ASSINIBOIA HIGHLIGHTS

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VOL V No 2

March 16, 1964

Dearest Parents and Readers:

May you all welcome this third edition of "Assiniboia Highlights"!

Spring coming around the corner is a sure sign that examinations are also around the corner. Results?? At the moment, all students are studying furiously and cramming into their heads knowledge which has slipped their minds since the last term tests. At the same time, we are looking forward to the Easter holidays. Thank goodness for that!! If there would not be any break, I am almost sure that many students would collapse from complete exhaustion.

Students who are fortunate enough to live at a reasonable distance from school will be able to go home and spend a few days with you, dear parents. Those who will be staying here will surely have their thoughts at home.

I would like to take this opportunity to express, on behalf of the "Highlight" staff, our deepest regrets at Percy Tueday's illness. We greatly miss him not only as a typist for our newsletter but also as a great friend. Percy, may your stay at the hospital be short and comfortable.

In conclusion, I hope that all students, parents, and friends will enjoy reading our school paper.

Happy Easter holidays to all!

Bernice Henry

Each new issue of "Assiniboia Highlights" underlines in its own way, the reaching of another milestone in each student's life. Once again, they find themselves writing all-important Easter examinations. For some, this challenge will be met with courage and honest effort while others will fail to apply themselves sufficiently. The final results will correspond to the individual's application and those who meet the challenge will succeed; the others will not.

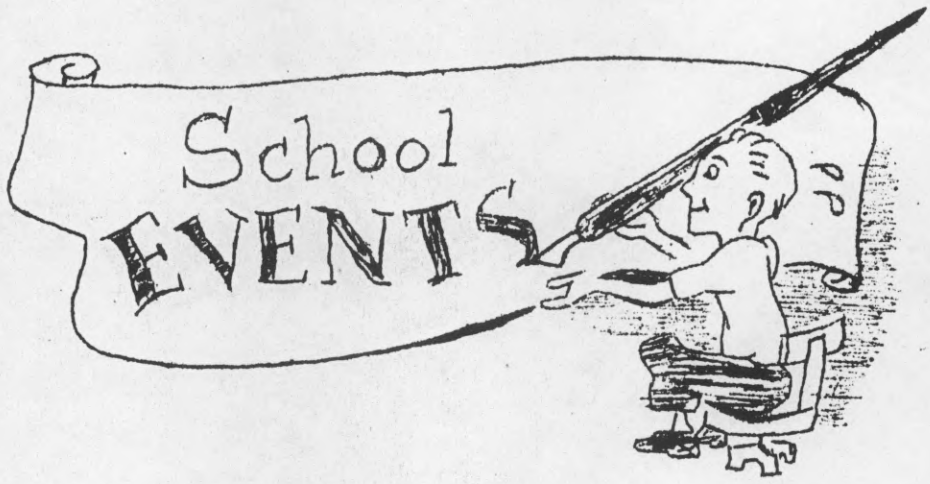
The former can therefore look forward to June and graduation. Their sights are set high and the hope of Easter fills them with joy. They have not only understood why they come to school but more important, that "they are the main instruments of their own education." A high school diploma for them is only a part and a beginning of their education. They realize that they must develop all their capacities---physical, moral, and intellectual---in the circumstances and environment in which they find themselves at a given time. The motivation and effort with which they apply themselves here at school will carry them through life---successfully and happily.

This motivation must be similar to the motivation which prompted Christ to die for us---LOVE. Our love must be outgoing and unselfish. It must inspire us to perfect ourselves as individuals and thus help perfect the society in which we live.

My Easter wish to parents and students would therefore be: "In all you do be inspired by the greatest act of love man has ever witnessed---that man should give His life for those He loved. Parents, encourage, love, and help your children. Students, love your parents, your people, and your work."

May the happiness of Easter fill all your hearts and lead you to success at Assiniboia on graduation day.

Father L. Leroux,O.M.I.
Senior Teacher



Dear Parents and Friends:

It is my great pleasure, dear parents and friends, to bring you up to date on the various occurrences here in school since the last edition of "Assiniboia Highlights." I will not keep you in suspense any longer.

January 5: This day brought the pupils back from wonderful Christmas holidays. One of the school's hockey teams, the Junior "B", played a great game (as usual). They won over Kirkfield with a grand score of 9-1.

January 7: The Junior B's played against West Kildonan and lost by a score of 6-2. The Juveniles also played against Roblin Park and won 5-2.

January 12: Assiniboia vs Deer Lodge: The score was 5-2 for the Juniors.

January 14: The Juniors played against Norberry and won by a score of 8-4. The Juveniles also played Deer Lodge who won 3-2.

January 16: Juveniles vs Silver Heights: The game ended in a 5-5 tie.

January 19: The first M.A.M.I. meeting for 1964 was held. The subject for discussion was "Mass." The bulletin was prepared by Wilfred Mousseau. The Juniors lost again to West Kildonan with the final score of 4-1.

January 21: Juniors played against East End and won by a score of 6-5. The Juveniles played against the Airways team, and the score was again tied 1-1.

General News (continued)

January 26: Junior B's played against Norberry and won 3-2.

January 28: Assiniboia vs Kirkfield: The Juniors won with an overwhelming score of 7-1 whilst the Juveniles tied their strengh against Kirkfield Park and won 4-3.

January 30: The girls were very fortunate to attend the annual Ice Capades at the Winnipeg Arena. Everyone had a grand time.

February 2: The meeting of the M.A.M.I. tonight was based on "Prayer." This bulletin was prepared by Bernice Henry and her group of girls who did a very nice job. Juniors vs East End: Assiniboia won 9-3.

February 4-7: The grade XI and XII students had the privilege of attending the 10th annual Indian and Metis Conference held at the Royal Alexandria Hotel here in Winnipeg. They each had a role as recorder or secretary to the chairman or discussion leaders. Everyone came back with a wider knowledge about the problems and developments occurring on other reserves as well as their own.

February 6: The grade IX and X girls went to the Lyceum Theater while the grade XI and XII girls attended the Conference and the banquet that evening. The Juveniles played Airways and beat them with a score of 3-2.

February 11: Juveniles vs Roblin Park: Juveniles won with a grand score of 8-3. Juniors also played against West Kildonan and skunked them with a score of 9-3.

February 13: Juveniles went against Kirkfield Park and were victorious 6-2, while the Juniors won over Deer Lodge 4-3.

February 16: Juniors played against Norberry and won with a score of 5-2.
The M.A.M.I. meeting tonight consisted of two of the several topics discussed during the Indian and Metis Conference. These topics were on "Education" and "Leadership." Wilfred Mousseau and Salio Mamageesick both did a splendid job in making clear to the pupils (who had not attended the Conference) various things concerning these topics discussed.

February 25: Assiniboia vs Deer Lodge: Our Junior team won 6-2.

General News (continued)

February 29: Today marked the school's annual "Ice Carnival" and what a day! The weather was mild, too mild perhaps since the skating rink started melting during the last part of our Carnival. The remainder of the games had to be played without skates. The climax of the day came when our Carnival Queen, Helen Hart, arrived. The wonderful day ended with a splendid dance for the staff as well as for the pupils.

March 1: The Junior B's played against Deer Lodge at the Winnipeg Arena and lost 8-4. All the students attended this second game of the best-of-three semi-finals. All returned with hoarse throats after having been carried away by "unrestrained cheerings and yellings"---so exciting was the game.

March 3: The Junior B's played the third game against Deer Lodge at the Transcona Arena. Some pupils had the opportunity of going down to Transcona and watching this important game. It was really breath-taking, for the game went into four overtime periods to break the 3-3 tie. After many moments of suspense, George Kakeway scored the winning goal for Assiniboia.

March 5: Now in the finals, Assiniboia Juniors lost the first game to Norberry, the score of which was 4-3.

March 6: The grade XII students had a small banquet with Mr. James Belford, a professor of Physical Education at the University of Manitoba, as the guest speaker.
Junior B's played the second game against Norberry at the Winnipeg Arena. Again some students went along to cheer Assiniboia to a 3-2 victory.

March 10: The deciding game for the Greater Winnipeg Junior B Championship took place at the Winnipeg Arena between Norberry and Assiniboia. Assiniboia won by the lovely score of 4-1, and received the privilege of keeping the Cup for the second time. Junior B's will now play two games against Lundar in a total-point series to determine the Manitoba Junior B Provincial Champions. Everyone wishes our Juniors all the luck in the world.

With this comes the end of our current events for this edition. I wish you all a Happy Easter.

Rita Nanowin

GRADE XII CLASS NEWS

Dear Readers:

It is my greatest pleasure once again to bring to light our classroom activities.

First of all, I am sorry to say the number of students in our class has been decreased from eight to the comparatively small number of six. However, this does not impede us from trying to keep up the classroom spirit so as to make it interesting for the teachers as well as for the students themselves. James Cook discontinued his grade XII course after Christmas. In February one of our classmates, Percy Tuesday, was taken ill and is now at the Ninette sanatorium in Manitoba. Percy was a boy who usually brought a humorous and also a serious atmosphere into the class by pertinent silly questions and answers which really interested us all. He was somewhat an advantage to us because the teachers' explanations to his questions helped us to understand more fully what we were studying. Percy, on behalf of the grade XII students, we wish you a speedy recovery. May it please God that your illness will not be a handicap to your plans for the future.

In our drama class, we are studying a Shakespearan play entitled "Hamlet". It is a very interesting play and sometimes we come face to face with difficult words and phrases but we do not worry so much about them because our teacher always comes to the rescue by explaining the meaning of the confusing terms.

(To be Continued)

GR. XII CLASS NEWS (cont'd)

Another subject in our program is Shaw's "Arms And The Man" which we studied before Christmas. On March 2, we were fortunate to have a chance to see the play acted on television. This was an advantage for us because it aided us to understand the play better and we enjoyed it very much. We hope that in the future more similar programmes will appear which will help us in our course of studies. We hope for more so that we can watch T.V. more often!

As a conclusion for this report, I wish everyone a Glorious Easter.

Geraldine Archie

GRADE XI CLASS NEWS

Dear Parents and Readers:

Since the last edition we have busily delved into knowledge-never dreamt of yet in all our subjects taught. With our exams approaching speedily, we realize that study time is precious on our way to success.

We have started reviewing our Physics as we have finished our course for the year. To do this, two students teach two chapters a day. They face the class and ask or answer questions. Our teacher, Father L. Leroux, has also assigned each of us a unit to summarize. Luckily, there are exactly the same number of students as units taken. However, I doubt that all my classmates will agree with me.

We entered a composition contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus. The titles for the Grade XI students were "Come And Follow Me" and "The Greatest Among You Must Be The Servant to Others". The first prize is worth $100 of which we hope to be the recipient!

In Literature, we listened to a record playing of Shakespeare's "Macbeth". This gave us a better understanding of the play and helped us in our study of it.

(To be continued)

GR. XI Class News (cont'd)

I regret to say that three of our classmates have left us. We wish Emma Fiddler, Etienne Robinson, and George Spence the best of luck.

So now, dear readers, I bid you adieu and wish you a Happy Easter!

Mary Edna Flett

GRADE X-A CLASS NEWS

Dearest Parents and Readers:

Here is the grade X-A classroom report.

Since Easter is around the corner, we are now preparing to tackle the exams and hope we make the goal-line. Our exams are starting on the 13th of March and we finish our last exam on the 25th of March.

We were also asked by our teacher, Father Leroux, to write an essay on one of the topics, "The Greatest Career in the Service of God", and "The Harvest is Great But the Labourers Are Few". There are two essays to be chosen from each of the five classrooms and to be sent away to compete against other essays from various schools. Good-luck to the students whose essays are chosen to be entered in the provincial contest.

Half of the students in our class were given glasses to wear. Their glasses were given to them a few weeks back, so now everybody is looking out of their fancy-painted windows.

In conclusion, dear parents and readers, have a nice Easter time and to you, dear students, good luck to you in your exams.

Ellen Scatch

GRADE X-B CLASS NEWS

Dear Readers:

We appreciate the opportunity of reporting on our class activities for the second last issue of the Assiniboia Highlights. A special thanks to our last classroom reporter, Lydia Thomas, for writing the class news.

Since our last report, our talented Miss Agnes Nanowin has kept up her record of being first. Ever since grade nine, this brilliant girl has been first in class and we hope that she will continue her good work. She had an average of 84.9% in the Christmas exams. Following Agnes was Mr. Edwin Bruyere from Fort Alexander, Manitoba with an average of 82.1%. The other students in this class had a fairly good average but in the Easter exams we all hope to raise our marks to a higher level, is possible.

Our former classmate, Brenda Perreault from Fort Frances, Ontario, did not return to our school after the Christmas holidays. We understand she has resumed her studies in Fort Frances and we wish her the best of luck.

We have now been discussing some of the pupils of this class and we also want to brief you on the knowledge we are trying to acquire.
In Science we are studying the parts of a telephone, telegraph and television. Since Christmas we have covered the electric cell, turbines and automobile engines.

Just recently, Father Leroux, our math teacher, gave us a surprise mathematics test. By doing this, he found out just where we stood. Unfortunately many of the students had rather low marks, although a few had marks in the 80's and 90's. Mr. Edwin Bruyere once again had 100%.

In Literature we have studied and enjoyed the Shakespearean play entitled "Merchant of Venice". We are back again to our first book "The Golden Caravan".

(To be contiued)

GR. X-B (cont'd)

We have covered some 400 pages in Geography and we still have 200 pages to cover. The course is heavy and it requires much of our attention. Because of this fact, many pupils find it a difficult subject.

On March 4, Father Leroux brought a record of the African Mass into our classroom. During our religion period we listened to the record and we learned many things from it. First of all we learned that the music they use in the African Mass is similar to our modern jazz. Though the music is rather swingy, we learned that the people use that type of music because it is their own. We also learned that they really express their inner feelings while singing the Mass.

We shall soon begin reviewing for our Easter exams. Our goal is to finish high school in order that we can help you, dear parents and friends, later on in life.

We hope that you have enjoyed this brief account of our classroom activities. Dear parents and readers, till our next issue, good luck and a very happy Easter to you all.

Valerie Mainville

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My dad is a professor of social science in a college. He was asked to give a speech at a college activity. So he would go around the house practicing his speech. One night my mother got pretty sore at us kids about our tossed-up room. She bawled us out good for several minutes. Everything was awfully quiet for a while; then my six-year-old brother asked, "Mom, why does dad have to practice his speeches, while you don't?"

GRADE IX CLASS NEWS

Dear Parents and Friends:

In this third edition of "Assiniboia Highlights", I am very pleased to take this opportunity again to tell you all..that has happened since the last publication.

Unfortunately, five of our students did not come back after Christmas. Sarah Sinclair, Gladys Brown, Charolotte Nepinak, Shirley Fountain and Leo Yerxa. The rest came back with higher hopes of passing their grade IX.

When the Christmas results came out, Gladys Brown had the honor of coming first again. John Bighetty came second and Lena Highway came third. The results proved that there is more room for energetic studying and attention.

Algebra waited for us when we came back after Christmas. Some students enjoy this subject while others are having a hard time with it, but with the help of our Maths teacher, Mr. Joubert, it is not so bad.

On February 19, we went to visit the Parliament Building. We heard Premier Roblin give his budget speech. It was very interesting. Madame Speaker welcomed us and all the members of Legislative Assembly "thumped" their desks to welcome us. Afterwards, we visited the Manitoba Museum. They have a lot of Indian relics there.

The following day we had a language contest. Our teacher, Sister Brisebois, called it "Reach for the Top." The girls reached the top score. If we had another contest, we might give the boys a chance, wouldn't we, girls?

We have started studying for our Easter examinations, and we are hoping that all our averages will go up. Of course, that will depend on how much effort each individual student gives to his studies.

So, dear parents and friends, til we meet again in the next edition, God bless you.

Audrey Balfour

M.A.M.I.

Dear parents, friends, teachers and students of Assiniboia:

In this third issue of our "Highlights", the following meeting have taken place since the last edition of our paper.

Sunday, January 19, 1964

At 8 o'clock in the evening, the students gathered for their first M.A.M.I. meeting for the New Year of '64. The meeting was opened by the recitation of a prayer and the secretary then read the minutes of the previous meeting. The bulletin for this meeting was prepared by one of the Grade 12 students, Wilfred Mousseau. Wilfred must have worked hard and must have devoted much time to the preparation of his notes. The result of his painstaking research was a very interesting set of questions for discussion. The topic he chose to develop was "The Mass". As the questions were rather difficult, most of the groups had to scratch their heads before they came up with satisfactory answers. Quite a number of students had to consult either Father Principal or Father Leroux for help in the explanation of certain terms. The evening ended profitably for everyone, as we all left the meeting with a greater understanding of the Holy Mass.

February 2

The meeting began with a prayer, led by our president, and the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting by our secretary. The theme of the bulletin for this Sunday's bulletin prepared by Bernice Henry's group was "Prayer." These seven girls had two weeks to prepare their data. During those two weeks, these girls put their heads together for they believed in the adage: "Seven heads are better than one." They came up with a satisfactory and well-prepared bulletin. The questions lent themselves well to discussion. Bernice's group found them especially easy and arrived at all the correct answers.

(To be continued)

M.A.M.I. (continued)

February 16
On Sunday evening we again assembled for another meeting. The data was prepared by Salio Mamageesic, but he and Wilfred Mousseau each gave a talk on the topics "Education" and "Leadership". After these two orators had finished their talk we were given sheets with various questions for discussion. Having had about half an hour on each topic, the different groups came up with very sensible and bright answers. For example, the following question was asked: What are the advantages and disadvantages of having women as councillors or chiefs?" The disadvantages for this questions, as given by several boys, were patiently accepted by the girls. On the whole, the meeting was a success as it made us realize the tremendous importance of education and leadership.

Good-bye, good-luck, and a very Happy Easter to one and all.

Agnes Nanowin

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A vacationer offered a ride to a bearded, beret-wearing hitchhiker at a busy highway intersection. As the beatnik climbed into the car, the driver, scanning the side roads, asked if anything was approaching from behind.
"Like nothing but a dog, man," was the reply.
Regaining consciousness in a hospital, the driver saw the beatnik in the next bed. "I thought you said there was nothing behind us but a dog," he cried.
"Like Greyhound, man," said the beatnik.

Dear Readers,

Here we are once again to tell you a few things about our little Home Economics department.

Since Christmas, we have not done much work, but we are always busy whenever we go to Home Ec. As we have only one Home Ec teacher, Mrs. Levrault, it is impossible for us to be all doing the same work which will have to be done with Mrs. Levrault's help. To make it easier for our teacher, only a few girls have started to work on their skirts or dresses. The rest of us are working on our embroidery work on pillow-slips. Those lucky girls are almost finished with their skirts and blouses or dresses but they did not start on their embroidery work yet. The ones who have not started their skirts could consider themselves lucky because they are almost through with their embroidery, and then when they will be through, they will start on their skirts and blouses. With skirts and embroidery work to work on we will be kept busy till the end of the year.

Some girls were very fortunate to make a pair of jeans for themselves. They have done a good job in making them, that is, with the aid of Mrs. Levrault. But I am sure they have learned quite a lot from it.

Well, that will be enough about our sewing for both grades IX and X. There is something else we do besides sewing. The girls from grade X, as this is our last year of Home Ec, are fortunate to have an opportunity to learn how to serve in banquets and in other special occasions. Quite a few of us had an opportunity to serve in a real banquet. Not all of us served yet, but there are some more special occasions coming up for the girls that did not have a chance to practise their lessons yet. I am sure that they will do their best in serving. So let us put all our hopes so that they will succeed. "Don't be too nervous, girls!"

As a conclusion, best regards from the Home Ec department goes to you all, dear friends. Au-revoir.

Lillian Mason

Dear Readers,

Once again, I bring you the latest information about our progress in Manual Training.

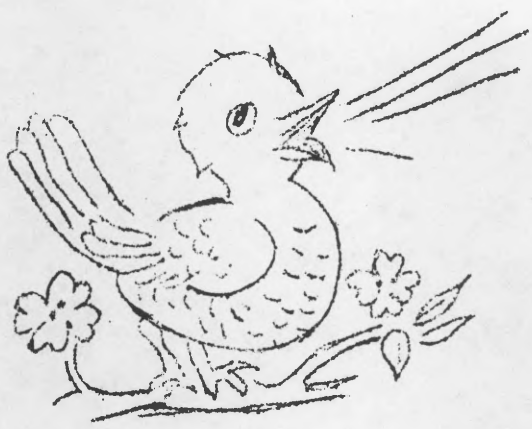
Some of us can look back with a little bit of pride and see how much we have accomplished in the past few months.

Now that the boys are well adjusted to the tools, they are showing improvement.

From the oramental racks we went to medium-sized book shelves. Some of us having finished the medium-sized book shelves, we went on to make large book shelves. Some of us had to start over but we came up at the end with some fancy book shelves.

What we do most of the time is fix furniture or build more book shelves or what ever one of the staff requests us to build for them.

Wesley Severite



Girls' Sports

Dear Readers:

In our sports field, we girls have curling and skating. Although a few days before the annual winter carnival, we were practicing hockey and other were learning a drill on skates. The girls' hockey game was played at the Assiniboia rink at 10:45 a.m. on February 29, 1964. The score was 1-0 for the best team. This score was made by Marion Sinclair. The girls' drill was being performed in a spectacular manner. Congratulations to Dolores Nanie who was the leader of this drill, for giving such a wonderful show.

In the curling world, some girls took part in two jam-pail curling contests. Sorry to say that they lost in both. However, their efforts are worthy of being mentioned.

This has been a report on the happonings in Assiniboia's world of girls' sports. Wishing you all a very Happy Easter.

Bella Hart

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On a Detroit compact-auto executive's desk: "Think Small."

BOYS' SPORTS

Dear Friends:

Welcome to the sports' round-up of a wonderful hockey season.

Intramural Hockey

In our Senior Intramural Hockey, the Leafs were the school champions this year. In the league standings, the Leafs were in first place with 18 points, followed by the Hawks with 14 points. In the third place were the Canadians with 9 points, and in the fourth place were the Red Wings with 7 points.

In the best-of-three semi-finals, the Leafs knocked out the Canadians. The first game ended in a 6-6 tie, but the Leafs went on to win the next two games by the scores of 5-2 and 6-4. The Hawks did likewise as they defeated the hard-hitting Red Wings in two straight games by the scores of 8-5 and 7-3. That was the end for the Canadians and the Red Wings. The Leafs and the Hawks clashed in the two-game total-point finals. In the first game, the Hawks defeated the Leafs by a score of 4-1. It looked as if the Leafs had no chance of defeating the Hawks. In the second game, the Leafs came back with a 6-2 victory, giving them the necessary one goal margin. Congratulations to the Leafs who are now our Senior Intramural Champions.

In our Junior Intramural Hockey, the Flyers came in first place with 17 points, followed by the Maroons with 13 points, and the Thistles in last place with 12 points. In the two-game total-point semi-final playoffs, the Maroons defeated the Thistles by a one-goal margin. The Thistles won the first game by a score of 7 to 4. But the Maroons managed to win the second game by a score of 6-2 which gave them the one goal margin. The Maroons advanced to the two game total point finals and defeated the Flyers in the first game by a score of 7-3.

(To be cont'd)

BOYS' SPORTS (cont'd)

In the second game the Flyers came up with a victory of 4-2 but were short by a two goal margin. Congratulations to the Maroons who are now our Junior Intramural school champions!

Thanks to all the boys that participated in the school's intramural hockey teams.

MIDGET HOCKEY

Assiniboia Midgets ended up in a second place tie in their league standings. They defeated St. John Ravencourt's in the two game total point semi-final play-offs by scores of 4-1 and 3-2. In the first game of the two game total point finals the defeated St. Boniface College midgest by a score of 3-2 here in Assiniboia. The next game was played at St. Boniface College and again our braves came up with a victory of 5-2 which determined as champions in their league.

JUVENILE HOCKEY

The Assiniboia Juveniles winded up the season in third place in their West Division Juvenile league. But in the double knock-out semi-finals they were defeated by Norwood by a score of 8-1 and were unfortunately again defeated by West Kildonan by a score of 10-1. The Juveniles are now but off the semi-final play-offs.

JUNIOR B HOCKEY

The Assiniboia Junior B's were tied with Deer Lodge for second place in the Junior B league standings. In the first game of the best of three semi-finals Assiniboia defeated Deer Lodge by a score of 6-2 at the Transcona arena. In the second game which was played at the Winnipeg arena Deer Lodge defeated the Assiniboia braves by a score of 8-4. In the third game the ambitious braves edged Deer Lodge by a score of 4-3 after 35 minutes of overtime. The other two teams involved in the best of three semi-finals play-offs were Norberry and West Kildonan. In that series Norberry edged West Kildonan in a 3 games to 2 decision. In the first game of the best of three finals, Norberry defeated Assiniboia by a score of 4-3 after 15 minutes of overtime. The second game was played at the Winnipeg arena and Assiniboia was victorious as they defeated the Norberry Royals by a score of 3-2. In the third and deciding game, the Assiniboia Braves were victorious as they defeated Norberry by a score of 4-1. The city champs, Assiniboia Juniors, will now go to Lundar on March 13th to play the first of two games in a total-point series for the Provincial Championship.

The second game will be played at the Winnipeg Arena on the 20th. Best of luck to the Assiniboia Junior B's in their provincial finals.

George Kakeway

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Joe: Why does a man sleep with a clock under his pillow?

Jim: I wish I knew. Why?

Joe: He wants to sleep over-time.

XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Jingo: What never asks questions but still has to be answered?

Ringo: I haven't an idea. What is it?

Jingo: The telephone.

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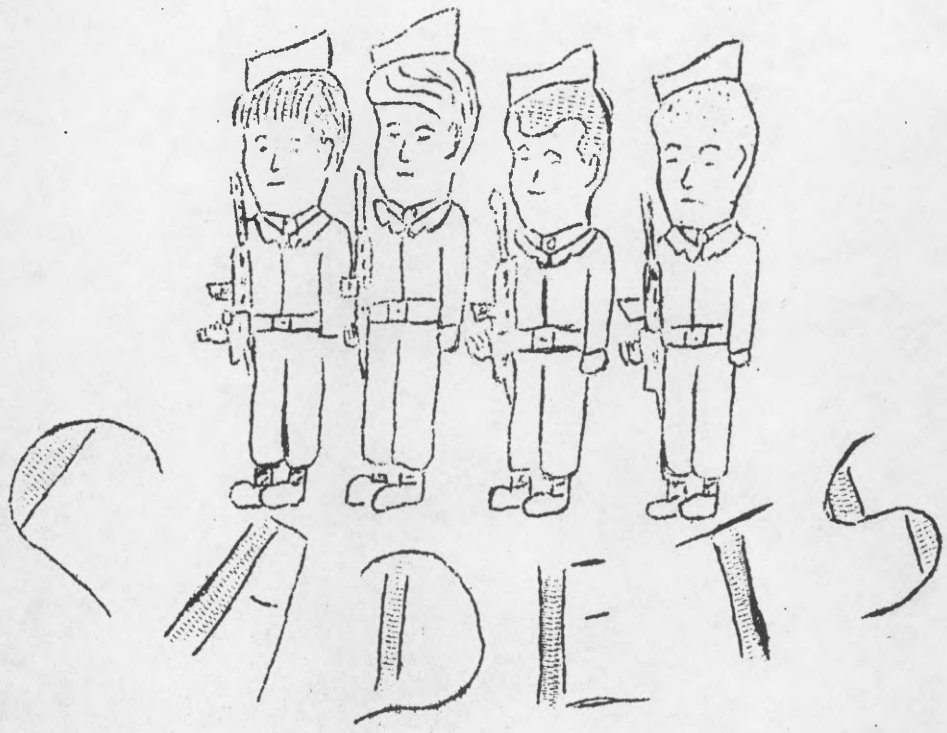
A new mother went into the store to buy some diapers. While the clerk was wrapping them, he said, "That will be $1.80 plus tax."

"Sorry," said the mother, "I don't use tacks; I use safety pins."



Dear friends,

Here I am once again to inform you about our Cadet Corps in Assiniboia. We have been drilling and rifle-shooting since Christmas. The Second-year Cadets have taken up drills with rifles. Orders such as "Shoulder arms" and "Present arms" confuse some of us.

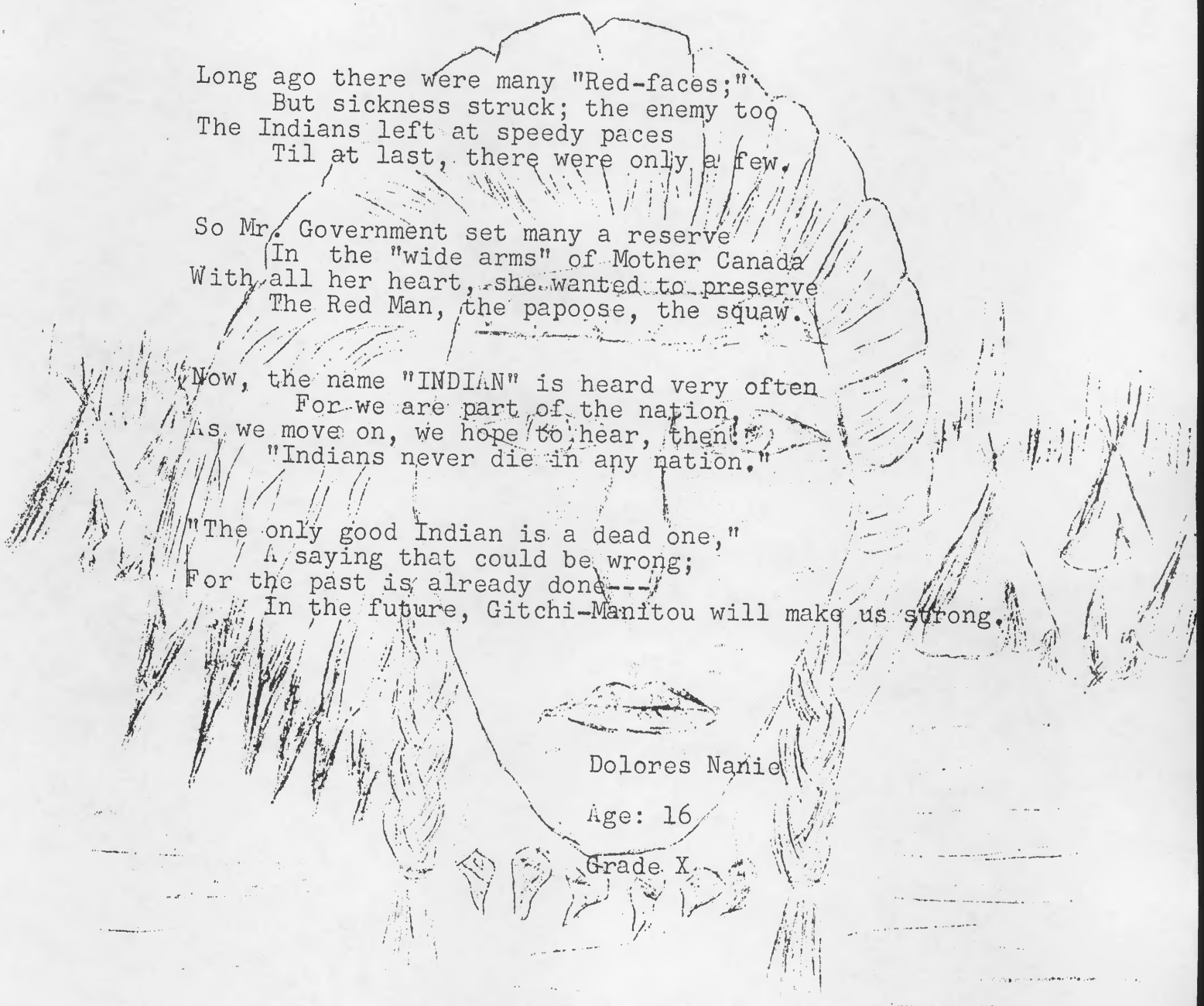
Since Christmas, there has been competition between the three platoons to get its flag on display in our dining-room. Number One Platoon has won this honor often. Under the leadership of Cadet-Lieutenant Cecil Paul and Cadet-Sergeant Cameron Wood, Number One Platoon has become a neat troop. We are already looking forward to the final inspection which will be held in May and are drilling hard to master all the turns on the march.

I hope that you have enjoyed reading this short report.

Richard Courchene

POEM

INDIANS



Long ago there were many "Red-faces;"
But sickness struck; the enemy too
The Indians left at speedy paces
Til at last, there were only a few.

So Mr. Government set many a reserve
In the "wide arms" of Mother Canada
With all her heart, she wanted to preserve
The Red Man, the papoose, the squaw.

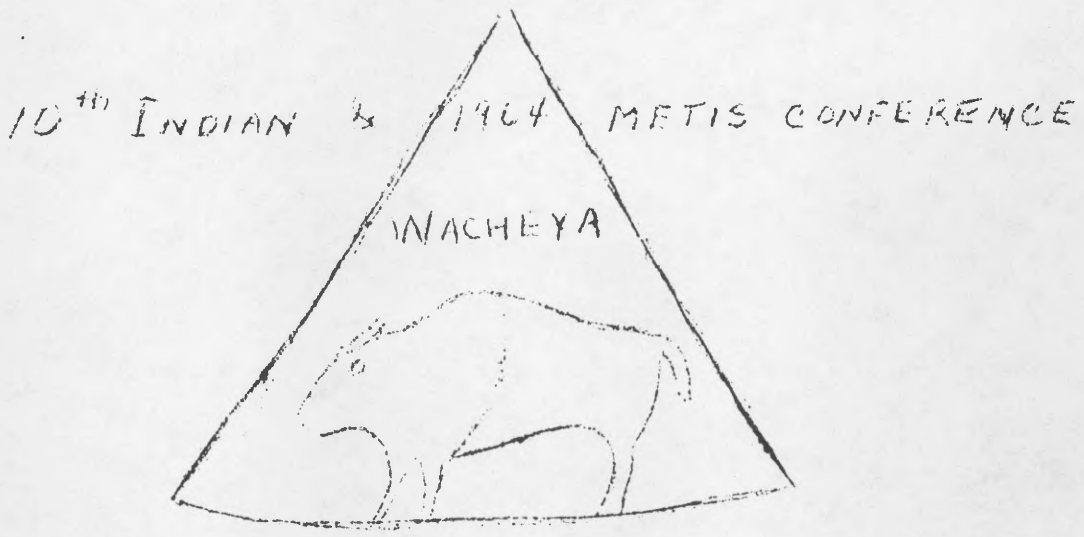
Now, the name "INDIAN" is heard very often
For we are part of the nation,
As we move on, we hope to hear, then:
"Indians never die in any nation."

"The only good Indian is a dead one,"
A saying that could be wrong;
For the past is already done---
In the future, Gitchi-Manitou will make us strong.

Dolores Nanie

Age: 16

Grade X



On Sunday, February 16, this report of the Indian and Metis Conference was given by Wilfred Mousseau at the M.A.M.I. meeting.

INDIAN AND METIS CONFERENCE

As you know, the Seniors of Assiniboia attended the Indian and Metis Conference which was held in Winnipeg in early February. This evening, I am now asked to give my impressions on the discussions for which I was recording and doing so, I would like to arouse in those who did not attend, a keen interest in the future annual Conferences because the problems discussed there are ours as well as those of the people back home.

Last year, I had the opportunity of attending the Conference for the first time and witness our own people at work on their problems. This year again, I was granted the opportunity to attend and I must say that I lack the proper words to express the true impression that the Conference left on me. This much I can say, though, that the Royal Alexandra Hotel accomodated more people, that methods of discussion were improved, and that the Indian people were more alert in answering questions or helping to solve problems.

I shall now summarize the system of discussing. We were divided into different regions, that is, Northern, Eastern, Interlake, Southern and Western. This I thought was an improvement on the part of the Conference Committee and an advantage to the Indian delegates because they, then, could discuss problems affecting their own area, not those of another as it happened in previous years.

(To be continued)

INDIAN AND METIS CONFERENCE (cont'd)

Then speakers circulating among the discussion groups, introduced the topics and afterwards the questions which arose from the speech were discussed by the various groups. In these discussions, the Indian and Metis people then had their opportunity to bring up their problems and hence, to suggest possible solutions. Further questions which could not be answered by the groups were directed to the speaker of the topic in question. Other questions outside the topic concerned were handed to officials responsible for the particular subject matter. This was the procedure followed by the discussion groups.

In the Southern and Western Region for which I was recording and probably in the others as well, the people presented their ideas most successfully considering the inadequacy of education standards. From what I heard I learned that most communities are badly in need of good leadership and organization, and get in some areas they have associations through which the people can improve their standards of living.

Another thing I learned or realized is that all the Indian and Metis delegates that were present stress the importance of education for their children. It impressed me greatly to see some of our people so deeply concerned about the future of their children. This fact shows that the Indians of today are realizing the need for education which they themselves could not obtain in their younger days.

What also impressed me is that many of the people were able to answer their own questions and thus I conclude that the Indian and Metis people are learning and willing to help themselves. I cannot mention all the subject matter brought up in the Conference but what I can say is that it is interesting to see our own people becoming more aware of the various problems in our reserves.

I hope, with this appreciation of the Conference you learn something of the topics discussed and that with this knowledge, all of you will become interested in your people's problems because it is our duty to cooperate with those who help us.

Wilfred Mousseau
Grade XII

SPECIAL REPORT

The following piece of work was given as a talk to the Grade XII students at a dinner last December by Mrs. THERESE GOULET-COURCHAINE of St. Adolphe, Manitoba. She is afflicted with blindness which she bears with remarkable patience and which she puts to advantage of staying at home by writing poems and short stories. Before her affliction, Mrs. Courchaine was a teacher for twenty years, eleven of them with the Indian Affairs.

"What is education? Without looking into a dictionary, I would say a good definition of the word could be: the growing of the mind, a growth that is not only a knowledge of subject material, but the steady effort of improving character, judgment, and attitudes. The very fact that you are present here means that you have completed part of the training required to reach a level of higher education. The books, desk, and equipment are only tools to help you work satisfactorily. The thinking you do behind that desk is what counts. Gone are days when the Indian child is not given an opportunity to get and advance along with any one else in the educational programmes.

"Gone also is much of the pessimism attached to possibilities of Indians not being able to cope with the modern trend of reaching the level of normal Canadian citizenship. Your people as time goes on is taking giant strides in development and ambition. Your people have had magnificent records of intelligence in many fields of professional life: members of Parliament, lawyers, artists, nurses. We should mention with pride the artistic talents of Joseph Land and Ross Woods.

"The yearly reports of success from this and many other Indian schools has shown us all to what amazing degrees the records of your nation has grown. Keep your spirits up. You are not just an individual performer; you are the hope and spirit of a nation. Take courage and try to overcome the bad moments. Do not be a quitter. Learn to appreciate to its proper value this home away from home. Look at things one day at a time. Do your best wherever you are. This where you will straighten out your judgment. Have courage and replenish your store of resolutions.

(To be continued)

Special Report (continued)

"Your next move is perseverance: say it, think it, and do it. Lately there has been considerable mention of 'bi-culterism' and in a small way this term could be applied to you. The Indians are at a turning point. At least they have outgrown their natural timidity. Instead of uncertain pleas, they have found their voice now and use it. Perhaps you are also undergoing this succen growth and will fool those who still believe your race an inferior one that will take generations to fill the goal. The great annual conferences of the Indian and Metis in Winnipeg that has put you on the front page, the friendship centres, the many television programs dealing with the pros and cons of Indian life have reached everywhere.

"My dear students, you have a fight on your hands. You will meet prejudice and misunderstanding. God gave His life for all men. He is the great Master of Uniculture. He does not wish us to be tormented by disagreement and discord. Perhaps more than any other race you will be called upon to forgive and forget the many little obstacles and hurts. No one will be able to do it for you.

"Romance is an adult affair. The word love has been greatly abused and if your inspiration and definition of it has picked in trashy literature you have entirely missed the point. Love in its full meaning is actually a thing of the spirit. It is to be guarded jealously. You cannot fill your heart and head all at once. Abide your time. School is no place for serious ideas. Cultivate group recreation remembering trios are better than duets. Develop the respect and social grace with the opposite sex. We are to live together in life. Prepare now to find proper values in this line.

"Respect yourselves. Be neat. Avoid gossip; the tongue is sharper than the sword. Seek advice and comfort by dealing with authorities. Give your full energy to sports and recreational activities and in school do not lose your time. Do your work well and steadily. Have fun in growing up and learning. Little things count; so does time."

Mrs. Therese Goulet-Chourchaine.

Tales to Tell

The Legend of Kwanja Lake

Many years ago in the woodlands of Southern Ontario near Lake Simcoe, there lived a tribe of Indians known as the Hurons. This tribe had been for many years inslaved by their enemy, the mighty Iroquois. In one lovely spring afternoon one of these settlements had been attacked by the Iroquois. Only a handful had managed to escape into the woods. Among this band was a beautiful Indian maiden named Kwanja. She and her father were luckly to be together.

For many days this small band roamed the forests and countryside and headed northward until they came to the great white waters of the Georgian Bay. Building their boats they soon were on their way to where? They did not know. All they wanted to do was to get away from the Iroquois.

Kwanja was in love with a young Huron brave and he was very fond of her as well. But her father who was the chief of the band did not want Kwanja to hook unto Wabik, the young Huron brave. Instead he wanted her to be in the care of Pokisoyou, an Ottawa warrior. Kwanja did not care for Pokisoyou because of his bold ways and harshness. He always thought he was better than everybody else. She hated him very much.

It was on a sunny morning when all of a sudden, after travelling for many days, the band saw first sight of land. Everybody shouted for joy and excitement! No one knew what land it was or who would be there. As they drew nearer to the land its waters all around were calm and they could see hundreds of fish through the fresh water of the bay. Along its shores they saw two beautiful and graceful-looking deer. As they came closer, the deers looked, then turned and gracefully leaped into the green dense forest.

Tales To Tell (cont'd)

Everyone was marvelled at what was at hand.

On landing, after a bit scouting around, the braves came back with word that no one lived here and they had been the first to discover it. They decided to call their Manitoulin which means, the home of the Great Spirit, for that is just what it was. They had everything they wanted.

One night Kwanja was caught by her father with Wabik. To his anger, he chased Wabik away from the camp never to return. And to Kwanja he punished her severely. Then one evening Kwanja had been reported to her father missing. He could not believe she had run away. He ordered the entire camp searched but she was no where to be found. The chief was not sad of what he had done to Kwanja. The next morning he called all his braves to go out into the countryside and forest to hunt for his daughter. After three days and nights they did not find her. They continued to search the woods.

One evening as the moon was just coming to its horizon, a few braves came upon a lake. It was a clear night and the moon glittered in the water. There was not even a ripple in the lake. Suddenly to their surprise, they heard the voice of a maid crying. It was coming from the lake. They could not see anyone out there but the cry continued to grow louder.

Frightened at all that they heard, they hurried back to camp to tell the chief what had happened. They returned that late evening. The same thing occurred and the same voice was heard. It was a gentle cry, a weeping of some maiden. The chief cried out to her, but no one answered. The cry only continued. Then the people of the camp knew that Kwanja would never return.

For years after, the Hurons had kept a vigil over the lake. They would often come there to listen to the mysterious crying of the maiden. Some would even join her for their own sorrows.

Today, if you should ever go to Manitoulin Island, why don't you drive over or go out to visit this lake and maybe you too will hear the mysterious cry of Kwanja Lake.

Wilfred Shawanda

Grade X

TALES TO TELL

The Legend of Keewatin

Once there was an Indian family living in a middle of a vast forest. The parents whose names were Chikwa and Nochiewayso had only one child, a boy, whose name was Keewatin. Because Keewatin was the only child of the family, he received all the love that his parents could give. As a result, the whole family lived a very happy life together. Although they lived in an isolated place, they were always happy.

As Keewatin grew into a fine strong healthy boy, his father Chikwa predicted that one day Keewatin would be the greatest arrow shooter of their country. With the talent of arrow-shooting, he would be able to save his country when it would be attacked some twenty years hence. But unfortunately, Chikwa did not know by whom and why their country was going to be attacked.

When Keewatin was still young, his father trained him to use all kinds of weapons for self-defence against wild animals and his enemies. After a couple of years of training, he was old enough to go hunting all by himself. Keewatin was excited when time finally came for him to go hunting without the aid of his father. He got up early in the morning and prepared everything he thought he would need for his adventures. At dawn, Chikwa woke up and wished his son success on his first hunting trip. Chikwa told Keewatin to try to return before sunset. After Keewatin thought that he had all the instructions he needed, he set out on his hunting trail.

Keewatin was very proud of himself by noon. He had already killed four bull-moose with his bow and arrow. By that time he felt very tired, and he was tempted to stop and return home. But if he went home so soon, Chikwa would think that he was a weakling and would make Keewatin work hard every day until Keewatin proved that he was not a weakling. Keewatin sat down trying to think of what to do. Finally he decided to rest all afternoon. Lying on a mossy ground with his weapons beside him, he fell asleep in the middle of the afternoon.

Keewatin did not sleep very long when he woke up with a start. He heard a lady's voice, telling him that the attack which his father had predicted would occur in five years. The voice informed Keewatin that he would not be able to save his country with his plain weapons although he was an expert with them, but that he would need a special bow and arrow which otatawaywak (the traders) would bring in a few days. Keewatin was told to try and trade for this special bow and arrow. When he got it, he was to put it away in a special place not far from their camp until the attack had arrived. He was also told not to go back to that place until the time came.

The Legend of Keewatin (continued)

If he would ever happen to go back to that place, a tragedy would befall on him. The voice stopped talking and left Keewatin puzzled over why somebody from nowhere would want to help him.

Before sunset he hurried home concealing the incident that had occurred. Three days passed and not one of the traders showed up. Then a week passed and still no one showed up. After waiting for a long time, Keewatin was getting impatient that he took a walk one quiet evening to the place where he was to put the bow and arrow. When he got there, he was shocked at the sight he saw. An old man was sitting on one of the rocks that were there.

Keewatin moved towards him when that old man asked him to go nearer. He told Keewatin that he was the one that spoke to him in a form of a lady's voice. He told him that what he had told Keewatin was just a trick. The old man had been ordered to by Witigo to play that trick on Keewatin.

When Keewatin heard this, he realized that the instructions he was willing to follow was just a trick played on him by Witigo, his greatest enemy. He knew that for many years, Witigo had been trying to put Chikwa's country under ice and snow but had never succeeded. And now while Keewatin was talking to the old man, Witigo was at the camp murdering Keewatin's parents.

Keewatin was very angry at Witigo when he found his parents stabbed to death on the ground. He sharpened all his weapons and looked for him all over the world. And finally, after many years of looking, he found him on top of the world. He had his bow and arrow ready when Witigo came towards him with a knife. As he came closer, Keewatin shot an arrow and struck him in the middle of his heart.

Keewatin, quite satisfied with himself, was about to turn back when he saw the old man he had seen that time his parents were killed. Keewatin asked him who he was and why he was staying with a most evil man on earth. The old man said that his name was Coone which means snow. He had been captured by Witigo many years ago and had been unable to free himself. Coone thanked Keewatin for having saved him from Witigo. He asked Keewatin what he could do for a reward. Keewatin asked to cover all Witigo's land with water and something else that would stop people from going into Witigo's land.

The Legend of Keewatin (continued)

Coone went to work immediately. He covered the land with water and froze it. After freezinf it, he covered it again with a layer of snow over the ice. Keewatin was amazed at Coone's work when he saw it. He told Coone to put a marker which would mark the top of the world forever. As Keewatin was getting old, he said good-bye to Coone and went to retire some place in the land that surrounded the land of ice and snow, but nobody ever found out where he made his home.

When the Indians of the north heard what had happened they named the marker Keewatinok which means North Pole, in honor of Keewatin, the man who had saved them from an evil, wandering Indian. They also named the land that surrounds the land of ice and snow Keewatin for somewhere around there Keewatin might still be living.

Lillian Mason
Grade X

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A salesman rang up a prospective customer the other day and the phone was answered by what was obviously a small boy. "Is your mother home?" the salesman asked. The child said no. "Well, is there anyone else there I can speak to?" "My sister," the youngster piped. "Okay, put her on," the man said. There was a rather long period of silence, then the salesman heard the boy's voice again.
"I can't lift her out of the play-pen," he said.