September 1, 1953 - June 25, 1955  
 August 1, 1955 - March 30, 1956  
 April 3, 1956 - June 29, 1956  
 August 20, 1956 - June 30, 1958  
 August 26, 1958 - June 30, 1964

The following is a list of the trustees of Ironside School from 1920 to 1964. They are shown in the following order: year, name of chairman, the secretary-treasurer and the trustee:

1920, Martin Boklage, Frank Schmirler and Paul Misura; 1922, Martin Boklage, William Kellerman and Frank Schmirler; 1925, William Kellerman, William Wolfe and Ed Helmink; 1927, Walter Schmirler, Frank Kellerman and Joseph Hatzel; 1930, Joseph Hatzel, Walter Schmirler and Alex Reves Jr.; 1932, Joseph Hatzel, Walter Schmirler and Ed Helmink; 1934, Jim Felix, Walter Schmirler and Ed Helmink; 1936, Anton Schmirler, Walter Schmirler and Alex Reves Jr.; 1938, Anton Schmirler, George Megyesi and John Prieger; 1939, Anton Schmirler, George Megyesi and John Prieger; 1940, Carl Hatzel, George Megyesi and Marie Sobush; 1947, Carl Hatzel, George Megyesi and Bernard Dumsdorf; 1950-56, Carl Hatzel, George Megyesi and Leo Duford; and from 1957-64 when the Wakaw School Unit took over -- Carl Hatzel, George Megyesi and William Prieger.

The following pupil enrolment of 25 was taken from the March, 1920 register: F. Zimmer, N. Zimmer, M. Felix, L. Schmirler, A. Reves, M. Zimmer, L. Baklage, F. Hatzel, Clara Felix, M. Yonotski, Elmer Schmirler, Eva Zimmer, John Reves, Louis Miko, Otto Baklage, Teddy Baklage, Mary Miko, Marguerite Miko, Lorenz Baklage, Norma Schmirler, Helen Hryciuk, Ben Baklage, Walter Baklage, Fronie Zimmer, Tony Hatzel, Steve Miko and Joe Reves.



Last Christmas concert held at Ironside, 1963. Back, L to R: Martha Kun, Dale Reves, Edith Prieger, Rita Megyesi, Jeromie Megyesi, Marlene Reves, David Reves. Front: Marvin Kun, Rita Prieger, Roger Reves, Floyd Reves.

## IRONSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 1310

by George Megyesi

My parents, Joseph and Elizabeth Megyesi, immigrated to Canada from Hungary in 1902 and lived in Rosthern for three years. Joseph was a bricklayer by trade and worked in Prince Albert and Saskatoon. In 1905, there were some homesteads opened for settlement in the Bremen area. My father took as a homestead the S.W. 16-39-26 W2. The land is still in the Megyesi family.

I came from a family of 13 children, six girls and seven boys. In 1918, when I was seven years old, my sisters Elizabeth, Margaret and myself attended Ironside School for a short period of time. At the time, St. Hilaire School was under construction.

I am going to try and put down on paper near as I can recall the history of Ironside School, as I was the secretary-treasurer for 26 continuous years.

Ironside School was organized in 1914 and built soon after. It was not centrally located, but one mile south from where it should have been. The first trustees were Mr. Frank Schmirler, George Egabreak and George Ironside.

I took all my schooling at St. Hilaire Public School and when I was 15 and in grade 8, I was told that I had enough



George and Rosella Megyesi, 1936



schooling to be a farmer (at that time people thought all you needed was a strong back and a weak mind). I worked at home on my dad's farm; we were considered successful farmers. We farmed up to two sections of land with horses and we always had a lot of cattle. We milked cows and shipped the cream; the pigs always enjoyed the skim milk.

In 1929 or 1930, Martin Bohlage's farm came up for sale and my dad thought it would be a good farm for me, so we bought it. The half section cost about \$3,500.00.

On Oct. 21, 1936 I married Fred Schulz's daughter, Rosella. We settled in what we called the Boklage farm. The house we lived in was a large frame house 28 by 28 feet, with an upstairs and no insulation of any kind. It was a very cold house. Many times when we got up in the morning, the water was frozen in the pail.



Megyesi family, 1958. George, Rose, Eugene, Phyllis, Harold, Jerome, Donna, Rita.

Rosella and I had six children, Phyllis born Oct. 11, 1939; Eugene, born in 1940; Harold on Oct. 14, 1948; Jerome on July 9, 1950; Donna on Nov. 12, 1952; and Rita on Feb. 12, 1954. The children all had chores to do and when they were old enough they also helped with the milking. We usually had ten or 12 cows to milk.

We had one section of land with stones and rocks aplenty and a lot of bush. We farmed with horses up until 1944 when we bought our first tractor, a John Deere A.R. on steel wheels.

We were settled in the Ironside district and our neighbours were Anton Schmirler, John Koenig, Joe Koenig, Nick Missaura, Walter LaBrash, John Sobush, Leo Henry and Frank Kellerman. In the fall of 1938, I was elected as a trustee of Ironside School to replace Walter Schmirler as he had decided to leave the country.

The following is a list of the names of students in 1918 when I attended Ironside for a short time. Teacher, Mr. E. T. Crough and students: Elizabeth Megyesi, Margaret Megyesi, George Megyesi, Louie Miko, Margaret Miko,

Frank Zimmer, Nat Zimmer, Mary Zimmer, Eva Zimmer, Fronie Zimmer, Lorencz Schmirler, Elmer Schmirler, Norma Schmirler, Fritz Hatzel, Tony Hatzel, Helen Hryciuk, Bill Hryciuk, L. Bohlage, Otto Bohlage, Fred Bohlage, Lizzie Bohlage, Walter Bohlage, Ben Bohlage, Alex Reves, John Reves and Joe Reves. There were approximately 28 students.

On June 27, 1964, Ironside School was closed for good. The students were bussed to Bruno. In the fall of 1966, the school was put up for sale by tenders and was sold to a farmer in the Prud'homme area for \$900.00. It was converted into a car shed and shop.

In the spring of 1967, we sold our farm to Anton Bendig and after having an auction sale, we moved to Edmonton. All of our family is in Edmonton or close by. The Lord has been good to us and we have been richly blessed.

## KILDRUM SCHOOL

by Bernadette Greuel

Kildrum School District was formed in 1911. It was made up of 20 sections of land, half in the Bayne Municipality and the other in Viscount.

One of the first families to settle in this area were the Aaron Boaks. They came originally from Kildrum County, Ireland. Kildrum is an Irish word that means 'chapel on the hill' and that is how our school got its name.

Edna Bourne was the first teacher; she came out from England without any promise of a teaching position. The Education Board in Regina sent her to Bruno. She married Charlie Thomas and they farmed east of the school. She taught again in Kildrum in 1915.

William Hulme was the teacher for five and one-half years. Thomas Murtagh and his family lived in the teacherage, and he was the teacher for 12 ½ years. Mrs.



Kildrum School



**Kathy Schmidt's birthday party at school, 1956**

Annie Martinka was the last teacher when the school closed in 1965.

In 1911, there were 16 students enrolled at Kildrum School. Attendance was not very regular and school supplies, books, and tablets were scarce. The boys spent many noon hours across the road, catching muskrats. No one had a watch, the wind was always in the wrong direction; they did not hear the bell, and so they often did not get back to class until 2:00 p.m. The muskrat took the place of a ball at recess time. It was fine if you were the pitcher, but if the rat exploded when you were the batter, it was not so pleasant.

Three Koenig boys were registered at school that year. The eldest, Anthony, went only for a short time and then he stayed at home to help farm. He married Jennie Cuckel, who worked in the Humboldt Hotel and they farmed near Peterson until 1930. Then the family moved to the Peace River country. For the last 29 years, they lived in Vancouver and he lives there now with his daughter, Dorothy. Joseph Koenig married Mary Horkie of Carmel. He was a mechanic in Bruno until 1940. They moved to Milwaukee and then to Detroit, where his widow still lives. Their 12 children live in the Detroit area, and some in Colorado. William Koenig attended school for four years. He married Lena Tegenkamp, and they farmed in the Kildrum district until 1946. He had a store and then a garage in Osoyoos, B.C. Four of their eight children live in that area. Bill and Lena come back almost every year to visit relatives and friends around Bruno.

There were three Lewis children at school. They came to Canada from Rib Lake, Wisconsin in 1910. August

married Freda Lange and farmed in this area until his death in a car accident in 1943. His daughter, Erna lives in Viscount and Lucille is in Edmonton. Freda remarried and lives now in Portage La Prairie. Carl started out as a farmer and then did garage and road construction work at Middle Lake. He then went to Lac LaRonge, where he operated the power plant. He and his wife, Marie Schulz, had three sons. She now lives in Christopher Lake. Annie Lewis was nine when school opened in 1911. In 1921 she married Joseph Koffing. They had five sons and one daughter. She still lives on the farm and takes an active part in the community activities ... making quilts and giving knitting and spinning demonstrations to our 4-H members.

The Breusch family came from Germany, where their father was a captain of a freighter. They began classes at Kildrum, but when Medomsley School opened in 1913, they transferred. Kurt was hurt in an accident playing ball and he died of internal injuries when he was 20. Ted went to Milwaukee where he was an engineer at the Blue Ribbon Brewery. He has two daughters and one son. Ellen Breusch married Carl Scheidel. She died suddenly in Schwingamer's store a few days after the birth of her fourth child. Her son, Rainer, lives in Nanaimo and Gerhardt lives in Glentworth, Sask. A grandson of hers is on the police force in Saskatoon.

The Hofbauer children came with their parents from Austria - Hungary in 1905. They lived in St. Paul, Minnesota where their father worked in a slaughterhouse. In 1910, they came to Kildrum. Nick and Annie remember helping to plow with two teams of oxen. A most frightening event was a tornado that ripped off the roof and tore out the partition of the two-room house. Only the north wall remained. Nick still can't figure out how he man-



**Mike Kalner and Ted Goodrich going home after school**



Students, 1950



Students, 1944

aged to be unhurt after landing in the willows by the slough. Annie took a course in beauty and hair care and set up a shop in Vermilion, Alta. She is now retired. Nick had to help at home when he was 13, but he took night classes with Mr. Hulme when he was 21. In 1926, he married Elizabeth Huber, and they farmed in this district until 1972. They have lived in Bruno for the last 20 years.

Lui Katzelle lived with his parents on what is now the Garry Wurm farm. He died at 19 and is buried at Saxby. His parents came from Weaton, Minnesota in 1908. His mother, Louise died when he was six years old. August, his father, lived in Peterson.

Annie Ludwig married Art Petri in 1922. They farmed one mile north of Bruno. Later they moved to Wisconsin. She now lives in Arizona with one of her three sons. He works at the Observatory in Tuscon.

Mary was the oldest of the Newton girls and she was in grade 1. Her father, Walter, was a bricklayer. For a time, they lived in Peterson and then came back to Kildrum. In 1929, she married Jim MacMath, a railroad engineer. They lived in Humboldt where May was a telephone operator. In 1972 they moved to Regina. Her son, Jim, lives in Winnipeg.

Elizabeth Zacherele took up a career in hairdressing, and she only retired a few years ago. In 1920, she married. Bill Kohlman, who had a barbershop in Bruno. In 1926, they moved to Humboldt. She has three sons. Her mother, who has been living with her for a few years, will be 103 years old in November.

The Boak family came to Canada in 1905 from Kildrum County, Donegal, Ireland. They lived for a few years in Toronto, where Susan had a job. When the school opened she came for classes for two years. The younger Boak children are not registered until 1912. In 1913, Susan married Robert Poole. When the First World War began, he went overseas. After the war, they farmed south of Bruno; Fred Breusch owns their land today. In the early 1940's they moved to Spalding and then to Naicam. They retired to Winnipeg, where Susan died in 1966. Her daughter, Nora, lives in San Leandro, California.

The highest enrolment at Kildrum School was 1926-27. There were three teachers that year: W. R. Hulme, Walter Harbord and Erlwin Foerster. The pupils were: Edmond Goodrich, Maysie Elliott, Margaret Ludwig, Dorothy Thomas, William Baches, William Haller, Mike Pfeill, Mike Kainer, Elizabeth Haller, Betty Thomas, Elizabeth Keehborn, Louis Pfeil, Donald Harvey, Gunter Scholtz, Charles Grunow, William Grunow, Albert Grunow, John Grunow, William Boak, Clarence Mose, Arthur Burgess, Claude Bennett, Clara Greuel, Clarence Maki, Pauline Ludwig, Clara Ludwig, Annie Keehborn, Frank Pfeil, Roy Gordon, Gerhard Scholtz, Hubert Greuel, Walter Harvey, John Keehborn, Mary Goodrich, Annie Pfeil, John Thomas, Melvin Gordon, Mary McGerry, Sarah McGerry, Leona Toner, Agnes Greuel, James Boak, June Gordon, Robert Thomas, Robert McInnes, Nelson Foerster, Robert Boak, Marie Greuel, Kathleen Harvey, Laura



1944: the boys at Kildrum. L to R: Alphonse Greuel, Leander Greuel, Aaron Boak, Eugene Koenig, Raymond Boak, Jeff Harvey, Donald Koenig, Randolph Koenig.

Bennett, Barbara Braun, Jack Pfeil, Melvin Gordon, Katie Keehborn, and Carl Braun.

The Kildrum School closed in 1965. Mrs. A. E. Martinka was the last teacher. The pupils at that time were: Terry Bendig, Lorraine Boak, Patricia Koob, Judith Bendig, Robert Bendig, Warren Bendig, Gail Boak, Jeanette Koob, Ronald Koob and Deborah Bendig.

The school has been used as a community center since that time.

#### Little Known Facts About the Kildrum School District

Kildrum School is built on the southwest quarter of section 6-37-25, on the extreme southern edge of the Municipality of Bayne No. 371.



1955: Kildrum road flooded

Bayne Municipality is named after J. N. Bayne who was Deputy Minister of Municipal Affairs in 1910.

The first reeve was A. P. Marcotte of Prud'homme.

The first councillor for Division 1 was Math Pulvermacher.

The first municipal secretary-treasurer was Frank Hamm. The tax rate for the first year was five cents per acre.

Frank Thomas took up the first homestead in 1907 and built a sod house. Shortly after, Aaron Boak, George Virley and Walter Newton settled here.

The first teacher was Edna Elizabeth Bourne, recently out from England. In January of 1912, she married C. J. Thomas. Her teacher's salary was \$70.00 per month.

The first superintendent was John O'Brien, who made his rounds with a horse and buggy.

The school trustees were: Aaron Boak, Wenzel Koenig and Frank Thomas. Robert Harvey was the secretary-treasurer.



Kildrum students, 1919. Back: Franklin Findley, Hazel Findley, Gertrude Courchalne, Mary Louis, Mrs. Justice (teacher), Teresa Ludwig, Eva Pfeil, Mike Hofbour, Joe Pfeil. Front: Bill Baches, Mike Pfeil, Ted Goodrich, Malzie Elliott, Margaret Ludwig, Hilda Newton, Elizabeth Ludwig, Beatrice Newton, Dorothy Thomas.

The first ... binder bought by Frank Thomas in 1907 from Manitoba. Tractor ... William and Joseph Koenig in 1918. Combine ... George Goodrich in 1929. Threshing machine ... Aaron Boak in 1911. Radio crystal set ... made by Carl Lewis in 1921. Bought radio ... M. Herman in 1924. Democrat ... August Lewis in 1910. Car ... Henry Greuel in 1917. Truck ... Robert Harvey in 1926. Telephone line in operation in December of 1919.

The closest family doctor was Dr. Love of Viscount.

The All Hallows Anglican Church was built in 1937. The Roman Catholics attended the St. Bede Church at Lucasville.

# Kildrum School District 1911

Taxes -  $12^{00}$  per quarter

\* Kildrum School

School tax -  $6\frac{1}{2}^{\phi}$  per acre

■ Farm homes

Special tax - gopher destruction -  $1\frac{1}{2}^{\phi}$

School Land	School Land	Charles Zacherl	Aaron Beck	Wenzil Koenig	Wenzil Koenig	Hudson Bay	Hudson Bay	CNR	CNR
School Land	School Land	Frank Tishberger	Aaron Beck	Wenzil Koenig	Wenzil Koenig	Hudson Bay	Hudson Bay	Adam Keebair	Anna Haupt
August Katsela	L.B. Keller	CNR	R.B. Harvey	Rog Harvey	John Grewel	Nick Hofbauer	CNR	Walter Kendall	August Louis
Walter Pufflett	Thomas Hogan	CNR	R.B. Harvey	James Beck	R.B. Harvey	R.G. Harvey	Anton Ludwig	George Virley	Mike Faul
C. Saunders	Thomas Hogan	Adam Eckert	Adam Eckert	L. Weiser	L. Weiser	Sid Thomas	C. Thomas	James Cherry	CNR
C. Saunders	Joe Paris	Sid Paris	Stuart Finday	J. Kustusch	Joe Backus	George Elliott	C. Thomas	W.R. Newton	Janowski
Hudson Bay	Harry Goodrich	Company Land	Company Land	M. Laur	Mike Herman	School Land	School Land	George Goodrich	Janowski
Hudson Bay	Hudson Bay	Company Land	Dominic Kuob	Phillip Muench	Jacob Backus	School Land	School Land	Louis Pfeil	George Veitch

Bayne

Viscount

# Kildrum School District 1983

\* Kildrum School

■ Farm Homes

† All Hallows Anglican Church

Leo Wurm	Walter Chantler	Walter Chantler	George + Alice Boak	Arnold Koob	Alfred Koob	Alphonse Greuel	Alphonse Greuel	Leo Felix	B Felix	
Paul Jeanneau	Paul Jeanneau	Aaron Boak	A. Boak G. Boak	Alfred Koob	Leander Greuel	Alphonse Greuel	Alfred Koob	Mary Ebner	Anton Reineke	Bayne
■ Gerry Wurm	Gerry Wurm	Aaron Boak	Walter Harvey	Walter Harvey	Leander Greuel	Leander Greuel	Dale Ebner	Mary Ebner	Alfred Koob	
Robert + Evelyn Collin	George Boak	George + Alice Boak	Mervin Collin	Walter Harvey † *	Robert Harvey	Robert Harvey	Desmond Koffing	Robert Koffing	Robert Koffing	
Alan Bennett	George Boak	A.L. Goodrich	■ Denis Detillieux	Robert Harvey	Robert Harvey	Bernard Greuel	Desmond Koffing	Clarence Koffing	Dale Ebner	
■ Alan Bennett	A.E. Goodrich	A.E. Goodrich	Denis Detillieux	Allan Detillieux	Mike Kainer	Elizabeth DeLure	Desmond Koffing	Mike Kainer	Robert Koffing	Viscount
Louis Koob	A.E. Goodrich	A.E. Goodrich	Mike Kainer	Mike Kainer	James Kainer	Mike Kainer	James Kainer	Wilbert Pfeil	Robert Koffing	
Allister Welch	James Welch	Merle Koob	Louis Koob	Antony Koob	Antony Koob	W. Backus	Arnold Pfeil	■ Prefontaine Possberg	Arnold Pfeil	

## THOMAS, CHARLIE AND EDNA

The following is an article written by Edna in April of 1967 and has been very kindly provided by her son, Robert Thomas, for inclusion in this book. Edna Thomas was born in 1882 and passed away in 1971, while her husband, Charlie, was born in 1881 and passed away in 1966.

Edna Thomas was the first teacher at the Kildrum school.

This is April, 1967 and as I sit alone this evening my thoughts wander back more than 50 years to the time when this wonderful land of Canada was so very new to me.

I had been a teacher in a large city school in England for seven years and thought it was time to see a little more of the world, so my sister and I decided to travel with friends who were returning to their home in Regina. We intended to stay for three years and then go back to England, but "the best laid plans aft gang agley". As I wished to work in a city school, my first visit was to the Education Office. Being near the end of the school year, the only school available was a newly-built one, 200 miles to the north, so I was advised to go there without writing, as a letter would take too long to reach its destination, so on June 1st I reached the little town of Bruno. The year was 1911.

Bruno had been planned to be the center of a German-Roman Catholic settlement, and there was a Catholic Church and convent there, also a small Anglican Church just south of the track. There was one main street, with two general stores, one containing the post office, a lumber yard, a drug store, livery barn, blacksmith's (or was it a hardware?), a harness store, a cobbler's shop and I don't remember what else at this time. There were two grain elevators by the track.

A genial looking man (Mr. Liesen) stood by his store door so I made bold to ask him how I could get out to Kildrum which I knew was to the south, so he told me to go to the livery barn and get someone to take me out. Fortunately for me, the name "Livery Barn" was in plain view so the owner thereof, by name of Johnny Fischer, said he would drive me out in his democrat, another new name to me. There was a road for four miles then prairie trails with no fences and no houses along the way.

The lady, Mrs. Boak, who had arranged to board the teacher had unfortunately broken her knee, an accident caused by runaway oxen, so I was to stay with Mrs. Newton, her husband Walter and two little daughters, May five and Hilda two.

The school secretary, Rob Harvey and Mrs. Newton's two brothers, Charlie and Frank, called to see me that evening. They took me to see the school which was named 'Kildrum' for Mr. Boak's home in northern Ireland, the name meaning literally "Chapel on the Hill", so

a little bit of Ireland would flash across the minds of some people each time they heard the name.

In the school there was a large stove and two long benches, also a blackboard, but we decided to open the school on the Monday and not wait for other equipment which was supposed to be on the way. The first few days we spent mostly in conversation getting to know each other. With the exception of May, the children were all of German parentage, and had come to Canada the previous year by way of the States, where some of them had been to school for a very short time. Their pronunciation of English words caused lots of laughter, as did mine of German words.

Now to introduce the class on Monday. The oldest boy, Gust Lewis, came one day only; his two sisters, Grady and Anna were very shy, quiet little girls. Then there were three Koenig boys, Tony, not so much interested in school work as he was in wildlife, especially butterflies; Joe, who had been to school in the States for a while and Willy, just a beginner. Annie Ludwig, the most practical eight year old I ever knew, and the two Hofbauers - Nicky so full of fun, a really happy boy and Annie so prim and proper there would not be a wrinkle in her pretty starched dress at the end of the day. For five year old May, the long walk to school in the hot weather did not leave much energy for lessons.

On Sunday, an Anglican church service was held in the Newton house, a very small home but full that day, the minister being a student from Emmanuel College in Saskatoon. Afterwards, services were held in the school twice monthly.

A dance was held in the school on Saturday, everybody taking sandwiches and cake. The type of dancing was new to me, but the lively music left no wallflowers and it was very enjoyable to meet so many people. The most admired young lady there was four week old Elizabeth Ludwig, who was laced in a daintily embroidered and frilled pillow and who slept the whole evening.

Soon the books and pencils arrived and we went merrily on, and I think it was a happy summer for all of us. The school inspector, Mr. O'Brien, from Regina visited us in July and was pleased with the progress of the class, especially with their speech and writing. I asked him to come home with me for tea as he still had to walk to Bruno (ten miles) and he gladly accepted. However, the family had gone to Bruno for supplies and there was neither bread nor meat in the house, just cold potatoes, so the first meal I prepared in Canada consisted of potato cakes, and with a plentiful supply of butter it proved quite satisfactory.

Perhaps the highlight of this summer was a picnic in Bruno, with horse racing by a band of Indians, other games and plenty of good things to eat.

We had one week of holidays in September and I went back to Regina to buy winter clothing, as folks said it



would be cold. Little did I really know how cold, but had to find out the hard way.

We always enjoyed our walks to and from school as there were so many things to see and talk about. Gophers would be popping up their heads whichever way one looked and occasionally skunks made their presence known, and holes made by, or rather dug by badgers could be dangerous if a horse stepped in one. Once in a while, we would see a badger outside its hole.

There were not many varieties of small birds until more grain was grown; the best known were the horned lark, which appeared very early in the spring, the meadow lark with its sweet song, and the Kildeer with its plaintive cry and pretended broken wing to lure foes away from its nest.

A little later the wild geese would return to their winter feeding grounds and everyone would rush outside to watch them -- "A wavering line on the high bright blue --". Another beautiful sight was a number of Sandhill cranes standing on a hill against the skyline, but after a few years, we saw them no more.

Mrs. Paris found a crane's nest and put two of the eggs under a hen to hatch. The young cranes were so tame that they followed the lady everywhere she went, and when she was planting potatoes, they would walk behind and dig them all up again; so the cranes and two little pigs exchanged homes.

A flock of pelicans flew over one day, so low one could see their eyes. It was lovely driving over the prairie in the evenings, the sunsets were beyond description -- there was no twilight as in England, but when dusk succeeded daylight the tiny fireflies would take over and almost every blade of tall grass would have its own little light, especially in the hollows.

Two baby boys were christened in the little Anglican Church in Bruno -- Norman Buckle and Reginald Thomas.

November that year, 1911, brought a very heavy snowfall with a temperature of 20 below (F) so the trustees decided to close school, and now began the next stage of my life.

All summer, Charlie T. had been taking me to different places, a nice new buggy and a driving mare I named Mona, made driving pleasant (somebody just said "don't forget the driving whip" because nobody else had one). Charlie also drove me to Viscount with the sleigh and team, put his team in the livery barn and went with me to Regina by train. We did a little shopping that evening; the chief purchase being a diamond for me, and I promised to return early in the new year.

The teacher of a country school asked if I would take her place for two weeks as she and the school secretary were going to elope. I did for one week, but by that time it was 40 below, so the school had to close. I went back to Regina to plan for my own wedding and the days became

colder and colder. I had a pretty new dress and my sister, Elsie who was to be my bridesmaid, made her dress to match.

We planned to travel on the Owltrain (12 midnight) to Saskatoon on January 8th, however the train did not come in until six the next morning ... it was now 65 below and that old potbellied stove in the waiting room must have swallowed more wood that night than on any other night of its existence.

Charlie and his best man, Rob Harvey, met us on the train at Bruno and the minister, Mr. Love, met us at Humboldt. He suggested that we go to the hotel for dinner while he went to the church to light the fire. It was not exactly midsummer, and the service was made as short as possible, but just as real and solemn as if there were a thousand people there. Then we went back to the Arlington Hotel -- in the sitting room there were four large chairs, one in each corner, and three of them were occupied by three quite stout ladies all rocking backwards and forwards and chewing what I afterwards discovered to be gum, apparently a favourite sweetmeat. That left one chair for our party of four, not overly comfortable so we soon retired.

The next day we went on the train to Bruno, late again and as it was now 67 below (coal oil frozen stiff), it was too late to drive home. Mrs. John Young rushed out of the station house with rice in her apron, threw a handful towards us and rushed back. That was just a little memory that sparkled in a rather hectic weekend. Thank you dear lady, wherever you are -- I hope you laughed about it every time it crossed your mind.

We finally arrived at our nice warm home where Mrs. Newton, now my sister-in-law, had two good fires burning. The house had one large living room and two small bedrooms all freshly papered with white building paper which made an excellent background for silhouettes of any of our friends who could be persuaded to sit still long enough to have shadow drawings made.

Even though it was really cold, we enjoyed that winter, perhaps because it was a new experience. Some clear moonlight nights the snow would sparkle like diamonds and in the distance the coyotes would send up their own wild music. And when the spring came, it was wonderful; almost overnight the little crocuses opened their fur coats and dappled the prairie with a delicate blue pattern; and when the first crow called out "Good Morning" that was a sure sign that spring had arrived.

Our farm animals, at this time, were four horses, one cow, and two roly-poly black pigs (Berkshires ... were in fashion at that time). We also had 18 hens which laid well all winter in a little sod shed. In June of this year, 1912, a terrifying cyclone hit Regina and did a great deal of damage to buildings. The only person hurt was a telephone operator who stayed at her post through the storm. A boat on Wascana Lake with its three occupants,



was lifted up and carried half a mile, then set gently down. We had a little of the storm and it left us with a few broken windows.

We were preparing for a very special occasion late in the fall, when my little daughter elected to come into the world. I happened to be preparing for our first threshing crew. Charlie was summoned from the field to go to Bruno and phone for the doctor to come from Humboldt (Bruno was nine miles away; Humboldt 24). The Boak family kindly looked after the men. The baby arrived at noon and the doctor at 6:00 p.m. -- a shortcut he had taken had proved to be the longest way! The doctor said, "Is everything all right?" and getting the nod, he continued "Have you a gun? There are some nice ducks on the slough and I'd like a shot at them." The ducks were tame ones so there was no gun. However, before his bill was sent in, the doctor had lost his life on the battlefield fighting for his country.

By this time, my sister and Rob Harvey had become engaged, with plans to marry in the spring. Rob and another lady were taking care of Liesen's store for the winter, while the Liesen's were holidaying in Germany and just at Christmas Rob became seriously ill with rheumatic fever. There was no doctor or nurse in town, so on Jan. 6, 1913 a minister came from Humboldt and we had a wedding service with the bridegroom propped up in bed with pillows and the bride to become nurse as well as wife. After, we adjourned to the living room where my little one had been baptised. The station agent's wife, Mrs. Oliver, asked Mrs. Bennett and me to stay overnight which we were very glad to do. It was not quite so cold as the previous winter (only 47 below), but still too cold to take a wee baby out for another long drive.

We needed a new house, so when a load of wheat was taken to town, a load of lumber was brought back, but the supply of wheat never lasted long enough and spare time was in short supply as well.

During the summer, my father came out for six weeks and we were so happy to see him, but wished our mother had come, too. Whilst he was with us, we went to the west bush for a picnic and to pick saskatoons, our basic fruit supply. We had no fruit in our own garden and one day, about a dozen of us went to Middle Lake to pick wild raspberries. We slept in a shed and drove home the next day with a good supply of juicy fruit. Chokecherries and pincherries made into jelly or syrup for pancakes were good as were the "pick your own" red currants obtained from Mr. Ebner's farm one summer. Apples were shipped in barrels from Ontario and these barrels cut down and padded made very comfortable chairs.

One nice summer morning, we took a load of wheat into Humboldt to be ground into flour. Mr. and Mrs. Elliott went with us, as well as their baby, Maisie and our baby, Dorothy. On the way home, a violet thunderstorm



**Thomas family, 1943. Back, L to R: Jack, Dorothy, Betty, Robert. Front: Lillian, Charlie, Edna, David.**

began just as we reached Highgate School; our load of flour was too valuable to be spoiled by rain, so the people at the farm opposite said they had room in the barn for the horse and wagon, and handed us the key to the school so we might take shelter there. In the morning, we were called into the house for breakfast of porridge and thick cream -- wonderful and much appreciated.

That year and the following one, mosquitoes did their best or worst to make life miserable; men had to wear veils over their heads when doing field work and carry oily rags to rub down the horses necks every few minutes. Little smudges here and there would make a big smoke and provide some relief for cows at milking time and for resting horses, too.

Reg Harvey went to England and brought back his wife, Margaret. She had a sweet singing voice and as she had a piano, songs were a great feature at her parties. Some time later, Bob Harvey went east to meet his fiancée at the boat and they were married in Paris, Ont. Ladies were more than welcome. Eight of us each one buying a book which would be read and passed around. Some of our favourite authors were John Buchan (afterwards Lord Tweedsmuir), Merriman, Conan Doyle, Ralph Connor, Ethel M. Dell and Marion Keith. Cora Hinda, who used the first typewriter west of Winnipeg, wrote a weekly crop report for Manitoba and Saskatchewan for the Winnipeg Free Press.

Since I left England, dress styles had changed considerably; I wish I had snapshots of myself and Gussie Harvey! I was wearing a wide skirt down to my ankles and Gussie, who was taller than I, was wearing a slim

straight skirt almost to her knees. The head shawls worn by the German ladies were very practical for prairie wear, for the wind tugging at long hatpins which held on my hat gave me a terrific headache. In Regina, I bought a motor bonnet with cherry ribbons, the kind favoured by people who had just purchased an open car and found it very comfortable for prairie wear.

When I mentioned parties, I should have said each person chose a different game to play and acting charades was a lot of fun. After a few years, children took over the games and we contented ourselves with card games, cribbage, whist, five hundred, pinochle and later, bridge. Our chief recreation was visiting back and forth -- each person brought to the new country something peculiar to his or her home country, all different and all interesting, and friendliness was everywhere. Mrs. Boak made her house so like home to everybody that she had no lack of callers and she was always so cheerful even though she never walked again after her accident, and Mr. Boak always had a fund of stories spiced with Irish wit to tell.



**Charlie and Edna Thomas (farm house located south of Bruno).**

Perhaps we visited most often with the Ludwigs as they lived nearest to us -- Mrs. Ludwig, a pretty lady with a soft voice and a ready laugh, was loved by everyone who knew her. I see her now making apple strudel with the dough rolled out like a tablecloth. Now I see in retrospect -- Mrs. Herman, a handsome lady with a wealth of golden hair carrying in a washtub of snow to melt on the stove -- her husband, Mike said to me, "That's the kind of woman to have, strong as a horse." Their house was small for two people and the lady said, "I have more things under my bed than in my whole house."

Old Mrs. Ludwig was one of the very few elderly people in the district. She took turns living with her three daughters, Mrs. Mike Herman, Mrs. Nick Hofbauer and Mrs. Jack Backes and her only son, Tony. Tony, besides being our closest neighbour, was one of our best and

staunchest friends all the years we lived on the prairie. Hofbauers lived fairly near; Nick loved to dance and his lady was a wonderful gardener. One Hallowe'en she made a large cake for a school party and decorated it with strawberries freshly picked from her garden.

Flowers were special and one evening we walked three miles across newly plowed fields to see Mrs. Backes' cactus, which was in bloom and well worth the heavy walk to see it.

A mile southwest of us lived the Elliotts. Mrs. Elliott had very poor eyesight but when she was almost blind, she could walk into their pasture, milk the cows and carry the milk home.

To the south lived Pfeils who had two children, Joe and Eva, when they came to Canada. These were the people who lived closest to us for 30 years -- I hope they or their relatives will not mind my little pen pictures, as they were all good neighbours and the memory of them will last and last.

The arrival of a new baby was always a great event and often meant a call for a neighbour as the nearest doctor lived 20 miles away at Viscount and the nearest telephone was in Bruno. Dr. Johns took the front wheels off his car -- put them by the others at the back and put sleigh runners on the front so he could travel on snow if called. People were very proud to have big families for Canada was big, with plenty of room, food, and fresh air and work. If crops did not turn out as good as hoped, there was always next year.

Harry Goodrich, who was an excellent shoeing smith, called one day to say his brother with wife and baby were coming to Canada and would I invite them for dinner the first Sunday after they arrived, which I was glad to do -- to talk about England in April was the next best thing to being there.

We wanted to plant trees, so Charlie marked out a five acre plot which would allow for a wide shelter belt on three sides of the yard with the house in the center. This would take a few years to complete -- the government sent out cuttings or seedlings of different kinds from their experimental farms, free to farmers who would plant according to their instructions. Poplars grew very quickly and made shade for slower growing trees, though in a very dry summer, many of these would die. A row of lilacs was a great joy for many years.

Then came the summer when we lost our little son -- he had been lent to us for six short weeks and his going was a very keen blow. Our crop was poor that year and as I was never able to help with outside work as so many of the wives did, I went back to Kildrum to teach, chiefly to earn enough money to buy two oxen, which were more useful for breaking land than horses. The biggest disadvantage was they needed much more water. With the last \$100.00 I visited my sister in Vancouver. It was a trying journey, for our train was delayed at Bostom Bar



**Dorothy Thomas feeding the turkeys!**

for 50 hours with snow slides before and behind -- luckily there were not many passengers for we used up all the food on the train. On the return journey with my little girl and a new baby, snow slides delayed us at the same place for two days. An old gentleman who had been a Colonel in the army during the Louis Riel rebellion, was my seat companion on the train and whiled away the hours with his stories and he also watched my baby whilst I went for meals. Chatty travellers are a boon on a long journey.

In 1916 the population of Kildrum was increased by a number of new babies. My little one arrived in February in Vancouver and four days later we had a wire from Reg Harvey telling that their son, Donald had arrived. Another boy joined the Pfeil family and May brought twin girls to the Ludwigs.

In June of 1916, John Greuel, a new homesteader, was married to Mrs. Pfeil's sister, who had come from Winnipeg to see her folks. There was a dinner at Pfeil's, everything especially good but what I remember most was the way the men raved about Mrs. Pfeil's horse-radish sauce, and wanted her recipe. Oh! It was such a wet day and the yard from house to granary was a sea of mud. Our 50 years have passed and the bride and groom have celebrated their golden wedding, but the memory of their wedding, a happy day, still lingers.

Water became very scarce the following summer; small wells and sloughs were drying up. Charlie and George Elliott put in many hard days digging a well in our yard, and hauling up the soil by the pailful. After all of that work, the well came up dry. Eventually well diggers came and drilled 40 feet in a two foot hole, which was as far as the money would go. After drilling through a very hard bed of blue clay -- Hurrah, a shout went up "WATER". Never was there sweeter music than the hammering of nails to make a crib to lower into the well. There was sand beneath the blue clay, and the men feared a cave-in, hence, the almost frantic rush to get the crib in. The water was of excellent quality for drinking and rose 20 feet and stayed always at that level.

Then tragedy struck again -- our 20 month old baby boy became very ill from some cause unknown, and was in both Saskatoon hospitals many times to no avail. This went on for two years and friends were almost afraid to enquire. Then one day, a sum of money was brought to me asking if I would use it to take our child to Mayo brothers in Rochester. I thankfully accepted it and the paper containing the signatures of people who helped became and still is, one of my most treasured possessions. The two Mrs. Harvey's kept our children whilst I was away. However, all the skill of the doctors could neither cure nor diagnose the illness. We were there six weeks and I worked in a diet kitchen to help pay for my room and board.

There were days and happenings in a lighter vein ... We heard that some geese were to be in a sale so I asked a man to buy two geese and a gander for me. Every caller at the house would be asked, "Can you tell a goose from a gander?" but still I could not tell. They would answer the call of geese in the Ludwig yard three-quarters of a mile away, then suddenly take to the air like wild geese to join their friends. However, in time, two or ours were each sitting on 15 eggs, and one day the supposed gander made a nest and laid an egg! Later on, when the geese started to moult, Mrs. Ludwig came and showed me how people in her "old country" plucked their geese, leaving the undercoat of down. How the folks in my "old country" would have laughed to see me with a goose on my knees while I pulled out its loose feathers one by one. The geese didn't seem to mind and soon grew new feathers. This was my last venture with geese; so I tried guinea fowls next for pleasure rather than profit, for they are most interesting birds to watch and have a language all their own. Next, we tried turkeys and they were profitable some years; the price for a Grade A bird was 15 cents a pound.

The garden was my special work, after Charlie had plowed and harrowed it and marked out the lines for me to sow the seeds. Most vegetables grew quickly and some years little sugar melons and citrons would ripen nicely. Food was good and plentiful and home grown beef and pork and milk and eggs. Lake Superior herring were shipped in frozen during the winter and made a welcome change.

Butchering day was always a company affair, with men who knew the business helping the others. By the end of such a day, there would be a year's supply of various meats put away to freeze, dry or when spring came, to be canned. We had no use for can openers. These were some of the good days, and we had the other kind which refuse to be tucked away entirely out of mind.

Perhaps the worst were the days of dust storms, especially in spring with seeding just beginning on freshly plowed land. Generally these winds blew from the west

and the dust rolled in great clouds until it was impossible to see a yard ahead and children could not go outside; but the stillness afterwards was wonderful.

Blizzards in winter blocking roads and thunder storms during the summer were always alarming, but afterwards the clouds were so beautiful and if the Northern Lights were dancing, one would like to stay up all night to watch.

Then came the flu epidemic and our darling ten month old Ralph was its victim -- he lingered for three months then slipped away in June. It was too early for garden flowers, but Mrs. Herman and Mrs Backes cut the blooms from their house plants and made a lovely wreath. Dr. Johns had made all arrangements for us and when the little white casket was brought into the church, there was on it a cross of wild yellow sweetpeas; suddenly the sun broke through the clouds and turned the flowers to gold and seemed to make a pathway of light for the little spirit to travel back to his Maker. Mrs. Raven, the minister's wife, took us and the friends who had gone with us, to her house for tea and a rest. When some time later she paid us a visit she said the Sunday school children of Viscount had been out all morning picking the sweetpeas and I asked her to thank them for us and also the organist who played the hymns. How little do we know of the troubles of others! I suggested that Brahm's lullaby would be more comforting to a mother whose tired baby had just gone to sleep than the dead march. So Mrs. Raven explained that the organist had a short while before lost her own little son and there was no one to play a note of music and she made up her mind that no other little one should be sent on its last journey in silence.

Our lives were not all sad and full of trouble. We had happy times and gay times and the prairie gave children a love of life that towns could not do and there was always work to be done. Travelling was hard, especially for children going to school in the winter, until someone decided to build a little caboose with a neat little stove bolted to the floor and everybody thought the idea was good enough to copy.

To all the people who may read these lines I am very thankful that my husband and I lived among you and your parents, and some of our children will carry fond memories of the prairies to whatever corner of the world life may take them.

## **THOMAS, JENNIFER**

Mrs. Jennifer Thomas and her two children, Larry and Gwen, arrived at Pleasant Grove School in August, 1960. She taught the students there from grades 1 to 8 until June, 1963.

They remember many exciting and enjoyable events and happenings such as Christmas programs, picnics in June, bingo in aid of the Junior Red Cross, a ball game with another school about 15 miles away, and chokecherry picking.

In July, 1963 they moved to Saskatoon, where they stayed for two years. Then she accepted a teaching position to teach students in grade 3 at Glenside, where they lived for three years.

They moved to Davidson in July, 1968 where she has been teaching grade 3 students from September, 1968 and is still doing so.

After completing grade 12 at Davidson, Larry is a lineman building powerlines. Larry also farms his land at Elrose and Wiseton on weekends during the farming season.

Gwen is a chartered accountant. She is married and has two children, Carla, who is in grade 2 and Tom, who is two years old. They live in Flin Flon, Man. where Gwen works with an accounting firm and her husband, Rick, is a chemical engineer, also employed in Flin Flon.

## **ST. QUENTIN SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 3885**

A meeting was held on Oct. 3, 1917 to organize the school district of St. Quentin No. 3885. A motion was made for a debenture issue payable to bearer in ten (10) equal annual instalments at an interest rate of not more than eight (8) per centum per annum to raise the sum of \$1,750.00 for the purpose of constructing a school building. The school and the teacherage were made of hollow tile from the Bruno Clayworks and were built on the S.W. 14-38-26 W2. Another acre was added in 1920.

The school opened in 1918 with Hubert J. Hallet as the first teacher and Frank Hamm as official trustee. The annual meeting of 1919 was called to order by Frank Hamm and the ratepayers present were Anton Gasper, Theo Bendig, Mike Kirzinger, Joe Brockmann, S. B. Whitney, W. C. Tilletson and Chas. Luke. The first elected board of trustees was as follows: Mike Kirzinger, chairman (three year term); Anton Gasper, secretary-treasurer (two year term); and Theodore Bendig (one year term). The teacher's salary was set at \$100.00 per month "strait monthly salarie". It was also decided that a stable 14 by 16 ft. be built for the horses that were driven to school by the children. This decision was destined to be deferred for several years because of lack of money.

Some of the highlights of the years are as follows:

1919: The R.M. of Bayne was asked to levy the amount of \$2,156.50 for current years expenses.

The secretary-treasurer was authorized to purchase from A. J. Schwingamer, two pillows, four pillow cases,

and one stove damper for the use of the teacher, to be paid by the district.

A motion authorizing the building of a stable was rescinded and the money was allotted to pay the account of the Western School Supply Co. of Regina.

1920: Coal cost \$12.00 per ton and the draying charge was \$2.75 per ton, hauled from Dana or Bruno.

Four screens (for the lower part of the windows only) were ordered from Bruno Lumber and Implement Co.

1921: Teacher's salary was \$1,400.00.

1922: Teacher's salary was \$1,100.00.

An addition 10 by 12 ft. was authorized for the teacherage as well as the purchase of a dresser for the new room. The contract was given to F. Gantefoer of Bruno at a total cost of \$95.00, including paint. Painting to be done as follows, "Addition to teacher's residence -- two coats, all other buildings, inside and out, one coat of paint and the school inside one coat calsumine".

1923: Teacher's salary \$1,000.00.

School to open for 1923 on March 1.

1925: Teacher's salary \$100.00 per month plus \$75.00 for janitor work for the year.

1926: Tenders from W. Ludwig and L. L. Hergott were accepted for the building of a barn 14 by 24 ft.

Draying costs for coal were \$3.00 per ton from Dana or \$2.75 from Bruno.

Special meeting of the trustees was called to exempt one child from school for 80 days because of parent's illness and one for help during harvest.

1927: Secretary-treasurer's salary \$50.00 per year plus \$5.00 for postage. The attendance officer received \$30.00 per year.

Wood cost \$5.50 per triple wagon box.

New spring and mattress was purchased for the teacherage.

Vacation for 1927 was set for July 16 to July 27 and September 17 to September 28.

Miss Irene LaBrash was again engaged as teacher for \$1,050.00 per annum.

1929: Motion was made for the district to join the Christian School Trustee Association.

Families of children travelling to school with horses were requested to keep their stall in order in which horse remains during the day.

1930: Teacher was offered \$1,100.00 per annum for the following two terms.

L. L. Hergott and K. Brockman were employed to paint the inside of the school.

1931: Motion was made to cut teacher's salary by \$250.00.

Tenders for hauling coal dropped to \$1.50 per ton from Bruno or Dana and \$1.00 per ton from Totzke for the winter of 1931-32. Wood by the cord was supplied at \$3.25 - six cords were ordered.

The R.M. of Bayne was asked to levy \$1,260.00.



St. Quentin School No. 3885

Secretary-treasurer's salary dropped to \$40.00 plus \$5.00 postage.

Expenses were authorized to send a delegate to the Christian School Trustee association meeting in Regina.

Decision was made to dig a well to supply water for drinking.

1932: Attendance officer's salary was reduced to \$25.00 per annum.

A cut of \$200.00 per year in teacher's salary was agreed upon by nearly all ratepayers at the annual meeting of 1932.

The R.M. of Bayne was asked to levy \$600.00.

Secretary-treasurer's salary was lowered to \$40.00 and the janitor to \$25.00 per year.



Adelaide Hergott, Maxine Lummerding, Norbert Lummerding, Virginia Hergott, Virgil Hergott (standing), Edmond Hergott and Delmar Lummerding.

In May of 1932, a teacher was engaged at a yearly salary of \$600.00.

1933: Teacher's salary was lowered to \$500.00 and the attendance officer down to \$20.00.

Holidays were set from March 27 to April 3 and July 20 to September 1.

1934: Expenses were discussed and it was agreed to ask the R.M. of Bayne to levy \$638.65.

Ten cords of wood (stove length) were purchased for \$2.90/cord.

Catholic School Trustee Association fee was \$4.00 plus expenses for convention were \$25.00.

Thirty children were enrolled at St. Quentin.

1935: New well dug in 1935 by A. H. Lummerding at a cost of 50 cents for the first 30 feet and 20 cents raise for each additional foot.

1936: Annual meeting was held and it was agreed to raise the teacher's salary by \$50.00 to \$550.00.

School was to open on February 3.

Expenses of attending the Trustee Convention were \$12.00.

1937: Teacher's salary was \$600.00.

Twenty-seven children enrolled at St. Quentin.

The R.M. of Bayne was asked to levy \$766.25.

1939: A box of apples was raffled to buy chalk for the school.

1943: The R.M. levy was \$1,400.00.

Enrolment was 37 pupils.

Teacher's salary was \$1,100.00 and free use of the teacherage for the year.

1944: Salary was dropped to \$1,200.00 per year including teacherage.

1946: R.M. of Bayne requested to levy \$1,185.00.

Addition to school was discussed and deferred because of lack of funds.

1947: Teacher's salary \$1,300.00 plus \$5.00 per pupil over 25.

R.M. was asked to levy \$1,685.00.

Enrolment of 36 pupils.



Maxine Lummerding, Beatrice Borisko, Norbert Lummerding, Eugene Bendig, Edward Hergott, Adelaide Hergott, Edgar Gasper, Belinda Renneberg, Olga Borisko, Christina Tegenkamp.

An addition to the school was built by Gus Knauer.

1948: R.M. levy was \$2,000.00.

Enrolment of 27 pupils.

Remodelling of the teacherage was postponed because of poor crops and the fact that by all appearances, the next teacher may not be using it.

1951: A discussion about building a new school ended in a negative decision as enrolment was on a downward trend.

The R.M. of Bayne was requested to levy \$1,900.00.

Teacher's salary \$1,800.00.

1952: St. Quentin School District No. 3885 was amalgamated into the Wakaw School Unit and the role of the local school board of trustees was considerably lessened.

The following is a list of the teachers at St. Quentin. The list may be incomplete, but is as complete as possible: Hubert J. Hallet (1918-19), B. H. Robertson (1919-21), Mrs. McInnis (1921-22), Mrs. Leslie (1922-23), Miss Fanning (1923-24), Miss Irene LaBrash (1925-30), Miss Bertha Reckenmacher (1930-32), Miss Mary Brockman (1932-45), Mrs. Reid (1945-46), Miss Victoria Zakreski (1946-48), Mrs. Peter Pitchko (1948-52), Mr. Steve Thoms (1952-53), Miss Leona Kleiter (1953-54), Mrs. Anne Hergott (1954-56), and Mrs. Mary Schwark and Mrs. Jessie Hollicky (1957).

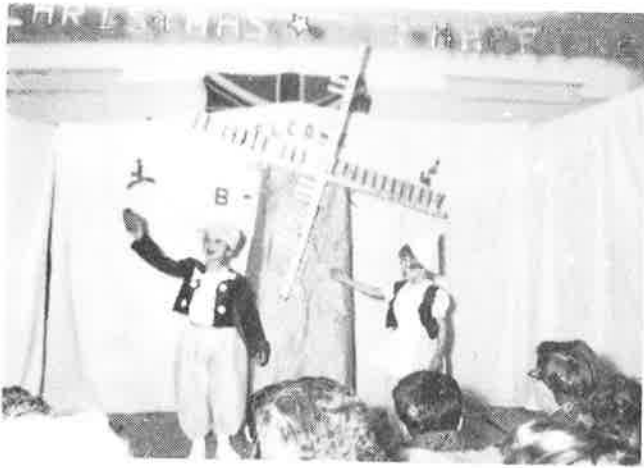
The trustees and their terms of St. Quentin School District No. 3885 were: Mike Kirzinger (33 years), Anton Gasper (six years), S. B. Whitney (two years), E. J. Hergott (24 years), Tony Gasper (two years), Karl Brockmann (12 years), Theo Bendig (four years), Andrew Tegenkamp (13 years), Joe Kirzinger (three years), Chas Luke (one year), H. Johnson (three years), T. Lummerding (ten years) and Val Bendig (one year).

The family names of the children attending St. Quentin School District No. 3885 were: Fred Zeigler, Herbert Tucker, H. Johnson, Dan Sutherland, John Borisko, Tony Gasper, Ed Hergott, Mike Kirzinger, William Mallen,



Christmas concert





Adelaide and Myra Hergott

Andrew Tegenkamp, Nap Dufort, N. Duschenko, Chikoski, Wenzel, Whitney, Richards, Woloshin, Helmink, Frank Tegenkamp, Theo Bendig, Stephen Kehrig, Theo Lummerding, Theo Renneberg, Val Bendig, Kelsey, Cianflove, Elasz, Anton Felix, Albert Felix, Shultz, Hearst, Millarship, Brockmann, Sobush, Zakreski and LaBrash.

The district struggled from a beginning during the horse and buggy days of the late teens, through the difficult dirty thirties, when teacher's salaries dropped to \$500.00 per year and sometimes that was hard to raise. Teaching anywhere from 20 to 37 children in ten grades was a real challenge to these prairie pioneers.

The school was closed in the winter of 1957 and the children were sent by bus to Bruno. The era of the one-room country school was over.

## MY YEARS AT ST. QUENTIN SCHOOL

by Edna Goodrich (Johnson)

St. Quentin was built about 1918. I'm not quite sure of the exact date. My brothers Fred and Art went there as soon as it was opened. The first teacher was a Mr. Genereaux. He boarded at our place for a few months but our house was small and inconvenient so he only stayed with us that first year. He went on with his studies after teaching and became an eye specialist in Saskatoon.

The next teacher at that school was Mr. Bert Robertson. That is when I started and my first recollection of him was when I was out in the playground running to catch a ball when a big long arm reached out and caught the ball and threw it back to the others. I was in awe of him, he was very tall and athletic. We liked him and he was a good teacher. I took grades 1 and 2 that first year so I was kept out of mischief. I walked to school in the summer and skied in the winter. If it was storming, my

dad used to hitch up the oxen to the sleigh and fetch me home. The years went by quickly and we had several teachers. The two I remember the best were Mrs. Leslie who taught us for several years. She was very good to us and was more like a mother to us than a teacher. Then a young teacher came, she was only 18. Ours was her second school, so she started teaching at a very young age. Irene LaBrash was very much loved by us all and she always managed to get the best out of us. She would play baseball with us. For some reason, I always was the pitcher and Valentine Bendig was the catcher for our side. He never missed any of my wild pitches. He was in the same grade as was Margaret Duford (Elliot). Valentine was always very daring so he was considered a hero. He was a climber and would climb up the corner of the coal shed like a monkey. One day he made two loops of strong wire and hooked his bare feet in them and climbed all the way up the telephone pole. Coming down wasn't so simple and just then the bell rang and we were ordered into school and poor Valentine was left perched up at the top of the pole like a cat. Irene left him up there for a while until he began to worry, then the bigger boys were sent out with the garden rake to pull his wire loops down. He never tried that again. We had several children at school who walked four miles each way to and from the Clayworks. They were small children so they only came on good days. We used to set our clocks by the clayworks whistle. It was heard for many miles at six and seven in the morning and at twelve and one o'clock noon hour and six in the evening.

My brother Art wrote his grade 8 in 1924 I in 1926. I am not sure what year the school closed, but it still stands here to this day. A stark reminder of the years I spent at little old St. Quentin School.

## SUNLIGHT SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 376

by John Polanik

Sunlight School No. 376 was organized in 1911 with John Hondl, Gregor Roles, and Peter Krentz as trustees. A two acre site was purchased from the Hudson's Bay Company for the sum of \$36.00 plus a \$5.00 registration fee. The school was completed in 1912 on the southeast corner of the S.W. 26-37-25 W2. Also with the school was a teacherage and a barn built. An addition, in 1924, was built to the school because it was too small to accommodate all the pupils in the area. The contract was awarded to Peter Hoffman for \$1,650.00 to enlarge the school. An addition was also built to the barn because there was not enough room for sheltering the horses. The barn was built 16 feet wide and 72 feet long. The last part of the



**Sunlight School, 1928. Back, L to R: Olga Eckstein, Katie Polanik, Elsie Forreiter, Hilda Ring, Mary Ritzand, Emma Ritzand, Francis Mikituk, Annie Hepp, Mary Balon, Rosie Mikituk, Annie Polanik, Celestine Hoffman, Mary Polanik, Eva Huber, Mary Ring, Mr. Harold Fulerton (teacher), Katie Huber, Annie Thoms, Mary Borisko, Freda Hantke, Susie Borisko, Martha Hantke, Mary Hepp, Carolina Mikituk, Annie Salewich, Amy Ring, Annie Borisko, Mary Thoms, Beatrice Roles, Julia Hepp. Front: Adam Yaroszko, Mike Salewich, Steve Huber, Mike Bennie Ritzand, Steve Balon, Clemmence Roles, Mike Hnatiw, Steve Polanik, Eugene Roles, Peter Balon, Steve Shule, Frank Happ, Bill Shule, Steve Yaroszko, Adolph Ring, Nick Hoffmann, Joe Hnatiw, John Siermachski, Fred Yaroszko, Earnest Hantke, Frank Bidulka, Peter Bidulka.**



**Sunlight School, 1940. Back, L to R: Nick Ritzand, Adolph Eckstein, Steve Thoms, Steve Harasymchuk, Virgil Hoffman, George Hepp, Anton Eckstein, John Polanik, Edwin Forreiter, Raymond Roles, Anton Hepp, John Hnatiw, Herbert Forreister, Daniel Eckstein. Front: Annie Synchyshn, Hilda Eckstein, Louise Forreiter, Olga Polanik, Annette Marshak, Sylvia Hepp, Johanna Thoms, Sally Thoms, Emily Bidulka, Olga Thoms, Rita Hepp, Ida Eckstein, Patricia Thoms, Lavina Krentz, Rosella Hepp, Martha Eckstein.**



barn was used for storing wood and coal. There were maple and caragana groves surrounding the school grounds.

Sunlight School was a community center for the local people. There were Christmas concerts held before Christmas, annual meetings, political meetings, dances and during elections it was used as an election poll.

During the late 1930's, a Junior United Farmers of Canada was organized by the young people in the area. They had drama productions and socials to raise money for sports equipment. They had sports days in the summer on the school grounds with local teams participating such as Sunlight, Mount Carmel, Carmel, Bruno, Humboldt, and Peterson. In the '40's an outdoor skating rink was built from slabs. The rink was flooded by local people and used for ice skating and hockey.

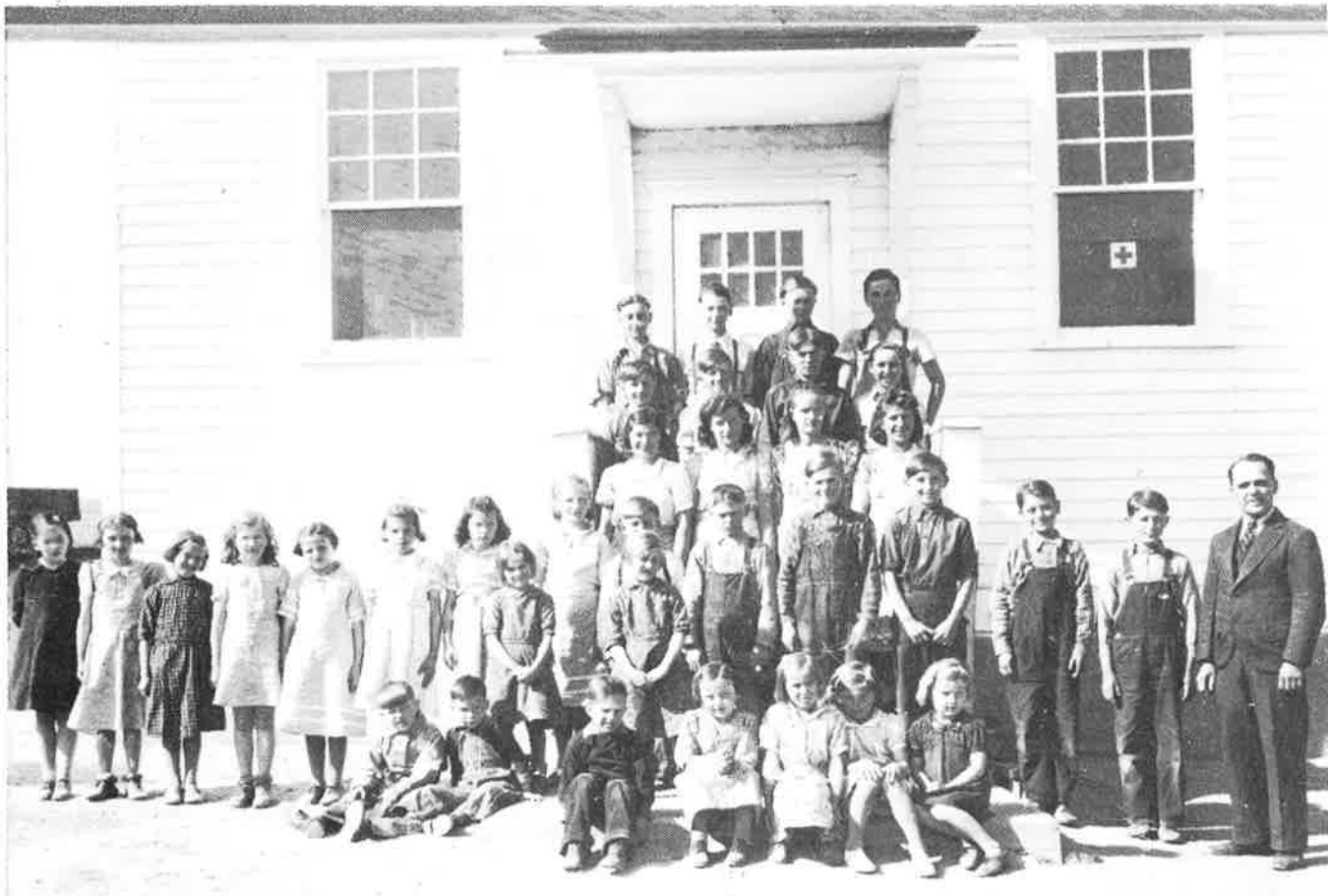
Many times before a dance was held the pupils would have to stack the desks three high so there would be room to dance. Sunlight School had one of the best dance floors in the community.

The teacher's salary in 1937 was \$600.00 per year. The teachers were required to do janitor work for the use of the teacherage. Pupils were paid ten cents a day to sweep the school floor and the adults were paid 80 cents a ton to haul coal from town.

When the Wakaw School Unit was organized and the rural schools were centralized, the children were then bussed to Bruno. The Sunlight school was closed in 1961. The house was purchased and moved to Bruno. The school building was purchased by Nick Marshak and moved to his farm and the barn was purchased by John Polanik and moved onto his farm. The school site was



**Ball players at Sunlight School, 1938-40**



**Sunlight School, 1940**

purchased by John Thoms, the trees bulldozed and the land was broken for farming.

Teachers and trustees (as they were elected) of Sunlight School:

Year	Teacher	Trustee
1912	W. G. Grommus	John Hondl Gregor Roles Peter G. Krentz
1913	Joseph Gagnan	N. A. Hoffman
1914	Thos. B. Patterson	Steve Roll
1915	William J. McLaughlin	
1916	Mrs. Mary Lizzie McNeil	
1917	Miss C. Beanpre	
1918	Mrs. Mary L. McNeil	
1919	Miss Josephine McDonald	
1920	James D. Gillis	Philip Binder
1921	Miss Bertha Dora Armstrong	George Krentz
1923		John Forreiter
1926	Thomas Edward Scott	Martin Heise
1926	Harold W. Fullerton	Anton Hepp
1927	George Francis Whibbs	Jacob Huber
1929		Joe Hnatiw
1933	Isadore C. Deptuch	Daniel Polanik
1938	Nicholas Derbowka	John Thoms
1940	Lois J. Graig	
1942	Martin Raynolds	
1943	Mrs. Elizabeth Julia Poelzer	Mike Bidulka Harry Polanik
1943	Fred Saranchur	
1944		
1947	Charles Holinaty	Fred Thoms
1948		
1950		Mike Hnatiw
1955	William Komarnick	Mike Salewich
1959	Steve Thoms	Joe Sawicki
1961		

Roman Stadnyk

Students listed in the 1921 Sunlight School register include: John Huber, Mary Huber, Caroline Bender, Lizzie Bender, Louis Bender, Frank Roles, Jacob Holler, Fritz Holler, Mary Mikiku, Lizzie Mikiku, Mary Bidulka, Mike Bidulka, Mike Borisco, Nick Yaroszcko, Ben Mikiku, Jacob Huber, Annie Bidulka, Johnnie Bender, Willie Holler, Francis Hoffmann, Martin Hantke, Gradle Hantke, Katie Borisco, Katie Huber, Peter Ritzand, John Ritzand, Mike Yaroszko, and Alex Yaroszko.

A big event at our school would be the arrival of the school inspector. They would come twice yearly. Our first inspector was a kind elderly gentleman, Mr. O'Brien, who travelled with one horse and buggy. As we could see about half a mile down the road in either direction, we could usually see him coming. The teacher would make us tidy up the cloakrooms and everything would be nice and neat. Two of the boys would help the inspector put his horse in the barn. When I started school, the teacher, Mr. T. Scott had 64 pupils and ten grades.

When I finished school, Mr. Chris Deptuck had 56 pupils and 11 grades. Grade 1 through 8 would be taught from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and then the students in grade 9, 10 and 11 who took classes by correspondence from

Regina would have our lessons corrected and any problems we had would be explained to us. Sometimes this would take until 5:30 or 6:00 p.m. We sure had dedicated teachers in those days. They sure tried to give us a good education at great hardship and inconvenience to their lives. I believe the highest salary Mr. Deptuck received was \$750.00 per annum.

To pass our grade 9, 10 and 11 we wrote our June exams at the convent in Bruno. The exams were then sent to Regina.

## DERBOWKA, NICK

### Sunlight School, 1938 - June, 1940

With drought and depression still upon us, it was with great pleasure that I found myself teaching at Sunlight. And while, at first, we experienced concerns over the prevalence of much infection of tuberculosis, as there had been two previous deaths and the illness of the



Sunlight School, 1959. Back, L to R: Gerald Picouye, Mervin Marshak, Nick Polanik, Mr. Steve Thoms (teacher). Third Row: Genevieve Chomoway, Diana Hnatiw, Leon Chomoway. Second Row: Elsie Sawicki, Bernadette Leuchs, Roman Sawicki. Front Row: Marion Chomoway, Gloria Hnatiw, Marge Chomoway, Ted Polanik.



*The Hudson's Bay Company*  
*Commissioner's Office*

*Winnipeg*  
May 22nd, 1911.

Gregor J. Roles, Esq.,  
Baton, Saskatchewan.

Dear Sir:-

- 20 Acres S.W. 30-32-20, West 2nd -  
- 2 Acres for School Site -

I am in receipt of your letter of the 17th inst.  
The enclosed is a map used to establish two acres  
for a School Site on the South East corner of the above  
Quarter Section, at the price of \$15.00 per acre, plus \$5.  
I enclose deed and description.

If this is agreeable to the Trustees, be good  
enough to forward me exact description of the land, as  
well as the name of the Deed.

Yours faithfully,

*[Signature]*  
Commissioner.

SUNLIGHT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 376

Dec 20 1911

*Hudson's Bay Company*  
*Winnipeg*  
*I am in receipt of your letter*  
*and have sent it before the board*  
*and have agreed to buy the same*  
*to be so finally will send you the*  
*papers to sign and will send*  
*money at once.*

*Description of land is as follows*  
*20 Acres S.W. 30-32-20 West 2nd of S. 11. of 30-32*  
*- School site*



*Yours truly*  
*John Handell Secy.*

former teacher, Mr. Chris Deptuck and a student, we nevertheless found life rewarding in that lively vibrant community.

There was vitality in both work and play. The large white building on the No. 5 highway accommodated at one time some 70 students and for some years grades 1 through 11. Remarkable achievement vouched for by the number of honour students recorded. One, Clemence Roles, went on to university and through pluck, initiative and marked resourcefulness, established the Smith-Roles business in Saskatoon. No doubt others have gone on ahead in the field of education. It is with a sense of pride that in those days, when so few went on, even into high school, that four of my grade 1 beginners all went on to professional pursuits. One, our son, Glenn, is now a director of research with Petro-Can.

Socially, lively dances and functions sponsored by the newly organized Junior United Farmers did much to enliven the many families then on "relief" or welfare as we call it now. Amateur variety nights consisting of cowboy songs with guitar music and plays were staged at our school and in the hall at Peterson. Picnic excursions and one to see the late King George VI while he was visiting Saskatoon, were other activities by the young people to remember.

We secured the special two week Agricultural Course administered by the Extension Department of the University and held them in Bruno and attended mostly by younger farm folks from all around the area. Instructions in home crafts, housekeeping, gardening, field and animal husbandry and farm machinery maintenance were dealt with and enjoyed. Especially the final "dance and eat".

School affairs were ably handled by the trustees, John Forreiter, George Krentz and John Thoms.

We look back with fond memories of enjoyment there, especially when a good crop finally came in 1939 and drought and depression were on the wane. But, sad for the world, World War II began. However, come what may, the atmosphere of pride and dedication to "Sunlight" like the sun's rays, will endure into the future.

**THIEL KRENTZ SCHOOL No. 3612**

**submitted by Loretta Leuschen**  
**last secretary of Thiel Krentz (1972)**

The first records of Thiel Krentz School indicate that on Jan. 5, 1932 the chairman was Joe Weiman, secretary Conrad Ronnellenfitch, and George Weiman were members of the school board. Ted Tierney was hired as the teacher for \$1,000.00 for 200 school days with two weeks in winter and six weeks holidays during the summer. In



**Thiel Krentz School**

1933 his pay went down to \$900.00. Jack Davie was the auditor. A request for permission to have grade 11 taught was granted in 1934.

Times were getting harder. Tax arrears weren't paying the teacher's wages and a school tax of eight mills was explained during the 1934 annual meeting. Still a motion was made to buy one baseball for the enjoyment of the kids and cement pads were built for the new swings. The ratepayers also expected to pay the teacher's wages in full. A store bill tells us that one gross of pennibs was 55 cents and a quart of Waterman's Ink was \$1.25. These were purchased from Hargarten's Drug Store.

The secretary's records indicate that Ray Hauer's bid of \$1.70 per cord for 15 cords of stove wood to be *piled* on the school grounds was accepted.

But ouch! Dr. Longeault came to Thiel Krentz School to vaccinate all the children. That should bring some fond memories to those who received this vaccination. On a happier note, John Hafner was appointed the floor manager at the school dance held on October 3 and all the school kids got a ride in George Schreofper's truck box to Saskatoon to see His Majesty King George and Queen Elizabeth on June 3, 1939.

Times were getting better again in 1940 and the children received Christmas treats, but teacher, Ted Tierney received a contract offering \$850.00 and he had to do janitorial work at the school as well. That meant sweeping, cleaning boards and making fires on cold mornings. School often started at 9:30 a.m. and ended at 4:00 p.m. during the winter. A lot of ratepayers still were in arrears with their taxes, so they were given a chance to bring two loads of stove wood ready for use. They received a credit of \$2.50 per load on their arrears.

In 1940 the teacherage received a new mattress which cost \$12.00 and signs of progress were showing as four dozen rolls of toilet paper were also purchased! In 1940, Mr. Ted Tierney asked to be released from his contract



**Grades 1 to 9, October, 1940**

and an ad was placed in the Winnipeg Free Press for a new teacher at a salary of \$750.00 per year including janitorial work.

In September of 1940, Miss Esther Roberts and her friend, Victoria, arrived at Thiel Krentz. The next highlight of the minutes show Mrs. Esther (Roberts) Weiman was re-hired for \$900.00 plus janitorial work in 1943. In 1944, the Christmas concert was special because a stage was put up with planks. Wages were raised to \$1,200.00 and were higher ever since. Trees were ordered in March of 1945 to finally plant the firebreak which, until then, had to be kept black. Mrs. Martinka taught for a brief while as Mrs. Weiman was ill.

The minutes of 1948 mention that vacation time was held during harvesting for practical reasons. The remainder of the minutes are taken up with the running and caretaking of the buildings, barns and outdoor toilets. The cost of a new water cooler was \$9.18. New heater pipes and floor oil were needed and the cost of a new flag and glass pane repairs was \$5.31. A new school globe cost \$11.00.

In 1952 we had the misfortune to lose our teacher before he started teaching. He drowned in Wakaw Lake,



**Esther (Roberts) Weiman, teacher - fall of 1940**

two days before the school year began. As a result, we hired Mrs. Francis Hutmacher to teach temporarily at \$10.00 per day or \$2,000.00 per annum. The newest investments were a new kitchen range for the teacher-age and plasticine for the little kids.

A dance was held to raise money for the school and a list of required items was given to the board. The teacher asked for an additional \$50.00 as the enrolment was being enlarged.

In January of 1959, general repairs were made which included new window shades and some work done on the desks. The trustees also discussed installing indoor toilets.

During the last annual meeting the ratepayers decided that we make the move to Bruno. After this decision, the school district was kept open for ten more years with homes being used. We always had a board in attendance and had requested that the Unit appoint a delegate on the Central School Board in Bruno. Allan Krentz was elected in 1972 as the delegate to the Central School Board.

The children from Thiel Krentz area were bussed to Bruno School. Our first driver was Bill Gibb and the next drivers were Joe Lingel, Martin and Loretta Leuschen, Wilfred Leuschen, Art Herman and Carole Weiman.

#### by Esther Weiman (nee Roberts)

In September of 1940, I, Esther Roberts, was hired to teach in the Thiel Krentz School District, ten miles north of Bruno. Those on the school board were August Thiel, Conrad Ronellenfitch and Constantine Herman.

Enrolment was 46 as an average, but 52 was the total enrolled during the year. Grades were 1 to 9 during the first years, and then 1 to 10 later on. High school students used the Department of Education correspondence courses and the teacher was responsible for correcting these lessons and any exams given. Those with

correspondence courses often needed a great deal of help with some of their subjects. There was little time during the regular school hours, so as many teachers, I taught them before school, on Saturday afternoons, or whenever it was possible. Latin and Literature required the most attention the first year.

These children were used to working hard at home and so they did at school. Only their dedication was responsible for their success. They didn't have the library material needed or any aids as are available in the schools today. We had text books, a blackboard and chalk plus a great deal of determination.

These were difficult years for everyone and the people of the district did all they could for their children and teacher. The warmth of kind neighbours made up for the lack of luxuries. It was not uncommon to have a pupil bring a freshly baked pie, a few buns or a pound of butter when he came to school. They realized it wasn't always easy to keep a large supply of groceries in a small teacherage. There was always someone to offer a ride to town or a community gathering.

School dances, house parties and family get-togethers were the order of the time. No one need to be left out unless they so desired. There wasn't much money to spend, but there was that precious neighbourliness that is not bought or sold.

In 1941, the school board members were Mr. August Thiel, Joe Weiman and Constantine Herman. The superintendent was Mr. P. B. Murphy. We were in the Humboldt Superintendency. There, our teacher's conventions were held each fall.



Frank Krentz using his truck to take the children from Thiel Krentz to Pleasant Grove to play ball.



Class picture, May 4, 1954. Some of the students in the picture are: Cecil Felix, Gerald Kish, Duane Reves, Melvin Hafner, Myrna Weiman, Melvin Strasser, Annette Schultzke, Harold Krentz, Larry Herman, Duane Lingel, Ken Hatzel, Christina Reves, Gerald Herman, Vivian Felix, Gladys Kish, Annabel Herman, Norbert Felix, Ronald Reves, Geraldine Krentz, Elaine Weiman, Diane Krentz, Linda Leuschen, Diane Lingel, Esther Krentz, Adrian Leuschen, Gerald Hatzel.

Sylvester Weiman and I were married in the fall of 1941. I taught for the next two years at Thiel Krentz. We lived in the teacherage and Sylvester farmed in the district.

Teachers were responsible for building the school fires and sweeping the school each day as payment for the rest of the two-room teacherage. A family in the district scrubbed the school and cleaned the windows at times they arranged with the school board.

I taught in the fall term of 1944, at which time my salary was \$1,200.00. We lived on the farm about one-half mile from the school. These years could have been the best if only the Second World War had not been a reality that touched us all.



Homemade toboggan slide -- architect Ted Tierney, carpenter Mr. Melnyk.

## TEACHERS

compiled by Peter Bourauel

Arthur C. Harte	May 30, 1916 - August, 1916
J. J. O'Reilly	September 11, 1916 - December 28, 1916
James C. Quinn (\$840.00/annum)	April 16, 1917 - July 31, 1917
Ludwig Just	August 1, 1917 - November 30, 1917
Edward O'Reilly	May 8, 1918 - July 29, 1918
Harry Fleming	August, 1918
Joe G. Schaeffer	September 2, 1918 - October 24, 1918
Loretta Kramer (\$100.00/month)	April 1, 1919 - June 30, 1919
Howard J. Staley	July 2, 1919 - August 29, 1919
Addie Gillis	September, 1919 - December 22, 1919
Edward M. Crough (\$135.00/month)	May 10, 1920 - October, 1920
J. A. MacDonald (\$150.00/month) (8 pupils)	May 2, 1921 - August 31, 1921
J. M. Charlebois	September 26, 1921 - November 25, 1921
Syl J. Kramer (\$125.00/month)	March 13, 1922 - December 22, 1922
J. J. Glisson	May 1, 1923 - June 29, 1923
E. E. McGroud (\$1,200.00/annum)	July 3, 1923 - November 30, 1923
Clarence O'Connor	January, 1924
Theodore Tierney	February 1, 1924 - December 18, 1925
F. B. Goodwin (\$1,250.00/annum)	March 2, 1926 - April 30, 1926
Theodore Tierney	May 3, 1926 - July 26, 1940
Esther Roberts (\$850.00/annum)	September 16, 1940 - June 28, 1943
Sophie D. Belous (\$1,050.00/annum)	August 23, 1943 - June 30, 1944
Esther Weiman (\$1,200.00/annum)	July 4, 1944 - December 14, 1944
Mrs. A. E. Martinka (\$1,400.00/annum)	January 29, 1945 - June 29, 1945
H. J. Murphy	June 11, 1945 - August 17, 1945
Mrs. A. E. Martinka	September 25, 1945 - June 28, 1946
John A. Buchinski (\$500.00/annum)	July 30, 1946 - June 30, 1948
Fred Iwasuik (\$1,500.00/annum)	August 30, 1948 - June 30, 1949
William Iwasuik (\$1,500.00/annum)	August 22, 1949 - May 30, 1952
Mrs. Frances Hutmacher (\$2,000.00/annum)	August 25, 1952 - September 30, 1952
P. P. Prochera (\$2,000.00/annum)	October 1, 1952 - June 30, 1953
Mrs. Frances Hutmacher	August 24, 1953 - September 22, 1953
Mrs. Jessie Hollicky	October 8, 1953 - June 30, 1954
William Iwasuik (\$2,600.00/annum)	August 16, 1954 - June 28, 1957
Mrs. Helen D. Markowski (\$3,525.00/annum)	August 19, 1957 - June 30, 1958
Marina M. Weiman (\$2,600.00/annum)	August 18, 1958 - December 22, 1959
J. C. Kurtenbach	January 9, 1960 - June 30, 1960

The following is a listing of the trustees of the Thiel Krentz School District No. 3612. They are listed in the following order -- chairman, secretary-treasurer and trustee:

- 1916: Joe Thiel, P. G. Krentz and John Backman
  - 1917: Joe Thiel, Anton Gasper and Peter Hafner
  - 1918: Peter Loehndorf, P. G. Krentz and Peter Hafner
  - 1920: Mr. Wunderlich, P. G. Krentz and John Backman
  - 1922: Peter Krentz, Joe Wunderlich and Mr. Schulzski
  - 1923: Peter G. Krentz, Joe Wunderlich and Joe Thiel
  - 1924: John Hamm, Joe Wunderlich and Peter Hafner
  - 1926: P. G. Krentz, Joe Weiman and Peter Hafner
  - 1926: P. G. Krentz, Conrad Ronellenfitch and Joe Weiman
  - 1928: Joe Weiman, P. G. Krentz and Peter Hafner
  - 1933: Joe Weiman, P. G. Krentz and Conrad Ronellenfitch
  - 1934: Joe Weiman, John Davil and John Kristian
  - 1936: Joe Weiman, John Davil and Constantine Hermann
  - 1937: Constantine Hermann, Conard Ronellenfitch and August Thiel
  - 1941: Joe Weiman, Constantine Hermann and August Thiel
  - 1944: Joe Weiman, Constantine Hermann and Peter Krentz
  - 1946: John Backman, Mrs. Joe Hafner and William Felix
  - 1946: John Backman, Mrs. Joe Hafner and August Schultzke
  - 1949: August Schultzke, Mrs. Joe Hafner and John Kish
  - 1953: August Schultzke, John Kish and John Hafner
  - 1955: August Schultzke, John Kish and Fred Hatzel
  - 1958: August Schultzke, John Kish and Martin Leuschen
  - 1959: Martin Leuschen, John Kish and Fred Hatzel
- The following list of students was taken from the May, 1916 registers of Thiel Krentz School: Felix Pitchko, Lavi-

na Krentz, Mary Krentz, Joe Pitchko, Peter Krentz, Joe Hafner, John Backmann, Elizabeth Stoller, John Hafner, Peter Hafner, George Stoller, Agnes Backmann, Annie Backmann, Felgha Pitchko, Margureit Stoller, Margaret Hafner, Helen Bodre and Frank Krentz.

## TIERNEY, TED

### Thiel Krentz School

Fresh out of Normal School, Saskatoon, 20 years young, the secretary-treasurer of Thiel Krentz School District No. 1145 met me at the Bruno railway depot with a team of horses and a democrat.

Before Mr. Jos. Wunderlich drove me out, I purchased what groceries I thought necessary for a week and headed some ten miles north into parkland. After filling a milk can from Mr. Pete Krentz's excellent well, I was let off at the two room school residence nearby. I can still remember the smell of bacon and burning poplar wood as I cooked my supper. Wood was the only source of fuel, which was cut from local areas of bush.

No light of neighbouring farmers could be seen, for they were obscured by groves of native bush. A queer humming or booming could be heard. I later discovered it was caused by a bush partridge with its wings. Many of these birds I subsequently shot for they had delicious white meat. The noise was rather spooky though.

After a couple of weeks, I wrote to my dad at Marengo, Sask. and stated that I didn't think I would stay in such a lonely place. He advised me to try and stick to it! I did for 16 years!

The attendance was small, seven to nine pupils, whose names and faces I still remember after 59 years. I still correspond with a former pupil, now in Toronto, and visit with Frank Krentz of Bruno, one of my first pupils.

Because of the small class, I had considerable spare time so I acquired a saxophone and lessons by mail from the United States School of Music. I soon learned to play popular music, formed a small dance band, three or four players, and furnished dance music in the surrounding towns. For transportation, I acquired a horse for \$35.00 and a used saddle for about \$5.00 and during the winter used a cutter. Occasionally on Friday, I rode to visit Charlie Trainor at Pleasant Grove School. While playing for dances during the 1930's, my diary shows that after driving some 20 or 25 miles, we received total remuneration of \$12.00 or \$3.00 apiece. A similar sized band from the city today costs in the neighbourhood of \$600.00 to \$800.00 for a one night stand.

One day while riding through a stooked field I had an accident. Heading straight for a stook, I attempted to steer Prince to one side, but he thought he should pass on the opposite side. Result -- he ran into a stook head



Play time at Thiel Krentz

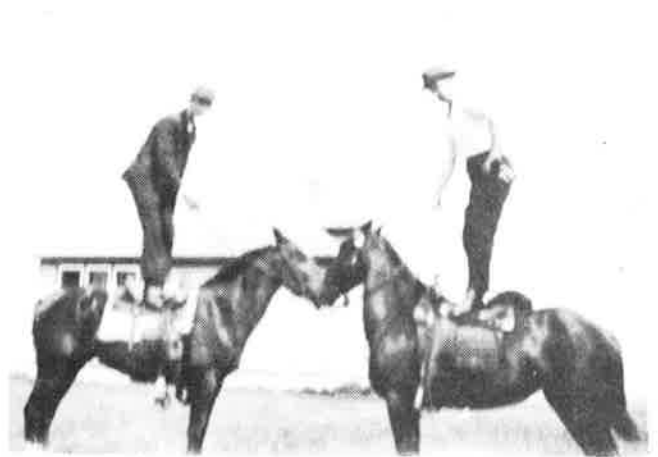




Ted Tierney at Normal School, 1924'

first, making a somersault and flinging me unceremoniously to the ground. Neither one was hurt, so I remounted and we continued on our way to Bruno. A good shot for a T.V. camera, but at that time radio was just beginning to come into the homes.

On a salary of \$100.00 per month, I was able to buy a Model T Ford in 1927 for \$750.00 and in 1929 traded the same for a Model A Ford which was much more superior, with a battery and self starter, plus more power and a gear shift. A small diary shows that the cost of groceries for a month was \$15.00. At that time, I also received \$7.50 "relief" for groceries per month. Finally, when my wages were paid, the said amount was subtracted. It was really "relief" just an advance in wages. During the dirty thirties, the ratepayers could not pay their taxes, and the



Ted and Charles Trainor stunting!

R.M. had no money. At one time, the board was a full year in arrears with my salary, so I borrowed \$80.00 on my life insurance policy to go home at Christmas.

In those years, rural teachers were mostly men, many using teaching as a stepping stone to further their education. One man, Hallam eventually became president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture (C.F.A.), Robertson became a dentist and Holland a druggist, etc.

There were no fights in the schoolyard that I can recall. One boy bumped into another around the corner of the schoolhouse and dislocated his lower jaw. I took him to Bruno to a doctor to have it put into place.

Joe, a neighbour, came to me one morning with a severe bellyache, so I took him to Cudworth Hospital with my Model A over a rough gravel road. Just before reaching the hospital, his pain let up. I later learned that a bladder stone obstruction had jarred loose over the rough road and gave him the relief from the pain.

The pupils were good and the parents co-operative. I used the strap sparingly. If the child was punished in school, he stood a good chance of being punished again at home for being bad at school. Old country style, I think.



The neighbour's sheep come to visit!

One beginner named Latimer couldn't speak a word of English, resulting in a longer stay in grade 1. His father brought him to school in a buggy, and on leaving, Latimer jumped in back of the seat intending to go back home. His father noticed him, gave him a spanking, sending him back to the school. Latimer eventually went to Technical School, built himself a portable arc welder. He was one of the men engaged to weld in the building of the C.B.C. Radio Tower at Watrous, Sask.

In the fall of 1939, I decided to go farming with my uncle Hugh at Marengo, Sask. Because I hadn't given proper notice in May that I was quitting, I had to obtain a release from the School Board. I do not regret spending those important years of my life teaching in lieu of furthering my education in another profession. Besides teaching the three R's, I hope I left something else with them. God Bless!

## IWASIUK, WILLIAM

### Teacher at Thiel Krentz School

In the fall of 1949, I took charge of Thiel Krentz School. After teaching for three years at Thiel Krentz, I resigned my position because of illness. In the fall of 1952, after a full recovery I searched for another type of work but was unsuccessful, so I returned to teaching. Two years after leaving Thiel Krentz, I returned to teach for another three years.

In the summer of 1957, I accepted a position in a larger school in northwestern Saskatchewan. I taught in the larger schools in this area for the remainder of my teaching career.

After teaching for almost 35 years, I retired in June of 1981. Now I spend my summers at Greig Lake and the winters, for now, in Cudworth.

## PLEASANT GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 2058

by Peter Tarnowski

The Pleasant Grove school was situated about seven miles northeast of Bruno, in the southeast corner of N.E. 1-39-25 W2. It was built on one acre of prairie, surrounded on three sides with poplar bushes. That parcel of land was purchased from the C.N.R. who, at that time, were the owners of Section 1.

The first settlers came into the area, from about 1904. In April of 1908, the first school board was formed. The school, 30 by 22 ft., was built in that same year. Eight



Pleasant Grove School, 1947

hundred dollars was borrowed to build the school. The building of the school was done by the taxpayers in the district. Carpenter work, hauling of lumber and other needs amount to \$807.56 as recorded in the school's records.

The school district was situated in the Humboldt and Bayne municipalities; sections 30 and 31 in 38-24- and 5, 6, 7, 8, 17 and 18 sections in 39-24- in the R.M. of Humboldt and in the R.M. of Bayne, sections 25, 26, 27, 34, 35 and 36 in 38-25- and in 39-25-, sections 1, 2, 11, 12, 13 and 14.

By the year 1908, there were between 25 and 30 homesteads taken up in the area. The people who homesteaded in 1904-05 were H. Hryciw, Charles Diebert, Mike Linde, P. Kramer, Israel Rechaume, Otto Thiel, Z. Dagenais, August Thiel Sr., August Thiel Jr., and August Sims; in 1906 were Franz Melchkart, Joseph Irman, J. Stahl, John Holfels and William Gleich and in 1907, John and Peter Mersch. These were all in the Bayne Municipality. In the Humboldt Municipality, the early settlers were: John Tarnowski, 1904, P. Serblowski 1906, and Fred Borysko in 1908. The following settlers were recorded to have paid taxes in 1909 but there is no indication whether they settled here in 1909 or maybe sooner: H. Lohman, H. Mette, Albin Irman, M. Thomas,



Teacherage, 1922. Clarence O'Connor (teacher)

Isadore Egle and Ed Pieper. At that time, the trustees had to collect the school taxes and in 1909 the tax was \$13.60 per quarter of land.

In May of 1909, the school opened its doors to 15 pupils, ranging in age from five to 13 years. Their first teacher came from Guelph, Ont. He taught from the 1st of May to the end of November. His salary for that time was \$440.00.

The teachers that taught at Pleasant Grove during the time the school was open were: 1910 Patrick Quigley, 1911 J. Whitaker, 1912 M. Connor, 1913 Peter Schmidt, in June of 1913 the school was closed by Dr. Barry because of Scarlet Fever, 1914 Pearl Hanming, 1915 Linda McDonald, 1917 J. J. O'Reilly, 1918 H. J. Staley, 1919 Kate Forest, 1920 J. T. Madden, 1921 Marge Collins and S. J. Kramer, 1922 C. M. Davis and Clarence O'Connor, 1925 Charles F. Trainor, 1929 M. J. Pitzel, 1936 A. J. Selinger, 1938 F. K. Uzelman, 1943 Martin Reynolds, 1944 Catherine Sanders, 1945 Mrs. Beatrice Rousseau, 1946 Mrs. Annie Martinka, 1948 Miss Hazel Sobush, 1952 Lawrence Fisher, 1954 Mrs. Doreen Wiggins, 1957 Mrs. Jessie Hollicky, 1959 Miss Sadie Guedo and in 1960 Mrs. M. J. Thomas. She taught until the school was closed in 1963.

The first trustees for Pleasant Grove School were: William Gleich, Charles Diebert and Edward Pieper. The following were also trustees: Israel Rechaume, August Sims, Henry Mette, J. G. Bourauel, John Stahl, Z. Dagenais, Robert Thiel, B. A. Langhorst, M. Melchkart, George Diebert, Otto Scheidl, Robert Bourauel, C. Mette, Ben Nett, Peter Tarnowski, Joseph Just, Walter Thiel, Bruno Wollman, Leo Thiel, Frank Tarnowski and Art Serblowski. J. G. Bourauel served about 22 years on the school board. Another long time trustee was Peter Tarnowski who served from 1948-52 and was elected again in 1957 until the school was closed in 1963. After it was closed, Peter was a representative from Pleasant Grove to Bruno School until 1980.

For quite a few years, there were no built up roads to the school, but there was a well travelled trail coming from the northeast right through the school grounds and on into Bruno. The other was from the south and south-east, used mostly during the winter by people from the south to haul their supply of wood. From the northwest, the trail was used mostly to get to the school by the children.

There is quite a difference in the price of labour as compared to today's wages. The first well for school water was dug by hand at \$1.00 a foot; a cord of wood in 1932 delivered to the school cost 70 cents; a gallon of paint cost \$1.50 and to paint the school, the house, the barn, and the woodshed cost \$37.50. These prices were taken from the depression days. The teacher's salary for the year was \$600.00 and \$25.00 to do the janitorial work.

The school was heated by burning wood and so on a cold winter day, it kept someone very busy just filling the



**Pleasant Grove class, 1910**

stove. In the late 1940's, a coal stove was installed and in the last few years, there was an oil furnace. There were no lights, of any kind, until the mid 1950's when power was put in. An application for a telephone in the school or teacherage was submitted, but it was 1951 before it was installed. The first teacherage was built shortly after the school was built. In 1920, a better teacherage was built at a cost of \$1,100.00. The old teacherage became the woodshed.

Every year, as soon as possible, a fire guard was plowed around the school ground, as a precaution against bush fire. It did pay off once. On the way to



**Pleasant Grove class, 1946-47. Front, L to R: Dennis Thiel, Sharon Tarnowski, Leah Martinka, Jerome Nett, Stella Tarnowski, Henry Mette. Second Row: Clayton Thiel, Frances Bunnemeyer, Rita Schumacher, Elmer Just, Louise Bunnemeyer. Third Row: Russell Thiel, Mary Schumacher, Henry Bunnemeyer, Corrine Lingl, Veronica Tarnowski, Arleen Diebert, Gordon Lingl, Ray Tarnowski. Back Row: Pauline Tarnowski, Grace Martinka, Mary Martinka, Frank Tarnowski, Bernard Just, Walter Schumacher, Eddie Tarnowski.**

school, some boys started some grass on fire and it got away. That fire got into the bush and was heading toward the school. Seeing the fire coming, the teacher started a fire from the fire guard so that it burned away from the school. That fire did not hurt the school, but that day quite a few stacks of hay went up in smoke. The fire occurred in either 1918 or 1919.

The average attendance for the school ranged from 15 pupils the first years to 35 during the '20's and '30's. When the attendance dropped to eight, the school was closed. The remaining pupils went by bus to Bruno.

Because of short school terms, the first pupils to reach grade 8 were Walter Thiel and Osmund Thiel in 1927. In 1930, Peter Tarnowski wrote his exams and passed grade 8 as well. At that time, the pupils had to go to Bruno to write their exams.

Up until the 1940's, the local school board had to take care of their own school. Their duties included hiring of the teachers, insurance, fuel, repairs, etc. Then in the early 1950's, for many reasons, the School Units were formed.

Pleasant Grove was one of the last of the rural schools to be closed. Later, the school was sold and moved a couple of miles across the fields and is now being used as a machine shed. The teacherage was sold and moved into Bruno where it is still occupied. The only things that remain are the barn and the cement and stone footing that the school sat on.



Charlie Trainor and Mrs. Trainor, former teacher at Pleasant Grove School.

Pleasant Grove School  
District No. 2558, North West  
Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1908 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Pleasant Grove School  
District No. 2558, North West  
Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1911 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Coupon No. 2, Debenture No. 1  
The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1910 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Coupon No. 4, Debenture No. 1  
The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1913 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Coupon No. 5, Debenture No. 1  
The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1913 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Coupon No. 7, Debenture No. 1  
The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1915 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

### MEMO. OF DEBENTURES

—OF—  
Pleasant Grove SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2058,  
—SOLD TO—  
NAY & JAMES, REGINA, SASK.

Debenture No. 1 \$ 800.00 @ 8 p.c. per cent.  
Payable at Union Bank at Humboldt  
Dated: 25th day of Feb. 1908  
First payment 25th day of December 1909

Date	Principal	Interest	Amount
25 <sup>th</sup> December, 1909	\$ 80.00	\$ 70.65	\$ 150.65
2 1910	\$ 80.00	\$ 67.60	\$ 147.60
2 1911	\$ 80.00	\$ 64.50	\$ 144.50
2 1912	\$ 80.00	\$ 61.40	\$ 141.40
2 1913	\$ 80.00	\$ 58.30	\$ 138.30
2 1914	\$ 80.00	\$ 55.20	\$ 135.20
2 1915	\$ 80.00	\$ 52.10	\$ 132.10
2 1916	\$ 80.00	\$ 49.00	\$ 129.00
2 1917	\$ 80.00	\$ 45.90	\$ 125.90
2 1918	\$ 80.00	\$ 42.80	\$ 122.80
2 1919	\$ 80.00	\$ 39.70	\$ 119.70
2 1920	\$ 80.00	\$ 36.60	\$ 116.60
2 1921	\$ 80.00	\$ 33.50	\$ 113.50
2 1922	\$ 80.00	\$ 30.40	\$ 110.40
2 1923	\$ 80.00	\$ 27.30	\$ 107.30
2 1924	\$ 80.00	\$ 24.20	\$ 104.20
2 1925	\$ 80.00	\$ 21.10	\$ 101.10
2 1926	\$ 80.00	\$ 18.00	\$ 98.00
2 1927	\$ 80.00	\$ 14.90	\$ 94.90
2 1928	\$ 80.00	\$ 11.80	\$ 91.80
2 1929	\$ 80.00	\$ 8.70	\$ 88.70
2 1930	\$ 80.00	\$ 5.60	\$ 85.60
2 1931	\$ 80.00	\$ 2.50	\$ 82.50
2 1932	\$ 80.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 80.00
Total	\$ 800.00	\$ 778.65	\$ 1578.65

[TO BE FILED BY THE SECRETARY TREASURER FOR REFERENCE]

The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1910 being the first installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

Coupon No. 8, Debenture No. 1  
The Board of Trustees of the Pleasant Grove School District No. 2558, North West Territories  
I do hereby pay to the bearer of this coupon the sum of \$10.00 on the 25th day of December 1918 being the eighth installment of principal with the total interest at the rate of 8 p.c. per annum due on that day on school debenture No. 1.  
Ch. Thiel, Treasurer  
H. Thiel, Chairman

The following Officers were elected at the Meeting of the Tax-payers of the Pleasant Grove School Dist. No. 2058, at the 10. day of April 08.

William Gleich	Chairman.	Trusty's
Charley Diebert	Treasurer	
Edward Pieper	Secretary	

The honourable School Board of the Pleasant Grove School Dist. passed the following By-Law at the Meeting of the said Board on the third day of June 08.

By-Law!

Whereas it is necessary and desirable that the sum of \$800.00 (eight hundred) dollars should be borrowed on the security of the Pleasant Grove S.D. No. 2058 of the N.W.T. for the purpose of erecting a school-house repayable to the bearer in ten equal consecutive annual instalment with interest at not more than eight per centum per annum. Now therefore the Board of the said District enacts as follows:

1. That the necessary proceedings be taken under the School Ordinance to obtain the sanction of the Commissioner of Education to the said loan.
2. That if the Commissioner of Education shall comply in writing the said Board to borrow the said sum pursuant to the Ordinance then debentures of the said district will be issued payable to the bearer in ten equal consecutive annual instalments with interest at not more than eight per centum per annum and shall

certified by the Chairman and Treasurer of the Board above and passed this third day of June 1908  
Edward Pieper Sec. Wm Gleich Chairman

For recreation during the summer days, the kids played either baseball or softball. For a number of years, during the winter, we used to make a sleigh slide. There was a small ravine on the edge of the school grounds and once the weather turned cold, the boys would carry pails of water from the well to make this slide. Just about every boy had a small sled to slide down with. This lasted until about 1928, when the road was built to the school and the ravine was filled up. That took care of our slide!

The following was taken from the daily attendance records: the surnames of the families that are still in this area are Diebert, Hryciw, Tarnowski, Thiel, Stahl, Serb-

lowski, Dagenais, Hering, Wollmann, Just, Bunnemeyer, Tegenkamp, and Strasser. The families that attended Pleasant Grove School were Sims, Rehaume, Egle, Hofels, Melchkart, Locknert, Babel, Schneider, Coss, Jelen, Daniel, Remenda, Ashenbrenner, Kisling, Honish, Parentou, Mette, Hering, Wollman, Sirdinski, Nix, Koob, Knoke, Yakiwchuk, Manderscheid, Schultz, Sartor, Twardy, Schumacher, Bourauel, Gresko, Lingle, Egner, Holinski, Leagare, Uzelman, Skalinski, Raousseau, Martinka, Nett, Ledine, Sand, Thomas, Urban, Schepfer, Brose, Liska, Borysko and Washuta. There were about 200 pupils that went through the doors of Pleasant Grove School. Some of them attended for a year or less, while others were in attendance for several years.

Most of these records are taken from the school's daily records, the cash register book, the minute book, from the Bayne History Book and some from the oldtimers themselves. Some of the statements may not be exactly accurate, as some of the daily school registers are missing. The minute books are from their first meeting to 1963 and the cash register book dates back to 1947. Daily attendance records are complete with the exception of 1914 to 1918.

## WILLING SCHOOL DISTRICT No. 2407

as related by Mrs. Mary (nee Viczko) Schriml

Let me take you back to the year 1937-38, the final days of the big depression. Most parents then, as now, had a very positive attitude towards education, so many of us from the farms went to what you called a "Normal School", to prepare us 19 year olds for the teaching profession.

After you signed an agreement with the Board of Trustees, either in Estevan or Tisdale, you then found a boarding place and off you were!

Willing School No. 2407 was in the heart of a prairie district, situated between and among Thiel Krentz, Wilfred, Pleasant Grove and Stearns school to the east. Wages ranged from \$350.00 to \$450.00. In today's world, I wonder how many would bother getting out of bed for wages like that?

I was happy with my boarding place at Mom Paydli's. She was the nicest woman I ever met. I was also happy driving to school with Fuzzy hitched to the buggy.

Most of the children walked, some as far as three and one-half miles. I would meet them coming and going, the older ones looking after the grades 1's, every one with a tin lunch pail or if they were lucky, a bought one.

Around 8:30 a.m., you arrived at a one-storey, one room, one teacher's desk, one big wood-box building --





**Willing School**

don't forget the two buffies outside! When the bell rang, in marched, on the average, 26 students ranging from grade 1 to 8, aged seven to 14.

One year I was privileged in having 26 boys and six girls. You never saw a more active bunch. Some were very good learners helping where they could either with outside supervision or one would take a little slow learner in hand to help with the A, B, C's, etc.

Running a well organized classroom took a lot of love and patience. One pupil in grade 7, would listen in on everything taught and would even forget himself to the extent that he would answer out of line to a grade 4 question. A little girl in grade 4 thought to write a composition on "My Hobby" meant a husband.

Children love art and music, so Fridays were always special days, with singing, records, etc. Mrs. Norbert Niebrugge lived near school so we often used her musical talents, especially during concert time.

Playing ball, with neighbouring schools, was also a Friday afternoon event. One year, the boys with some local help, were ambitious enough to make an outdoor skating rink down the hill. What fun they all had! The only time I remember having trouble with the school board was when being indulgent, I let the grade 8's keep on their skates in the morning so they would be ready to

play hockey as soon as that last bite was taken for lunch. Mind you, they put cardboard on the floor, to protect it, but ...

Later, field days were common in the school and held in Bruno. When one of our girls won three red ribbons, it was a glorious day. You should have seen the equipment we rigged up for the high jumping!

Teachers taught their own religion lessons.

Remember Father Lawrence coming around about once a month with his horse and buggy. It was a great discovery when we found out that what he stuck up his nose was snuff.

Can you remember a lot of little pranks, especially when big Tony put some baby mice in my desk. You can surely tell when you have ten little faces smiling and pushing against your desk that something is amiss. It takes courage to open the desk drawer and laugh with them. Or when two very opposite characters get into a fight after school. Mostly you let them fight it out.



**Back, L to R: Steve Berg, George Berg, Matt Relger, Darryl Haller, Tony Elchinger, Robert Relger. Front: Rosemarie Moritz, Erna Moritz, Yvette Paydli, Viola Haller, 1950.**

**DOMINION OF CANADA—RETURN BY EMPLOYERS FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 1943**  
(Form prescribed and authorized by the Minister of National Revenue)

**T4-1943**  
Supplementary

This Form T4 Supplementary is a component part of Form T4-1943 REMUNERATION SUMMARY. For additional copies of this form apply to the Inspector of Income Tax. INSTRUCTIONS:—List by **Income Tax Districts and alphabetically** the names of Employers who must be reported hereon. Use separate sets of these supplementary forms for each Income Tax District. Carry final total of Column 6 of this Supplementary Form to Item 6A on the covering Form T4-1943 REMUNERATION SUMMARY and the final total of Column 9 of this Form to Item 6B of the said SUMMARY FORM.

NOTE:—BEFORE COMPILING THIS FORM READ CAREFULLY THE INSTRUCTIONS ON FORM T4-1943 REMUNERATION SUMMARY.

**THIRD COPY:—FOR USE OF EMPLOYEES in the preparation of their Income Tax returns. Please distribute strips as early as possible.**

The name of the employer to be entered in Column 1 must correspond with the name used in Item 1 of T4-1943 REMUNERATION SUMMARY and also Item 1 of REMITTANCE FORM T.D.2. This is necessary to identify your remittances on behalf of your employees so they may obtain credit for the amount deducted by you at the source.

<b>1 NAME AND ADDRESS OF EMPLOYER</b> Willing S.D. 2407 Wilger - Sask.		<b>2 This Slip Must Be Attached to Your Income Tax Return</b> 3 Mrc. Mary A. Schriml R.R. 2, Carmel - Sask.			<b>EMPLOYEE'S COPY</b>			
2(a) Employee's Unemployment Insurance Book Number		3 M. S. or W.	4 No. of Dependents	5 Period Employed	6 Total Salaries or Wages plus bonus, etc., before Income Tax or Pension Ded'n	7 Value of Free Board, Living Accommodation	8 Amount of Pension Deduction	9 Total of Income Tax deductions 1 Jan. to 31 Dec. 1943
		M. Nil	200 days	840.56	Nil	34.19	9.00	

Name MUST appear on each Slip.





1950. Back, L to R: Katherine Helgert, Delmer Weyland, Elmer Weyland, Frank Berg Jr., Theresa Eichinger. Front: Bernard Berg, Loran Paydli.

We enjoyed preparing for Christmas concerts. In fact, they were the highlights of the school year, both for you and the community. Everyone had a part from grade 1 to grade 8, community talent could also be used. Santa brought gifts and candy to all, as well as treats for pre-schoolers. We all celebrated Hallowe'en and Valentine's inviting pre-schoolers. Here is where the mothers in the district really co-operated.

April, 1939, King George and Queen Elizabeth visited Canada. All school districts got behind the big event, so did Willing School with the support again of the good parents. It was a bit disappointing because by the time



Back, L to R: Marcel Paydli, Leon Helgert, Alois Helgert, Francis Paydli, Tony Eichinger, Fabian Paydli. Third Row: George Berg, Rudy Moritz, Lawrence Eichinger, Dale Weiman, Jim Rieger, Ted Berg, Matt Rieger. Second: Joseph Paydli, Ernest Moritz, Robert Rieger, Henry Bernauer, ?, Martin Berg. Front Row: Joyce Schriml, Yvette Paydli, Erna Moritz, Rosemarie Moritz, Mary Eichinger.

we had a glimpse of their majesties, we had been standing almost two hours, by King Edward School in Saskatoon.

Nov. 9, 1942, I married Martin Schriml and settled in the district, and continued teaching till 1946 when our son, Ronnie was born. Raising a family is a full-time job, so when Maureen and Connie came along, I stayed home enjoying them.

When Connie was five, I was asked to come back, this time to a new Willing school, new set of pupils, with my two included, Ron in grade 5 and Maureen in grade 2, while Connie stayed home with her dad. In the '50's, Willing School closed its doors to the bus route. A new era had begun!

I'm glad to dedicate this article to every pupil I taught, the Paydlis, Weylands, Weyland twins, Helgerts, Honishes, Nixes, Bergs, especially to Steve who has now passed away, Gerdes, Neibrugges, Medernachs, Weimans, Reigers, Moritz's, and M. Bernauer, to the Lozinskis, the Sands, Eichingers, the Schrimls and others. Louise Weyland, Clara and Franky Berg had no other teacher. From 1937 to 1983 is exactly a span of 46 years, but the good memories have lasted, thanks to so many good and willing people. Maybe that is why Willing was called Willing, or don't you know?



Winter time fun!

## Memories of Willing School

by Mary Weiman

What do I remember about going to Willing School?

— recess activities: drowning gophers, playing tag, playing ball, during the winter we played King of the Castle on the huge snow banks, playing football (I remember walking home two and one-half miles with a sore leg from playing with the big kids) or we played hockey on a rink made of tramped down snow, using a stick from the bush and a "strange puck".

— eating dinner outside beside the school during the summer and fall.

— playing ball on Friday afternoons against Pleasant Grove and Thiel Krentz.



**Corrine Leuschen - teacher**

— the Honish family would sing the beautiful song --  
The Letter Trimmed in Black for the superintendent  
every time he came.

— Christmas concerts and school dances.

— Mom got the job scrubbing the school for a year --  
what a job with no hot running water or other modern  
conveniences.

— Spelling and Geography match days ...

— the old stove in our classroom -- if you got too close  
you roasted, sitting further away you froze.

# Churches In Our Community

## ANGLICAN CHURCH

The Anglican Church was built south of the C.N.R. track (where the Natural Gas station now is) in 1910 by volunteer labour. As most of the people of the Anglican faith settled south of Bruno, in the Kildrum district, and because of poor roads, church attendance was poor, and the site proved to be impractical.

To improve and make attendance easier and provide church services closer to the congregation, a 12 by 12 ft. building on the Harvey farm was used as a church until the school was built and services were then held there. Religious services were held in the school until 1937, when the latest Anglican Church was built. The church in Bruno was sold to Peter Kisling and dismantled.



First Anglican Church (in background). Valerie Mervin, Mrs. Hagg's sister, and Gert Spartz (foreground). The church was located where Dennis Bender's house is now.

## A HISTORY OF A PARISH: ST. BRUNO

The story of our parish begins in the year of 1030; when St. Bruno was born in Cologne. He was a learned scholar and a priest. He would have been happy to spend his life as a monk, even living the secluded life of a

hermit, but Pope Urban requested that he give up this vocation and become his advisor. In his later years, he founded the Carthusian Monastic Order. He died in Italy in 1101.

Now, on to Thursday, May 29, 1902 and the following advertisement, which appeared in the Minnesota newspapers and other Catholic publications (translated by Tony Holtvogt).

### THOUSAND SQUARE MILES

in the famous Saskatchewan Valley  
Only for German Catholics

An area more than thirty miles long and  
thirty miles wide was selected by the  
Benedictine Fathers

The most fertile land in the world available  
FREE OF CHARGE only to German Catholic  
settlers under the homestead regulations.

Wheat yields from 25-35 bushels per acre.

Black earth from 12" to 18" deep, nice lay,  
Good and healthy climate, good water, forest  
and prairie. Sure crops. Very suitable for  
all grain crops as well as livestock  
and dairy industry.

Peter Herm Bergermann, OSB  
Prior of the Benedictine Abbey  
St. John's Collegeville, Minnesota.

The next major step in our parish history, took place in the fall of 1902. Twenty-six families were prepared to answer the advertisement, and Father Bruno Doerfler joined a group of the 17 who left first. On Nov. 5, 1903, Father Meinrad stopped at the house of Peter Hoffman. He heard the confessions of the family and neighbours and said the first mass. Over lunch and coffee, it was decided to give a name to the new settlement, and dedicate it to Saint Bruno in honor of Father Bruno, who had come out the first year.

Six months later, on June 26, 1904, Father Chrysostom Hoffman came on horseback. There were 24 families packed into William Smith's store for this mass. He promised the settlers that he would come every second Monday from then on. These Mondays became very important also for picking up supplies and mail. In 1905, a log church, 20 by 40 ft. and a small school was built. Anton Koenig sold five acres of land to the beginning parish and he donated another five for the grounds and cemetery. By August 18 of that year, Bishop Pascal was