

1952, Dec - 1953 Feb

# ISLAND BREEZEE



Dec. -Feb. 1953

Ile à la Crosse, Sask.

Vol. XIV No. 2



TO THE MOST

NORTHERN DOCTOR IN SASKATCHEWAN

*Phillippe E. Lavoie M.D.*

THIS ISSUE OF ISLAND BREEZES

IS RESPECTFULLY DEDICATED

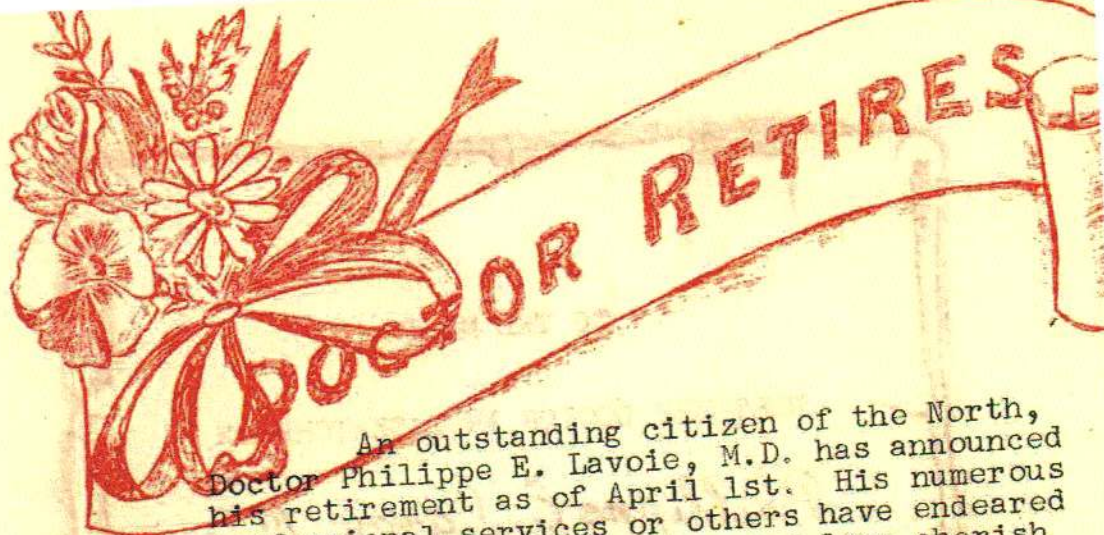
IN APPRECIATION FOR

*18 years*

OF UNTIRING AND CHARITABLE SERVICES

IN THE NORTH.





An outstanding citizen of the North, Doctor Philippe E. Lavoie, M.D. has announced his retirement as of April 1st. His numerous professional services or others have endeared him to the people who will miss him and long cherish his memory. Dr. Lavoie is not of the noisy boastful type. He does not speak much of his achievements nor of his activities, but his deeds speak for him.

When Doctor Lavoie came North in 1934 it was not to enjoy a sinecure. He was, and still is, the only resident doctor north of Meadow Lake. His visits take him up north as far as the Clearwater River and Cree Lake, down south to the Waterhen River, and to the east to Snake Lake. Doctor was called occasionally to Camsell Portage and Stony Rapids, on the Athabasca, prior to the establishment of a dispensary at Stony Rapids.

Eighteen years ago Ile a la Crosse possessed the only northern hospital. Since then, one has been opened at La Loche and a dispensary at Buffalo Narrows. If these institutions have proved a blessing for the people the achievement has meant more work for the Doctor.

The Ile a la Crosse hospital of 1934 was rudimentary. At the time it was Government owned and was going to ruins due to misunderstandings between Federal and Provincial Governments. The mission took over the administration a few years later. With the close cooperation of Dr. Lavoie in course of time, St. Joseph's Hospital has progressed to its present definite standard.

When he arrived,-- the 4th appointee in 7 years -- there were two nurses: Sister A. Gaudette and Miss Rapitta but no electricity, no central heating system and no Xray. The operations were performed in the Doctor's office.

In 1934 the number of patients totalled 168. For 1952, -- Doctor's last year in office-- an approximate 975 have been



nursed. There is no exaggeration in claiming that he has 3.  
been at the same time physician, surgeon, obstetrician and  
dentist. Moreover, in exercising his profession, he dis-  
pensed sympathy and kindness.

The hardships suffered by Doctor Lavoie were encountered  
in his numerous far-distant sick calls. If it is true that  
he travelled a lot by plane it is as accurate to state that  
it has not been his sole means of transportation. The speed  
boat and the snowmobile are rather new in the North. Conse-  
quently before this era trips were made by canoe in summer, by  
dog-sled or horse team and sleigh in winter. There is a great-  
er suffering which Doctor had to bear; we could name it profes-  
sional solitude: no colleague with whom to share the anxiety  
of serious cases or the satisfaction of an unexpected recove-  
ry, no one to consult, no moral support whatever, from a pro-  
fessional standpoint.

To his credit Doc has eighteen Treaty "parties", which  
means that for eighteen consecutive years he has accompanied  
the authorities of the Indians Affairs Branch in their annual  
tour of the Reservations. While the treaty money was turned  
over to the people gathered for the occasion the physician  
was kept busy diagnosing diseases and ailments and prescrib-  
ing remedies. When travelling by plane the Treaty "party"  
lasts about ten days when not stranded.

Besides his medical duties Doc assumed the responsibili-  
ty of Justice of the Peace for at least 16 years. Chairman  
of the School Committee since last June he has served as a  
member for nearly 10 years. On many occasions like the New  
Year's Eve Bingo he proved to be a speaker who had the gift  
of saying much in few appropriate words.

Philippe Emile Lavoie was born in 1886 in the Matapedia  
Valley, the Village of Mill Stream and reared at Rimouski,  
P.Q. He completed his classical studies at the Séminaire of  
Rimouski, and attended Laval University obtaining his degree  
from the Faculty of Medicine in 1913. Coming West shortly  
after he has practiced all his life--forty years-- in Saskat-  
chewan: at Montmartre, Prelate and Ile a la Crosse.

In 1915 he married Marie de Lourdes Paquette. Doc and  
Mrs. Lavoie and Rodrigue intend to move to Saskatoon in June.  
Germain will thus be at home all the while attending Varsity.  
Their daughter Cecile, Mrs. Churnside resides in Ottawa.  
René and Emile will continue to exploit the mink ranch at  
Fort Black.

-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-o-

Those who bring sunshine into the life of others, cannot  
keep it from themselves.

J. M. Barrie.



# WEDDING BELL VILLAGE



WEDDING BELLS

honour of Canoe Lake. Mrs. Irene Gardiner as bridesmaid and Albert Gardiner as best man attended the happy couple. The children sang with all their soul hymns proper to the occasion. Best wishes!

## WHERE'S THE MOUNTIE?

Constable Jack Gibbon has been in and out so often that one cannot keep track anymore of his peregrinations. On business he has gone not only north but also south to P. A. North Battleford, Meadow Lake. Mrs. Gibbon and daughter Pat went along for pleasure trips. Who would not find it a pleasure to ride in a new car?

Mr. and Mrs. Gibbon and daughter with Miss Shirley Minish passed New Year's day at Patuanak with the H.B. Co. staff.

---We welcome Constable Tom Gjorvar and hope that he will enjoy his work here.

---These days it is about as difficult to locate the Indian Agent as the Mountie. Mr. E. Gervais was out to Prince Albert to a convention. Since his return he is kept busy and away from home visiting the different points of his vast Northern district.

On Jan. 2. Irene Daigneault and Albert Gardiner knelt before the altar to unite their lives "for better or for worse until death do us part". The wedding was performed by Rev. Fr. Poirier who gave the nuptial blessing. The bridesmaid was Antoinette Roy and the best man Jonas Daigneault. The Sisters' choir substituting for the children on holiday, sang appropriate hymns.

---The pastor officiating, a very quiet wedding took place at the mission chapel on Feb. 3.

Helen Larivière became the bride of Johnny Kyplain. Immediately after the ceremony the couple left for Half-Way Lake.

---Again on Feb. 9th, Rev. Fr. Poirier gave the nuptial blessing when he united in marriage Clara Bouvier and Martin Couil-



Mr. Edward Young of Buffalo Narrows, died at St. Joseph's Hospital Feb. 2. at the age of 27. He had been hospitalized for over a month. A Mass of Requiem was sung for the repose of his soul Feb. 3. Burial took place in the afternoon at Ile a la Crosse.

To his bereaved wife Philomene Jacobson and his sister Helen, and all the members of his family we offer our sincere sympathy.

#### VILLAGERS and VISITORS

--- Dr. Rankin was up twice to inoculate the dogs for rabies as a preventive measure as no cases were reported here.

--- Mr. Herb Cornet has visited us twice. Herb is now working in Beauval, we do hope to see him more often.

--- The Teacher of Dillon, Mr. M. Parent on his way home for the Xmas holidays on Dec. 16th met a few friends. The two Ile a la Crosse teachers hitch-hiked home. Thanks to Ivan they made Big River on time to catch the Saturday morning bus.

--- Messrs Jos. Mireau, O. Clarkson and John Stoeber motored Lynn and Terry back to Ile a la Crosse. It isn't very far? Is it? and there is only one road, can't get lost! They did enjoy their visit very much. Dr. Lavoie on business and Jerry returning to Varsity went south with them.

--- Mr. and Mrs. Watt made an extended tour of the north on Boxing Day. They were accompanied by our R.C.M.P and destination was Deep River.

--- Mr. Watt and Vic were out to Meadow Lake, by "bug" on business.

--- Mr. and Mrs. Milne H.B.C. Manager of Green Lake, drove down by car, to visit Mr. and Mrs. Watt. Leaving the women to enjoy themselves by the hearth, Mr. Milne and Mr. Watt motored to Beauval and visited the local Manager.

--- Mr. John Lane clerk at Patuanak was hospitalized in January. Was it your cooking Bachelors? Oh, no! it could not be as Mrs. Hokanson (and son) came down before Xmas, to remedy that situation. Mr. and Mrs. Hokanson, and son Leslie have gone to Alberta in late January, so Carl and John are again "batching". Carl will not be a bachelor very long, as he has taken that one step, yes he is engaged. To whom? No guessing needed there. Congratulations!

--- Mr. Ross district Manager was in to visit the H.B.C. post at Ile a la Crosse, Patuanak, Dillon, Buffalo Narrows and La Loche. At La Loche Mr. Ross entertained his hosts with a violin solo.

--- Mr. John McHaffe Ile a la Crosse clerk was out to Meadow Lake with Carl and John when the latter "bugged" to Meadow Lake.





### 25 YEARS OF SERVICE

On Jan. 7 St Joseph's Hospital reluctantly said goodbye to Sr. Antoinette Gaudette when she left for La Loche, to take up her duties there.

Sister Gaudette a graduate of St. Paul's Hospital School of Nursing; came to Ile a la Crosse in Jan. 1928. With the exception of one year spent at the Beauval Residential School, Sr. Gaudette devoted the last 25 years ministering to the sick at Ile a la Crosse Hospital.

The announcement of her departure was a blow to all the Islanders who at one time or another benefitted from her gentle whole-hearted care. Their gratitude and best wishes

accompanied Sr Gaudette to her new field of action.

All are happy that Sister Gaudette is still in the North, devotedly caring for the people she so truly loves.

### NEW STAFF

On Dec. 17 Sister E. Meyer and Sr. M. Bourgeois came North to fill vacancies on the St Joseph's Hospital Staff. Sr. Meyer, who was engaged in Public Health Work in northern Alberta for a few years is now in charge of St. Joseph's.

Sr. M. Bourgeois, recently graduated from St Paul's Hospital in Saskatoon went on night duty shortly after her arrival.

May these new Missionaries find happiness in relieving bodily pain and dispensing kindness to the northerners who may tax their science and energy.

### NURSE ENGAGED

The event long foretold by improvised fortun-tellers is now an accomplished fact. Since Feb. 1st Miss Shirley Minish is engaged to Mr. Carl Shappart, H.B.C. Manager at Patuanak. All the Island friends of the happy couple offer congratulations and best wishes.



Hearty congratulations are extended on the birth of a son or a daughter to the following happy parents.

CANOE LAKE: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Durocher, Mr. and Mrs. Jules Opekokew, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Iron.

BEAUVAIL: Mr. and Mrs. Alex Malboeuf, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Durocher, Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bouvier, Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Bouvier, Mr. and Mrs. Louis Roy.

BUFFALO NARROWS: Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Beaulac.

BUFFALO RIVER: Mr. and Mrs. Paul Noul'tcho, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Billette.

PATUANAK: Mr. and Mrs. Alex Dawatsare, Mr. and Mrs. Martin Wolverine.

PORTAGE LA LOCHE: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Wellwood.

PRIMO LAKE: Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Aubichon.

SNAKE LAKE: Mr. and Mrs. Leon Natomagan, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Natomagan.

GREEN LAKE: Mr. and Mrs. Martin Laliberté.

ILE A LA CROSSE: Mr. and Mrs. Isidore Laliberté, Mr. and Mrs. Amable Roy, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lariviere, and special felicitations to Mr. and Mrs. Michel Caisse on the birth of their TWINS Joseph and Josephine.

-o-o-o-o-

Nature is the living, visible garment of God.

Goethe.

Our Lady of the Cape, that is, the 18-inch replica of the Holy Virgin, is now peacefully settled in the Hospital Hallway. From her 'Arc of the Covenant' surrounded by a decoration attractive in its simplicity, Our Lady of the Rosary still receives daily homage from Her sick children. Meanwhile in many homes the Rosary has become a MUST guaranteeing protection, family union and greater union greater happiness.

#### NEWS-FLASH

As the BREEZES go to press Miss Therese Le Page is hospitalized... with the perspective of an appendectomy... "Is it catchy?", a grade-2 pupil voiced the general comment. The entire Staff and all the pupils wish Miss Le Page a speedy recovery.

-o-o-o-o-

Experience, though still the best teacher, has many hopeless pupils.

--Shannon Fife

-o-o-o-o-

Never bear more than one trouble at a time. Some people bear three--all they have now, all they ever had, and all they ever expect to have.

--Anon.





# MISSION

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Rev. Fr. L. Poirier has received official notice of his election as a delegate to the General Chapter of the Oblates of Mary Immaculate. The news surprised no one but the elected. All the Islanders rejoice over the event and are happy to congratulate the deserving representative of the Keewatin.

Father will leave in mid-March for an absence of three months at least. The Chapter meets in Rome, on May 1st.

## DISTINGUISHED VISITOR

Aboard the sched plane of Feb. 5. was Rev. Fr. Philippe Scheffer, O.M.I., Vicar of the Missions, in the Keewatin. The distinguished guest started in Ile a la Crosse his round of visits of all the missions of the district. He will also preside and preach the Fathers' retreat at Beauval from Feb. 10-17.

A very capable man of wide experience, interested in people and a missionary heart, Father Scheffer has won the sympathy of the Islanders. Prior to his appointment at Le Pas he was Provincial of the Oblate Fathers in Man. and Southern Sask.

## SYMPATHY

Mrs. Jos. Laramée, of Saint Paul, Alberta passed away on Jan. 16. She was the mother of two Ile a la Crosse missionaries: Srs Antoinette and Irene Laramée. Driven via Cold Lake by Rev. Fathers Poirier and Perreault, O.M.I. the Sisters attended the funeral. Their presence brought consolation to their aged father and their bereaved sister and brothers.

To Sisters Antoinette and Irene and their afflicted family we express our heartfelt sympathy on their great loss. A Mass of Requiem was sung Feb. 4th for the dearly departed.

---Condolences are also extended to Sr. Blandine Levesque who received news of the death of her grandmother, Mrs. Alice Miron, of Exeter, New Hampshire.



## OBEDIENCE

Brother Jules Loranger who for the past 18 months was on the Mission staff has been transferred to Sandy Lake, Ont. The quiet, soft-spoken brother made many friends obliging everyone. Mechanics and electricity were in his line but he never refused to give a hand where it was needed. Regularly he visited the Boys in residence and useless to say that his young friends sensed his interest. Brother left Jan. 25 to join Fr. Fleury at Sandy Lake, who is well-known by the Islanders.

### STAFF NEWS

--- Rev. Fr. Beaudet and Our Lady of the Cape ended their pilgrimage of the Ile a la Crosse homes (9<sup>th</sup>) early in January. Since then Father has sold 24 statues for the honoured hosts wish to have the permanent company of Our Lady.

But part of the Apostle's time is taken up with instructions on local administration. He will replace Fr. Poirier during his trip abroad.

---Rev. Fr. Guilloux passed the Christmas season in Canceo Lake. He returned again to his mission for the first Friday of Feb. Father appears to cherish his flock as nothing will hold him back in the Capital when time comes to tend his sheep.

--- Bro. Courcy with Bro. 9. Loranger gave their services to Fr. Perreault in Beauval during December. At home, between the girls dormitory and recreation room Bro. Courcy made a hole in the wall... in which he fitted a heavy fire-proof door. This is but one of his last accomplishments and he is to be seen around the mission wherever a carpenter is needed.

---Bro. Lefebvre went to Saskatoon to seek medical treatment. Since his return he seems to be flying to catch up on lost time. The big problem is to haul the supply of fuel wood, hay and logs needed for the coming year. Brother would like to see more snow for the sleighs to glide on.

--- Bro. Auguste Duclaux went to Prince Albert to consult an eye-specialist. He also visited his nieces and nephews who drove him back by car. No doubt that in such comfort Brother couldn't help but reminisce on the trips of some 20 or 30 years back when horse-drawn sleighs were the mode of transportation and he was the driver.

### GUESTS

Rev. Fr. St. Pierre, O.M.I., Meadow Lake, and Rev. Fr. Rodrigue, Green Lake, paid a fraternal visit to the Ile a la Crosse Oblates.





# Christmas concert.

The traditional Christmas concert given by the school children was a success appreciated by young and old. For the pupils and teachers nothing could be more gratifying than the large audience of De-

cember 19th.

Albert Gervais capably debuted as an announcer. After a few words of welcome and good wishes he introduced the unfledged but promising artists.

## PICTURESQUE PAGEANTS

Communicating the Christmas spirit was the opening number, a CHRISTMAS PAGEANT, presented by grades 2 and 5. The chief characters were the Virgin Mary: Margaret McCallum; St Joseph: Jean Daigneault; and the Infant Jesus, Clement Chartier.

Another PAGEANT, at the end, commemorated the 25th anniversary of the proclamation of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus as the Patroness of all the missions and missionaries of the whole world. This number was exclusively a 'grade 4' production: the teacher did the research work and composition; her 25 pupils appeared in a picturesque tableau representing different kinds of missionaries and some of the people of the various mission lands. They all gathered around Saint Thérèse (Alexina Desjarlais), the Child Jesus (Raphael Larivière), Pope Pius XI (Jules Daigneault), and Bishop Charlebois (Germain Gardiner). It was an effective and picturesque number.

## THREE GOOD PLAYS

A play true to life, entitled FIVE FIFTEEN, was staged by grade 5. The roles were assumed by Eugene Kenny (Station agent); Archie Daigneault (Newsy Fellow); Clara Daigneault (Mother of two children); Jimmy Durocher and Marie Ange Daigneault; Beatrice Caisse (Old Lady); Clarisse Bouvier (The bride); Cyril Corrigan (The groom); and Jimmy Smith (A student).

The Seniors interpreted a three-act play THE STEP SISTERS



with the following cast: Mrs. Temple: Victoria Murray;  
Mabel, her daughter: Clarisse Caisse: Eva alias Ethel, Ma-  
bel's step sister: Christine Morin; Miss Reid, principal of  
a boarding school: Lorraine Gervais; Betty, a housemaid of  
Mrs. Temple: Velma Landry; Nora, a housemaid at Miss Reid's:  
Claire Maurice; Mary Ann, Mrs. Temple's cook, Victoria Roy;  
Fred, a Post Messenger: Armand Murray; School girls; Rose  
Roy, Annette Gardiner, Therese Durocher and Celina Morin.

In FATHER TIME'S REVIEW, a short play, Raymond Anderson  
played the part of Father Time and Sylvia Maurice that of  
Mother Century. Twelve grade 3 pupils personified the  
months of the year.

FOLK DANCES AND ACTION SONGS  
To the tune of POP GOES THE WEASEL six tiny couples  
stole a good part of the show with a folk dance. The charm-  
ing damsels and their partners were: Doris, Antoinette, Jean-  
Marie and Philippe Lariviere; Yvonne Durocher, Marguerite  
Mispounas, Therese Gardiner, Jeanne Laliberté, Peter Smith,  
Johnny and Gilbert Daigneault, and Alex Roy.

Louise and Victor Lariviere, Louisa Couillonneur, Annie  
McCallum, Marie-Rose McKay, Antoine Gardiner, Norman Duro-  
cher, and Alfred Mispounas, all of grade 2, surprised the  
audience by dancing the FRENCH MINUET.

In an action-song, TIP TOE, we met Santa Claus' helpers,  
the Christmas elves: Louise Daigneault, Yvonne Durocher,  
Rose Murray, Johnny Desjarlais, Frank Morin, and Rodrigue  
Lavoie.

An old English ditty, OH! SOLDIER, SOLDIER sung by grade  
4 was dramatized by Léonie Desjarlais and Ambroise Bouvier.

VOCAL SOLOS AND CHORUSES  
The grade 3's sang with all their heart HERE COMES SANTA  
CLAUS. Since then it is the most popular song on the school  
grounds...

Two vocal solos were well rendered by the Landry boys  
who were not at their first appearance and whom the audi-  
ence always like to hear. Ernest sang THE CHRISTMAS GAR-  
DEN. Ralph, costumed as an Indian, was heard singing an  
Appalachian Carol: I WONDER AS I WANDER.

The senior class entertained with a joyful two-part cho-  
rus: LOOK! 'TIS A GLORY BRIGHT.

RECITATIONS  
The Cree-speaking tots of September had already mastered  
enough English vocabulary to be heard in a choral recitation  
THE NAUGHTY LITTLE MOUSE.

By reciting AT TEACHER'S HOUSE Edward Morin, grade 3,  
gave a little boy's impressions of his teacher.





# SCHOOL

## CHURCHILL SUB-LOCAL MEET

With Sr. Ste. Lucina as chairman and Sr. C. Beaudoin as secretary, the teachers of the Churchill sub-local met in Ile a la Crosse on Jan. 23.

Rev. Fr. Poirier, O.M.I. welcomed the visiting teachers.

Mr. T.H. Waugh, the devoted Administrator, discussed with the teachers, for the greater part of the morning session, the testing program he intends to carry out in the Northern Schools.

During the afternoon session in the absence of the Councillor, Mr. A. Sullivan, Sr. B. Lévesque very capably conducted a discussion of the salary schedule.

Local problems were afterwards discussed until six p.m. when the meeting adjourned.

All teachers felt that the day had been enjoyable and well spent.

The visiting teachers were:  
GREEN LAKE- Rev. Sr. Ste Lucina, Sr. Ste Rose, and Mr. Cey, (We're sorry that Sr Ste Aurélie was not well enough to make the trip from Beauval to here.)  
BEAUVAL -Rev. Srs. Annette Mageau and Ant. Cyre;  
BUFFALO NARROWS - Mr. Pravda, Misses Eliot and Griffith;  
DILLON- Mr. M. Parent;

## CHRISTMAS PARTIES

Before the Christmas holiday, all the pupils participated in their respective classrooms to a joyful get together.

Singing games, folk dancing and bingo were fully enjoyed. For the winners, Sr. Superior generously provided prizes which were plucked from the attractive Christmas trees.

We sincerely thank Mrs. Marion for sending candies and nuts, a treat of which children are always very fond. Santa's appearance in grade 1. made many little ones happy. He even condescended to call the numbers for their bingo. (Thanks Ernie!)

The children still remember that afternoon; and are thankful to those who gave them joy and happiness.

-O-O-O-

"Being good is the mother of good."



LA LOCHE - Rev. Srs. T. Arcand,  
G. Simard and F. Côté.

### MUSIC ON ICE

From 3 to 5 p.m. on Dec. 8, the Islanders were offered "Music on ice". The well-chosen melodies suited to the skating tempo invited many youngsters and a few oldsters to the very enjoyable sport.

For the welfare of the gliders, the amateurs, and the friendly onlookers, doughnuts and coffee were on sale in Laurenti hall.

In the evening the boarder boys and girls who had given priority to the Villagers in the afternoon, and some members of the mission staff had their share of the enjoyment when they glided to their heart's content.

### THANK YOU

Thanks to Mr. T.H. Waugh we saw the following films: Canadian Headlines of 1948, News Parade of '49 and '50, Here Comes the Circus, and a Sing Song.

We are also thankful for the attractive and interesting new Social Studies texts "Someday Soon", received recently.

--- Rev. Sr. B. Dumoulin, Sup. kindly accepted to supervise Miss Mireau's class during the latter's absence. The staff is grateful to Sister Superior.

### STAFF NEWS

13

Dec. 8.- It was a pleasure to meet Miss A. Georget, substitute in Beauval while Sr Auréa Mageau was on sick leave.

Dec. 16.- In Beauval Srs. Laramée, Lévesque, Rivard, Gaudette, Baert, Deschatelets, Lefebvre, Beaudoin and the Misses Lepage and Mireau saw "Snow White" an operetta successfully presented by the pupils of the Indian Res. School.

Jan. 4.- Thérèse Lepage and Lynn Mireau returned by car from their Christmas holidays at home. Braving the northern roads were Lynn's brother Joseph, Mr. John Stoeber and Mr. Oswald Clarkson.

---Sr. L. Belley with Sr. F. Gaudette made a hurried trip to Meadow Lake to visit the dentist.

### ON SICK LEAVE

Miss L. Mireau had put in two days of teaching when she suddenly fell sick. It was judged urgent to send her to Saskatoon at St Paul's Hospital, where she underwent an emergent operation. Under proficient and devoted care Lynn has recovered.

The few days spent convalescing at home in Harris, have been beneficial.

Miss Mireau returned Feb. 11th. The shining eyes of her pupils were proof of their joy... and what of the staff.....





Among the 1952 events which most closely resembled those of past years, the New Year's Eve Bingo ranks with the "Firsts".

For the occasion Taché Hall had its gayest decorations supplemented by the attractive display of prizes. As zero hour drew near, the crowd marched in to the merry notes of the record player which pleasantly whiled away the time before the call for the 1st Bingo Game.

The Bingos were followed by a very enjoyable musical program the first number of which was a piano dret: Schubert's Military March by Anita and Muriel Benoit. Germain Lavoie pleasantly surprised the whole audience by his vocal solos: O Holy Night and Schubert's Ave Maria, "Silent Night" which Anita and Germain sang as a duet was greatly enjoyed.

François Morin was hailed joyfully when he countered onto the stage with his guitar but without his former shyness. The Morin brothers: Ambroise with his fiddle, Harry with his guitar are always a favorite number, for the great majority. Lorraine Gervais played two piano selections. Charlie Ramsay again volunteered to sing while Abraham Corrigan strummed the guitar. Rev. Bro. Courcy's songs are always appreciated especially by the French speaking group which includes all the old-timers. Rev. Father Poirier was at the piano for Bro's songs "Le petit Grégoire" and "Pot pourri". Father Poirier also contributed two piano selections.

Mr. E. Gervais, having honorably played the role of announcer proceeded with equal success, to the sale of the lovely baskets which had been contributed by 15 Ladies and young Misses.

Lunch was naturally, the next item on the program. While the buyers enjoyed the contents of their baskets--and the makers' company--individual lunches were sold for the needs of all others.

During this time, the Lucky tickets for the Raffle and the Door prizes were "churned" and drawn. Antoine Moberley of



Buffalo Narrows was proclaimed "winnah" of the 6 piece Duro 15. Aluminum set. Daniel Daigneault carried away the door prize --a silk, hand-made quilt.

As soon as the last penny had been counted, Dr. Lavoie was called upon to present the proceeds of the evening to the Pastor. As usual, Doc's short talk was most appropriate and appreciated. Rev. Father Poirier was very pleased by the success of the evening. In well chosen words, Father told his gratitude. The amount of \$311 far exceeded his expectations and his words of gratitude were evidently heartfelt. This considerable sum as had been planned will be entirely for the benefit of the Church.

As 1952 ceded its place in Time to 1953, the whole gathering arose to recite as one family, "The Lord's Prayer". Then with the ever-solemn Sign of the Cross Father Poirier called the blessings of the Almighty on his assembled parishioners.

Warm handshakes drew the entertainment to a close, all bringing home warm wishes from their Pastor and their friends.

### CONCERT (cont.)

#### PIANO SELECTION

Lorraine Gervais gave proof of her interest in music. She has been taking piano lessons only since September and played a THEME from Haydn's Surprise Symphony.

#### THE CLOSING WORDS

Rev. Fr. L. Poirier, O.M.I., amiably thanked the children and the teachers for providing such good entertainment. Briefly he offered best wishes for a happy and peaceful Christmas.

#### GUESTS

In the audience we noticed among all our friends Rev. Fathers, Lemay, Perrault, and Fournier, Brothers Dumaine and St. Arnaud. The Sisters A. Corriveau, Henley, Cyre, Beaudet, Girard honoured us also. THANK YOU and COME AGAIN.

YOUR FREIGHT OR YOU  
WILL BE SAFER - 'TIS TRUE  
WHEN TRAVELLING WITH HUGH

**BRANDER**

Mechanic -- Musician --  
Electrician too  
ANY THING IN ANY LINE  
He can "fix" for you.

CALL

A MASTER OF ALL TRADES

MARQUIS

**WITC**



The Christmas spirit had to be on active duty real early for the youth of the hamlet, their party was held on Dec. 18. It was the members' wish to have the teachers, Lynn Mireau, President and Thérèse Lepage present for the occasion--which therefore was "booked" before the festive season was officially opened.

The gay streamers; the brightly decorated tree, and the attractively wrapped gifts did wonders to the hall.

A program of games was followed by an exquisite lunch for which purpose tables were set in the Hall itself. The executive then played Santa Claus: presenting the gifts which the members had purchased for each other. It was a happy moment when all opened their respective parcels, and exchanged sincere "Thank you's".

Holiday wishes were joyfully exchanged and the members were dispersed till 1953.

Unexpected circumstances prevented the holding of the meetings in January but on Feb. 1st, 23 members turned up.

In Miss Mireau's absence, Ovide Desjarlais, Vice President acted as chairman. The business meeting over, he called upon the devoted padre, Rev. Fr. Poirier to conduct the Religious Section. Father's talk was a timely one -- "When Should You Marry?"-- and it was justly appreciated. All are looking forward to the next one, scheduled for Feb. 15.

## HOCKEY

The Beauval Ind. Res. Sc. met the young Islanders on Feb. 3, in Ile a la Crosse.

Luck favored the visiting team, while the home team carried on with pluck to the end, 14 to 1. The Beauval team is very swift and skillful and deserves credit. While giving the Beauval's their due we won't let our home team down. Good boys! You played well and lost well. Three cheers for André who made the score. Keep your fingers crossed for a more successful game next time.

## BUSINESS

--- Gerry Lavoie was home for the Christmas holidays. During his stay he had the opportunity of going to Keller Lake with René. The latter was driving out to get Emile who had been fishing there for three weeks. Thus Emile was home for New Year's, but returned shortly after for another two weeks.

--- Mr. F.X. Burnouf has traded his snowmobile for a half ton truck. With the cooperation of Mrs. Burnouf he has opened a Cafe.

--- Mr. L. M. Marion is also the owner of a new half ton truck. On the borders of the Patuanak reservation Marcien is operating a store, actually managed by Lawrence Landry. ---Mr. Abraham Maurice attended in Prince Albert the trappers' convention.



## SOCIAL COLUMN

---Louise Marion, Anita and Muriel Benoit and their friend Hazel Middleton all arrived Dec. 19th, to spend the Xmas holidays at home. It was Hazel's first visit to Ile a la Crosse and it must have been a pleasant one for Hazel as well as the other girls hated to leave on Jan. 4th.

---Bridge night was the first occasion on which Mrs E. Benoit used the lovely silver tea set that Emile gave her. We are sure that everyone is happy that she wasn't using her first Xmas gift from Emile.

There were three guests --other than the club members-- that evening: Messrs. Hugh and Lee Brander and Eddy Worths.

---Miss Shirley Minish gave a Christmas party for her friends of Ile a la Crosse and Patuanak. A delicious buffet lunch was served. Dr. Lavoie was invited to propose the toast. Everyone had an enjoyable time.

---Mr. Kergen visited his Island friends. All were happy to see him again and wished he had stayed a little longer.

--- The Northern teachers met here on Jan. 23rd. A coincidence!... that evening there was a dance put on by the North West Ramblers of Meadow Lake. Some teachers had the chance to catch up with their night

"clubbing". Everyone had a good old time, so they say. 17.

---Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Gervais attended the concert given by the Beauval Indian Residential School. Unable to drive his "bug" because he had undergone a minor surgical treatment on his arm Mr. Gervais ceded his place to Father L. Poirier behind the wheel. Thanks to the Indian Agent the Sisters and teachers were also able to enjoy "Snow White".

--- With their family Mr. and Mrs. Gervais spent five days at Loon Lake at Christmas.

---Mrs. Tom Francis was to Meadow Lake on Feb. 5th to do some shopping. She returned four days later.

--- Mr. and Mrs. Ausland and son visited in Ile a la Crosse recently.

---Mrs. Beaulac of Buffalo Narrows is the guest of Mrs. Lavoie.

--- Dr. and Mrs. Lavoie and Mrs. Beaulac made a trip to Deep River at Ausland's : Doc for business and the others for the pleasure.

---Mrs. E. Theriau who mourned her mother in late December was recalled to Prince Albert recently to her brother's bedside. We offer her our sincere sympathy.

-o-o-o-o-  
OPTIMISM

A cheerful frame of mind that enables a teakettle to sing though in hot water up to its nose.

--Anon.



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