

Moccasin Telegram

Blue Quills School – St. Paul, Alberta

Introduction - English

The following are my notes from the small student newspaper at Blue Quills School in St. Paul, Alberta: *Moccasin Telegram*. The copies consulted are held at the Provincial Archives of Alberta.

Moccasin Telegram began in 1937. Unfortunately, there is only one issue left for the years 1937 to 1943. There was a hiatus from 1943 to 1946. Publication resumed in 1948 and the last issues in the Provincial Archives are from 1960.

I have carefully read all the issues up to the 1952-1953 school year. I chose to copy the articles of interest on the students' activities, leaving out those that speak of the school building itself. Also, I noted the titles of some articles of interest that were too long to copy.

These notes will show the wide variety of activities in which the students participated.



Introduction – Français

Voici les notes que j'ai prises dans le petit journal des élèves de l'école Blue Quills de Saint-Paul en Alberta : *Moccasin Telegram*. Les exemplaires consultés sont conservés aux Archives provinciales de l'Alberta.

Moccasin Telegram a commencé en 1937. Malheureusement, il ne nous est resté qu'un numéro pour les années 1937 à 1943. Il y a eu une interruption de 1943 à 1946. La publication a recommencé en 1948 et les derniers numéros qui se trouvent aux Archives provinciales datent de l'année 1960.

J'ai lu attentivement tous les numéros jusqu'à l'année scolaire 1952-1953. J'ai choisi de copier les articles d'intérêt sur les activités des élèves, laissant de côté ceux qui parlent de la bâtisse même de l'école. Aussi, j'ai noté le titre de certains articles d'intérêt qui étaient trop longs pour être copiés.

Ces notes feront connaître la grande variété d'activités auxquelles les élèves participaient.



[Only one issue. 1938. 31 pages.]

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Our Correspondence with the other Indian Schools.

As this is the third Journal we are now publishing, I wish to tell you how glad we are to help in making it. We soon found out that sending Journals to other Schools was the best correspondence we ever started. We have already received Journals from: Crowfoot School, Cluny, Alta.; St. Anthony's School, Loydminister, Sask.; Thunderchild School, Delmas, Sask.; Ermineskin School, Hobbema, Alta.; St. Albert Indian School, St. Albert, Alta.; and St. Mary's School, Kenora, Ont. We also received letters from Ile a la Crosse and Beauval, Sask. We hope they will soon be able to send us School Magazines too.

We also enjoy reading "Oke Nape", which is written by Rev. Father Lessard of Cluny, Alta.; and "The Indian Missionary Record" sent to Rev. Father Balter by its editor, Rev. Father Laviolette of Lebret, Sask.

I know that it is not only the children who enjoy reading them, but our teachers as well.

Rev. Father Langlois asked us to send our Journal to Mr. Hoey, Superintendent of the Indian Affairs' Branch at Ottawa. We felt honored at this invitation and it was a real encouragement for us.

Theresa Pasqueyak – Gr. VII

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Girls Rewarded For Four Months

The day before Christmas, Father Allard asked Sister Superior to add all the marks of the girls for Conduct and Application. Sister Superior took the marks from the Girls' Room, the Sewing Room, the Kitchen and the Classroom. That is how she found out who had the highest marks. It was Caroline Piche. We were all anxious to hear who it would be.

Father Allard took Caroline Piche to St. Paul to choose her prize. Roseanna Cardinal went with her. She bought a blue silk dress and a pair of brown slippers. The dress cost \$3.44 and the slippers \$2.95. She was so glad to get them. Sister Houle read all the girls' marks after supper that night. Some of us were ashamed of our marks.

Then on Christmas night, all the girls received their gifts. The girls having the highest marks chose their gifts first. Everyone had something and we also had a bag of peanuts and candy.

Father Allard is very kind to us and he had bought nice Christmas gifts for us.

Alice Nayaettatik – Gr. IV

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Florestine's Death

Florestine Cryer was very sick and she had to go home. When she was here, she was a very good little girl and nearly every morning she went to Mass until she fell sick. She is Ida's sister. On January 11th, at midnight, she died, but we are all glad to say she had a happy death. She talked Cree when she was going to die. She looked up and said: "Wait, I am not yet finished"; then she said to her father to live a good life and he would merit heaven when he dies. Then, she looked at my mother and said: "Do you hear God calling me? I must go now." I was not there, but it was told to me by my mother when she came to see us last Saturday, January 15. My

Mother made flowers for her coffin. What a great thing it is for a little girl of ten years old who died a happy death.

Jane Wisky-jack – Gr. V

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Typhoid Antitoxin

A little girl by the name of Julia Norwest in this School has the Typhoid Fever. When Doctor Decosse examined her on December 10th, she was taken to the hospital in Saint Paul. Then, on December 16th, Doctor came here to give us Typhoid Antitoxin so that we will not get the Typhoid Fever. We had to take the Typhoid Antitoxin three times. We did not like to take it because our arms hurt us, but we would rather have sore arms than to have Typhoid Fever. On January 9th, another girl, Anna Houle, was taken to the hospital. On January 18th, the Doctor phoned to the Nurse and told her that Anna had the Typhoid Fever. We must pray for these two girls who are suffering so much for they are our companions.

Jane Wisky-jack – Gr. V

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Our Party

One Sunday night during the Christmas Vacation, we had a little party in our room. Sister Superior and some other Sisters came. First, Sister Houle brought in a pail of peanuts and Sister Superior gave us each a handful of them. Sister Superior taught us some games.

She put a table near her with some prizes on it. The first game we played was about a whistle. Many of the girls went in the dining room to wait for their turn to come in. Sister Houle said: "We are hiding a whistle and you must find it." When it was my turn, I was scared. Sister Houle was behind me and she tied a whistle on my belt, but I did not know it. Sister Superior told me to look for the whistle. The girls were sitting around in a circle and I did not know who had the whistle. At last, I found it.

The second game was played with knives. We put a peanut on a knife and we tried to carry it a little ways and come back again. If the peanut fell, then we had no prize, and if the peanut did not fall, then we chose a prize from the table.

The third game was a three legged race and those who won had a prize from the table. Then, we danced Jigs for the Sisters and the bigger girls danced Square Dance. What fun we had though we were tired. Then, we all went to bed.

Margaret McFeeters – Gr. V

Sophie Moses – Gr. IV

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Skating and Hockey

Now that our ice is good to skate on, we can play hockey. We had to learn to skate well before we played for this is the first winter we have had a skating rink. Some of the boys knew how to skate before. We have two teams of our own. We go down the ice skating three or four of us with the puck and pass it to one another. We don't often think of the blue line. We like to talk about hockey with our teacher and he tries to make us understand the game. Sometimes we have lessons about hockey in our classrooms. We will probably play hockey with the boys of St. Paul this winter.

Clifford Wood – Gr. VII

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Sad News

As I told you in the last magazine, Nancy (Maskegs) Janvier went home. She stayed for a while in St. Louis Hospital, Bonnyville, as she had tuberculosis. We heard she was feeling better but this week Father Balter received a letter from her adopted mother telling us that she died January 29th, 1938.

Last year, when she was here, she used to be the first in her grade and she had the medal every month. She was also the first for the month of October after she came back. The letter from her adopted mother is given here.

Caroline Janvier – Gr. VI

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A Well Known Man Died

Mr. Walter Anderson had T. B. in his lungs and went to the Hospital in Edmonton in the month of March 1937. While he was there, he studied Catechism and a few weeks later, he was converted. He made his First Communion at the age of 50 and after receiving the religious instructions, he died January 24, 1938. His body was embalmed and shipped in the train to a town called Two Hills where his Mother lives, and later his nephew and his Mother brought the corpse to Saddle Lake, and a Requiem Mass was said by our Parish Priest; we buried his body in the blessed ground.

Stanislaus Redcrow

Page 17

Knitting

Most of the time, we do our knitting in our recreation room. Many of the girls learn how to knit mittens and stockings. Clara Janvier who is about eight years old is knitting a pair of stockings. She is one of the smallest girls that knits. It is so funny to see Clara sitting on a little bench while she is knitting at night with her little tired eyes.

Jane Whisky-jack – Gr. V

Page 19

Learning How to Sew

We have a sewing room in our School with twelve machines. All of the girls in Grades V, VI, and VII are out half a day learning how to sew. We are very glad to have the privilege of being taught by our patient seamstress, Sister Bourque.

This year, we had many girls that were just beginning to sew on the machines. It was very difficult for them to start. For this reason, some were allowed to continue while others failed. We, older girls, that know more about sewing thought that we were in a real factory to hear the noise they were all making. Every week, we have lots of mending to do which we do not usually like. But the beginners have to do this for we, bigger girls, are always busy making new things.

Before Christmas, Margaret Large and I helped to make our new school dresses which we now wear.

We are now busy making boys' suits and I do like to make suits. We are sure our boys will be swell in their new style greyish suits when they will go home for vacation.

We also learn how to embroider and knit. We call this work “our fancy work” which we do every Friday and this is for the Exhibition.

The little girls have made a very nice carpet out of felt cloth. They sewed different colored cloth in the shape of shamrocks and circles using the blanket stitch. It looks very pretty.

Now I must tell you how our seamstress rewards her smart girls. She gives us so much money for each article we do. It is not real money, only make believe. Then, at the end of each month, she adds up our money and the first three highest ones win the nice prizes. This month, Sister has planned to give us Bingo Party to those who had their one hundred notes through the month.

Theresa Pasqueyak – Gr. VII

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The Return of Madeleine

On Wednesday, January 26, Madeleine Lapatack came back from The Convent of The Sisters of the Assumption in St. Paul. She found the lessons too hard in Grade Nine so she came back to work. She is working in the Sewing-room, making the vacation suits for the boys.

Josephine Paskweyak, my sister, is still continuing with her lessons in Grade Nine. We wish her success in her studies throughout the year.

Alice Paskweyak – Grade VI

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A Party in Our Class-room

The evening after the lecture of the notes, Sister invited all those who had over 95% for Conduct and very good for Application during the month of January. After supper, we hurried up to do our work and came up into our class-room where we played “Bingo”. The First game was for Conduct and every one played three games. Then we played two games for all those who helped to keep the class-room in order but we did not all play that time. The last game was for all those who had over 70% for Catechism but again some of the girls did not play.

Then we had a lunch of cocoa, cookies and some candies. When we had finished eating our lunch, we helped Sister to wash and wipe the cups and to put things in order. Caroline Piche, Mary Julia Samson were the luckiest ones because they had won two games apiece. We hope that all the girls will come to the “Bingo Party” on the first of March.

Mary Julia Samson

Caroline Janvier – Gr. VI

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Our Work in the Kitchen.

This month, we are working in the kitchen. We change our work every month. We are four girls working in the kitchen, but we also have two other girls who are hired to work there too. They come from Lafond. Their names are Aurore Malo and Annette Desaulniers.

In the morning after Catechism, from half past nine until dinner time, we have a great chance to learn how to cook cakes, biscuits, pies, etc. We then prepare the dinner for the children and the staff. We also wash the dishes in the scullery and put them in order in the cupboard. After dinner, we cut some potatoes for the fricassee for the children to eat for supper.

We are not afraid to go ahead after we have learned these things. Sometimes, Sister Thibert, our cook, lets us do the cooking alone when she thinks we have learned enough. We are glad to learn these things because when we are out of school, we can cook at home.

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Mr. Alex Cardinal, the Boys' Disciplinarian is also back with us. We are very glad because he is kind and jolly. We shall do our best to do as he likes us to do.

Eric Cardinal

Page 7

Hunting Rabbits

Hunting rabbits is one of the most pleasant pastime for the boys in our dear school. Very often, on Saturday afternoon, we are free to roam wherever we wish as long as we remain on the school grounds.

After our dinner, Master gives us our sling shots and away we run to the bush. There, we just walk around looking for some game. Suddenly, we hear someone calling: "Rabbits! Rabbits!" We all run from all directions to the boy who is calling us. We circle the rabbit and we all shoot at him. He has no chance to escape, poor rabbit. He falls dead or wounded. One of the boys grabs him and he is ours. We usually get hold of about a dozen of them. Then it is time to come back. When we reach the little woods near our yard, we stop and skin our rabbits. We bring them to the sister in the kitchen. The following meal we are sur to have some good rabbit to eat.

Father Principal knows that we like to eat rabbit, so he sometimes buy some. Las week, he bought sixty of them from an Indian. Everybody in the house had some for dinner. Thanks Father!

Lewis McFeeters – Grade VIII

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Our Radio

We have a radio in our class. It was not working very well, so Mr. Alex Cardinal told our teacher that he would fix it for us. He put up an aerial and now it is working first class. The next morning, the teacher put it on before she took our lessons to show us how well it works.

We are glad and we thank Mr Alex Cardinal for fixing it for us.

Charlie Wood – Grade III

Page 9

Our Last Picnic

Who does not enjoy picnics? We certainly enjoyed our last one. The previous day, we started to prepare the lunch so that we could leave a little earlier in the morning of the picnic.

That morning, we did not have a hard time to get up. We were all so anxious to go. Around eight o'clock, the boys left in the truck with some of the smaller girls, the boys' Master and a

few Sisters. Later, the rest of the big girls left with the rest of the Sisters who were coming. Even Sister Sup. came with us. We were so glad.

We had chosen one of the nicest spots. It was a little lake surrounded by thick bush. We call it Owlseye. It is about four miles from the school.

When we got there, we walked about for a while. Then we started to organize some games. We played all kinds of games. We also build a large fire to cook our meal.

In the afternoon, we had a regular baseball game, the boys and girls together. Those who won had each a piece of apple pie.

As the weather was getting a little chilly, we came back home for supper. We were all happy because we had spent a very pleasant day.

We thank Rev. Father Principal and all the kind sisters who have done their share to make us happy. We can tell them that they have succeeded.

Elizabeth Cardinal

Page 10

Skating

We are very joyful because we are preparing the big skating rink for winter. Some boys are working at it; cleaning and levelling the ground. Others are nailing the boards or replacing the old ones.

We are going to flood our rink as soon as the weather permits. We are all anxious to skate. We hope to have a good hockey team. Hockey is our favourite sport in winter. We often play with the boys from town. Sometimes we go there, other times they come here. A hearty welcome always awaits them at Blue Quills School.

Alex Janvier – Grade VII

Page 10

Knitting

I am eleven years old and I am in Grade IV. This is the first year I learn how to knit and I like to knit. We are eight girls learning and Sister Superior is our teacher. At first, I had a hard time to understand, but now I am able to read all the directions and I can knit too. Was I glad to knit a pair of winter stockings for myself! Eva Lewis finished one of hers and is starting the second one. I am nearly finish mine also. I just have to finish it off now.

Eva J. Makokis – Grade IV

Page 12

Exhibition

No one can imagine our excitement and happiness when we heard that our school had come first at the Edmonton and Calgary Exhibition this summer.

When we came back from the holidays, we all went to the sewing room to see who had the prizes. For the sewing only, we got forty first prizes and about twenty second. In all the school, we received over a hundred prizes counting the school exhibits. This is great joy for us.

We were glad when the exhibition money came. We all went in the girls' room. Most of the Sisters were present, Father Principal gave us the money for our prizes. On that same occasion, the girls received some badges for cooking, sewing and knitting and house-keeping. They have sewed their badges on their school dresses and they are proud to wear them. We hope that many

more of the girls will get some badges next year. We also hope to have many prizes at the exhibition and come first again.

Herman Cardinal – Grade V

Page 12

Potato Harvest

In the last days of September, all the boys went to pick potatoes. We left in the morning in the wagon and came back late in the afternoon. We did not pick up many pails of potatoes because the potatoes were few. Father Principal had to go and buy some at Hobbema, in the truck.

John Steinhauer – Grade II

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Editorial

The “Moccasin Telegram” was started by the Reverend Sister Catherine Costello in 1937. She was wholeheartedly devoted to its development and progress. We may well say that her work was crowned with success.

Owing to circumstances in 1942, the publication ceased. We are now attempting to bring back to life and publish the “Moccasin Telegram”. It is of course the work of the pupils who are very enthusiastic about it.

For the printing of this issue, we had recourse to the charity of the Reverend Sister V. Metivier. She [was] kind enough to make our copies on her Ditto. We are indeed grateful and may she receive here our heartfelt thanks.

We hope that with the contributions of our friends and subscribers we may be able to buy a machine for the printing of the next “Moccasin Telegram”.

The Editor

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Broaches

Besides the girls who received badges, some have received “Broaches”. They are: Catherine Loth, Blanche McFeeters and Doris Minoose. These broaches were awarded for the three years of training which comprises: Cooking, Sewing, Knitting and House Keeping. Our sincere congratulations!

Vivian

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Christmas

When I was in school, for the Christmas holidays, we used to go to bed before the Midnight Mass. This year, it was quite different because we were home.

Around seven o’clock, we hitched up the horses and went at my grandmother’s place. There, we had lunch and smoked cigarettes. Then, we went to church for confession. There were many men, women and children in the church. As the clock struck twelve, the choir started to sing “Ekwa anotch” while Rev. Father Le Calvez came in to say Mass. Albert, Raymond and Howard

Cardinal were the servants. It was nice to see those big boys in the sanctuary; one of them taller than the priest himself.

Herman Cardinal – Grade V

Page 3

Midnight Mass at LeGoff

Our church is quite large, and this year it was full at Christmas because all the children who are usually in school, were there. There were also many protestants. There were so many persons that some had to sit on the altar steps during the sermon.

The singing was beautiful. Our dear Father LeGoff had come from Blue Quills to help our parish Priest. Father Pelletier must have been proud to see such a crowd in his church, and our dear Lord also.

Edna Minoose – Grade VI

Page 5

Inspector

On December 12th, we had the visit of Mr. Racette, our inspector. He went in the grade one class before dinner and in the grade two class in the afternoon. That evening, we had the concert in honor of our dear Father Principal. Mr. Racette attended and he thought that it was quite good.

After the concert, we had to take off our costumes and make-up. Then, we had lunch after which we went to bed. It must have been about half past eleven.

The next morning, we were very tired, but we had to get up and go to school. The inspector came in our class. Having stayed up so late the night before, we were rather sleep, except, of course, the inspector. I suppose he often stays up late so he does not mind.

Lloyd Makokis – Grade VI

Page 5

Christmas Tree

On Jan. 6th, we all met at the big girls' room where there was a beautifully decorated Christmas tree. Rev. Father Etienne Bernet Rollande, our ever devoted Principal, explained to us that those gifts, fruits and candies had been given to him for us by some kind friends. Their names are listed on the page "Honour". We are very thankful and we shall not forget those benefactors.

Maurice G. – Grade V

Page 6

Home For Christmas

It was the first time that the pupils of Blue Quills ever had the privilege of going home for the Christmas holidays.

How happy and excited we were when we found out that we would really go home. We could find nothing else to talk about but that. It's a good thing we did not learn about it sooner ... because our school work would have suffered from it, for we did not only talk about it, we also thought of it. One day in school, the teacher asked a question to an absent minded pupil who naturally could not answer. "Where were you?" she said. "At home", the child replied.

After a few weeks of anxious waiting at last the great day dawned. If we are sometimes sleepy, we certainly were not that day. Everybody was more than wide awake ... Some were packing their “things”, others dressing up, others running up to say good bye to their teachers or to some other sisters. There was a much traffic in the stairs and in the parlor corridor as there is in a bustling street of a city.

The first group left on the 17th, after dinner. The others followed soon after.

Irene Minoose – Grade X

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How We Got There

The dozen of children from Good Fish Lake, Beaver Lake, were taken home in two nice automobiles.

Because our reserve, Saddle Lake, is only 15 miles from the school, it had been decided that our parents should come and get us themselves. My father came to get me with a team and sled.

As there was no snow on the highway, we had to take another road. Our first stop was at St-Brides, where we went to the store. Then, we started off again; it wasn't too cold. We enjoyed our trip. On the way, we saw a few rabbits but we could not shoot them because we had no sling shot.

When we reached home, we were tired, but happy.

Eric C.

Page 8

Bonnyville – St. Paul

Sunday morning, Father Principal told us that the boys from Bonnyville would be coming to play hockey with us. We were very glad, even those who would only watch.

The boys from Blue Quills were good, but the players from Bonnyville were still better, because they won.

We hope that they will come again, but we hope to win the next game.

Charlie Wood – Grade III

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Witnessed Game in St-Paul

One Sunday, Father Principal was kind enough to bring all the big boys to St-Paul for a Hockey game between the army and air force men. It was a good game, but it was rough. We almost saw a fight instead of a game. We enjoyed both.

Herman Cardinal – Grade V

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Mrs. Blue Quills

During the Christmas holidays, Mrs. Blue Quills died in Saddle Lake. She was the wife of the late Chief Blue Quills in whose honor our school was named.

John, Jerome and Eva Delver who are in school with us, are the grandchildren of Mrs. Blue Quills. We offer our dear classmates our sincere sympathy.

Alex Janvier – Grade VII

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Nurses

What would we do if we had no nurses on the reservation?

At the end of December, Miss Lilly, R. N., left Saddle Lake. She had been doing her best to help the Indians in many ways. She took them to the hospital when they were sick. When they were not seriously ill, she went to their home to give them the proper care. She was loved by everybody.

Now that Miss Lilly is gone, two new nurses have come to take her place. I hope that they will be as good as the one who left. To our former nurse, Miss Lilly, we offer our sincere thanks for all her kind services, and the assurance of our souvenir. To our new nurses, we all give a very hearty welcome.

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade VII

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Contest Winner

Alex Janvier came first in the contest given by Father Principal.

While the men were painting the walls of the main hall, Father Principal asked the pupils of our class to draw a border design that could be painted on the walls of the corridor. We all tried our best, but of course Alex won, because he is the best drawer.

He had the prize ... a dollar, and he also had the chance to paint the motive (below) on the wall itself. It is very pretty. We all think that Alex is smart.

Cherrilen Martin

Page 3

Palm Sunday

On Palm Sunday, here in our Indian School, we use spruce branches instead of palms. On Saturday, we went to get the spruce branches in the woods and then we cut them small so that each child could carry one in his hands in the chapel during the ceremony on Sunday. It was very pretty to everybody carrying those blessed branches. We put them in the different rooms of the house after that.

Cecile Mooswas

Page 4

Bingo Party

On Sunday, March 12th, we had a Bingo Party. The staff organized this party for us because it was too cold for us to play outside that afternoon. We all enjoy such parties, because Father Principal, the sisters and the hired men come to play with us. Our master, Alex Cardinal, clearly called the numbers and he makes us laugh. He says fifta mine for fifty-nine; it is funny.

We, the boys and girls, all thank our kind Principal and Sister Superior for the beautiful prizes they gave us at this Bingo party.

John Delver

Page 4

Valentine Party

Some children had a Valentine Party in their class. They made all kind of valentines and put them all in a large box made like a heart. Then the teacher gave the valentines to each child whose name was written on the valentine. Some got more than one and some did not get any.

Paul Steinhauer

Page 4

After-noon Party

We always get excited when we hear the word "Party" because we know that we always enjoy ourselves at parties.

Last Sunday, we had a party in the girls' room; for everybody. Even the Fathers and the sisters came to see the fun boys and girls had. The boys had pillow-fights, high skipping and all kinds of other good games were played, boys and girls together. We also had some apples and candies. We enjoyed ourselves until supper time and then some boys were not hungry.

It was the staff who had put up this party for us because it was too wet outside for the children.

Abraham Bugle

Page 5

Games

Now that our skating rink looks like a swimming pool, we have put our dear skates away.

Base-ball games have taken place of hockey. Sunday we had a base-ball game with the girls. We had much fun.

The girls had their swings repaired. How we enjoy playing out of doors! We hear the frogs from the little mud hole which is behind the bushes. These dear frogs, they put us to sleep every night.

We also enjoy the songs of the birds. I wish we could sing as well as they do.

In the picture below [a drawing], you see the game which was played by the boys during our party in the girls' room. It was a pillow-fight between two boys who were sittin on a pipe. There was a mattress on the floor to protect those who would fall off the pipe.

It was the best game we ever saw ... especially when one of the pillows busted.

Sherreline Martin – Grade VI

Page 5

Gophers Stampede

Every Saturday and Sunday afternoon during spring, the boys go hunting gophers. They walk and walk until they see a gopher. They run after it, and when it goes into a hole, some boys watch while the others haul water which we pour into the hole. After three or four pails, the poor little gopher comes out all wet. We hit it with sticks or stones. A group of boys can kill at least thirty gophers every time they go hunting.

That makes good money at three cents a tail ...

Simon Large

Page 7

Our First Picnic

When we got up on Easter morning, it was cloudy, and none of us thought of having a picnic.

After breakfast, the clouds started to disappear and soon the sun came out. It was a very beautiful day. Then the Sister came and got some boys to make the lunch. Oh! How excited we were to find out that we were going for a picnic.

Master gave us our sling-shots for we were to go hunting in the woods. Herman and I were told hitch a team of horses and put eight bundles in the wagon. Master took the nine smallest boys besides our lunch in the wagon. All the other boys walked or ran till we reached the Terrien Lake. Then, we scattered in the woods to hunt. When we met for dinner, we had several rabbits which we roasted over the fire.

What a delicious dinner we had!

Peter Dion

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Our Indian Enterprise

This year, we are learning about how the Indians lived long ago.

We made bows and arrows, canoes, and tomahawks. We decorated our blackboard with Indian pictures. We had tepees, Indian head-dress and many animals. After, we made drawings of all these.

We like this very much because we learned many new words which we will never forget.

Elie Minoose – Grade II

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Machine on Way

A few weeks ago, we received a letter from Mr. B. Neary, telling us that he would send us a printing machine for our school journal. We were very anxious to get it.

Last week, we received a parcel. It was quite large, so we all thought it was the machine. But we were mistaken. It was not, it was only the stencils and the ink.

We were hoping to get the machine for the printing of this issue. But time went by and no machine came, so we decided to have it printed on the Bishop's Ditto.

Our always devoted Father Principal himself went to the Bishop's house to pull the copies. We are very grateful to him. We also want to give our heartfelt thanks to His Excellency Bishop Baudoux for lending us the machine.

Charlotte Collins.

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Page 2

To Ashmont

On Monday, June the 13th, Father Principal brought many boys and girls to Ashmont for a visit. As we arrived there, the Principal of that school came out to meet us and took us through all the classrooms. Later, we had a baseball game with the Ashmont pupils, after which they served us a delicious lunch.

We came back around six o'clock delighted with our trip and those who had been so nice and friendly to all of us. We shall remember this visit for a long time.

Eric Cardinal

Page 2

Carol Creek

A few days after the Ashmont pupils had come to visit us, we received the pupils from Carol Creek School. They are also very nice pupils, but much younger than those of Ashmont. After showing them our school and our exhibits, we had a baseball game with them, then we serve them lunch and it was already time to say goodbye.

We enjoy those visits; please come again.

Elizabeth Cardinal

Page 3

Pleasant News

At the end of May, we were told that the Ashmont pupils would come here for a visit. We were glad and we all wanted to do something for them. We planned to sing for them "O Canada" in Cree. As we had never known it, we were not able to learn the words by heart in two days, so we had to leave the words on the board to follow while we were singing.

Eric Cardinal of our class painted some feathers blue and with them wrote "Welcome" which he placed on the pillar in the middle of the class. It looked beautiful.

Alex Janvier – Grade VII

Page 3

Inspector's Visit

On May 31st, at half past nine, we heard a knock at the door. We all looked up in surprise because we have not often visitors during class. We were glad to see that it was the provincial Inspector of Schools, Mr. Racette. He looked jolly and kind, so we soon felt at ease with him.

He said to the sister to keep on teaching the children. After a little, he called the Grade seven in front of the class to do some arithmetic problems on the board.

At 11.30, he came down to the room for the singing lesson. In the afternoon, he came to our class again. He gave us a very interesting lesson in Social Studies.

Before leaving at 4 o'clock, he talked to the whole class. He gave us encouraging advices which we shall try to remember and put into practice. We are anxiously looking forward for his visit next year.

Herman Cardinal – Grade VI

Page 5

Clearing

During the winter, the hired men have cut down trees in front of the school to make a clearing up to the highway. This spring, the boys were asked to finish the job. They were glad to do it. We could see them running to the spot as if they were going to a picnic. They gathered the branches, twigs and stumps, piled them to make large bright fires.

Now anyone passing on the highway can see Blue Quills School very clearly. We also enjoy seeing the cars pass on the road.

Irene Minoose

Page 8

Painting

It seems that this year is a “painting year”. Many rooms in the school have been painted, the refectory, the corridors and now it is the barn’s turn. The hired man, Mr. Routhier, is painting it ... the roof green and the sides gray. The farm truck has also been painted. The doors were taken off and brought in the school to be painted by our artist Alex Janvier who was helped by Lewis McFeeters. They drew the crest and the address of our school on each door. It is very beautiful.

George McFeeters – Grade VI

Page 8

New Dresses

We children are very lucky to have everything we need here. To go home for the holidays, we were given each two sets of clothes. The first set was bought by our kind Father Principal. The other set was sewed by the sewing room girls.

All of us are now wearing our bright coloured dresses and we like them.

Everyone is thankful and wish to express their gratitude to our kind Father and also to our dear Sister B. Dumoulin who has helped the girls to make all this new set of clothes.

Albina Cardinal – Grade V

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Page 3

Exhibition Prizes – Girls

Last year, we made articles for the exhibition. They were sent to Calgary, Edmonton, and St-Paul to be exhibited.

On the 7th of Oct., Father Principal gave us the money for the prizes. Elizabeth Cardinal had the most, \$7.32; Caroline McGilvery had \$1.25 and Lillian Mechewais had \$1.15 and I, 50¢. There were many others who received prizes too.

After Father had given us the money, he asked if there were any who made anything but had received no prize. There were about 8 girls, so Father gave them \$2.00 to share.

After that, they added all the money and found out that the girls alone had \$26.21.

Edna Minoose – Gr. 7

Page 3

Exhibition Prizes – Boys

On Oct. 13, we got our Exhibition money. We hurried to prepare our room as soon as we heard that Father was coming. Father LeGoff and about seven sisters also came.

Alex Janvier got \$9.13 for the work he did. I think that he deserves all that because he worked very hard. Some boys got over \$1.00. I made \$1.13. Those who sent something but didn’t get anything were given \$2.00 to share. Our kind Father Principal gave it to Mr. Cardinal, our Master, to divide it equally for them. Thank you Father.

In all, we received \$17.13.

Marcel Piche – Gr. 5

Page 6

Rally at St. Paul

After Mass, we had our dinner and began to get ready for the rally at St. Paul. When we got there, everybody was ready to start the procession. We started from the Cathedral. Our Bishop His Excellency Bishop M. Baudoux and Bishop F. Carroll of Calgary were there too. Dr. Ayotte was acting chairman of the Family Rosary Committee. A priest from Glendon spoke in Ukranian.

We enjoyed the rally in spite of the cold weather. Millions of thanks to Father for taking us to St. Paul.

Alex Janvier – Gr. 7

Page 6

Indian Girls Form Part of the Living Rosary

Ten girls from Blue Quills left about 2:30 p. m. in Father Principal's car.

He brought were going to have the honour of being part of the living rosary.

At the school we put on our dresses, made of red paper. We took our places with the girls representing the Sorrowful Mysteries. Then the procession started. We said the Rosary and sang a lovely hymn to our Blessed Lady after each decade until we got to the baseball grounds where the procession ended.

There, we saw angels sometimes standing, sometimes kneeling in prayer before the statue of the Blessed Virgin standing on the ball of the earth.

On each side of the Blessed Virgin, were roses of all kinds of COLORS which our kind Mother loves to shower upon those who say the rosary.

Several cars followed us on the way. Some were beautifully decorated. On the side of a special big one was written "Queen of the Family Rosary, Pray for us". On it were also angels and a statue of our Lady.

While we were still admiring her, crowds of people surrounded us. Soon His Excellency Bishop M. Baudoux gave the French sermon. Then Bishop Carroll addressed a few words in English. These sermons helped us to understand the importance of saying the rosary everyday.

Then the 150 girls forming the living Rosary began saying the beads through a loud speaker carried from one girl to another by a man. He Hail Mary's were said in French, English, Ukranian or whatever the language of the speaker.

This pious celebration made a lasting impression upon each one of us.

Jane Louise – Gr. 6

Page 8

Inoculation

On Oct. 13, some of the boys and girls were inoculated for diphtheria. During recess, Rev. Sister Costello gave some cards to Mr. Alex Cardinal our Master. He called out our names and up we went to the infirmary. As soon as we saw the nurses, we knew the reason, for this was not the first time we were to get inoculated. We bravely lifted our shirts sleeves ready for the needle.

We are very fortunate to be inoculated for diphtheria for we wouldn't like to catch the terrible disease by all means.

George McFeeters

Page 11

Back to School

I am very happy to be back to school again. Father Principal came for us with the big truck. We had lots of fun riding on it. I am in grade 2 now and I work hard everyday to do my work well.

August Dion – Gr. 2

Page 12

My Holidays

We were indeed very happy to get a few weeks added to our holiday at the end of June. This was because we did not take our Easter holidays.

I enjoyed my holidays very much. I tried my best to help my mother with all the housework.

My sisters and I also helped mother make little clothes for my baby sister.

There was a big baseball game on one Sunday. Before going, we went to mass. When we got there, men and women were already singing. We also assisted at the Benediction which was immediately after mass. Then we played ball after dinner. We all let smiling for we had enjoyed our afternoon.

Jenny Shirt – Gr. 5

Page 13

New Potato Machine

We are not going to peel potatoes from now on and we will be able to get more fresh air. How glad we are to have a potato machine. It does not take long to peel them. All we have to do now is to remove the eyes and wash them. Many thanks to those who have given us the potato machine.

Eva Lewis – Gr. 4

Page 13

Picnic for Girls and Baseball for Boys

One Sunday afternoon, early in September, we asked for a picnic and were lucky enough to get it. The girls went to Owlseye Lake. They played and went in the water and had a good supper by the fire and had a real good time all afternoon. The same afternoon, we went to St. Paul to see a baseball game. We greatly enjoyed our afternoon too and we hope to see hockey games soon. A hearty thank you to all who provided these pleasures for us.

Colin Cardinal – Gr. 4

Page 14

Our Sick Ones

Three pupils went to the hospital since the beginning of the year.

Charlie Wood went for a broken leg. He is still walking with crutches and he seems to be quite an expert on them too.

Victoria Brighteyes has a cast on her right wrist but we hope that she hope that she will be able to get it off soon.

Annie Cryer went for treatment.

We wish them all the best of health very soon!

David McGilvery – Gr. 4

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Page 2

Mr. Clark's Visit

On November 29th, we gladly welcomed Mr. Clark who came to visit our school.

Mr. Clark is a very tall man and we enjoyed hearing his pleasant voice when he spoke to us.

After visiting the classrooms, he went up to the dormitories then down to the refectory where we were having our dinner.

Unfortunately, we did not have the pleasure to seeing our distinguished visitor at the concert the following evening.

We hope that his next visit will be a little longer.

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 4

Concert for Father's Feast

We were very anxious to make our concert for our devoted Father Principal. We knew that he had not seen any of the preparations so far.

His Excellency Bishop Maurice Baudoux, the fathers from St. Paul, many sisters from the hospital and school were also present. We were very happy to notice that our inspector, Mr. Racette, and Mr. Taylor were there too.

After our hearty festal song, followed sounds of music, plays, recitations and last, but not least, an attractive pantomime "Cat Pie" by the big boys.

We all did our very best so the evening entertainment was a real success.

When all was over, our kind Principal addressed us a few words; so did His Excellency, Mr. Racette and Mr. Taylor. All mentioned how well we had done and found that we had even done better than last time.

Before going up to bed, we had a tasty lunch. We jumped in bed quite tired because it was already late, but we were glad once again that we had made our Principal and friends happy.

Edna Minoose – Grade 7

Page 5

Concert for Our Parents

Since our parents could not be here for our concert, we repeated it for them.

It was a nice day, so many of them were able to come. We were very happy to repeat our plays for them and they were happy too to see their children on the stage.

Many of them came with Rev. Father Le Calvez and the others came by team.

After the concert, we all sang "O Canada", then Father Principal and Father Le Calvez both spoke in turn to us.

Immediately after all our parents went to have lunch in the girls' refectory with the two fathers. The big girls helped the sisters to serve the lunch.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 5

Page 6

Christmas Holidays

Our Christmas holidays started on the 16th of December and ended on the 3rd of January.

Our parents were happy to see us and we were happy to see them.

Some of us went home by the train, by the St. Paul School Bus, by taxi or by horse team. I went home with my brothers on the bus. We had a nice ride home and it did not take us long to get there.

After we finished helping mother in the house, we played out-doors and had plenty of fun.

We also snared rabbits and visited our neighbors.

We decorated a little Christmas tree to put near our window.

It was nice and warm on New Year's Day so we went to wish A Happy New Year to all our friends.

We came back on the third and all were glad to start studying hard once again.

Eva Jane Makokis – Grade 5

Page 7

Bus Ride Home to LeGoff

A few days after most of the boys and girls left for home, my brother Alex, my sister Elsie and I took the big white and blue bus from St. Paul for Legoff.

On the way going, we saw a car caught in the ditch. The bus stopped to help the man out, so we got home a little later.

When we reached Legoff, many people were there waiting for us.

Our parents took us home with our horses.

John Janvier – Grade 4

Page 7

Christmas at Blue Quills School

We were five boys and seven girls who did not go home for the Christmas holidays. But our parents came to see us here. Some of them stayed with us for a few days.

Father Principal gave some picture shows for us and we went skating on the boys rink very often. We also went sliding nearly every day.

We sang with the sisters for midnight mass.

After mass, we found the stockings which Sister Superior had filled with candies and all kinds of things for us.

Thank you Sister Superior.

Margaret Lapatak – Grade 4

Page 11

Our Christmas Presents

Last Friday evening, Jan. 6, the boys came to our room to receive Christmas presents which were sent to us.

We received these gifts from many kind friends.

Mr. Weisler from Edmonton sent us some tams, pretty scrabs, ties and belts, handkerchiefs and some candies too.

Mr. Skitch from St. Paul sent us some nice red juicy apples.

We also received candies from the Wholesale and from Mr. Drolet.

Father gave us new games for the room and new sleds.
We thank you all for all these nice and useful things.
After we received our presents, we had another show.
Joyce Cardinal – Grade 8

Page 13

I Went Home with my Daddy's Horses

My daddy came to get my brother Philip and I for the Christmas holidays. We went home with his horses.

Angelique Cardinal

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Page 4

Prizes

About the beginning of November, we wrote an Essay for a contest about T. B. We were all happy to take part in it and everyone got busy on making compositions and posters.

In January an answer came. We were all sitting quietly doing our work when our teacher announce the big news: "Do you remember about the compositions you wrote on T. B.?" Lloyd Makokis won 10 dollars for his essay. Alex Janvier received 5 dollars for his poster and Cherylene Marten 2 dollars for hers.

Congratulations to the lucky ones.

Page 7

Our Party

After Christmas, we had a party. Grade one came to our class. We played many games. After, our teacher, Sister A. Sutherland, gave us a picture show. We had a lunch before going away. We enjoyed our party very much. Our new teacher, Sister Lucille Gamache, promised us another party the week after Easter if we are good.

Josephine Janvier – Grade 2

Page 9

The Pee-wees

One of the most valuable types of exercise is one that develops the muscles of the body. Hockey does it.

One night, we, the bigger boys, went to see a hockey game that took place in the arena at St. Paul. It was fun to watch the little players of Blue Quills, the Pee-Wees. Every time there was a score, we screamed and cheered.

There were three periods and we skated while de players rested.

When the game was over, the boys went in the dressing room to untie their skates. We all came home gladly for we had won the game with a score of 9-1.

Lloyd Makokis – Grade 7

Page 10

The Trip to Edmonton

On March 7, we went to Edmonton to have our eyes examined by Doctor Wannop. We went with Rev. Father Rollande, principal, and Rev. Father Michaud.

On the way we stopped by a place called “Elk Island Park” and we saw the buffaloes. It was the first time that I was seeing these.

When we reached Edmonton, we went to Charles Camsell Hospital to have our dinner. We say a few persons whom we knew.

We certainly enjoyed our trip to the Capital and were very glad to have our kind Principal who does so much for us.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 6

Page 11

The Little Knitters

The girls of grades 2, 3, & 4 are very busy just now. What are they doing you may ask? They are knitting boys’ socks. Many are finishing their first pair. I have already knitted four pairs. I hope the boys will be proud to wear them next winter.

Emilia Bugle – Grade IV

Page 13

Toboggans

Reverend Father Principal bought six toboggans for the boys and girls. It is fun to slide down the hill. We greatly appreciate them.

Thanks, Father, for having given us such a lovely gift.

David McGilvery – Grade IV

Page 13

Mending Stockings

Twice a week, twenty girls go to mend the boys’ stockings.

One Saturday afternoon, Sr. I. Schwartzenberger took us out to skate as a reward. It was lots of fun.

We hope that we will get another reward soon.

Aldina McFeeters – Grade IV

Page 13

Hockey Game

We went to St. Paul on March 30 to take part in a hockey game. We won, the score was 3-0. Donald Whiskyjack, Noel Charland and I were the ones that made the points. This was our last game for the season, but we hope that next year we are going to play with them many times.

David McGilvery – Grade IV

Page 13

Correspondence

One day our Supervisor asked if someone would like to correspond with a girl named Margaret Joseph from Prince Rupert, B. C.

I was glad to do it. Marg. is suffering very much. She has been in a cast for 3 years. I am anxious to hear from her again.

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade VIII

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Our New Swings

We have new steel swings this spring. They're all nice. We have lots of fun with them. The boys have six and we have eight. The pupils are happy to have them. Sincere thanks to Reverend Father Principal for buying the swings.

Dorothy Wiskyjack – Grade III

Page 3

Off and On

This is the third time that we are in quarantine for measles. We do hope that the card shall be off the front door for good, for we are anxious to see our parents.

Irene Dion – Grade IV

Page 5

Sewing Room Picnic

Our Principal, Rev. Father E. Bernet Rollande willingly granted our sewing-room teacher's wish to give us an afternoon off. Sr. C. Dupont gave us a picnic at Therien Lake.

At 2.00 P. M. we were all at the picnic grounds. We did enjoy our stroll along the lake on in the woods. As we were getting ready for supper, we had a pleasant surprise. Father Principal came to spend an hour with us, bringing each one a revel. We are very thankful to Father and Sr. Dupont for giving us such a nice afternoon.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 5

Page 7

Our First Communion

Seven girls and fourteen boys from grade one and two made their first Communion on April the 6. They all look so happy and we were glad to see them looking so nice in their white dress and blue suit.

Mary Adeline Cardinal – Grade II

Page 7

Our Bird Show

We had a nice show here in our classroom. We saw many birds which we had learned. It was fun to tell the name of the birds as they came.

We liked our show very much.

Rosalie Wiskyjack

Page 10

Baseball Game

Spring is just around the corner and already we have played four games with the St. Paul boys. As yet we have been lucky winners and we hope to do so in the coming games.

The first game we played was with a score of 7 to 2, the second game with 8 to 5, the third with 24 to 5 and the last with a score of 14 to 12.

Next to hockey, baseball is a sport which we like to take part in and we are looking forward to our next meeting with St. Paul.

Lloyd Makokis – Grade VII

Page 13

Our First Picnic

One bright sunny Wednesday morning, after our breakfast, we went out picnicking. The boys were all ready by 9. o'clock. We all went together and had dinner about a mile from the school.

After lunch we went hunting. By 5.00 o'clock, the children were back to the school. We were all joyful after our pleasant picnic.

Lloyd Makokis – Grade VII

Page 13

The Girls' Picnic

On the 16th of April, we had our first spring picnic. When we heard we were to have it, we were much excited, and I forgot some of the articles I was to bring with me.

When we arrived at Owlseye Lake, some of the smaller girls went to the woods to gather some sticks for the fire, while the bigger girls were preparing dinner.

We enjoyed ourselves playing games and ball, but at the end of the game the other team won.

After supper, we waited about half an hour for the truck to come for us. We were tired but happy of our day.

Gladys Paul

Page 14

Trip to Edmonton

As a reward for doing decorations on the liturgical altars, I was given the opportunity of visiting for the first time Edmonton.

Our departure occurred at 9:00 A. M. On the way, we stopped by the roadside to have lunch. Late noon, we arrived at St. Albert and visited the old museum.

Early next morning, we strolled along the noisy streets of Edmonton. We visited the Art Gallery and saw some real nice paintings. It was also interesting to see the Radio Station.

Finally, after a pleasant holiday, we said farewell to the city.

On our way, we stopped to see the buffaloes, but saw none of the shaggy, wild plain animals. At noon, we reached our dear school. Boy was I ever glad to see it, for anything is not greater than home.

My sincere gratitude to Rev. Father E. B. R. for taking me to the city.

Alex Janvier – Grade VII

Page 14

Queen Victoria's Day

Yesterday the boys and girls had a holiday because it was Queen Victoria's Day. All the children enjoyed their holiday.

The boys went to the lake 2 miles south from here, while the girls went to Cork, a few miles from our school.

We had a good time, for we played games and went sight seeing in the woods.

Rev. Father came by truck to take us back to the school.

Frank Charland – Grade IV

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Flu Epidemic

After the first snow storm, we had a mild flu epidemic at the school. Many boys and girls were sick. At one time, Father Principal was taking children to the St. Paul Hospital every day. Luckily they were not very sick. They each stayed only three or four days. The only one who stayed longer was Eva Jane Makokis. She stayed nearly a month but she was sick with something else besides the flu. She is back now.

While the children were in hospital, we were praying every day for them to get better.

Page 3

Schoolmates to Camsell Hospital

During the summer chest examinations were given to the people of Legoff Reservation, After the children came back from the summer holidays, the District Nurse told Father that three children were sick with T. B. They are: Jimmy Herman, Elsie Janvier and Evangeline Janvier. Their parents all came to see them for a few days at the school. Knowing they were sick, they were glad to let them go to Camsell Hospital to be cured.

On Tuesday, October 10th, Father Principal took them to the train in St. Paul. Charlie Houle, of Good Fish Lake Reserve, was with them. He too is sick with T. B.

We shall pray that all of them will be cured quickly.

David McGilvery – Grade 5

Page 3

Hunting

Nearly every Saturday afternoon, all the boys go out hunting with their slingshots. One day, I and a group of big boys went out to kill some rabbits. We were about two miles from the school. We saw a rabbit and started shooting with our slingshots. But instead of hitting the rabbit, all I hit was my thumb.

There was another bunch of boys who were hunting there too and they wanted to send us away. But we told them that they didn't create the earth; so they went away.

On the way back to the school after the hunt, I found a leather rein. And I am going to give it to my dad.

David Wiskyjack – Grade 5

Page 4

Play Ball! Play Ball!

The morning of September 27th, we were surprised to see the ground covered with a white blanket of snow. We really thought we were dreaming at first. But when we looked through the window, we saw all the yellow and red leaves gone. How sad it was to see them all gone without a last goodbye.

We were happy to get into our warm clothes and go outside. In no time white balls were going back and forth. It was a lot of fun. We called it: Play Ball! Play Ball!

Then, a few days later, the rain started to fall. The ground lost its white blanket and was left with a grey and muddy one.

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 5

Coming Back to School

Our family was working near Viking when the time came for my brother and I to come back to school. After saying goodbye to the rest of the family, the two of us with our parents took the train to Edmonton. It was a nice ride. We stopped at nine stations. We got a room for the night in the city and spent the evening at the theatre. Next morning, we visited many places and we bought clothes at the Army & Navy store. We had an early dinner as we had to take the train for St Paul at 12.30. We said goodbye to our father and mother and our little baby brother and started off. At St Paul, Father Principal was at the station with the car to meet us. We were glad to be back and glad to see our school too.

Alphonse Delver – Grade 6

Page 5

Junior Red Cross

We are glad to have the Junior Red Cross Club in our class again this year. Eliza Marie Large was named president; Lillian Metchawes, secretary; Pauline Janvier, Treasurer; and John Janvier, circulation Manager. We want to work hard and do pictures, knitting and woodwork for our Club, the Maple Leaf.

Rosie Charland – Grade 3

Page 6

Red Cross Club

In our classroom, we have re-organized our Red Cross Club for the new year and elected our officers as follows: Sophie Cardinal, President; Elizabeth Cardinal, Secretary; Herman Cardinal, Treasurer and Alex Janvier, Circulation Manager. The committees have been formed and they will have to give an account of their work at the next meeting. The Health Committee has the job of promoting good posture and is quite active.

This is the way to live up to our motto: I serve!

Herman Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 6

On the Air

Very Sunday from Radio Station CHFA, Edmonton, there is a radio program in Cree for the Cree Indians of Northern Alberta. Sunday, October 1st was the day chosen for the children of Blue Quills to take part in the program. We sang three hymns and Father Principal gave a short sermon. The program was broadcast on the Sunday, but we did not hear it, as the hour for the program had been changed. We would have liked to hear ourselves sing.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 8

Picture Show

It was on a Tuesday night during the study period that the boys and girls of grade four had a surprise. Father Lessard came into the classroom holding a little machine. He set it up on a table and put a screen on the Teacher's desk. The Sister showed us many pictures of flowers, lakes, rivers, waterfalls and valleys. We also saw high mountains from around Banff and pictures of many cities of Canada.

The other classrooms have had pictures shows too. We thank Father Lessard for lending us his picture show machine and hope he will lend it to us again.

Colin Cardinal – Grade 4

Page 8

Visit of Our Lady

It was on Thursday afternoon of September 28th that we had the visit of the Statue of our Lady of the Cape. The Statue is visiting from one end of the country to the other.

During the evening, we had a Holy Hour. We recited the Rosary and sang hymns in front of the statue which was in the sanctuary of the school chapel. The statue is very beautiful.

The priest who accompanies the Statue spoke to us after supper and told us many wonderful stories.

During the night, we had Midnight Mass. Father preached again. The next evening we had a Holy Hour; we recited the rosary and sang some hymns. Saturday afternoon, we all went to the chapel; the priests said "Goodbye" to us and the beautiful statue of Our Lady of the Cape was put in the trailer and left for St. Paul. For a souvenir of this visit, we were each given a medal of Our Lady. Many thanks to the Priests who brought Her for a visit.

Pupils of Grade V

Page 10

Dentist's Visit

On October the 10th, Dr. Corley, Dentist of the Indian Department, visited the school to start the examination of our teeth. Few of the girls had to have their teeth pulled. We were very glad to hear the Dentist say: "The girls won the score". I suppose you will be wondering what I mean by that. It is that we girls are more faithful to brush our teeth and more often.

Doctor Corley visited the school every day for two weeks before all the work was finished. We thank Dr. Corley for his visit.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 10

Retreat

Our weekend retreat which lasted three days has come and gone. Reverend Father Fournier, O. M. I., Provincial, instructed us in English and Father Calvez of Saddle Lake in Cree.

I could have listened to Father Fournier for hours and hours. He talked to us on our spiritual needs, and also taught us the value of prayer and of the sacrifice of the Mass. Fr. Calvez repeated the sermons to the Cree Children in their language.

We thank Father Fournier and Father Calvez and we will offer our little sacrifices for them in gratitude.

Alex Janvier, Grade 7 Sr.

Page 10

Chief of Good Fish Lake Visits School

Oh, how surprised I was to see that Ruben Bull, Chief of Good Lake Reservation, on Wednesday Oct. 23. I'll bet the people of Good Fish are mighty proud of him, so are we. He came in the class room with Father Principal and told us we were all looking fine and healthy. He told us some stories of the time when he was a boy. Afterward, Father Principal made him visit the whole school. We are glad of Chief Bull's visit and hope that some more chiefs from other reserve will pay a visit to our school. They will certainly be welcome.

Maurice Grandbois & Eva Cardinal – Grade VII

Page 11

Exhibition Prizes

On Wednesday Oct. 24th, all the boys and girls gathered in the girls' room. Father Principal read out the list of prizes won by the pupils of Blue Quills School at Calgary and Edmonton Exhibitions. He also gave out the money for these prizes. Albina Cardinal had the greatest number of prizes and won more than \$7.00.

Father thanked all the children for their good work and also all the Sisters who encouraged us in our work.

Jenny Shirt & Irene Dion

Page 12

Wedding Bells at Saddle Lake

On Thursday, October 26th, Angelique Pasqueyak, one of our former schoolmates, was married to Patrick Half, at the Sacred Heart Church, Saddle Lake. Father Calvez married them.

It was a very big wedding. Many people had come from Onion Lake, Beaver Lake, Long Lake and Duvernay and from all over Saddle Lake Reservation.

Catherine, the bride's sister, went home for the wedding and when she came back, she told us all about it.

The wedding breakfast was held at the home of Victoria Bright Eyes. The wedding cake was very beautiful. It had been made at the school by the girls under the direction of Sister Chartier.

In the evening, a dance was held at the home of the parents of the bride. There was lots of food for everybody.

Genevieve Mooswa – Grade 5

Page 13

During the holidays, I helped my mother with the housework. Being the oldest, I kept my baby brother while my mother went out. It was fun to watch Roy and my little sister playing. Often after my work was done, I went out to play with them.

Beatrice Makokis – Grade 4

Page 13

During July and August, I enjoyed my vacation, spending the time with my parents and friends. The first thing I did was to help my mother inside the house, washing dishes and sweeping the floor everyday. Every evening, I walked to the home of my grandparents and helped them to milk the cows.

This summer, I went to Long Lake for the Pilgrimage. I liked it very much and hope to go again.

Pauline Janvier – Grade 4

Page 13

On the 23rd of June all the children went home for the summer holidays. All those from Legoff went back in the truck. We sure enjoyed our trip. All our parents were waiting for us at the Mission. We were glad to see our parents.

During the summer, I helped my mother to do the work in the house. Sometimes I helped my father outside when my brother was not home.

My mother and I went to Lake Ste. Anne for the Pilgrimage. It was nice to go there.

Lillian Metchawes – Grade 4

Vol. 8, No. 2 – November-December 1950**Page 2****School Paper Staff**

I suppose you would like to know the staff of our school paper. I am glad to introduce them to you, as follows:

Editor-in-Chief: Sophie Cardinal

Associate Editor: Edna Minoose

Art Editors: Alex Janvier & Maurice Grandbois.

Reporters: Herman Cardinal, Eric Cardinal & Elizabeth Cardinal.

I am happy to say that they will do their best to make the magazine most interesting. I hope you will enjoy our school paper this year.

Eva Cardinal, Grade 7 Jr.

Page 4**Home, Sweet Home!**

November 4th. Caroline was rushed to the hospital immediately after she had accidentally cut her left index finger in the meat chopper.

Naturally, it had to take some time to have her hand cured, so she stayed at the hospital for ten dreary days. But she received very good attention.

She came back on the 9th of November, and though it was a pity to see her with a missing finger, we were very glad to have her back.

Sophie Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 4

Band Practice

November 9th. We have received Band Instruments, but that is not all. We must practice. The Band is pretty well under way under the direction of Father Lyonnais. We will be a pretty good band if we cooperate with Father and show up for practice everyday at 4 o'clock. We also have received Band Books and Music Stands.

Marcel Piché – Grade 6 Jr.

Page 5

Skates

November 10th. On Friday night, our master, Mr. Alex Cardinal, told us that he would give out the skates. Everybody started yelling. The one of the boys said: "The rink is not finished yet".

But Mr Cardinal told us that we could go and skate all day Saturday at the little lake near the school.

After the chores were finished in the morning, we went skating and again all afternoon. Boy! Time flew fast that afternoon and many boys were tired and glad to get to bed.

Herman Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 5

X-Ray Day

November 14th. Three nurses from Camsell Hospital of Edmonton were at Blue Quills school Tuesday to take an X-Ray of every pupil. Nurse Murphy was in charge. All morning, the girls and their X-Rays taken and in the afternoon it was the turn of the boys. Mr. Taylor, Superintendent, brought many boys and girls from Goodfish and Mr. Comiré brought a load from Saddle Lake.

Next morning, we were surprized when we saw two girls all dressed up. They were going with the nurses to Camsell Hospital for a few days for special treatment. They were Eva Jane Makokis and Josephine Janvier.

I'm just wondering if I will be the next to go to Camsell. I hope not, but if I have to, I will be glad to go because that is the only way to cure any kind of sickness in a short while. I hope everybody thinks like me.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 7 Jr.

Page 6

Movies

Since Father Principal got a Moving Picture Machine for us, we have had a show every week and sometimes two or three times a week. I want to tell you about the one we had on November 15th.

It was all about health.

In one film, we saw a girl visiting her mother who was T.B. When the mother coughed, she did not put a handkerchief over her mouth. So she gave germs to her daughter.

In the other films, we saw the difference in the health of the people who are clean and those who are not clean. People who are clean wash their hands before eating and kill germs. They keep flies away from their food. They sweep the house clean and also they rake the yards around their houses.

People who are not clean do not sweep their floors. They do not wash their hands before eating and they swallow many germs which cause sickness.

We like to see these health films.

Josephine Whiskyjack – Grade 5

Page 8

Return from Hospital

Friday, November 24th, Ursula Shirt came back from Camsell Hospital, Edmonton. We had not heard that she was coming back so soon. On that day, every boy and girl of our class had written to her.

How glad we were when we heard some girls say: “Ursula is back”. Her three sisters and her brother, all school pupils, were more than glad to see her looking so well.

Martha Gladue – Grade 3

Page 8

Stampede Show

On Monday, November 27th, Father Principal gave us a special show. It was all about Charlie Chaplin and we laugh very much. Father has many old films of Charlie Chaplin and a special machine to show them.

After these films, we saw another long one. We clapped our hands when we read the title: “St. Paul Stampede, 1947” in color. First, we saw the parade through town. Then we saw the Stampede on the Exhibition Grounds. There were some Indians who took part in the events. I know two of the Long Lake boys who did some roping and riding: Sam Dumais and Jerry Badger. The event I liked best was Bareback Riding.

Amelia Bugle – Grade 5

Page 9

Recording Indian Songs

November 15th. On Wednesday, Father Lessard had a recording made of four Indian songs on his Tape Recording Machine. There were four boys who were doing the singing: Albert and Gabriel Cardinal, Donald McGilvery and of course myself.

We sang an Owl Dance Song and then we listened to ourselves. We laughed at ourselves because we had made some mistakes. So, we started over again. We sang four songs and this time we sang them well.

Rome Paul – Grade 5

Page 9

Indian Stories

November 16th. On Wednesday, Father Lessard came to the girls’ room with his Tape Recording Machine. First, he played for us the hymns from the Cree program which we had recorded the week before.

Then, we listened to some Indian stories of the Okanagan Indians. The first one was: “Why the Chipmunk has stripes on his back”. We also heard the story: “Why the rabbit has a short tail”. We had never heard these stories and we liked them very much.

Last of all, Father played Indian songs that we had oftener heard on the reserve. These were sung by boys of the school.

Edna Minoose – Grade 7

Page 10

Flooding the Rink

November 16th. All the boys are glad that we have started to flood the rink. We were waiting for some real cold weather and for more snow on the ground.

We were very anxious to start flooding the rink as we want to play hockey which is our favorite winter game.

The flooding is under the direction of our Master, Mr. Alex Cardinal, and we are thankful also for the help of his brother-in-law, Mr. Jos Larose, who, even though he doesn't skate, is helping us out of the goodness of his heart.

The Fathers too are very anxious for the rink to be finished as they promised to play hockey with us. We will do our best to try and beat them.

Herman Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 11

Annual Concert

On the 29th of November, we once again had the pleasure of presenting our school concert in honor of Reverend Father Principal. It was not really his feast, but as we would be home for the Feast Day of St. Stephen, we had the concert at an earlier date.

Guest of honor at the concert were his Excellency Bishop Baudoux, Bishop of St. Paul, our Indian Agent, Mr. Taylor, and Mrs. Taylor, our District Nurse, Mrs. Caskey, and Mr. Caskey, and the agent of Saddle Lake, Mr. Comiré and Mrs. Comiré. We had also as guests many sisters from the St. Paul Hospital and Sisters of the Assumption from the St. Paul School.

When the concert was over, Father Principal made a speech and told us we had done well and to pray for him. He gave us a holiday for the following day. His Excellency the Bishop also spoke to us. Finally, Mr. Taylor congratulated all the pupils on the beautiful concert and announced to us the good news that we could leave on Dec. 21st for our holidays to return to school on January 9th.

Before going to bed, we had a tasty lunch of doughnuts and cocoa, then off to bed.

Edna Minoose – Grade 8

Page 13

Festival

On Thursday, November 30th, the pupils had the holiday given to us by Father Principal. The Hockey Rink was finished and a Festival was held on the ice. Fathers Lyonnais and Gagnon had been preparing this Festival for a long time.

In the morning, we had all kinds of games on the ice for the boys and the girls. Nearly everybody had a chance and there were prizes for all. There were potato races, candle races, and many games I don't even know the name of. In one race, we had to skate backwards, but I was not very good on my skates and fell down at the first step.

In the afternoon, there was a Hockey Game between the Reds and the Blues. This was won by the Reds. This must have been their lucky day, because they have lost every game since to the Blues.

We enjoyed our Festival Day very much and we thank Fr. Principal and all the Fathers for this nice holiday.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 6

Page 13

Visit of Colonel Neary

While visiting all the Indian schools in Canada, Colonel Neary spent Saturday, December 2nd, at Blue Quills School and the Day Schools of Saddle Lake and Goodfish Lake. He visited all the school, and was able to see part of the concert which we were putting on for our parents. He heard the boys play the band and congratulated them on being able to play two selections with only three weeks' practice. The boys presented him with a leather Photo Holder and the girls presented him with an embroidered Table Runner.

We home Colonel Neary will come again for here the best welcome is awaiting him.

Alex Janvier – Grade 8

Page 14

Concert for Parents

It was really a pleasure to repeat our little concert for our parents, on Saturday, December 2nd. Not only was it a pleasure, but it was a very exciting day for the pupils, for most of us had our parents present. You can imagine what a crowd there was. This was the biggest audience of parents we ever had at Blue Quills.

The numbers which seems to please the parents most were Alouette and the two Band Selections.

After the Concert, all the parents were served a lunch in the dining room, which I am sure they all enjoyed.

Sophie Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 15

Hockey Game in St Paul

On Sunday afternoon, December 17th, thirty five boys piled into the School truck and went to the St. Paul arena to see a game played between St. Paul and the Vegreville Rangers.

It was a very good game which ended in a tied score 7-7.

When we came out of the arena, it was storming, but Mr. Routhier got us home in no time. We sure enjoyed our afternoon and thank our Master, Mr. Cardinal, and Father Lyonnais, for arranging this trip for us.

I remember that day very well, for when Father Principal came back from Saddle Lake in the afternoon, he brought me and my brother each a nice warm parka sent by my parents.

Jerome Delver – Gr. 4

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Page 2

Girl's Choir on the Air

During the week before the Christmas Holidays, we, the Senior Girls, recorded Christmas Carols for the Cree Radio Programme. We anxiously waited for December 23rd. It was nice to tune in C.H.F.A Edmonton at 4.30 on that day and hear ourselves sing the old hymns full of Christmas spirit. On that day too, our own Father Principal made the sermon and reminded us of the first Christmas.

Edna Minoose – Grade 8

Page 2

Junior Boys on the Air

I hope many of our readers enjoyed as I did the pleasure of hearing the Junior Boys' Choir under the direction of Father Lyonnais singing hymns over the radio on January 6th. This was their first chance on the weekly Cree programme and I was really thrilled to hear them sing so well. Father Lessard made the recording before we left for the holidays.

Congratulations, Juniors, for your first success!

Eric Cardinal – Grade 8

Page 3

Christmas at School

Not all the children went home for Christmas. A few of us stayed here at the school. All the children were leaving by groups. The last to leave were those from Legoff and Cold Lake. When we went in to supper, we knew that all the children were having supper at home.

This is what happened to us during the holidays. On Christmas Eve, we went to Midnight Mass. We heard all three masses. Then we went to bed. In the morning, we found that our stockings were full of candies and other things.

On New Year's Eve, we also went to Midnight Mass, but there was only one Mass.

One day, the Master took us to town and we went to the show. Another day, we went in to see Santa in one of the stores. One afternoon, many Sisters came from the hospital and some skated with us. Everyday, we skated on the rink. One afternoon, I was trying to learn how to stop quickly. When I tried to stop, I fell over. I couldn't stop laughing and Amelia too.

We also went sliding everyday, and we would get covered with so much snow that we had to come in and get it taken off. We had lots of fun during our children, but all the same, we were happy when the first children arrived from Long Lake after their holidays.

Florence Laymen – Grade 5

Page 6

Off to Skate

One Sunday afternoon, shortly after the holidays, Sister told us that we could use the rink all afternoon. We were sure glad because it had been more than three weeks since we had skated. Sometimes at home, I would go and sit by the lake and say: I wish I had some skates with me.

Many of the girls surely can skate well now. Linda Houle who is only eight years old is one of the champion skaters. Also Margaret Lapatak. Many thanks to Father Principal and to the Sisters for all the skating we are able to do this year.

Annie Collins – Grade 5

Page 8

Knitting Socks

Before Christmas, some of the girls started again to knit socks for the boys. My cousin Rosalie made five pairs before going home for the holidays.

Now, most of the girls are knitting. On January 16th, Sister Lefevre gave us each a pair of needles and let us choose the color of wool we wanted. I think that Pauline Janvier has made the nicest pair yet. They are light red and blue with all kinds of designs. Nearly all the small girls are knitting now; each is expected to knit three or four pairs by spring.

At the moment, 106 pairs of boys' socks have been knitted.

Josephine Whiskyjack – Grade 5

Margaret Lapatak – Grade 5

Irene Gladue – Grade 5

Page 9

Shower Baths

During the Christmas Holidays, the engineer of the school, Mr Dubois, installed shower baths for the girls downstairs in the washroom. They were all ready for us on Friday, January 19th. There are six showers and two, even three girls can use them at the same time. They are very nice and handy. Instead of taking all day with the tubs, it takes about two or three hours for all the girls to have their bath.

There is only one thing. When we came out of the bath, all our curls are gone, and we have to curl our hair all over again. But just the same, we like having the showers.

Our thanks to Father Principal for this new improvement.

Gladys Paul – Grade 6

Lydia Cardinal – Grade 6

Page 10

Young Artists

On Sunday evening, January 28th, an opportunity to develop our talents was given to each one of us. All the boys and girls were gathered in our playroom, and everyone was invited to sing, play music or recite according to each one's ability. We had certainly a most interesting evening.

The boys gave us many good laughs with their jokes and their pantomimes. Mr. Cardinal played the banjo and then Alex Janvier and I played the mouth organ. My sister Mary and I sang "Blue Eyes Crying in the Rain" in two parts, accompanied on the guitar by Emma Cardinal. Elizabeth and Caroline sang one of their favorites.

Best of all were the encouraging words of Father Principal. He hoped we would have these happy gatherings more often.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 6

Page 10

Flu

On the third of February, some girls suddenly started to have headaches, colds and sore throats. At first, nine girls were sick, then eight, then many more. Many boys were in bed too.

For four or five days, there were no classes. All the children went to bed for a good rest. Many of the sick children stayed in bed for about a week. I was in bed for a week too.

While we were sick, the school was in quarantine.
Josephine Whiskyjack – Grade 5

Page 12

Besides the Washing Machines, there is also a new mangle in the Laundry Room. It was put up on January 22nd. The ironing is sure speeded up. With the old mangle, the girls did not have a chance to do any ironing, but now, we are looking forward to iron our dresses ourselves. We are not used to it, but pretty soon we will be able to iron as fast as the sisters do.

Jennie Shirt – Grade 6

Page 12

Promotion

Alphonse Makokis came to Grade 3 after January 12th. We are glad to have him in our class. He is good at reading, but he is just like me for arithmetic. He has a hard time.

Augustine Dion – Grade 3

Page 13

Came From Camsell

At last Eva Jane Makokis is back from the Camsell Hospital. She went there on the 15th of November. It must be a very good hospital. They sure treated her well. She looks so tall, fat and healthy now.

We are very glad to have her back and she is trying hard to catch up on all the class work, because she missed classes for a long time. We hope she succeeds.

Margaret Lapatak – Grade 5

Page 13

Hockey Game

We sure were excited on Monday night when Master told us that the big boys would be playing hockey in the St. Paul arena with the St. Paul Intermediates. We all went to the garage for a ride in the truck. We were very anxious when the truck wouldn't start. But finally it started and we got to St. Paul.

In the first period of the game, Herman made one goal and I made the second one. St. Paul tied the score. In the third period, Herman made two more goals and proved himself the hero of the game, for it ended 4-2 for Blue Quills. So we won that time; and I hope we will win again the next time.

David McGilvery – Grade 5

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Page 6

Army Cadets

Since the beginning of the year, Father Principal had invited the Army to sponsor a troupe of Army Cadets at Blue Quills.

On March 15th, the Army assigned an instructor, Sergeant Blackwell who is also a veteran of the Last War, though a young man. He comes every other Friday to give instructions and drills, and Master Alex Cardinal who is also a veteran, drills the boys on alternate Fridays.

Sergeant Blackwell started our training with a talk in which he told us that Army training is always useful, even in civilian life, because it makes a man quick in action.

Then he organized the platoon and taught the boys what the different commands mean, how to come to attention, how to stand at ease, and how to make right and left turns.

After the drills, he made us play two games in which we were very interested. When the time came for him to leave, we wished him goodbye. We hope he will be able to come many, many times.

Herman Cardinal – Grade 8

Page 7

My Grandmother's Death

March 22nd. Just a few days before Easter, I received the bad news of the death of my grandmother. My father came to get my brother and me at the school. When we got home that night, there were a lot of people, praying, saying the rosary and singing hymns. This was done for four days till the priest arrived and the funeral was held at the church. We stayed one more day at home and then came back to school.

Alphonse Delver – Grade 6

Page 7

Holy Thursday

March 22nd. On Holy Thursday in the evening, forty-five of us, boys and girls, were chosen to assist at the Holy Hour at the Cathedral in St. Paul. So you can imagine that we were glad, because it was our first chance to see such a ceremony. Some of us went in the school car and others in the truck. In the church, we were given the front pews so we could see everything.

First of all, His Excellency the Bishop spoke to us and told us the meaning of the evening ceremony. Then there was the Washing of the Feet. While the Fathers were singing hymns in Latin, the Bishop washed the feet of twelve boys, just like Jesus did at the Last Supper for his Apostles.

Then all the clergy went in front of the Repository for prayers. We sang many hymns.

This hour of prayers was over quickly and soon it was time to come back home.

Lydia Cardinal – Grade 6

Page 8

Last Ice

March 24th. On the afternoon of Holy Saturday, I enjoyed my last skating thrills for the season. The ice had already started to melt. The sun poured its hot rays on the ice, the ice that had served us so well during our recreational hours, especially during the exciting games in which I participated.

But now the equipment has been packed away for the summer. And out of the lockers have come the baseballs, bats and gloves.

Alex Janvier – Grade 8

Page 9

Candy Party

March 26. Guess what we planned to do for the afternoon of Easter Monday? Well, first of all we went outside and found some clean white snow. With it we made three tables or platforms, three feet wide, by four feet long and four feet high. Then we made some taffy. In no time at all it was cooked, and we brought it out to our tables of snow.

The taffy would melt the snow for a couple of inches then it would be quickly frozen. And it was good to eat! Better than store candy!

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 9

Out of Quarantine

March 28th. After being in quarantine for flu, we were put back in quarantine because there were a few cases of mumps in the school. Finally, on March 28th, the quarantine card was taken off the front door.

We were all glad to be out of quarantine before Saturday so that our parents could come and visit with us. In fact, on the following Saturday, there were very many parents at the school to see their children and to take them to town.

Edna Minoose – Grade 8

Page 13

[Programme of the concert for the feast of Sister Superior.]

Page 14

Sign of Spring

April 8th. Today was the first day during which we saw some ducks. The boys were saying: Boy! Oh boy! Look at the ducks flying over there.

There are lots of them around. There is a small pond in front of the school formed by spring thaw and there are many ducks swimming on it. When we go to the classroom we can see them swimming.

Donald Whiskyjack – Grade 5

Page 14

To Edmonton

The weekend after Easter, Father Lyonnais went to Edmonton for four days. He visited at St. John's College where he had been a teacher for two years. During the absence, the school was very quiet as there was no band practice and all the band boys went around with long faces. But as soon as Father was back, right away we had a practice.

At the beginning of the year, Alex Janvier had signed up for the bass in the Band. But later he had to give it up, so that he could finish his painting of the Madonna for the chapel. On April 9th, Alex signed up again. Boy! Oh boy! Can he make that bass roar like thunder! Keep it up, boy!

Eric Cardinal – Grade 8

President of the Band Club

Page 15

Master's Birthday

March 25th. Easter Sunday morning we were all at breakfast when Master came in with a big smile on his face. It was his birthday, so we all sang "Happy Birthday" to him.

Romeo Paul – Grade 5

Page 16

Schoolgirl Discharged

April 7th. We were indeed sorry to hear that Annie Collins had been discharged from school and that she was going to leave us on April 7th. We, the older girls especially, miss her very much, for she was a great help in the kitchen and in the laundry, and she took great interest in her work.

In the class room, she was a hard working pupil and did quite well in her studies.

We hope she will come and visit us at the school very often.

Jenney Shirt – Grade 6

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[Education week by Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade 9.]

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Moccasin Telegram

Journal Staff

Editor in chief: Sophie Cardinal

Associate Editors: Edna Minoose, Eva Cardinal

Art Editors: Alex Janvier, Charlie Woods

Reporters: Herman Cardinal, Eric Cardinal, Elizabeth Cardinal

Page 3

Labor Day

During Education Week, May the 8th was Labour Day. Although this was the first time, we all enjoyed it. We enjoyed showing our work to the many visitors, during all week.

We worked hard making posters. We also prepared our drawings for the next day. In the evening, our drawings were checked by the Sisters.

We thank all those who have organized this wonderful week and made it a success.

Alphonse Delver – Grade 6

Page 3

[C.N.R. Station – Education Week visit – by Marcel Piche – Grade 6.]

Page 4

[The Creamery – Education Week visit – by Eva Cardinal – Grade 7.]

Page 5

[The Foundry – Education Week visit – by Eric Cardinal – Grade 8.]

Page 5

[Printing Press – Education Week visit – by Alex Janvier – Grade 8.]

Page 6

Parents' Day at the School

Friday, May the 11th, was the day set apart for our Parents' visit to the School. It was a great honor and a great joy for our parents to see for themselves the work we are doing here. We did our best to welcome them the best we could.

At 9 o'clock sharp, we all went to our classrooms. When we came up, there were parents, cousins and friends waiting in rows along the corridor, waiting to start their visits in our classes. We put up little programs for them; then, they looked at our books and our drawings. Some made speeches. Then, they went to the other classrooms, while another group entered into our class.

When dinner time came, the visitors ate in our big dining room, while we ate outside. Our refectory was so full of people, that some had to wait till their turns came. The Sisters and the big girls did their best to cook enough food for the School Children and the Parents.

After dinner, we put up a concert for our parents. The hall was so crowded that the children had to stay outside and play till their turn came to give their number.

Then, lunch was served to the Parents.

In the evening, we had a picture show about other Schools and the work being done there. After the show was over, we were not a little tired and sleepy, but we were very glad of the day.

We thank the Sisters and Fathers for doing always the best they can for us.

Genevieve Mooswa –Grade 5

Page 7

Concert

On May the 11th, we gave a concert for our beloved parents. That was the greatest day we've ever had in the School this year. There was also a great number of Indians whom we knew. Every one of them was very happy to see the concert and especially the progress we had made. Indeed, they were all very pleased to see it.

Well, of course, we had to do our best to speak up our parts in the play. There were not only our parents who came, but also Mr. and Mrs. Taylor, Mr and Mrs. Comiré, Sergeant McLeod and Mrs. McLeod. Many thanks to all those visitors for the great encouragement they gave us.

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 7

Sewing Girls Picnic

Wednesday, May 13th, we had a wonderful picnic for the sewing-room girls, at Therien Lake. Two sisters went with us. Father Principal drove us there with the truck.

I should say that everyone enjoyed herself playing in the water. After we came out of the water, we made some pop corn and we had our lunch.

After lunch, we went for walks; when we came back, it was supper time. We had fried potatoes, weiners, sandwiches, cake and ice cream.

After supper, we played games and we had a sing song. All the girls who sang had peanuts and candies.

Then, it was time to come back to the School. We surely had a nice picnic, and we thank those who have organized it for us.

Irene Dion – Grade 5

Page 8

The Pee-Wees Play ...

Wednesday evening, May the 23rd, the St. Paul Cubs played baseball against the Blue Quills Pee-Wees. We sure played hard to win the game. But, alas! we played hard for nothing ... At the end of the first inning, we had 21 runs. But the Cubs were not too much discouraged, and the game kept on. At the end of the fourth inning, the score was 31 to 3 for the Blue Quills. When they saw that they had no chance to catch up with us, the Cubs called off the game. But they were good losers and at least they kept on till the fourth inning. When they left, they had found out their weaknesses, and they promised to return some other time to give us some more opposition.

Romeo Paul – Grade 5

Page 8

Field Day

On May 24th, we had our Spring field day. We knew that on that day, throughout Canada, it was a big holiday. Therefore, we put our field day on that day.

In the morning, we were supposed to play ball games, but on account of a big wind and a lot of dust, we did not play ball, but some of the boys played Borden Ball.

After dinner, the weather was a little better, so we gathered in the skating rink to have different games. The boys and girls were divided into teams of about 12 players each, and the teams were competing against each other. There were no individual winner, but a winning team.

The different games that we played were the Three-legged race, the Potato Race, the Fix your clothes' pin race, and in the end the Race in a Bag. The hardest and funniest of all was the Race in a Bag. Each player would get into an empty potato bag and tray to outrace his opponents. Those who wanted to go too fast stumbled and had a hard time to get up, but it was much fun.

In all these games, there was a bundle of fun; in the end, it made a big bundle of joy. We surely enjoyed ourselves on that day.

Charlie Woods – Grade 6

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 10

Reports

June the 1st was the day for our report cards, and Rev. Father Le Calvez was invited to come with the Head Chief of Saddle Lake, Mr. Gust Steiner and his counsellors, Mr. Edward Cardinal, Mr. Barner Cardinal and Mr. Johnny Paskeyak. They seemed all very interested in our school work.

After Father Principal had finished reading our reports, the Chief spoke both in English and in Cree. His speech was very encouraging for all of us. When they had finished in our classrooms, they went into the other classes.

We were having our dinner, when the Chief and the Counsellors came in to eat with us; we were very happy about it.

After dinner, they visited the Farm and then headed for home.

Thanks for your much appreciated visit at the School; it is always a pleasure to see you at Blue Quills.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 6

Page 10

Mr. Alex Cardinal

Our Master, who had been keeping us for four years, left us on June the 3rd. I think he was going for another job in Edmonton.

In the name of all the boys, I wish to thank him for all he did for us while he was here.

Our new Master is Mr. Tom Cardinal.

David McGilvery – Grade 5

Page 10

[Ball game: Saddle Lake vs Blue Quills – by Herman Cardinal – Grade 8]

Page 12

Visit of Mr. Waller

On Monday, June 14th, Mr. Waller, inspector for all Indian Schools, came to inspect our School. He visited the lower grades in the forenoon and in the afternoon, he came into our class while the Junior High School pupils had their General Science Test.

He went around the classroom looking at our books and copybooks. He told us that he was very pleased with our work. Out of the many schools he had visited, he said ours was the best. He told us also that he would be very glad to see us in a higher grade next year.

Marcel Piché –Grade 6

Page 13

Picnic

Sunday, June 17th, all the girls with three Sisters had a picnic at Therien Lake. That day, it was Father Principal and Sister Superior's birthdays. Father Lyonnais drove us with the truck.

As we got there, we went swimming. Suddenly, it started raining: some girls were still in the water yelling and screaming. They ran under the trees.

After the rain, some girls went for a walk, others were busy cooking potatoes and pancakes, while others went back into the water.

Some girls were baking pancakes and I know some girls who burnt their pancakes and had to throw them into the bush ... Once the grease took afire and we had to turn it upside down into the sand with the pancakes that were in it. But the girls kept on making other pancakes. Then we ate them with syrup.

Soon, it was 5.30 o'clock and time to come home. We would have liked to stay a little longer but we came singing all the way home, because we were happy and we had a nice picnic.

We thank the Sisters and Father.

Irene Gladue – Grade 5

Page 14

The Boys' Ride

On June the 17th, while the girls were in picnic at Therien Lake, the boys wanted to go and see the Ball game at St. Brides. They all got into the truck and started out; but they were out of luck because it started raining and Father decided to turn back.

But we had a good ride, anyway!

Donald Whiskyjack – Grade 5

Page 14Amateur Hour – June 17th

We were all glad to gather in the girls' playroom, Sunday evening, for a little concert in honor of Father Principal and Sister Superior birthdays. We had started preparing for it early in the morning.

After benediction, we started our Amateur Hour. We were astonished to see Eric Cardinal act as Master of ceremonies but he did his job pretty well.

The first number on the program was a piece of mouth organ by Joe Cardinal. Then, Mary Shirt, Jenny Shirt and Caroline McGilverly sang together, "I'm so lonesome I could cry": they sang well and got the name of "The Starlet Sisters".

Each class took part in the concert: some gave recitations, other sang songs. A 7-year old little boy came up and sang "Blue Bird on your window sill". His name is Johnson Lapatak, and I should say that we were all astonished the way he sang it; certainly, I would say he was one of the best singers.

Indeed, all the numbers were very good. There is surely a great improvement since the first time we had an Amateur Hour.

We hope that next year we shall have again those little Amateur Hours. It is good for us, because it helps us to get used to sing or speak on the stage in front of a crowd.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 6

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Moccasin Telegram

Blue Quills School is glad to present to its readers, the new staff members of the Moccasin Telegram for the current year.

We shall all do our best to make our School Paper more interesting than in the past, if possible, so that you all look forward to the next issue.

Hopping that you will encourage us by writing your appreciation or your constructive critics, from time to time, we remain,

Truly Yours,
The Publishers.

Subscription to Moccasin Telegram: 50¢ a year.

Journal Staff – 1951-1952

Editor in chief: Father Principal

Associate Editors: Sophie Cardinal, Eric Cardinal

Art Editors: Alex Janvier, James Cardinal

Reporters: Elizabeth Cardinal, Jennie Shirt, Irene Dion, Herman Cardinal

Page 2

New-Comers to Blue Quills

When we came back to School, on September 3rd, we thought that there would not be as many children as last year. To our surprise, we could see many faces that were not here last year.

We are one hundred and three girls and eighty boys, while last year, we were only ninety-two girls and seventy-four boys. However, there are still a few children from last year who are not back yet.

Being so numerous, we are a little crowded but we hope that in the near future, the new building which now looks so nice from the outside, will be finished also inside, and then, we shall have a lot of room, even if we are more numerous.

Now, everybody seems to be happy and getting used to the School Routine.

Genevieve Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 3

X-Ray Unit at B.Q.S.

In September, the Camsell Hospital X-ray Unit came to our School to X-ray all the pupils. More than one hundred girls and eighty boys had their X-ray taken on that day, but it took only about two hours. That machine surely works fast ...

Margaret Lapatak – Grade 6

Page 4

Amateur Hour

On October the 14th, we all gathered in the girls' playroom for an Amateur Hour.

Some of the boys played their band instrument to show what they had learned. Others took part by singing songs. Some of the girls also sang songs or played an instrument, like the guitar or harmonica. Jennie Shirt played two good solos on her mouth organ and I enjoyed them very much.

Another good piece on the program was a stunt about an Old Couple, in which Caroline McGilvery and Mary Cecile Mooswa proved themselves good actors. Father Principal's Old Model T Ford of 1902, illustrated by the boys, was quite good and made everybody laugh.

Marcel Piche – Grade 7

Page 4

[Physical training for the boys.]

Page 5

[Blue Quills Boys' Band.]

Page 6

New Radio

About two or three weeks ago, Sister Dupont, our sewing-room teacher, showed us a little radio, about a foot long and five inches high... It was to be for our sewing-room.

It was a great pleasure for us to go and thank Father Principal for giving us the cute and tiny radio. Of course, we cannot put it on, when it is mending time on Wednesday afternoon, for there is enough racket with the sewing machines going on. But we turn it on when we do embroidery or knitting. It gives us a little excitement and it seems that we are going faster in our work. It is a lot better than hearing ourselves humming or listening to the tick, tock of the clock.

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 7

Page 7

New Helper

Since October the 2nd, Mrs. Dion, a widow from Keeheewin Indian Reserve, has been working with us in the sewing-room.

She is very good, but she is not sure if she will stay all winter. We hope she does stay because we do appreciate her work.

She has three girls and one boy who go to school with us, and another little girl who is too young to go to School yet.

Thank you, Mrs. Dion, for helping us!

Aldina McFeeters – Grade 6

Page 8

Visit of the Lafond School Pupils

On October the 9th, we were glad to welcome visitors from Lafond School: Sister Superior, Sister St. Charles Albert and Mr. Pelletier, a teacher, with their Senior pupils.

We were glad to have them visit our classrooms. We sang for them and they also sang for us very nicely. They showed a great interest in our school work and in our art exhibits.

We, Senior pupils, went to the playground with them to play a softball game. And after having a little lunch, they left for home.

We are glad they came to visit us, and we hope to be able to go and visit them some time ...

Wilhemina Ennow, Grade 9

Page 8

Potato Picking

On October the 3rd, we went picking potatoes because the season was late. The weather was also threatening and therefore, grades 4 to 10 volunteered to go and help. They made a splendid job of it. There were a lot of potatoes this year and it took us three days to finish.

When we were finished, we all felt happy that the job was done and thankful for such an abundant crop. We filled the cellar, a room in the stable and we even had to store some in the garage. Certainly, we shall be glad to have these potatoes this winter.

Belle Whiskyjack – Grade 6

Page 10

Pilgrimage to Long Lake

One of Canada's Shrines that many pilgrims visit every year, is Mount St-Joseph, at Guernyville.

Early in the morning, there are church services in honour of St. Joseph, confessions and communions; and many Indians from our different Reserves attend every year. I was glad to be able to attend myself this year. Besides attending the religious ceremonies, I had the opportunity to see many of my schoolmates.

It was indeed a very interesting day which will remain a priceful memory with me.

Alex Janvier – Grade 9

Page 11

[Movies.]

Page 13

Welcome, Mr. Waller!

Mr. Waller has made his second call to Blue Quills since the beginning of 1951. His visit was not at all like the first one which was to examine officially the conditions of the School. It was just one of those friendly visits to some place you have an interest in. So Mr. Waller, we are happy to receive you any time it suits you.

We shall have the opportunity to see you at the Convention that will take place in Blue Quills on the 2nd, and 3rd of November.

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade 10

Page 14

Attention! Junior High

This year, Blue Quills School has opened a High School. There are six students in grade nine, one in grade 10, and one in grade 8. In grade 8, Miss Eva Cardinal; in grade 9: Mr. Alex Janvier, Mr. Herman Cardinal, Mr. Eric Cardinal, Miss Edna Minoose, and Miss Wilelhmina Ennow and Miss Sophie Cardinal. Miss Elizabeth Cardinal who passed her grade nine with success is taking grade 10 this year.

On account of the lack of teachers, we have to take these higher grades by correspondence from the Department of Education of the University of Alberta.

[... ...]

Sophie Cardinal –Grade 9

Vol. 9, No. 2 – November-December 1951**Page 2**

Boys' Sewing-Room

One morning, as I was going upstairs, I saw the boys carrying clothes to their dormitory. I was wondering what was going on... with all that hurrying and that noise up and down the stairs. On asking Sister, I learned that they were turning our former linen room into a new classroom. That little room in the boys' dormitory was to become the new boys' linen room. The title of

this article is Boys' Sewing Room, and I think I am right, because since then, a few boys have learned to darn their socks, some even have knitted for themselves a nice pair of socks. As you see, here at the School, there is always some new way to put our spare time to some use ...

Marcel Piche –Grade 7

Page 3

Poster Competition

Again this year, the Alberta Anti-tuberculosis Association is launching another Poster Competition. The Director of this contest is Mr. E. R. Baxter, and he told us that the contest would finish on December the 21st.

Only four of the best Posters for each grade will get a prize: \$4.00 for the first prize, \$3.00, \$2.00, and \$1.00 for the second, third and fourth prize. My classmates and I are entering the contest.

Last year, I won a prize of \$4.00 in that contest. I would like to win it again this year, but I wish all my classmates good luck.

Charles Woods – Grade 7

Page 4

[First hockey game. By Romeo Paul – Grade 6.]

Page 4

[Ice festival in honour of Father Principal's feast day. By Genevieve Mooswa – Grade 6.]

Page 7

Father Principal's Concert

At last, December 5th arrived. It was the day set aside for Father Principal's Feast. We were all anxious and pleased to present to him an Operetta for the first time.

His Excellency Mgr Baudoux accompanied by his Vicar General, Mgr Loranger, arrived. It was a real pleasure to see them at our concert. Mr. Taylor, our Indian Agent with Mrs. Taylor, and Mr. Racette, our district Inspector, were among the visitors.

The concert started with a Festal song by all the children. Then, five children presented Father Principal with "The best wish", and the Band gave us a nice waltz and a march. But we were all anxious to start our Operetta "Snow White and the Seven Little Dwarfs" in four Acts. The entr'actes were filled by Action Songs, by grade three and grade 4 and 5 pupils, and a Recitation by Mary McFeeters, "The Golden Keys". We also heard the rhythm band by the beginners and we saw an interesting Physical Training Demonstration by a group of boys. Then everyone sang God Save the King, and the concert was over.

But what could have gladdened our hearts more than hearing of the holiday we were to have the next day and of the fun that was waiting for us on the rink!

I wish to thank Father Principal for giving us a holiday and also many thanks to all those who helped to make a success of our Operetta.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 8

Page 8

Miss Broderick's Visit

Miss Broderick, from Calgary, came to visit our School. She is one of the Social workers in Alberta for the Indian Reservations.

As she went along with her visit, she came to our classroom. She explained to us what her work was and what she had to do. She also encouraged us to help our parents to a higher standard of living.

In the middle of her speech, she asked the girls: "Who can cook? Who can do other things like that?" A few girls raised their hands and she encouraged them to keep on. "It is very good to be able to cook, bake or can fruits, she said, and it will help your later on!"

Herman Cardinal – Grade 9

Page 9

[Two concerts in St. Paul – by Herman Cardinal – Grade 9.]

Page 11

Our Artist Brushes an Annunciation

Our artist is making another painting in which his fingers move prodigiously all day and part of his evenings. "What an honour and what fun it is to be able to paint a portrait of Our Blessed Mother," he says. "I feel gratefully happy for being chosen to paint that picture", he continues, as he sketches his figures with his pencil. He made the Virgin first and when it was finished, he said: "Now, I must make her look younger." And with his pencil he alters the features of the Virgin. Then he draws the angel standing straight, a hand raised over the Blessed Virgin. The Holy Ghost should also be in the picture. Then, I am an Indian, thinks Alex, and he draws a teepee to represent the Indians.

The sketch is ready but the most difficult part is still to be made. He has to paint his small sketch. Alex mixes his colours and when he has the right shade, he thoughtfully applies his paintbrush to a certain part of his sketch. When he has finished, he checks his painting ... "Well, I don't like it", he says, and he starts over ...

Then, he sketches his picture on a big ten test cardboard 6 feet by 4. His pencil moves this way or that way, he curls his eyes from on position to another to make sure his drawing is correct. And with a last stroke of his pencil, he finishes his sketch with a smile.

"Now, for the most delicate and important part of my work", says Alex, as he mixes his colours on a larger scale. His deft fingers drive his paintbrush on his sketch when his keen eyes tell him the colour is right. While at work, Alex hums a tune to keep his mind off his sports, for he is quite interested in sports. After many hours of tension, bent on his work, he applies the last stroke of his paintbrush ... He heaves a sigh of contentment and backs away to view his paintings, while his eyes throw pleasing and satisfactory glances on his master piece ...

Eric Cardinal – Grade 9

Vol. 9, No. 3 – January-February 1952

Page 2

[The Late King and the New Queen – by Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade 10.]

Page 2

[Christmas Holidays in Saddle Lake – by Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 7.]

Page 3

St. Mary's Room Feels Gloomy!

Yes, not only the room, but the girls too ... We were very sorry to see Rev. Sr. Swartzenberger leave us. It was quite a shock to hear that she was to leave her dear girls on January the 8th. I did not notice she was absent from the room until I was told she was packing.

Then after supper, I happened to meet her in the dining hall and it is where I last saw her. I shall especially miss her for the laundry, but Sr. Irene Lefebvre is to take over, so it will not be so bad.

Sr. Swartzenberger will be in St. Albert for a while and then she will go to Montreal to get her ring. We are wishing her a good trip, us girls and also the boys for she was a real favourite when she was keeping them. We hope she will come back to see us someday.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 7

Page 4

Trip to Lafond

On January 25, we were cordially invited to visit the Lafond School. The School authorities even sent a School Bus to take us to their School. My! how excited we were to visit the Lafond pupils and their school!

Twenty-four pupils scramble into the waiting bus and off they go to Lafond. We left Blue Quills at one o'clock p. m.

When we arrived at Lafond, we enjoyed ourselves with the Lafond pupils. We sang lively songs and played games and the time was flying fast. Suddenly we were taken to a room where a delicious lunch was all ready for us.

When the time came to leave, we were sorry that the afternoon had gone so fast, and we should have liked to stay longer with our new friends. We filed again into the bus and back to our school we went.

In the name of my schoolmates, I would like to express my sincere thanks to the good Sisters and the pupils of Lafond for the grand afternoon they gave us and we hope they visit us again sometime. We shall always be glad to receive them in our School.

I wish also to thank Father Principal and the Sisters from our School who arranged our wonderful trip.

Eva Cardinal – Grade 8

Page 5

Poster Contest

On January 21st, we received the prizes for the posters we had made for the T. B. poster contest. We won five prizes altogether. In grade 4 and 5, we had two prizes and I was very glad to get first prize. With some of the prize money, we bought presents for the grade 1 and 2 pupils. With the rest of the money, we bought some other things for our class.

Colin Cardinal – Grade 5

Page 6

Progress

Eighteen of us had been in school before, but this year came six beginners who could not speak nor understand one word of English. As I write, to-day, they are outdoors laughing and speaking English with the others. Those six pupils went through their three Pre-Primers and half their grade one book already.

Never before have we worked so hard in School, yet we like it. Our kind teacher helps us to study real hard so that we take the time lost, because some of us are getting old ...

Veronica Cardinal – Grade 5

Page 7

[Christmas Concert by Mary Mildred Steinhauer – Grade 6.]

Page 8

Back to School After Christmas

Like all holidays, our Christmas Holidays went too fast and we had to go back to school.

Our teacher has new ideas to make school more interesting. Since we enjoy playing Bingo, she started a game of Time Tables Bingo. Instead of calling G-49, she says: 7 times 7 under G and we have to see if we have the answer. The first times we played the game, no one called Bingo, but we studied our time-tables and now it is really fun.

During recreations, our teacher asks us to speak English only. Any one who is caught speaking Cree is charged 5¢ each time. On Friday, the teacher adds up the scores and all those who have more than 75¢ fine cannot play Bingo. Last week, only 6 of us were able to play, and this week, thirteen played.

This is really a good way for us to learn English. Later in life, when we speak to other people, they will not laugh at us if we speak correctly.

Besides our regular school work, our teacher teaches us also to dress neatly and to keep clean and neat.

There are still many things I would like to write about my school, but these things I said are enough to show you why we like our school and our teacher.

In the name of the School, I wish to thank the Editor of the Moccasin Telegram for the space he allows us for our little compositions.

Joan Marie Steinhauer – Grade 6
Saddle Lake day School

Pages 10-12

[Hockey news by Charlie Woods, Alex Janvier, Marcel Piche.]

Page 14

[Broom Ball by Margaret Lapatak –Grade 6.]

Page 15

Dentist's visit

A few weeks after we came back from our Christmas holidays, we had the visit of two dentists. The very next day after, they started examining our teeth. A few days later, they began filling or pulling the decayed teeth.

We had to be patient: sometimes, we had to wait half an hour and even one hour before our teeth were all fixed. They stayed for a couple of weeks and even they could not do all the work.

Then, they had to go to another School. So, in the name of all the children, I wish to express my gratitude to Dr. Carley and his assistant for all the trouble they took to prevent our teeth from decaying.

Lydia Cardinal – Grade 7

Page 16

Miss Graves' Visit

In the month of February, we received Miss Graves, who is a Social Worker from the Charles Camsell Hospital. Her interest for the Indians is shown by the many times she travels in all kinds of weather, to bring aid and relief to the suffering, and the sick.

The first time she came to the School in February, she gave us a picture show on the various diseases, especially T. B. and their prevention. We surely enjoyed the show and we shall do our best to keep away from T. B.

During her stay at the School, she helped the School nurse in many ways and she did a lot for us all. She gave lectures to both boys and girls on how they should take care of themselves. It was very interesting and to the point. She also examined the ears of the children and took the means of healing the running ears.

I think that the best way to thank Miss Graves is to take advantage of her lectures. In the name of all the School children, I wish to thank Miss Graves for all she did during her stay at Blue Quills.

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade 10

Page 16

Miss E. McFarland

Miss Elsie McFarland is the Assistant Supervisor of the Health and Recreation Centre of Alberta. She came to attend and inspect our Physical Training class.

We opened the class by the national anthem "O Canada", then we went to work. Under the direction of our P. T. instructor, Mr. T. Cardinal, each boy is trying his best to be a good athlete in movement and action.

When the class was over, Miss McFarland said that everybody should have the energy to train well. She also said that we were doing well and encouraged us to keep it up.

Alphonse Delver – Grade 7

Vol. 9, No. 4 – March-April 1952

Page 3

[Four sisters are baptized – by Victoria Cardinal – Grade 4]

Page 4

Easter Cleaning

Girls' dormitory. On March 29th, we started cleaning our dormitory. Everybody was glad to help making our dormitory a still nicer place to sleep in.

We started painting our beds white: Florence Laymen and Eva Lewis did most of the job, and I can assure you that they did a nice job too. Our beds looked just like new.

Then we washed the walls and the floor. We also painted the window sills and frames.

It was a big job, but everybody co-operated under the direction of Sister Lefebvre and now we are very glad because we have a nice and clean dormitory.

Florence Laymen – Grade 6

Page 4

Boys' dormitory

You should see the newly painted and furnished boys' dormitory! All the boys cooperated together to make our dormitory look nice. Some washed the walls and the ceiling while others painted the beds. Still others decorated. Joe Laurence, Herman and myself painted the window frames. Then bedspreads and new curtains were brought in and fixed. Everybody had something to do in the job so that now we are more careful to keep our dormitory clean.

The next time you come to visit the School, come and see the boys' dormitory! I think it is as nice as the girls'.

Marcel Piche

Charlie Woods – Grade 7

Page 5

Easter Monday Picnic

Boys' Picnic. On Easter Monday, we had a good picnic. We were very glad to have a holiday, but still more glad to have a picnic.

In the morning, we did all our chores as usual while some of us were making sandwiches and preparing the meal for the picnic. When all was ready, we started walking towards Therien Lake. Walking was slow going, but we reached our destination all right. At sand hill, some of the boys hunted for rabbits and killed five. That would be good meat for our meal.

When we reached the place, between Therien Lake and the other Lake, St. Paul Lake, I think there was a fire going and some boys were already roasting potatoes. Dinner was soon ready; we had different kinds of sandwiches, apples and candies, and also our rabbits.

After dinner, everybody went hiking and hunting rabbits. We divided into different groups and started with my group towards a bush where we thought we would find some rabbits for our supper. We hunted all afternoon and we had a lot of fun. Soon, the sun was going down and we started back to camp with five more rabbits.

Supper was early because we had to walk back to the School. We were a little tired but happy. We thought we would have to walk all the way back, but Father Roy met us at sand hill with his truck and the Assistant Principal with the car, and so we had a ride home.

Alphonse Delver – Grade 7

Page 6

Girls' Picnic

At about noon time, we were ready to go, but we took our dinner at the School.

But right after dinner, we started going to Therien Lake; we surely had a good walk, and in some places, the road was a little muddy, but we kept on going because we were very happy to have a picnic. By the time we reached the camp, all the girls were tired, so we rested a while ... Then we went exploring.

The little girls went hunting and killed ... 25 mice!! We had a lot of fun. The afternoon went very fast.

Then it was supper time. One of the men from the School, brought our supper. We had kidney and fried potatoes and some girls cooked rabbit for themselves.

After enjoying our supper, we came back home merrily. The little girls rode back in the waggon with Sister Chartier. The others walked until met by Father Roy and Father Lyonnais who brought them back in the truck and the Station Waggon.

We enjoyed our holiday very much and we thank Father Principal for letting us have that picnic.

Irene Dion – Grade 6

Pages 8-11

[Long articles on the Missionary Association of Mary Immaculate – M.A.M.I.]

Page 12

Last of Our Ice

Our last hockey game was indeed a good one and every player was certainly doing his best. The girls were watching and cheering for their own star players. Unfortunately, about the middle of the game, one player shot the puck which went into the crowd and hit one girl on the nose. Lucky enough, she was not too badly hit, but she had to be rushed to the hospital, where they fixed her up and she was right back. But we had to leave the game for good.

That was the last game of the season, because the next morning, there was water on the ice and we could not skate any longer. During the next two weeks, we watched our ice melt gradually...

The good old rink that had seen many a prowess was finally gone, and with it we had to store away our skates and hockey equipment till next winter ...

Rome Paul – Grade 6

Page 13

Girls' Basket Ball

When the girls saw that we, boys, were playing Rugby, they decided to play Basket Ball. So, they made up two teams of 6 girls per team and fixed their basket ball court. We were hoping to see them in action, but so far, they have not played. I wonder when they will give us a good game!

A sport Fan!

Page 13

Girl Soldiers

One evening, we had a joyous Physical Training class, by our Captain, Mary Cecile Mooswa. Our battalion consisted of 10 or 12 girls.

Our Captain marched us around the field for a while and after she lined us up and said: "At Ease!" Now, she said, we shall sing. So we sang "Old McDonald had a farm" and a few other songs.

Then, the captain said: "Take up your guns!" We shall have a shooting practice. We took our make believe guns (wooden sticks) and started shooting ducks.

Our Captain was pretty strict; we had to obey her commands. We thank Mary Cecile for training us and we hope she will give us another practice soon, before we go to war ... (!)

Lillian and Pauline – Grade 5

Page 14

[The Band Goes to Bonnyville – by Herman Cardinal.]

Page 15**Social Evening**

As the skating season was over, and we were not able to play outdoors on account of the mud, we planned to have a “Gathering” on April 6th. Our choir director, Fr. Lyonnais, arranged everything with the help of the M.A.M.I. Some boys suggested a skipping contest which was agreed by the girls, songs and rounds were also included.

After benediction, we gathered in the girls’ playroom. Soon everybody was singing merrily “The more we get together”, and other songs. Then we watched the skipping contest between the bigger boys and girls. Unfortunately, the girls’ team was beaten by the boys’. More song followed, and then medium girls against medium boys skipped, but this time, the girls were victorious. As for the small girls and boys, the girls were also victorious.

But the time was flying, so we ended our enjoyable evening.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 7

Page 15**Black Beauty**

On April the 13th, we had a very interesting show, enjoyed by all. The title of the picture was “Black Beauty”.

It is the story of a black horse owned by a young girl. She has all kinds of bad lucks with it, but finally she finds her horse and she is happy.

Genevieve Mooswa – Grade 5

Page 15**Enjoyable Afternoon**

The weather was cold and the wind was blowing that afternoon. So the M.A.M.I. Committees had a meeting and organized the afternoon.

The bigger boys and girls were together in one playroom, and the smaller boys and girls in the other, under supervision. They played different games and had a grand time. And the proof is the happy smile that was on everyone’s lips at the end of the afternoon. Why the smile? Because everyone had a swell time.

Jenny Shirt – Grade 7

Vice President of the M.A.M.I.

Vol. 9, No. 5 – May-June 1952**Page 2**

[Blue Quills Choir Goes to Saddle Lake – by Jenny Shirt – Grade 7.]

Page 3**Mr. Waller Visits the School**

At the end of April, Mr. L. P. G. Waller, Inspector of Indian Schools for Alberta, made his annual visit of our School. He stayed half a day in each classroom.

In our class, he greeted us with a smile and a big Hello! Then, he gave grades 6 and 7 a little test which required brains ... While the pupils were writing the test, Mr. Waller walked around the class asking questions to the students. He seemed to be much interested in the Grade IX students and their marks. With so many Hs, he was sure that they would have no trouble to pass their grade with success and this is what he wished them.

Thank you for your visit, Mr. Waller, and it is always a pleasure to see you!

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade X

Page 3

Backstop for the Girls

On March the 20th, the girls had a backstop built in their yard. We were all glad to see nine or ten boys, under the direction of Mr. Tom Cardinal, build a backstop for us. We would not have to run a mile for the ball any more. It took them about half a day to finish it.

We thank Mr. Tom Cardinal and the boys for making this backstop for us.

Bella Whiskyjack – Grade 6

Page 4

Ball Game

On the Sunday afternoon, May the 8th, the sky was all blue without the smallest cloud to spot it. We were glad to breathe the fragrant air of spring. It was also a pleasant sight to see ducklings swimming on the little pond not far from the School.

As we, girls, had no plans for the afternoon, we were delighted to hear that we were invited to play softball against the boys. They would play left-handed all through the game while we would play as usual. We gladly accepted their invitation and we went to their ball diamond.

The Captain of the girls' team was Elizabeth Cardinal, and the boys', James. It was very amusing to see the boys throwing the ball with their left hand, and we made quite a few scores, but in the end, we could not beat them, and the game ended with a score of 15-25 for the boys. But we certainly had a lot of fun.

Genevieve Mooswa – Grade 6

Page 5

Education Week – Monday, May 26

Monday was the day set apart to welcome our white visitors from St. Paul. In spite of the weather and the muddy roads, about fifty persons came to encourage us on that day, by visiting our classrooms and our other accomplishments at the School.

After supper, we put up a little concert in honour of Sister Superior. It consisted of a few songs, one of which was a feast song in three parts and a few pieces by the School Band. We could not do more on account of all the work we had to do to prepare Education Week. But next year, we hope to be able to put up a real concert on Sister Superior's feast.

After Father Principal's speech, we all went to the Boys' room where we were to have a picture show given us by the Sisters. The title of the picture was "The miracle of Faith".

Mary Cecile Mooswa – Grade 7

Page 5

[Education week. Tuesday, May 27. Open house for the parents – by Alphonse Delver – Gr. 7]

Page 7

Education Week. Wednesday May 28

To-day, the children were allowed to go to town with their parents. And I can assure you that quite a few children had a chance to go because there were not very many left at the school.

Margaret Lapatak – Grade 7

Page 7

Education Week. Thursday May 29

We were surely delighted to hear that on that day, our friends from the Lafond School were coming to visit us. They came at 2.30 o'clock, in their big School Bus.

We all went to the girls' playroom to watch a little playlet they had prepared for us. Four big girls from that school had been chosen to act and they did it so well, I thought it was a real show!

Then the School Band played five or six pieces, and as the boys were playing "Flower Bell Waltz", four girls started waltzing in time with the music.

And our visitors went to visit the classroom, sewing room and other places, and they left at 4 o'clock.

Josephine Whiskyjack –Grade 6

Page 8

[Education Week. Friday May 30 – Field Day – by Charlie Woods – Grade 7.]

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Girls' Picnic

Education week ended with a splendid picnic. In the morning, we boarded the truck to go some place, but no one knew where. Father Principal, our driver, started towards Owl's eye Lake, and every body thought we were going to that place ... But not far from that Lake, we turned left and kept on going for some 8 miles, when we came to a beautiful Lake. But we did not get off right away. Father went to see a man who was there and then came back to the truck and drove a little ways. So, we thought "Out of Luck do-day!" But to our joy, he turned off behind a little cottage. Then we all yelled: "Hurrah! This is the place!" And swell place it was too!

So, we got off, happy as larks, and right away, quite a few of us went bare-legged into the water. The water was so nice! We played in the water till dinner time. Some of us got their dress a little wet, but that did not matter ...

While we were playing in the water, Father Principal and Father Lyonnais went fishing.

After our dinner, some of us went hiking and we played till supper. The Fathers then came back with six or seven fishes.

Supper finished, some of us played ball while some lucky ones had boat rides.

But it was soon time to get back to the School. So, we got into the truck and we came home happy and singing.

Many thanks to Father Principal!

Florence Laymen and Aldina McFeeters

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Boys' Picnic

On May 31st, we boys had a picnic at Therien Lake. At about 9 in the morning, we happily walked down the road that leads to a nice sport on the east side of the Lake. We played and hiked into the woods, trying to catch rabbits, but without success ... We turned to ducks and I missed one by a hair... with my sling shot.

We had dinner and supper at the Lake and then we walked back to the School a little tired but ready for a nice long sleep. A few boys had blistered feet, but that does not count, we had a swell picnic after all!

Romeo Paul – Grade 6

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Picnic!

My! We surely had a grand time when we went to St. Vincent Lake for a picnic, on the 30th of Sept. We didn't take long that morning to do our cleaning and get ready for an outdoor day.

Everybody and everything seemed to cooperate to make of this day one of the happiest but Mr. Wind who made itself a little more chilly even biting at times. Despising his menaces, we left at 10:00 a. m. The place so noisy a few weeks ago has been deserted. So we were the more at ease to fill the air with our songs and our laughers.

Never before had the appetites been so good when the whistle called us for dinner and for supper.

Yes! Thank you, Dear Father Principal, for such a day!

Irene Dion – Grade 7

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X-Ray. The School Children

On October 14, two technicians from Charles Camsell Hospital came to the school to take our X-Rays. So we all went one by one to have our lungs photographed. The purpose of the X-Ray is to find out if anyone has T. B. so that it can be cured before it is too late. If anyone has the disease, he can go to the hospital where he will be treated and restored back to health. Some of us have relatives at the Camsell Hospital. My dear sister, Eva Cardinal, is presently under treatment, but expects to be back in school soon. Here my we congratulate one of our good friends, Miss Elsie Janvier, who has been at Charles Camsell hospital for two years and is now back with us as well as any of us.

The way they take our X-Ray is very simple. We just stand with our hands on our hips and our heads up. A click ... and that's all.

Lydia Cardinal – Grade 8

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Pupils from Lafond School

A visit of the Lafond pupils with their devoted teachers is always most enjoyable. We welcomed them once again on the 29th of October.

They visited the oil paintings in our chapel, the classrooms, the boys' dormitory, and we went to the basement to play games. Of course, we picked out two favorite ones, the Dancing Hat and Pail and Rag. Oh! what a laugh we had when the girls played a little comedy which they had composed themselves. Thank you, Sisters and Pupils from Lafond ... and come again!

Elizabeth Cardinal – Grade 11

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Henry's Back to School

Three years ago, Henry Steinhauer, was in Blue Quills School, but last year in February he hurts his leg. Then, he went to Camsell Hospital where he stayed a year. Sometimes in July, I was sitting on my bed at home when in walked Henry! I was so surprised to see him. I didn't recognized him at first.

Now, we're in school and we have lot of fun together. I play the band with him. He plays the baritone and I play the trombone. I am glad he's back and I hope that he never gets sick again.

Collin Cardinal – Grade 6

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Christmas in our Classroom

We are getting ready for the coming of Jesus by being good boys and girls. We studied about the Jewish and Gentile World before the birth of Christ. Three drawings made by Allan Jacob explain the season of Advent. John Janvier made a scroll drawing of the Christmas Story. Jimmie McFeeters made a crib with flour and salt plaster; Lilian and Emma decorated the walls. We also drew Christmas scenes on the boards and made many other nice things. We all enjoy the Christmas season very much.

Lena Gladue – Grade 5

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Dedicated to Ward Six, Charles Camsell Hospital, Edmonton

Howdy Friends:

It's great pleasure for me to write in the Moccasin Telegram. I'm also very glad to be back in Blue Quills School. There has been many changes since I left a year ago. We have very good teachers and a fine Principal too. I am in grade six with my best friend, Colin Cardinal, who wrote to me very often when I was in Camsell. We are both feeling fine and healthy.

I had a nice trip coming back from the hospital. A nurse from the hospital brought me to Saddle Lake. On our way, we had a two day stop at the nurse's home in Innisfree. They were indeed very nice people.

My greatest joy was our arrival at Saddle Lake. How happy I was to see my Mother, Father, brothers and sisters, as well as all the Indians of Saddle Lake. We arrived on Treaty Day, so I was able to meet many friends right there, although it was raining then.

Well friends, I think it's time for me to ring off. May God bless you all and grant you the health and joy of returning home to your loved ones before the next Christmas.

Sincerely,

Henry Steinhauer

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Woodwork

Last Sunday, when I accompanied Father Lyonnais to Saddle Lake, he asked me if I could make him a Missal Stand. Well of course, woodworking is my hobby, so I accepted, but before starting I went to ask Father Principal for wood, tools, etc. But instead of giving me these he led me to the store where he showed me all kinds of tools we were to have in the new shop. Then, he asked me if I knew how to handle them. Of course, I had to say "No!" So, instead of giving me the material to make the missal stand, he gave me a book to study woodwork. I'm studying it well and I hope to be the first one ready and able to enter the shop and use the new tools.

Joe L. Metchawes – Grade 6

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Blue Quills' Cadets

Five weeks ago, three instructors from St. Paul came to pay us a visit to see who wanted to join the Cadets. They have already taught us the proper ways to march and make turns while marching. We are very proud of what we are being taught. These men are working hard to get the necessary equipment. In the name of all the boys, I wish to thank them.

Guillaume White – Grade 6