



As of June 1, 1985, the following people have donated towards the Tobacco Creek Marker:

Anderson, Jean (Jackson)	Mackenzie, Marion (Bruce)
Blanchard, Thelma (Weir)	Miller, Bill & Edna
Bruce, Tom	Miller, Velma (Park) & Weibe
Burnett, Bob & Nedra	Nichols, Margaret & Family
Burnett, Rock	Pattle, Mildred
Corden, Mary & Family	Pattle, Vic & Verna (Gibson)
Denning, Merv	Park, Irvine & Mag
Dickey, Delmar & Iola (Gibson)	Park, Mel & Mary (Sprott)
Eby, Family of Clayton	Philp, Don
Ganske, Raymond & Elaine	Philp, Harry
Gibson, Archie & Vi	Pingitore, Dorothy (Kyle)
Gibson, Bus & Fern (Banting)	Sanderson, Family of J. F.
Gibson, Don & Elaine	Sanderson, Minnie (Mrs. Elmer)
Gibson, Ken & Pat	Shanks, Lydia & Family
Gibson, Nelson & Irene	Shorrocks, Mary (Taylor)
Gibson, Noreen	Siska, Bea (Frazer)
Hamilton, Edith (Everts)	Stanley, Jack
Harlow, Deane (McMillan)	Stewart, Ethel (Gibson)
Howie, Jim & Gladys	Strutt, Phyllis (Gibson)
Huber, Barbara (Weir)	Sylvester, Glenn & Ethel
Jefkins, Lorne & Dorothy	Sylvester, Have & Hazel
Johnston, Adelaide	Sylvester, Lyle & Dorothy
Kelly, Eva (Gibson)	Sylvester, William
Maddison, Don	Webber, Bob & Evelyn
Maddison, Murray & Leah	Weir, Audrey (Mrs. D. E.)
McKay, Pearl (Abbott)	Weir, Don & Lenore
McKay, Family of Ralph	Weir, Lila (Mrs. Gilbert)

DEDICATION

This book is dedicated to all the people of the Tobacco Creek District. Those who first settled here and the ones who followed.

"...Our thoughts turn to the yesterdays and those who laid the foundation stones of our great Canadian country. When we see an old weather beaten schoolhouse (some were built of logs), we think of the earlier men and women who settled on these prairies and realized the need of some place where their growing families could secure education and training for the lives that lay ahead. These schoolhouses became the centres of the communities, the meeting places where they gathered from time to time for social, business or forum meetings. Church services were often held in the schoolhouse and a good many of them attended, roads and weather permitting and if a preacher was obtainable.

These schoolhouses were certainly not the luxurious unities that we have today. They were heated by a potbellied wood or coal burner located usually near the door. Those who sat near the stove were too hot, while the teacher and the small ones at the front were often cold. The pupils usually brought their own drinking water in summer - a pail sat on the stove for melting snow in winter. The plumbing was in two units outside at the back.

The teachers endured hardships and sacrificed in order to bring the rudiments of education to the children. These leaders of thought joined the front line of progress discouraged by no privations, held back by no fears. They opened the door of opportunity for these young people and today the West is reaping the harvest of their planting.

Such a community centre was Tobacco Creek School District #808..."

(Taken, in part from an article by Don Weir Sr.)

SOURCES

Books:

- The History of the R. M. of Dufferin in Manitoba (1880-1980)
- The Hills of Home - A History of the Municipality of Thompson (1967)
- A Sketch of Both Sides of Manitoba by J. F. Galbraith (1881)
- The Records of the Tobacco Creek School District #808
- The Records of the Renwick Mission Station
- Quotations for Speakers and Writers by Allen Andrews (1969)
- Speaker Encyclopedia of Humor by Judge Jacob M. Braude (1961)

Thank you to the following sources for making their information and services available:

- Boyne Regional Library, Carman
- Morden Library, Morden
- Morden Land Titles, Morden
- Valley Leader, Carman
- United Church, Carman
- United Church Archives, Winnipeg
- Department of Education, Winnipeg
 - Half Yearly Attendance Reports (1915 - 1959)
- Legislative Library of the Provincial Archives, Winnipeg
 - Newspapers:
 - Carman Standard (1894 - 1914)
 - Dufferin Leader (1894-1914, 1927, 1941, 1942, 1953, 1961)

Photo Developing and Custom Work:

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We wish to acknowledge the following people for their part in making this project possible:

To John Guenther for allowing us to use a portion of his land to place our marker.

To Don Hill for letting us select a stone from his property to use as a marker.

To all committee members and anyone else who helped in any way with the preparations for the unveiling of the marker.

To all the residents, former residents, teachers, and pupils of the Tobacco Creek District who so willingly sent us their memories, photos and bits of information for the book.

To T. E. Johnson (brother of Mrs. Lyle Sylvester) for his sketch on page 100.

To Diane Gibson who assisted us with the typing of this book.

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INTRODUCTION

This book began purely by accident. While compiling material for the F.H. Sylvester Family History we acquired a lot of information about Tobacco Creek School District #808. We decided that a separate book should be written on the school alone. After talking to several residents and former residents about our idea, it began to snowball. One thing led to another and a meeting was called to discuss putting up a marker at the former school site as well as writing a book.

The response was overwhelming! Many teachers, students and parents have shared their memories and photographs with us.

Editor's rights have been taken.

We hope you enjoy the book.

Nevae Sylvester

Nevae Sylvester
Editor

Dorothy Sylvester

Dorothy (Mrs. Lyle) Sylvester
Assistant Editor

TOBACCO CREEK

No one seems to know for sure how the Tobacco Creek got its name. There are, however, different versions, depending on who you ask.

Some say a man lost a plug of tobacco in the creek and couldn't find it, so they named it Tobacco Creek.

Another source claims that a merchant with a load of goods was trying to cross the creek when his wagon upset. The supply of tobacco he was carrying floated down the creek, so it was named the Tobacco Creek.

The most logical explanation can be found in J. F. Galbraith's book "Both Sides of Manitoba". It reads as follows:

"Six miles south of the Boyne, we crossed Tobacco Creek - a deep, narrow gully, dry at mid-summer, but a raging torrent in the spring and after protracted rains. I presume this creek takes its name from the red willows growing abundantly along either side. This willow is the kind called Sallyrod in Ontario - at least it seems to me. The Half-breeds and the Indians call the inner bark 'Kinni-kin-nick' and they smoke it, mixed with tobacco."

In his book, Mr. Galbraith recalls a spring during the late 1870's, when the Tobacco Creek overflowed its banks. He states that the Creek was 50 to 60 feet wide and 12 to 15 feet deep.

Those who have lived along the Tobacco Creek have seen many floods throughout the years. The run-off water from the Pembina Hills used to take 2 weeks to arrive there. Since many farmers to the West have cleared land of bush, there is nothing left to hold back the water, so it comes rushing down in 2 days. The creek cannot hold the excess, so it spills out over the banks, flooding many fields and farmlands along the way. This creates problems for those living near the creek but at other times, it is also a source of enjoyment.

A few miles to the West of the location described in Mr. Galbraith's book is an area known as the Tobacco Creek District. For more than 60 years there was a school building located on 29-5-5.

On page 45 of "The Hills of Home" is found the following:

"But memories of the Old Creek live on - of its waters for drinking and its snow for eating; of its banks for sliding down; its old-style iron bridge upon which the boys tested their skill at 'chinning the rods' and crossing, hand over hand; its frozen surface in spring or fall used also for sliding on and for those lucky enough to have spring-type skates for a bit of hockey."

Many will also recall swimming or boating in the creek. The bridge has been replaced several times throughout the years but will always be known as "The School Bridge".



Tobacco Creek School Bridge taken during the 1920's.

Looking South at the water flowing to the top of the School Bridge on August 25, 1968 after a very heavy rainfall.



Looking South across the School Bridge after it had been washed out during the spring flood in 1979.

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Tobacco Creek School Board Minutes

The following are items taken from the minutes of the Tobacco Creek School District #808. Space does not allow for all of the meetings to be copied here. Some of the more important points of a few of the meetings have been selected. Two meetings have been copied in full (May 21, 1894 and April 27, 1961).

April 16, 1894

- Election of trustees and other business connected with the organization of the new School District of Tobacco Creek.
- Trustees elected were: James T. Gibb; James Simpson Jr.; James S. Gibson. Auditor was James Riddell. James A. Stevenson was elected secretary/treasurer.
- The school house was to be built on the North East corner of NE 29-5-5 on the property of James Simpson. The size of the lot was to be one acre and be known as the Tobacco Creek School District.

April 30, 1894 (trustees meeting)

- Adjustments made to School plans.
- Advertise for tenders in the Carman Standard. The tenders were to be in by May 14 and the school to be completed by July 1.

May 14, 1894 (trustees meeting)

- 9 tenders received
- James Miller of Carman was the tender accepted to build the school at a cost of \$570.00.

July 17, 1894 (trustees meeting)

- School completed and James Miller was to be paid in full for his contract with whatever extras had been added (Ed.'s note: According to the treasury book a total of \$578.00 was paid to Mr. Miller).

July 27, 1894 (trustees meeting)

- Miss M. E. Thomas was accepted as the first teacher at a rate of \$35.00/month.
- F. D. Stewart was paid \$80.00 for seats and desks for the school.
- James Simpson Sr. was paid \$10.00 for the school lot.

January 23, 1900 (trustees meeting)

- decided to purchase storm windows for school and have them put on.

July 19, 1900 (trustees meeting)

- It was decided to levy \$480.00 to meet 1901 expenses and put a foundation under the school house.

1894

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Minutes of Meeting

Minutes of a Public Meeting of the ratepayers of the Tobacco-Creek School District No 808 held the 21st Day of May in Pursuance of a notice given as required by the "Public School Act" and called for the purpose of considering and advising the Trustees of said School District, in respect to the question of raising or borrowing, a sum of money for the purpose of, Purchasing a School site, ~~and~~ erecting and furnishing, a School House and its appendages. The said meeting having been organized by the appointment of Jas Simpson^{Jr} Chairman and Jas. A. Stenerson Secy. The following Proceedings were had it was moved by J. P. Blackwell Secy by J. H. Sharp: that the Trustees be authorized to borrow the sum of Seven Hundred Dollars by the issue of Debentures moved by J. H. Sharp. Secy by Jas Gibb that the Debentures run for ten years the following Freeholders all voted for the issuing of said Debentures and none voted against said issue

Robert Pennick, J. P. Blackwell, J. H. Sharp.
John Sylvester, William Sylvester, Jas Gibb.
Jas. Gibb

Jas. Simpson^{Jr}
Chairman



October 19, 1900 (trustees meeting)

- The secretary/treasurer was instructed to have the school banked with earth at a cost not to exceed \$1.50.

June (before the 13th), 1901 (trustees meeting)

- Asked for tenders for foundation of school house 20 feet by 30 feet, 1 foot high and 18 inches wide.
- Frank Sylvester was to make repairs to the school. (Ed.'s note: He was paid \$11.00 on July 8)
- Test for water for a well.
- Hire a team to break ground around the school house.

June 13, 1901 (trustees meeting)

- Accepted tender from James Williams for \$55.00 and to be finished before the 20th of July.
- John H. Sylvester be engaged to superintend the laying of the foundation. (Ed.'s note: he was paid \$6.00 on November 22 for supervising, putting in foundation, digging out foundation, levelling up same, repairing, etc.)

July 7, 1902 (trustees meeting)

- Moved that the inside of school house be covered with metal sheeting.

January 20, 1909 (trustees meeting)

- Secretary/treasurer instructed to procure 4 desks for the school house - there being a larger attendance.

December 5, 1910 (annual meeting)

- Some discussion of consolidation of schools.

January 26, 1912 (special meeting of trustees)

- It was decided to transfer the Tobacco Creek School Account from the Canadian Bank of Commerce in Carman to the Bank of Hamilton at Rosebank. All cheques issued shall be signed by the secretary/treasurer and counter-signed by the chairman and the seal of the School District be affixed thereto.

July 28, 1919 (annual meeting)

- A Department of Education Representative led a discussion on the advisability of consolidating Kilmory, Central and Tobacco Creek.

May 17, 1920 (special ratepayers meeting)

- A discussion on building a new school: "It was thought an unfavorable time to build owing to the high cost of labor and material".
- It was decided that "the trustees be given full power to make the old school habitable for the present".

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October 27, 1920 (ratepayers special meeting)

- Moved that the minutes of the last meeting (Ed.'s Note: May 17, 1920 special meeting) be not adopted.
- Discussion about new school. It was decided to vote by ballot. The results of which were 9 for and 3 against. Full power given to trustees to build a new school.

March 11, 1921 (special ratepayers meeting) and

March 25, 1921 (special ratepayers meeting)

- Various discussions on consolidating, repairing or building of a new school. It was finally decided to leave the school standing as is for the time being.

March 12, 1927 (special school meeting)

- Decision to move the school site to the South side of the Creek and enlarge the grounds from one acre to two acres if necessary and that after the new school is ready for use, the old school be sold by public auction.
- Trustees were instructed to borrow \$4,500.00 by debentures, issued payable in 10 years, for the purpose of constructing a new school.

April 18, 1927 (trustees meeting)

- "The debentures calls for a loan of \$4,500.00 to be paid in 10 annual payments of \$450.00 each interest of 6% payable on December 20th of each year. First payment dated June 20th, 1927. J. C. Park purchased the whole of the said debentures of \$4,500.00 interest at 6%.

Special note (taken from page 103 of the Tobacco Creek School Board Minutes):

"Sealed tenders addressed to me, secretary/treasurer of Tobacco Creek School District #808 will be received up til 12:00 noon Tuesday May 10, 1927 for the erection of a frame school house 22' x 48', plastered inside with a nine foot cement basement, a hot air furnace 27" firepot and 2 chemical closets etcetera. Plans and specifications may be seen at F. Kirby's Office. The lowest or any tenders not necessarily accepted. Dated at Tobacco Creek April 10, 1927. J. W. Kyle secretary/treasurer

May 23, 1927 (special meeting of trustees and building committee)

- Called to open tenders for building new school. 4 were received. After careful consideration it was decided to award the contract to F. B. Cummer. A committee was formed to interview Mr. Cummer re: building a cistern and wiring building for electric light. It was decided a pipeless furnace was wanted. (Ed.'s note: Treasury books show that the whole contract was \$4,286.75)

Special note: Treasury books note that the old school was sold to Emery Kyle for \$101.50. This transaction was recorded on October 17, 1927.

TOBACCO CREEK SCHOOL IS FORMALLY OPENED

Hon. R. A. Hoey Gives Chief
Address at Enjoyable Function
Monday.

Tobacco Creek district's fine new school building was formally opened Monday night this week, when a good representation of families of the district and friends from neighboring districts assembled to enjoy an excellent program which had been prepared. Of this program the feature was an address by the minister of education for Manitoba, the Hon. R. A. Hoey of Winnipeg. W. M. Weir, well known old time resident of the district, presided during the evening in a manner that enhanced his already enviable reputation as a chairman.

Hon. Mr. Hoey's remarks, concise and always close to his subject, were appreciated by all. He did not share the belief held by a great many people that the young people of this generation have not as high standards of morality as had the young people of the previous and earlier generations; nevertheless, there was evidence from investigations carried out in various parts of this continent that a great many young people today look lightly on matters of crime and of moral turpitude. This condition was particularly disquieting when one noted the number of young people under twenty years of age apprehended in the United States for murder and other criminal offences, or noted the fact that of the children attending public school in a large city in an eastern state of the union, 65 percent would not hesitate to steal. The reason for this, Mr. Hoey held, was that home influence and discipline had broken down, and in these circumstances he thought the schools of the country ought diligently to apply themselves to building up strong moral sense in the children passing through them. While it was not right that parents should look to the teachers of the public schools to take the responsibility for the moral training of the young, he believed the time to be here for teachers to endeavor to make the most of the opportunities they have for moulding and strengthening the characters of children who come under their care. Complimenting the people of the district on the fine building they had provided for the school children, Mr. Hoey urged the parents to co-operate fully with their teacher in order that the work the

school is endeavoring to perform might not fall short of its purpose.

D. S. Woods of Miami, school inspector, was present and was also asked by the chairman to contribute a few remarks. The inspector congratulated the people of Tobacco Creek on having a fine school and an efficient and valuable teacher. He remarked upon the ability which the pupils and their teacher had displayed in connection with the school fair and field day activities, the pennants exhibited on the walls attesting to their success. Rev. D. M. MacKay of Carman and A. H. Malcolmson of Carman, the latter a former teacher of the district, were also introduced by the chairman and spoke briefly.

J. R. Blackwell, one of the men who was instrumental in organizing the Tobacco Creek school district in 1893 gave an account of the history of the district which was interesting to all.

He told of the resistance to consolidation which was pressed upon the district a dozen years ago, and of the realization of a few years later of the need for a new school building. Financial conditions had for several years been unfavorable, but the new school was now a reality and was a valuable community asset, being used for church services and for community gatherings of various kinds.

Musical numbers during the evening added much to the enjoyment of all present. Pupils of the school sang a chorus; Fred Woods, the teacher, gave a song, and with Miss Thelma Weir played a piano duet; Mrs. John Park gave general pleasure with her singing of "Danny Boy," Mrs. F. C. Brown played a violin solo which was enthusiastically received, Miss Winnie Sanderson contributed a humorous reading and Dorothy Kyle a piano solo, and a vocal number was given by a sextette composed of Mrs. James Park, Mrs. Frank Sylvester, Mrs. T. Philp, Miss Thelma Weir, and T. S. Weir and Fred Woods. In addition, the Community Footwarmers orchestra played several stirring selections.

Presentation was made during the evening of school field day medals won by Havelock, Quinton and Lyle Sylvester, this duty being performed by Rev. D. M. MacKay.

At the conclusion of the program ladies of the district provided an excellent lunch, consisting of chicken pie, sandwiches, cake and coffee, and somewhat after midnight the gathering dispersed.

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July 16, 1928 (annual meeting)

- Moved that the old school site be sold for the sum of \$1.00 and conveyed to Messrs Thomas and Robert Bruce. (Ed.'s note: On April 15, 1927 it had been agreed to exchange the old site for a new one on the south side of the Creek.)

June 15, 1931 (trustees meeting)

- Met to decide on a new teacher for the school. A total of 60 applications had been received!

December 29, 1952 (School District Meeting)

- Called due to fire destroying school on December 25.
- Discussions re:
 - temporary school.
 - renting second floor at Rosebank School.
 - interview Jack Ross (building contractor from Carman) about buying a house to be used as a school.

"A house was bought later by the men of the district and was made available to the trustees to equip for a temporary school house." (Ed.'s note: There are no details given as to whom the building was purchased from.)

January 15, 1953 (annual meeting)

- It was decided to pay \$50.00/month to the owners of the temporary school house.

April 8, 1953 (ratepayers meeting)

- Motion to build a new school.
- Trustees were authorized to borrow \$8,000.00 by debentures for the purpose of building and equipping a one room school. The debentures were to be for a period of five years and be \$500.00 each. (Ed.'s note: Treasury books show that the 1953 Building Fund Total Expenditures was \$12,022.45)

July 25, 1959 (trustees meeting)

- Tender for the school bus driver as Tobacco Creek School was closing due to low enrollment. Harold Gibson being lowest tender was accepted. He was to transport the Tobacco Creek pupils (elementary and high school) to Rosebank for the coming year.

May 18, 1960 (special meeting of ratepayers)

- A vote on consolidation with Rosebank School District and Ager School District was defeated 10 to 8.

Building Fund Receipts for 1953

Fire Insurance Postage Mutual Insurance		\$4550 00
Sale of Debentures		\$8000 00
Debentures sold to the following		
C. S. Park.	2. \$500 Debentures	1000 00
D. E. Weir.	1. \$500 Debenture	500 00
H. Stewart	1. 500 Debenture	500 00
J. Mercer.	1. 500 Debenture	500 00
Mrs Fred Vanstone.	5. \$500 Debentures	2500 00
George Gibson.	6. \$500 Debentures	3000 00
	Total	\$8000 00
		4550 00
		4550 00
Total Fire Insurance and Debentures		\$12550 00
		\$12550 00

Taken from page 84 of the Tobacco Creek School District Receipt Book.

A Special Meeting April 27th 1961

There was a meeting of the electors of the Tobacco Creek S.D. #888 Thursday April 27th 1961 at 8. PM at the school house to discuss dissolution of the Tobacco Creek School District. Disposal of assets, school building and site, preparation of petition showing districts to which land of Tobacco Creek S.D. is to be transferred. Elven present.

Meeting was opened by chairman Lyle Sylvester.

Nominated by Vic Pattle, seconded by Don Weir, Bob Webber to chairman.

Nominated by Vic Pattle, seconded by Geo Gibson Murray Maddison to secretary.

Mrs Moore the districts inspector attended the meeting and answered many questions on dissolving of the school district, what we could do with the school and contents and etc. He assisted with the preparation of petition showing districts to which land of Tobacco Creek School District is to be transferred. Mrs Moore accompanied here and greatly assisted by typing out the petitions.

Motion by Geo Gibson, that we dissolve the School District. Seconded by L. Sylvester

Motion carried.

That the following lands shall be transferred to the Consolidated School District of Rosebank No. 91,

Sections 19, 20, 21, 29, 31, the S.W. 1/4 of 28, and the south 140 acres of the N.W. 1/4 of 28, the S.W. 1/4 of 32, all in township 5, range 5.

That the following lands shall be transferred

to The School District of Kilmory. No. 28:

The N. 1/2 of 32, and the S.E. 1/4 of 32. all in township 5, range 5; and all of section 5-6

That the following lands shall be transferred to the Consolidated School District of Carman No. 176:

All of section 27, 33, and the W. 1/2 of 34, the N. 20 acres of the N.W. 1/4 of 28, and the E. 1/2 of 28, all in township 5, range 5, and all of section 4, and the S.W. 1/4 of 3, all in township 6, range 5.

That the following lands shall be transferred to the Consolidated School District of Grapville No. 1493: all of section 6-6-5.

That the following lands shall be transferred¹²
to The Consolidated School District of Meane
No. 74: all of section 30-5-5.

~~That the present board of Trustees be authorizing
to dispose of buildings, contents and land.~~
Motion by Don Weir.

That all property be sold by auction, with a
reserve bid, at a meeting of the ratepayers,
and the sale be advertised in the Carman,
Morden, Winkler & Altona papers. Also sale bills
Motion by Geo Gibson
Seconded by J. Park. Carried.

That the assets be divided in proportion
to the assessment of the land. Motion

by Lyle Sylvestre
Seconded by Geo Gibson, Carried.

That the dissolution take effect on or
before Aug. 1st 1961, Motion by Don Weir
Seconded by L. Sylvestre. Carried.
Moved by Geo. Gibson, Seconded by
J. Park that we adjourn.

Chairman
Verna Gibson Secretary

Auction Sale

AUCTION SALE — to be held on the Tobacco Creek School grounds Tuesday evening, June 20th beginning at 7 p.m. sharp. The school building built in 1953 size 28 x 42 feet, with Classroom, kitchen with cupboards, library, large entrance hall with septic toilets and new tank, all equipment, including piano, combination radio, 18 desks, teachers desk and chair, Furnasman oil burner, Pressure pump, sump pump, Plywood platform, outdoor playground equipment. Barn 24 by 40 feet and School property. Number miscellaneous items. Situated on N.E. quarter, section 29-5-5. 5 miles south, 4 west of Carman, Cam Johnston Auctioneer. Miss Verna Gibson, Sec. Treas., Tobacco Creek S.D. No. 808, Phone SH 5-3402.

June 7 and 14 Auction clipping from the Pembina Triangle Progress (1961)

The following is a list of the items from the school that were auctioned on June 20, 1961 and recorded in the Tobacco Creek School Cash Receipt Book on pages 92 and 93 on June 21, 1961.

School building & heating unit	2	150.	00
Land		50.	00
Barn	2	00	00
Springs		32	50
Teter-toters @ 4.50		9	00
2 Ev troughs		6	00
2 3/4" Plywood @ 9.00		18	00
2 3/4" Plywood @ 8.50		17	00
2 pieces 3/4" Plywood		6.	00

2	Saw-horses	2	00
2	"	2	00
2	"	2	00
2	"	2	00
1	"	1	00
	Lump Pumps	22	00
"	40 ft Hose	6	00
"	6 tins caulking cement	2	25
"	Braces & paint		50
2	Bats	1	25
"	Bat & Mask	1	75
2	Bats	2	25
"	Broom & Dust Pan	1	25
1	2x10 Plank 14ft	14	00
3	2x10 Plank 18ft	5	00
"	Pressure system	77	50
"	18 Desks 9 pr @ 11.00	99	00
"	Teacher Desk & Chair	37	50
"	2 Fire Bombs @ 2.00	4	00
"	1 Fire Bomb	2	00
"	Dixie cup holder & dispenser		90
"	Large Fire Extinguisher	28	00
21	Pencil Sharpener	2	00
21	School bell	1	50
"	Globe	4	50
"	1 Map	2	50
"	1 Map	5	00

		15
"	Ping Pong Set	90
"	4 Folding chairs @ 3.00	12 00
"	4 " " @ 3.00	12 00
"	Radio & record player	16 00
"	Santa Claus suit	2 00
"	1 Curtain	2 50
"	1 " "	2 90
"	Toilet Tissues	2 00
"	Drinking Fountain	3 00
"	Wax & Wash dish	2 00
"	Hot Plate	2 25
"	1 Canner	1 50
"	1 Canner	90
"	White Lamp	75
"	Brown Lamp	1 75
"	6 Chairs	1 25
"	Waste paper Basket	40
"	Hectograph	75
"	Flag Pole	11 00
"	Lab Equipment	5 00
"	Paper	50
"	Table	1 00
"	Picture	2 50
"	Piano & Bench	110.00
	Total	<u>3,013.25</u>
	Less 25¢ secretarys money	25
		<u>3,013.00</u>
	Less 2 curtains \$5.40 Drinking Fountain \$3.00 Ladies Club	8.40
	Total of Sale	<u>3,004.60</u> ✓

TOBACCO CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT #808 The following is a complete list of School board members from 1894 to 1961. The date in the left hand column represents the date they were elected. (C) represents who the chairman was for that year if it was stated in the minutes. All information was taken from the Tobacco Creek School District Minutes.

DATE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	SECRETARY/ TREASURER	AUDITOR
Apr. 16, 1894	James T. Gibb	James Gibson	James Simpson Jr. (C)	James Stevenson	James Riddell
Dec. 3, 1894	" "	" "	" " (C)	James T. Gibb	" "
Dec. 2, 1895	" "	J. R. Blackwell	" " (C)	" "	" "
Dec. 7, 1896	William Sylvester (C)	" "	T. Sharp	J.R. Blackwell	" "
Dec. 6, 1897	" " (C)	" "	S. Wilson	" "	" "
Dec. 5, 1898	" " (C)	Alex Bruce	" "	S. Wilson	" "
Dec. 4, 1899	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 3, 1900	" " (C)	" "	James Riddell	John H. Sylvester	J. R. Blackwell
Dec. 2, 1901	" " (C)	J. Simpson	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 1, 1902	William McKay	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 7, 1903	" "	" " (C)	Frank Sylvester	retired Oct. 27, 1903 James Riddell elected	" "
Dec. 5, 1904	" " (C)	John Sanderson	" "	Frank Sylvester	W. Weir
Dec. 4, 1905	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 6, 1906	" " (C)	" "	W. Weir	W. Weir	J.P. Blackwell
Dec. 2, 1907	" " (C)	Thomas Bruce	" "	" "	" "

DATE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	SECRETARY/ TREASURER	AUDITOR
Dec. 7, 1908	James Park	Thomas Bruce (C)	W. Weir	W. Weir	Frank Sylvester
Dec. 6, 1909	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 5, 1910	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 4, 1911	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
Dec. 2, 1912	" "	" " (C)	Herb Park	James Park	" "
Dec. 1, 1913	" "	W. Kyle (C)	" "	" "	" "
July 27, 1914	John F. Sanderson	" " (C)	" "	John F. Sanderson	J. C. Park
July 19, 1915	" "	" " (C)	Frank Sylvester	" "	" " J. C. Park elected July 5, 1916 Mr. J. C. Park re-elected
July 25, 1916	" "	James Simpson	" " (C)	" "	" "
July 30, 1917	Thomas Bruce	" " (C)	" "	Frank Sylvester	J. C. Park
July 15, 1918	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "
July 28, 1919	" "	Mrs. J. F. Sanderson	" " (C)	Mrs. J. F. Sanderson	" "
July 19, 1920	Herb Park	" "	J. R. Blackwell (C)	" "	" "
July 27, 1921	" "	" "	" " (C)	F. H. Sylvester	" "
July 17, 1922	" "	Mrs. W. Kyle	" "	Willis Kyle	" "
July 16, 1923	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 21, 1924	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 23, 1925	" "	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "

DATE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	SECRETARY/ TREASURER	AUDITOR
July 19, 1926	James C. Park	Mrs. W. Kyle	J.R. Blackwell	Willis Kyle	J.F. Sanderson
July 21, 1927	" "	" "	Frank L.C. Brown	" "	" "
July 16, 1928	" " (C)	Mrs. F.H. Sylvester	" "	Frank L.C. Brown	" "
July --, 1929	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 21, 1930	" " (C)	" "	Frank Tovell	Frank Tovell	" "
July 20, 1931	" (C)	W. Kyle	Death of Frank Tovell Sept. 23, 1931 F.H. Sylvester	" elections on J.W. Kyle	" "
July 22, 1932	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 17, 1933	" "	" "	John A. Park (C)	" "	" "
July 16, 1934	" "	Ralph McKay	" " (C)	" "	" "
June 22, 1935	James C. Park	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 20, 1936	" " (C)	" "	F.H. Sylvester	Ralph McKay	" "
July 20, 1937	" "died Sept. 13, 1937 elect J.A. Park	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "
July 18, 1938	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July --, 1939	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July --, 1940	D. E. Weir	" "	" "	" "	" "
July --, 1941	" "	" "	" "	" "	" "
July 27, 1942	" "	" "	George Gibson	" "	William Miller

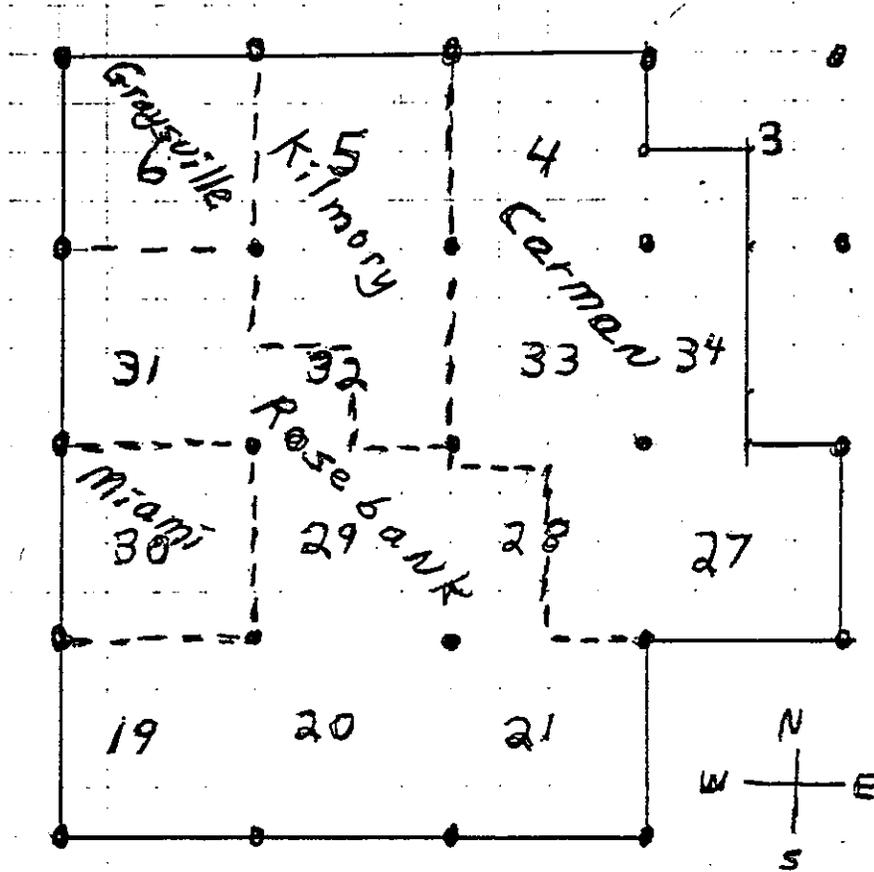
DATE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	TRUSTEE	SECRETARY/ TREASURER	AUDITOR
July 19, 1943	D.E. Weir (C)	Ralph McKay	George Gibson	Ralph McKay	William Miller
July 19, 1944	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	Charles Pattle
Apr. 23, 1945	" " (C)	Glenn Sylvester	" "	Dorothy Jefkins	" "
July 15, 1946	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	Tom Bruce
Jan. 16, 1948	" " (C)	William Ganske	Tom Bruce	Tom Bruce	Irvine Park
Jan. 14, 1949	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
Jan. 12, 1950	" " (C)	" "	" "	" "	" "
Jan. 15, 1951	" " (C)	" "	Lyle Sylvester	" "	" "
Jan. 14, 1952	Jack Gibson (C)	" "	" "	" "	Don Weir
Jan. 15, 1953	" " (C)	Irvine Park	" "	" "	" "
Jan. 21, 1954	" "	" "	Murray Maddison (C)	Robert Webber	" "
Jan. 14, 1955	H. Corden	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "
Jan. 13, 1956	" "	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "
Jan. 16, 1957	" "	" "	Lyle Sylvester (C)	" "	" "
Jan. 13, 1958	" "	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "
Jan. 19, 1959	" "	" "	" " (C)	Verna Gibson	" "
Jan. 16, 1960	" "	" "	" " (C)	" "	" "
Jan. 23, 1961	" "	" "	" " (C)	" "	Allan Patterson

Complete list of teachers, when taught and average monthly wage.

Sep. 1894	- Mar. 1895	Miss M. E. Thomas	\$ 35.00/mo.
Mar. 1895	- Sep. 1895	Miss E. Campbell	35.00/mo.
Oct. 1895	- Mar. 1896	Miss Margaret Calder	35.00/mo.
Apr. 1896	- Aug. 1897	Mr. William Yuill	35.00/mo.
Sep. 1897	- Dec. 1897	Miss Barbara Stratton	46.25/mo.
Jan. 1898	- Feb. 1898	Miss Kate Lucy	77.00total
Mar. 1898	- Dec. 1898	Miss M. Hugg	33.00/mo.
Jan. 1899	- Aug. 1900	Miss Mary E. Campbell	33.00/mo.
Sep. 1900	- Dec. 1900	Mr. Albert Malcolmson	35.00/mo.
Jan. 1901	- June 1902	Miss Eunice E. Saunderson	35.00/mo.
Aug. 1902	- July 1903	Mr. John A. Weir	40.00/mo.
Aug. 1903	- June 1905	Miss Clara M. Galloway	40.00/mo.
July 1905	- Dec. 1905	Miss Anna Huchinson	40.00/mo.
Jan. 1906	- Dec. 1906	Miss Eva Fraser	43.25/mo.
Jan. 1907	- Dec. 1907	Miss Berry	43.25/mo.
Jan. 1908	- Dec. 1908	Miss Allen	45.00/mo.
Jan. 1909	- July 1911	Miss Dora Maryon	50.00/mo.
Aug. 1911	- June 1912	Miss Del Wheaton	50.00/mo.
Sep. 1912	- Dec. 1912	Doubleday	55.00/mo.
Jan. 1913	- Dec. 1913	Mr. Sidney H. Sutton	60.00/mo.
Jan. 1914	- July 1915	Miss Annie Phillips	60.00/mo.
Aug. 1915	- Dec. 1915	Miss McDonald	60.00/mo.
Jan. 1916	- June 1917	Miss Winnie Sanderson	60.00/mo.
Sep. 1917	- July 1919	Miss Frances Stevenson	60.00/mo.
		second year	70.00/mo.
Sep. 1919	- June 1920	Miss Roe	80.00/mo.
Sep. 1920	- Oct. 1920	Miss Edna Matheson	166.25total
Nov. 1920	- July 1921	Miss Hurton	120.00/mo.
Sep. 1921	- July 1922	Mr. E. B. Wiltse	120.00/mo.
Sep. 1922	- Apr. 1923	Miss Ruth Spurway	100.00/mo.
May 1923	- Sep. 1924	Miss Jean Richardson	90.00/mo.
Oct. 1924	- July 1926	Miss Lang	85.00/mo.
Sep. 1926	- Dec. 1928	Mr. Fred Woods	85.00/mo.
Jan. 1929		Miss Edna Robertson	45.02total
Feb. 1929	- June 1929	Miss E. O. Lewarton	90.00/mo.
Sep. 1929	- July 1931	Miss Gwen Sanders	85.00/mo.
Aug. 1931	- July 1936	Miss Adelaide Johnston	50.00/mo.
Aug. 1936	- Oct. 1937	Miss Sprott	50.00/mo.
Nov. 1937	- July 1938	Miss Pinn	55.00/mo.
Sep. 1938	- July 1941	Miss Elizabeth McIvor	60.00/mo.
Sep. 1941	- June 1942	Miss Verna Todd	65.00/mo.
Sep. 1942	- July 1943	Miss Deane McMillan	60.00/mo.
Sep. 1943	- June 1944	Miss Jean Jackson	90.00/mo.
Sep. 1944	- June 1945	Miss Beatrice Frazer	100.00/mo.
Sep. 1945	- June 1947	Miss Mary Taylor	83.80/mo.
		second year	96.00/mo.
Sep. 1947	- Aug. 1950	Miss Fern Banting	123.00/mo.
		second year	106.90/mo.
		third year	122.00/mo.
Sep. 1950	- Aug. 1952	Mr. Boris Fedak	146.48/mo.
		second year	135.80/mo.
Sep. 1952	- Aug. 1954	Mrs. Gladys Howie	173.00/mo.
		second year	183.00/mo.

Sep. 1954 - Aug. 1955	Miss Joan Hodgson	\$144.00/mo.
Sep. 1955 - June 1957	Miss Wilma Skeavington	208.00/mo.
	Second year	224.00/mo.
Sep. 1957 - June 1959	Mrs. Fern (Banting) Gibson	224.00/mo.
	second year	228.00/mo.

Tobacco Creek School District No. 808



— Solid line represents Tobacco Creek School District boundaries in 1961.
 --- Dotted line represents where the land was transferred after the Tobacco Creek School District was dissolved in 1961.

TOBACCO CREEK SCHOOL DISTRICT #808
HALF YEARLY ATTENDANCE REPORTS

Editor's Notes:

The attendance records of Tobacco Creek School are not complete. The Department of Education did not begin taking Half Yearly Attendance Reports until 1915. There was probably some record of student enrolment from the years 1894 - 1914, however these have since been lost or destroyed. To avoid missing some names and possibly hurting feelings, we have not compiled a student list prior to 1915.

In 1915, teachers were required to send a complete list of students for the first term (January 1 to June 30) and the second term (September 1 to December 31) of each year to the Department of Education. The students were listed according to their grade and/or age.

A Class B and a Class A were sometimes listed before Grade 1 in a few of the reports. There is no explanation regarding this grading method. Further research has failed to turn up any more information. It was probably a form of pre-school education such as kindergarten.

Depending on the teacher's qualifications, Grades 9 and 10 were not always taught at Tobacco Creek School. Any student desiring a higher education took a correspondence course or travelled to the nearest school which taught those grades.

The Half Yearly Attendance Reports are all on microfilm at the Department of Education and the Provincial Archives, both in Winnipeg. The Reports were all handwritten by the teacher. Their penmanship was not always the best or the ink had sometimes faded before microfilming. For this reason, some names and grades were hard to read. Apologies for any errors or omissions.

1st Term 1915

Grade 1
Cecil Park
Elmer Sanderson
Archie Gibson
Kenneth Piggott
Tommy Bruce

Grade 2
Gordon Kyle
Victor Rogers

Grade 3
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park

Grade 4
Laura Gibson
Harold Simpson
Willie Bruce
Archie McKay
Ralph McKay

Grade 8
Bonnie Sanderson
Kenneth Rogers
Eva Gibson
Laura Simpson
Thelma Weir

2nd Term 1915

Grade 1
Archie Gibson
Homer Rogers

Grade 2
Cecil Park
Elmer Sanderson
Tom Bruce

Grade 3
Gorden Kyle
Victor Rogers
Bob Stacey

Grade 4
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park
Maude Stacey

Grade 5
Laura Gibson
Harold Simpson
Willie Bruce
Archie McKay
Ralph McKay

Grade 6
Jack Gibson

Grade 7
Eva Gibson

Grade 8
Bonnie Sanderson
Thelma Weir

1st Term 1916

Grade 1
Homer Rogers

Grade 2
Archie Gibson

Grade 3
Tommy Bruce
Elmer Sanderson
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Victor Rogers
Bobbie Stacey

Grade 4
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park
Maude Stacey

Grade 5
Laura Gibson
Harold Simpson

Grade 6
Willie Bruce
Ralph McKay
Archie McKay
Jack Gibson

Grade 7
Eva Gibson

Grade 8
Bonnie Sanderson

Grade 9
Kenneth Rogers

2nd Term 1916

Grade 1
Velma Park
Glenn Sylvester
Homer Rogers

Grade 2
Archie Gibson

Grade 3
Bobbie Stacey
Maude Stacey

Grade 3 (cont'd)
Elmer Sanderson
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Victor Rogers
Tommy Bruce

Grade 5
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park

Grade 6
Laura Gibson
Archie McKay
Harold Simpson
Ralph McKay
Willie Bruce

Grade 9
Bonnie Sanderson
Thelma Weir

1st Term 1917

Grade 1
Artie Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester
Velma Park

Grade 4
Victor Rogers
Maude Stacey
Elmer Sanderson
Cecil Park
Bobbie Stacey
Gordon Kyle
Tommy Bruce

Grade 6
Laura Gibson
Harold Simpson
Archie McKay
Ralph McKay
Willie Bruce

Grade 2
Homer Rogers

Grade 3
Archie Gibson

Grade 5
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park

Grade 9
Bonnie Sanderson
Thelma Weir

2nd Term 1917

Grade 1
Artie Sanderson
Merle Kyle
Velma Park
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 4
Victor Rogers
Elmer Sanderson
Gordon Kyle
Tommy Bruce
Cecil Park

Grade 7
Laura Gibson
Harold Simpson
Willie Bruce

Grade 2
Homer Rogers

Grade 3
Archie Gibson

Grade 6
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park

Grade 9
Bonnie Sanderson

1st Term 1918

Grade 1
Artie Sanderson
Merle Kyle
Glenn Sylvester
Earl Park
Barry Shiley

Grade 3
Archie Gibson

Grade 4
Elmer Sanderson
Cecil Park
Tommy Bruce
Gordon Kyle

Grade 6
Melvin Park
Glen Kyle
Harold Simpson
Billie Bruce

Grade 2
Velma Park

Grade 8
Laura Gibson
Myrtle Everts

Grade 9
Bonnie Sanderson

2nd Term 1918

Grade 1
Edith Everts
Earl Park
Harry Philp

Grade 4
Archie Gibson

Grade 7
Glen Kyle
Melvin Park

Grade 2
Glenn Sylvester
Artie Sanderson
Velma Park

Grade 5
Tommy Bruce
Cecil Park
Elmer Sanderson
Gordon Kyle

Grade 8
Myrtle Everts
Archie McKay
Curly Simpson

1st Term 1919

Grade 1
Harry Philp
Beulah Park
Havelock Sylvester
Jack Burnett

Grade 3
Velma Park

Grade 8
Curly Simpson
Elmer Kyle
Melvin Park
Glen Kyle
Archie McKay

Grade 2
Earl Park
Artie Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 4
Archie Gibson

Grade 5
Elmer Sanderson
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Tommy Bruce
Louis Swales

2nd Term 1919

Grade 1
Johnnie Burnett
Havelock Sylvester
Beulah Park

Grade 3
Artie Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 6
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Elmer Sanderson
Tommy Bruce

Grade 2
Harry Philp
Earl Park

Grade 4
Velma Park
Archie Gibson
Louis Swales

Grade 8
Melvin Park
Harold Simpson
Glen Kyle

1st Term 1920

Grade 1
Havelock Sylvester
Beulah Park
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Rockley Burnett
Merle Kyle
Johnnie Burnett

Grade 4
Artie Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester
Velma Park

Grade 6
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Elmer Sanderson
Tommy Bruce

Grade 2
Earl Park
Harry Philp

Grade 5
Archie Gibson
Louis Swales

Grade 8
Melvin Park
Harold Simpson
Elmer Kyle

2nd Term 1920

Grade 1
Rockley Burnett
Irvine Park
Orval Kyle
Hector Faragher
John Burnett
Merle Kyle
Havelock Sylvester

Grade 2
Don Armstrong

Grade 3
Harry Philp
Earl Park
Beulah Park

Grade 4
Glenn Sylvester
Howard Armstrong
Clifford Clark
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 5
Velma Park
Vida Abbott
Marjorie Faragher

Grade 6
Archie Gibson
Elvina Faragher

Grade 7
Pearl Abbott

Grade 8
Gordon Kyle
Cecil Park
Elmer Sanderson
Tommy Bruce

1st Term 1921

Grade 2
Irvine Park
Orval Kyle
Merle Kyle
Havelock Sylvester

Grade 3
Harry Philp
Earl Park
Beulah Park

Grade 4
Jock Stout
Glenn Sylvester
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 5
Velma Park

Grade 6
Archie Gibson

Grade 8
Cecil Park
Gordon Kyle
Elmer Sanderson
Tommy Bruce

2nd Term 1921

Grade 1
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester
Iva Park

Grade 2
Orval Kyle
Merle Kyle
Havelock Sylvester
Irvine Park

Grade 4
Beulah Park
Harry Philp
Earl Park

Grade 5
Arthur Sanderson
Jock Stout
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 6
Velma Park

Grade 8
Gordon Kyle
Elmer Sanderson

1st Term 1922

Grade 1
Marion Philp
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 4
Beulah Park
Harry Philp
Earl Park

Grade 6
Velma Park

Grade 3
Orval Kyle
Havelock Sylvester
Merle Kyle
Irvine Park

Grade 5
Arthur Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester
Jock Stout

Grade 7
Elmer Sanderson
Gordon Kyle

2nd Term 1922

Grade 1
Marion Philp

Grade 3
Orval Kyle
Havelock Sylvester
Merle Kyle
Irvine Park

Grade 6
Arthur Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 2
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Beulah Park
Harry Philp
Earl Park

Grade 7
Velma Park

Grade 9
Elmer Sanderson

1st Term 1923

Grade 1
Marion Philp

Grade 4
Orval Kyle
Havelock Sylvester
Merle Kyle
Irvine Park
Edith Everts

Grade 6
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 2
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Harry Philp
Earl Park

Grade 7
Velma Park

Grade 9
Elmer Sanderson

2nd Term 1923

Grade 2
Marion Philp

Grade 4
Irvine Park
Orval Kyle
Edith Everts

Grade 6
Earl Park
Harry Philp
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 3
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Havelock Sylvester
Merle Kyle

Grade 8
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson
Velma Park

1st Term 1924

Grade 1
Orton Tovell

Grade 2
Marion Philp

Grade 3
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester
Nora Blackwell

Grade 4
Edith Everts

Grade 5
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester
Merle Kyle

Grade 6
Harry Philp
Earl Park
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 8
Beulah Park
Velma Park
Arthur Sanderson

2nd Term 1924

Grade 1
Orton Tovell
Dorothy Hamilton

Grade 3
Marion Philp

Grade 4
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Edith Everts

Grade 6
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester
Earl Park
Harry Philp
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 8
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 9
Velma Park

1st Term 1925

Grade 1
Willie Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 2
Dorothy Hamilton

Grade 3
Marion Philp

Grade 4
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Edith Everts

Grade 6
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester

Grade 7
Earl Park
Harry Philp
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 8
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 9
Velma Park

2nd Term 1925

Grade 1
Lloyd Park
Quentin Sylvester
Willie Sylvester

Grade 5
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 7
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester

Grade 2
Wilton McKay
Orton Tovell

Grade 6
Edith Everts
Lloyd Walker

Grade 8
Earl Park
Harry Philp
Glenn Sylvester

Grade 4
Marion Philp

Grade 9
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson

1st Term 1926

Grade 1
Lloyd Park

Grade 6
Edith Everts
Lloyd Walker

Grade 8
Harry Philp
Glenn Sylvester
Earl Park

Grade 2
Quentin Sylvester
Willie Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 7
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester

Grade 9
Beulah Park
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 5
Marion Philp
Dorothy Kyle
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

2nd Term 1926

Grade 1
Lloyd Park

Grade 6
Dorothy Kyle
Marion Philp
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 8
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester
Earl Park

Grade 2
Willie Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 7
Edith Everts

Grade 9
Arthur Sanderson

1st Term 1927

(Ed's Note: No Grades were included for this term)

Ruth Brown
June Sylvester
Lloyd Park
William Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Dorothy Kyle
Marion Philp
Maxwell Park
Lyle Sylvester
Edith Everts

Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Earl Park
Havelock Sylvester

2nd Term 1927

Grade 1
Ruth Brown
June Sylvester

Grade 6
Delbert Walker

Grade 8
Edith Everts

Grade 3
William Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 7
Dorothy Kyle
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 9
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Arthur Sanderson
Havelock Sylvester

1st Term 1928

Grade 1
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 4
William Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 9
Merle Kyle
Orval Kyle
Irvine Park
Havelock Sylvester
Arthur Sanderson

Grade 2
Ruth Brown
June Sylvester

Grade 8
Dorothy Kyle
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester
Edith Everts
Harry Philp

2nd Term 1928

Grade 1
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 4
Billie Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 8
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 2
Ruth Brown
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Dorothy Kyle

1st Term 1929

Class A
Alice Sylvester
Noreen Gibson

Grade 2
Ruth Brown
June Sylvester

Grade 8
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 1
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 4
William Sylvester
Quentin Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 9
Dorothy Kyle

2nd Term 1929

Grade 1
Dorothy Sylvester
Bobby Park
Harold Gibson
Noreen Gibson
Alice Sylvester
Bobbie Brown

Grade 2
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 5
Quentin Sylvester
Bill Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 3
Ruth Brown
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester

1st Term 1930

Grade 1
Robert Brown
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Donald Philp
Dorothy Sylvester
Alice Sylvester

Grade 2
Noreen Gibson
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 5
Quentin Sylvester
Bill Sylvester
Orton Tovell

Grade 3
June Sylvester
Ruth Brown

Grade 6
Delbert Walker

Grade 9
Marion Philp
Lyle Sylvester

2nd Term 1930

Grade 1
Robert Park
Harold Gibson
Donald Philp

Grade 3
Verna Gibson
Phyllis Gibson

Grade 6
Quentin Sylvester

Grade 2
Dorothy Sylvester
Noreen Gibson

Grade 4
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 5
Orton Tovell

Grade 10
Marion Philp

1st Term 1931

Grade 2
Harold Gibson
Donald Philp
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 4
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Lyle Sylvester

Grade 3
Noreen Gibson
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson

Grade 5
Orton Tovell

Grade 10
Marion Philp

Grade 6
Quentin Sylvester

2nd Term 1931

Grade 2 & 3
Robert Park
Harold Gibson
Donald Philp

Grade 4
Noreen Gibson
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson

Grade 6
Orton Tovell

Grade 7
Quentin Sylvester

Grade 3
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 5
June Sylvester

1st Term 1932

Class A
Alton Gibson

Grade 4
Noreen Gibson
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson

Grade 5
June Sylvester

Grade 3
Robert Park
Harold Gibson
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 7
Quentin Sylvester

2nd Term 1932

Class B
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 4
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 6
June Sylvester

Class A
Reggie Kyle

Grade 5
Noreen Gibson
Phyllis Gibson
Verna Gibson

Grade 8
Quentin Sylvester

Grade 1
Alton Gibson

1st Term 1933

Class B
Dolores Park

Grade 4
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 6
June Sylvester

Class A
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 5
Phyllis Gibson
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson

Grade 8
Quentin Sylvester

Grade 1
Alton Gibson

2nd Term 1933

Grade 1
Dolores Park
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 2
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson

Grade 5
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester
Alice Sylvester

Grade 6
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 7
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Quentin Sylvester

1st Term 1934

Grade 1
Dolores Park
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 2
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson

Grade 5
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 6
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 7
June Sylvester

Grade 9
Quentin Sylvester

2nd Term 1934

Class B
Violet Ameson

Grade 1
Dolores Park

Grade 2
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 3
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson

Grade 6
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester
Alice Sylvester

Grade 7
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Arthur Sylvester

Grade 8
June Sylvester

Grade 10
Quentin Sylvester

1st Term 1935

Class B
Doreen Duncan
Bruce McKay
Jack Stanley
Frances Sanderson

Grade 1
Violet Ameson

Grade 2
Dolores Park
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 3
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson

Grade 6
Harold Gibson
Robert Park
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 7
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Milton Pattle

Grade 8
June Sylvester
Mildred Pattle

Grade 10
Quentin Sylvester

2nd Term 1935

Grade 1
Doreen Duncan
Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson

Grade 2
Violet Ameson

Grade 3
Stanley Sylvester
Dolores Park

Grade 4
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson

Grade 7
Harold Gibson
Dorothy Sylvester
Robert Park

Grade 8
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Milton Pattle

Grade 9
June Sylvester
Mildred Pattle

Grade 10
Quentin Sylvester

1st Term 1936

(Ed's Note: No Grades were included for this term)

Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay
Violet Ameson
Dolores Park

Stanley Sylvester
Reginald Kyle
Alton Gibson
Harold Gibson
Dorothy Sylvester
Robert Park

Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
Milton Pattle
June Sylvester
Mildred Pattle
Quentin Sylvester

2nd Term 1936

Grade 1
Shirley Eby
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson

Grade 2
Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson

Grade 3
Violet Ameson
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 4
Dolores Park

Grade 5
Alton Gibson
Reginald Kyle

Grade 7
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 8
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 9
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
June Sylvester
Milton Pattle

1st Term 1937

Class A
Donald McKay
Ellen Eby

Grade 1
Shirley Eby
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson

Grade 2
Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson

Grade 3
Violet Ameson
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 4
Dolores Park

Grade 5
Alton Gibson
Reggie Kyle

Grade 7
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 8
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 9
Noreen Gibson
Verna Gibson
June Sylvester
Milton Pattle

2nd Term 1937

Grade 1
Donnie McKay
Ellen Eby

Grade 3
Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson

Grade 6
Reginald Kyle

Grade 2
Shirley Eby
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson

Grade 4
Violet Ameson
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 8
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 5
Dolores Park

Grade 9
Dorothy Sylvester

1st Term 1938

Class A
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 3
Bruce McKay
Frances Sanderson

Grade 6
Reginald Kyle

Grade 1
Donnie McKay
Ellen Eby

Grade 4
Violet Ameson
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 8
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 2
Shirley Eby
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson

Grade 5
Dolores Park

Grade 9
Dorothy Sylvester

2nd Term 1938

Grade 1
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 4
Frances Sanderson
Bruce McKay

Grade 9
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 2
Ellen Eby
Donald McKay

Grade 5
Stanley Sylvester
Dolores Park

Grade 10
Dorothy Sylvester

Grade 3
Dorothy McKay
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson

Grade 7
George Clark
Reginald Kyle

1st Term 1939

Grade 1
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 4
Iola Gibson
Bruce McKay

Grade 7
George Clark
Reginald Kyle

Grade 2
Ellen Eby
Donald McKay

Grade 5
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 9
Harold Gibson
Robert Park

Grade 3
Dorothy McKay
Shirley Eby

Grade 6
Dolores Park

Grade 10
Dorothy Sylvester

2nd Term 1939

Grade 1
Marlyn Sylvester
Robert McKay
Lyle Eby
Agnes Penner

Grade 3
Donald McKay
Ellen Eby
John Penner

Grade 5
Stanley Sylvester
Bruce McKay
Dave Penner

Grade 2
Clifford Sylvester
Abram Penner

Grade 4
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay

Grade 6
Dolores Park

Grade 8
Reginald Kyle
George Clark

1st Term 1940

(Ed's Note: No Grades were included for this term)

Marlyn Sylvester
Robert McKay
Lyle Eby
Agnes Penner
Clifford Sylvester
Abram Penner

Ellen Eby
Donald McKay
John Penner
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay

Stanley Sylvester
Dave Penner
Bruce McKay
Dolores Park
Reginald Kyle
George Clark

2nd Term 1940

(Ed's Note: No Grades were included for this term)

Melvin Penner
Agnes Penner
Marlyn Sylvester
Robert McKay
Lyle Eby
Abram Penner

Clifford Sylvester
Ellen Eby
Donald McKay
John Penner
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson

Dorothy McKay
Bruce McKay
Stanley Sylvester
Dave Penner
Dolores Park
Reginald Kyle

1st Term 1941

Grade 2
Marlyn Sylvester
Robert McKay
Lyle Eby

Grade 4
Ellen Eby
Donald McKay

Grade 6
Bruce McKay
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 3
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 5
Shirley Eby
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay

Grade 7
Dolores Park

Grade 9
Reginald Kyle

2nd Term 1941

Class A
Larry Sylvester

Grade 5
Donnie McKay

Grade 7
Bruce McKay

Grade 3
Bob McKay
Marlyn Sylvester

Grade 6
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson
Stanley Sylvester

Grade 8
Dolores Park

Grade 4
Clifford Sylvester

1st Term 1942

Grade 1
Larry Sylvester

Grade 4
Clifford Sylvester
Emma Klassen

Grade 7
Bruce McKay
Benjamin Klassen

Grade 3
Bob McKay
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 5
Donald McKay

Grade 8
Dolores Park

Grade 6
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson
Stanley Sylvester

2nd Term 1942

Grade 1
Larry Sylvester
Raymond Kyle

Grade 5
Clifford Sylvester
Emma Klassen
Nola Kyle

Grade 8
Dolores Park
Bruce McKay
Benjamin Klassen
Lois Kyle

Grade 3
Ronald Kyle

Grade 6
Donald McKay

Grade 9
Lorraine Kyle

Grade 4
Bob McKay
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 7
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson
Gorden Kyle

1st Term 1943

Grade 1
Larry Sylvester
Anena Klassen
Wesley Wiebe

Grade 5
Clifford Sylvester
Emma Klassen

Grade 7
Dorothy McKay
Iola Gibson

Grade 4
Bob McKay
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 6
Donald McKay

Grade 8
Dolores Park
Bruce McKay
Benjamin Klassen

2nd Term 1943

Grade 1
Anne McKay
Wayne Sylvester

Grade 5
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen
Bob McKay

Grade 8
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay

Grade 2
Anena Klassen
Larry Sylvester
Wesley Wiebe

Grade 6
Clifford Sylvester
Emma Klassen

Grade 9
Dolores Park
Bruce McKay
Benjamin Klassen

Grade 7
Donnie McKay

1st Term 1944

Grade 1
Anne McKay
Wayne Sylvester

Grade 5
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen
Bob McKay

Grade 8
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay
Vera Leonard

Grade 2
Anena Klassen
Marlene Denning
Larry Sylvester
Wesley Wiebe

Grade 6
Clifford Sylvester
Emma Klassen

Grade 9
Dolores Park
Bruce McKay
Benjamin Klassen

Grade 4
Mervin Denning
Rose Ann Leonard

Grade 7
Donnie McKay
Phyllis Leonard

2nd Term 1944

Grade 1
Garry Jefkins

Grade 5
Rose Ann Leonard
Mervin Denning

Grade 8
Phyllis Leonard
Donald McKay

Grade 2
Ann McKay
Wayne Sylvester

Grade 6
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen
Bob McKay

Grade 9
Vera Leonard
Iola Gibson
Dorothy McKay

Grade 3
Marlene Denning
Larry Sylvester
Anena Klassen
Wesley Wiebe

Grade 7
Emma Klassen
Clifford Sylvester

1st Term 1945

Grade 1
Barbara Denning
Garry Jefkins
Freida Klassen
George Shanks

Grade 4
Marion Shanks

Grade 7
Emma Klassen
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 5
Rose Ann Leonard
Mervin Denning

Grade 8
Phyllis Leonard

Grade 2
Wayne Sylvester

Grade 6
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 9
Iola Gibson

Grade 3
Marlene Denning
Larry Sylvester
Anena Klassen

2nd Term 1945

Grade 1
Garry Jefkins
Barry Bruce
Freida Klassen

Grade 3
Wayne Sylvester

Grade 7
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 2
George Shanks

Grade 4
Larry Sylvester
Anena Klassen

Grade 8
Emma Klassen
Clifford Sylvester

Grade 5
Marion Shanks

1st Term 1946

Grade 1
Garry Jefkins
Barry Bruce
Freida Klassen

Grade 3
Wayne Sylvester
Erna Klassen

Grade 5
Marion Shanks
Herman Klassen

Grade 2
George Shanks
Albert Klassen

Grade 4
Larry Sylvester
Anena Klassen
Henry Harder

Grade 7
Marlyn Sylvester
Eva Klassen

Grade 8
Emma Klassen
Clifford Sylvester

2nd Term 1946

(Ed's Note: No Grades were included for this term)

Donald Weir
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Martha Klassen

Barry Bruce
Garry Jefkins
George Shanks
Albert Klassen

Emma Klassen
Herman Klassen
Marion Shanks

1st Term 1947

Grade 1
Donald Weir
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Gail Jefkins

Grade 3
George Shanks

Grade 5
Anena Klassen

Grade 4
Donald Gibson
Nelson Gibson

Grade 6
Marion Shanks

Grade 2
Barry Bruce
Garry Jefkins
Freida Klassen

Grade 8
Eva Klassen

2nd Term 1947

Grade 2
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir
Donald Maddison

Grade 4
George Shanks

Grade 7
Marion Shanks

Grade 5
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

Grade 8
Myrville Tannahill

Grade 3
Barry Bruce

1st Term 1948

Grade 2
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir
Donald Maddison

Grade 4
George Shanks

Grade 7
Marion Shanks

Grade 5
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

Grade 8
Myrville Tannahill

Grade 3
Barry Bruce

2nd Term 1948

Grade 1
Robert Burnett

Grade 4
Barry Bruce

Grade 6
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

Grade 3
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir
Donald Maddison

Grade 5
George Shanks

Grade 8
Marion Shanks

1st Term 1949

Grade 1
Robert Burnett

Grade 4
Barry Bruce

Grade 6
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

Grade 3
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir
Donald Maddison

Grade 5
George Shanks

Grade 8
Marion Shanks

2nd Term 1949

Grade 1
Barbara Weir
Rae Park
Joyce Burnett
Bobby Shanks

Grade 4
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir
Donald Maddison

Grade 6
Jimmy Shanks

Grade 2
Bobby Burnett

Grade 5
Barry Bruce

Grade 7
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

1st Term 1950

Grade 1
Kenneth Burnett
Darlene Nichols
Kenneth Gibson
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Joyce Burnett
Barbara Weir

Grade 2
Robert Burnett

Grade 5
Barry Bruce

Grade 4
Carole Bruce
Donald Maddison
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir

Grade 6
George Shanks

Grade 7
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

2nd Term 1950

Grade 1
Kenneth Burnett
Darlene Nichols
Kenneth Gibson

Grade 3
Robert Burnett

Grade 6
Barry Bruce

Grade 2
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Joyce Burnett
Barbara Weir

Grade 5
Carole Bruce
Donald Maddison
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir

Grade 7
Jimmy Shanks

Grade 8
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

1st Term 1951

Grade 1
Kenneth Burnett
Darlene Nichols
Kenneth Gibson

Grade 3
Robert Burnett

Grade 6
Barry Bruce

Grade 2
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Joyce Burnett
Barbara Weir

Grade 5
Carole Bruce
Donald Maddison
Raymond Ganske
Donald Weir

Grade 7
Jimmy Shanks

Grade 8
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

2nd Term 1951

Grade 1
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester
Blaine Bruce

Grade 3 (cont'd)
Robert Shanks
Rae Park

Grade 7
Barry Bruce

Grade 2
Kenneth Burnett
Kenneth Gibson
Darlene Nichols

Grade 4
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Jimmy Shanks

Grade 3
Barbara Weir
Joyce Burnett

Grade 6
Donald Weir
Carole Bruce
Donald Maddison
Raymond Ganske

Grade 9
Nelson Gibson
Donald Gibson

1st Term 1952

Grade 1
Joan Sylvester
Blaine Bruce
Joyce Park

Grade 3 (cont'd)
Rae Park
Robert Shanks

Grade 7
Barry Bruce

Grade 2
Darlene Nichols
Kenneth Burnett
Kenneth Gibson

Grade 4
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Jimmy Shanks

Grade 3
Barbara Weir
Joyce Burnett

Grade 6
Carole Bruce
Donald Maddison
Donald Weir
Raymond Ganske

Grade 9
Donald Gibson
Nelson Gibson

2nd Term 1952

Grade 1
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 2
Blaine Bruce
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester

Grade 3
Kenneth Burnett
Darlene Nichols

Grade 4
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Barbara Weir

Grade 5
Robert Burnett

Grade 7
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Maddison
Donald Weir

Grade 8
Barry Bruce

1st Term 1953

Grade 1
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 2
Blaine Bruce
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester

Grade 3
Kenneth Burnett
Darlene Nichols

Grade 4
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Barbara Weir
Ronald Stucky

Grade 5
Robert Burnett

Grade 7
Carole Bruce
Raymond Ganske
Donald Maddison
Donald Weir

Grade 8
Barry Bruce

2nd Term 1953

Grade 1
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 2
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 3
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 4
Kenneth Burnett

Grade 5
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Ronald Stucky
Barbara Weir

Grade 6
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Raymond Ganske
Donald Maddison

1st Term 1954

Grade 1
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 2
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 3
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester

Grade 4
Kenneth Burnett

Grade 5
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Ronald Stucky
Barbara Weir

Grade 6
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Raymond Ganske
Donald Maddison

2nd Term 1954

Grade 1
Judith Burnett
Agnes Shanks

Grade 2
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 3
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 4
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester

Grade 5
Kenneth Burnett

Grade 6
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Barbara Weir

Grade 7
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Donald Maddison

1st Term 1955

Grade 1
Judith Burnett
Agnes Shanks

Grade 2
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 3
Ray Burnett
Sandra Ganske

Grade 4
Joyce Park
Joan Sylvester

Grade 5
Kenneth Burnett

Grade 6
Joyce Burnett
Rae Park
Robert Shanks
Barbara Weir

Grade 7
Robert Burnett

Grade 8
Donald Maddison

2nd Term 1955

Grade 1
Robert Corden

Grade 2
Agnes Shanks
Judith Burnett

Grade 3
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 4
Sandra Ganske
Ray Burnett

Grade 5
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 6
Ken Burnett

Grade 7
Barbara Weir
Joyce Burnett
Bob Shanks
Rae Park

Grade 8
Bob Burnett

1st Term 1956

Grade 1
Robert Corden

Grade 4
Sandra Ganske
Ray Burnett

Grade 7
Barbara Weir
Joyce Burnett
Bob Shanks
Rae Park

Grade 2
Agnes Shanks
Judith Burnett

Grade 5
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 8
Bob Burnett

Grade 3
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 6
Ken Burnett

2nd Term 1956

Grade 1
Dennis Webber

Grade 4
Blake Sylvester
Glen Corden

Grade 6
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 2
Robbie Corden

Grade 5
Sandra Ganske

Grade 8
Rae Park
Bob Shanks

Grade 3
Agnes Shnaks

1st Term 1957

Grade 1
Dennis Webber

Grade 4
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

Grade 6
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 2
Robbie Corden

Grade 5
Sandra Ganske

Grade 8
Rae Park

2nd Term 1957

Grade 1
Douglas Sylvester

Grade 6
Sandra Ganske

Grade 8
Kenneth Gibson

Grade 3
Robert Corden

Grade 7
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 9
Rae Park

Grade 5
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

1st Term 1958

Grade 1
Douglas Sylvester

Grade 6
Sandra Ganske

Grade 8
Kenneth Gibson

Grade 3
Robert Corden

Grade 7
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Grade 9
Rae Park

Grade 5
Glen Corden
Blake Sylvester

2nd Term 1958

Grade 2
Douglas Sylvester

Grade 6
Blake Sylvester
Glen Corden

Grade 7
Sandra Ganske

Grade 4
Robert Corden

Grade 8
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

1st Term 1959

Grade 2
Douglas Sylvester

Grade 6
Blake Sylvester
Glen Corden

Grade 7
Sandra Ganske

Grade 4
Robert Corden

Grade 8
Joan Sylvester
Joyce Park

Students Prior to 1915

The following list of students prior to 1915 has been submitted by various people. We realize that it will not be a complete list. If anyone knows of more names which should be added, please feel free to add them to your own copy.

Rod Hurton also taught at Tobacco Creek for a short time prior to 1915.

Annie Anderson	Ross Sanderson
Daisy Barrett	Edna Sanderson
Sarah Blackwell	Winnie Sanderson
William Blackwell	Ruby Sanderson
Violetta Blackwell	George Simpson
Mary Blackwell	Howard Simpson
Nellie Bruce	Lawrence Simpson
Leah Bruce	Ada Simpson
Jean Burnett	Frank Swain
Annie Burnett	Melissa Swain
Tillie Burnett	Charles Swain
Lulu Fraser	Harry Sylvester
Gertrude Graham	Millard (Joe) Sylvester
Nellie Gibson	Ida Sylvester
William Gibson	Blanche Sylvester
James Gibson	Della Sylvester
George Gibson	Sherman Sylvester
Edward Gibson	Annie Sylvester
Ethel Gibson	John (Barney) Sylvester
Donald McKay	Gilbert Weir
Blanche McKay	Theodore Weir
Florence McNee	Donald Weir
Mel McNee	

"The Little Red Schoolhouse"

by Al Wilson and James A. Brennan

Sometimes I think I was a little fool,
Back in the days when I used to go to school,
When I was a kid, Gee! how I hated
The little place where I was educated,
Altho' I didn't know it I was lucky then,
I wish that I was back again.

Chorus:

In the little red schoolhouse
With my book and slate,
In the little red schoolhouse
I was always late
I long to be back there
Where I was a scholar,
In the days of yore;
How I'd stand right up there and holler
"Two and two are four"
When we should have been learning,
About the Golden Rule,
Our little hearts were yearning,
For the swimming pool.
Why we could hardly wait
For the four o'clock bell,
The moment we heard it
We would run like mad,
Oh! Gee! I want to be,
In the little red schoolhouse.

Ten o'clock the spelling lesson's just begun,
Johnny throws an inkball just for fun
Hits the teacher's ear with an awful spat,
She turns around and says "Who did that?"
Pretty little Percy in the very front row,
Raises up his hand, and says "Teacher I know"
Little Johnny whispers to the teacher's pride,
"You just wait till I get you outside."
Johnny's told to stand up with his face to the wall,
He says "I do' wanna" and he tries to stall,
If I stood up there I'd take an awful chance,
I got a great big tear in the seat of my pants.

Teacher sends you home to wash your face and then!
You say, "aw what's the use it just gets dirty again",
Oh! Gee! I want to be
In the little red schoolhouse
In the little red schoolhouse.

Each morn when mother said "It's after eight
If you don't hurry you surely will be late.
I'd start down the road, my footsteps lagging,
Of course I went but I was always bragging
"You bet when I get bigger No more school for me,
But now that's where I want to be.

Tobacco Creek School District #808

1894 - 1961

by Gib Weir

In 1894 there were only three children of school age in the district. They were Nellie and Willie Gibson and George Simpson. In the Spring of that year the John R. Blackwell family arrived with three children of school age, namely Sarah (Mrs. Walter Rutter), Lettie (Mrs. Nault) and William.

The first meeting to organize a School District was held at the Blackwell home on April 16, 1894 when the first trustees were appointed. They were James Gibson, James Simpson and James Gibb. James Stevenson was appointed Secretary-Treasurer and James Riddell was named Auditor.

The school was built at a cost of \$681.40 (Editor's Note: This figure includes construction of the school building, the desks, and school supplies) and it opened in the Fall of 1894 with Miss M.E. Thomas as teacher at a salary of \$35.00 per month.

A second school was built in 1927. This school burned on Christmas Day, 1952 and a third school was built in 1953. Due to the shortage of pupils the School District was dissolved in 1961 with the District being divided between Miami, Rosebank, and Carman. (Editor's Note: Portions also went to Kilmory and Graysville). The schoolhouse was sold by public auction and it is now serving as a church on the Carman-Graysville Road a mile or so west of Carman.

The first school was located on the North East corner of the school section 29-5-5w on the coldest, bleakest, most wind-swept spot in the community. There was not a shrub or tree around it and no well. When thirsty, the youngsters ate snow in the winter and drank out of the creek in the summer. Tobacco Creek flowed by a little to the South. Over the creek was an old style iron bridge. Here the boys tried their skill at chinning the rods and crossing the creek hand over hand. One winter's day one of the more daring touched his tongue to the frosty rod. Needless to say, he did not talk that afternoon. The school was heated by a high box type stove that took in half a cordwood stick. The fire was allowed to go out at night and one of the boys was hired to light it, sweep the floor, and shovel the snow from the out-houses for the big salary of 15¢ a day, later raised to 25¢. The painted wooden blackboards, when written on, squeaked like a rusty gate. Since the building was cold and draughty, there was always a lot of pupils with colds, resulting in a bit of competition to see who could cough the loudest. It was several years after it had been condemned before a new school-

house was built. The delay in building a new school was because of a little community feud, Mrs. John Sanderson had been elected a trustee and pushed hard to have a new school built. The other two trustees, William Weir and W.R. McKay were sufficiently contrary, or stubborn enough, that they were not going to allow a woman to push them around, at least not until they got ready.

By an exchange of property with Thomas and Robert Bruce the new school, built in 1927, was given a much better location on the south side of the creek.

The old school, after having served as the community's seat of learning for thirty-three years, was purchased by Emery Kyle and moved to his farm. While it had started with only six pupils, the attendance at one time was actually as high as 34.

The schoolhouse was used as a church on Sunday, and a place for meetings and social gatherings during the week. The congregation was served by a minister from Rosebank who drove his own horse and rig to the schoolhouse, which was known as "Renwick Church". After the 11 o'clock service, he usually had his dinner at one of the houses in the community before proceeding to Clegg for the afternoon church service, and to Rosebank for the evening service. In later years the pulpit was supplied from Carman. Associated with the church was a very active Ladies Aid.

In World War I, six former pupils were overseas and returned; three served in World War II, one of whom was taken prisoner at Dieppe, awarded the D.S.O., and became the first Naval rating repatriated to Canada.

Of those who attended the school, 7 became school teachers, 2 became registered nurses, 1 a University Professor, 1 a Member of Parliament, 1 an outstanding Canadian Mink Rancher, and 2 Chiropractors. Others became Municipal Councillors and School Trustees.

Editor's Note: The above article was written for "The Hills of Home" - A History of the Municipality of Thompson, 1967. Due to the lack of space only part of it and part of the following newspaper article were included on pages 44 and 45 of "The Hills of Home." A special thank you to Mrs. G. Weir for contributing these articles.

MEMORIES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 1954

Tobacco Creek School A Half Century Ago

Perhaps I may be forgiven if I do a little reminiscing. It comes about for two reasons. The first is that it is just fifty years ago since I started to attend Tobacco Creek School; and the second, that I had the pleasure this summer of meeting my first school teacher.

My first teacher was Miss Clara M. Galloway, later Mrs. Charles Embury, now residing in Winnipeg. She taught our school for two years, 1903-1904. She was a tall, good looking lady and a very capable teacher who believed somewhat in the old adage of "Spare the rod, you spoil the child." She kept a strap in her desk and when necessary did not hesitate to use it, and was never unduly concerned over parents' protests if Johnny got a whaling because of a common understanding that if you got a licking in school, you got another when you got home. At least, that is the way it was in our household. Needless to say, there was not much tattling from school.

Outside of teaching, there were two things I particularly remember about Miss Galloway. She was a very fast walker, her usual walking pace being around five miles an hour. When she came to visit at our place, I well remember how I had to run to keep up with her. She was also a very good rifle and revolver shot.

The Weirs had only just moved from Pomeroy to Tobacco Creek that year, and I was the only one of the tribe at that time to attend school. My mother decked me out in short pants, long stockings, high shoes, a white blouse with a big collar, a dinky little cap, a square cardboard lunch pail, a slate and a box of slate pencils. I walked to school alone. I knew some of the Gibsons, and Frank Swain, who acted as guide and protector of the new kid. My class mate the first year was Jack Sylvester.

Tobacco Creek School No. 808 was located at that time on the windswept north side of the Creek on a corner without a tree and was about the bleakest and coldest spot in the community. There was no basement under the school and the windows and doors did not fit too well. It was heated by a large old style wood stove, which on cold days kept someone constantly piling in the wood. The fire was allowed to go out at night and it often took till nearly 11 a.m. to get the place warm enough so we could remove our overcoats, or get the ink bottles thawed out. If anyone broke a window they had to replace it. The out-houses were about two hundred yards farther towards the north pole and, in winter, were anything but places of comfort.

The enrolment ran from twenty-five to thirty-five. There were always more in the winter when the bigger boys got through with the farm work. The families then attending were: Simpsons, Sandersons, Grahams, Wm. Sylvesters, Gibsons, McKays, Swains, Mary Blackwell and Lulu Fraser.

Most families had a school pony and rig and drove themselves to school. When the pony was needed at home, they walked. The Simpson's pony was called "Simon"; Sanderson's, "Blanche"; Gibson's, "Fanny"; McKay's, "Old Pony"; and Weir's, "Buck." McKay's pony used to kick, when anything touched her back, so they had to drive with the lines under the shafts. Our Buck, a broncho pony, whose correct name was "Fred," was a buckskin colour with a black stripe down his back and a burnt brand on his flank. He had an itchy ear and would not let us kids put a bridle on him, and if he got loose would not let us catch him, and if we tried to ride him he usually bucked us off. There was a great deal of rivalry over these ponies, and many a time at noon or after four o'clock a race was arranged that often resulted in a spill, but with no one getting seriously hurt. Occasionally in the winter some of the bigger boys would arrive at school with a team and sleigh. The horses were usually decked out with their tails braided, brass mounted, breeching harness, Scotch topped collars, spread rings, lots of bells, and plenty of horse blankets and

Taken from the Dufferin Leader
Written by G. Weir
Contributed by Mrs. G. Weir

Tobacco Creek School A Half Century Ago (continued)

feed for the midday meal. There was, of course, usually a race at 4 o'clock to see who could be hitched up first.

The visit of the School Inspector was never viewed with enthusiasm and we were always glad to see him on his way. On one occasion the Inspector left just at 4 o'clock, so the Wiers and McKays undertook to engage him in a sort of Indian Horse Race to help him on his way. His next call was at Pomeroy School, where he visited my sister and proceeded to tell her how the young hoodlums of Tobacco Creek acted, and with our buckskin being easily identified, the incident was in due course reported and an explanation asked for.

Another type of excitement indulged in about once a week was a dog fight. There were three dogs in the district, pretty evenly matched, that seemed to take about as much pleasure out of a fight as the kids did. One belonged to Frank Sylvester and had no occasion to be there because Frank had no one attending school, and the other two belonged to the McKays and the Weirs. After the fight they usually walked off home, presumably to rest up for the next bout.

For sports, we played Pom, Pom, Pull-away, Prisoners' Base, Tag, Blindman's Buff, Drop the Handkerchief and Anti Anti Over. This latter game consisted of choosing sides and throwing a ball over the shed and, when caught, the catcher was to run around and tag some one on the other side. We also played baseball, usually with a rubber ball and a home-made bat. Ross Sanderson, being one of the bigger kids, used to knock the ball out of the field, which meant that the rest of us spent most of our time looking for it. In the Fall and Spring, the few that had the old time spring skates used to try their skill at skating on the creek and playing a little hockey with sticks cut out of the bush. Our chief winter sport was to choose up sides and man snow forts along the creek and proceed to throw one another off the banks. We

also played a little football.

Since that time, the Swains, Grahams, Simpsons, Blackwells, McKays, Wm. Sylvesters and Lulu Fraser have all moved away. "Scotty" Bruce's, another large family, arrived later, but have also departed. Ross Sanderson is the only one remaining of that family, but has failed to keep the family name on the school register. The Frank Sylvester family, who have since made up a good part of the school population, were not even thought of at that time. There was no one attending school from the Kyles, Burnetts, Parks or Bruces. Fifty years has thus made a marked change in the families of the community.

Today, the district has a brand new school, the second in my time. A school fully modern, with electric lights, oil heat, indoor plumbing, a full-sized basement, a kitchen, and a special teachers' room; and with most youngsters being driven to school over good roads by automobile.

It should be added that most of those attending school during the summer, both boys and girls, were barefooted. One day, quite late in the fall, we had a snow storm. Ted Gibson was still "going barefoot" and manfully walked home in his bare feet with about two inches of snow on the ground, the hardy hero of the rest of us.

We had good times, at least, we thought so, and we made most of them ourselves. One of the great occasions was the Christmas concert, for which we started practising about a month before and awaited the eventful night with eagerness and excitement. The old school house, for the Christmas entertainment, was always jammed to the doors with fond parents and visitors.

This is an all too sketchy recital of some incidents associat-

ed with Tobacco Creek School 50 years ago brought to my mind by my having met, for the first time in 50 years, my first school teacher, the former Clara M. Galloway.

GILBERT WEIR.

P.S.—We do not know what finally happened to the Weirs' buckskin pony. The last we knew of him was when Bob Semple came down from Alberta to visit around Rosebank and asked Dad if he would loan him a horse. Dad let him have Buck. When Bob met Dad some weeks later, he said, "Bill, I traded off your horse so I could have one of my own."

Memories of Ted Weir

student

Miss Allan was a cheery Irish lass - her forte was Geography - we recall her emphasis on the subject - "Go ye up to the map of Asia" she would say.

Ted started with Miss Galloway who was no doubt held in awe by the "big boys" for her surprising ability to bat the baseball further than the best of them.

Memories of Thelma (Weir) Blanchard

student

I started with Miss Dora Faryon - first day a disaster, as she or someone had not "briefed" me about going to the outhouse; and standing with my legs crossed, proved not enough to stem the tide!

The old metal heater stood like a monster against the front side wall, where some of us were allowed to get our feet warm by sitting on the edge and dangling our legs over the side. Frozen ink wells were thawed there too, in 30 below zero weather.

Sometimes I rode a Buckskin pony to school. He was most unpredictable and some mornings was not willing to go - so I led him most of the way - and so had at least a ride home. At noon hour we all sometimes amused ourselves by playing in the "shed" and sliding down over the tail of someone's tame old mare. Several had home-made skis which were made from boards and barrel staves. These were left outdoors and often were used for amusement when we had been given permission to "leave the room."

Mr. Doubleday - a pompous German musician, always started the day and afternoon sessions by having us sing from quite a repertoire of songs he had taught us - giving us our "choices." "Little Cherry Blossom" seemed to be the favorite.

Della Wheaton was not our favorite teacher. After school she used to pin up her voluminous black skirt and sweep the floor. One rainy day the secretary (my dad - Wm. Weir), said the school classes would be called off as he said "no one would be there" - whereupon she said "I'll be there", and she had us hitch up the buggy and took my brother Donald and me to school where we all spent a long dreary day playing "Button Button" after our sums were done.

Rod Hurton was "my hero" and he encouraged my spelling for which I have always been grateful.

School inspectors we had a dread of. One day I had an aversion to walking to school and my mother said I could go as far as Blackwell's gate and if I still didn't feel like going I could come home. I remember walking resolutely right to the gate and turning round, came back home. The inspector came that day - Mr. Peach, and mother was so upset that I had missed him. Mr. Finn of Morden was a crusty little man who rode a bicycle and during an "inspection", he slapped a boy's ears for some misdemeanor. I recall the boy in tears, laying tacks on the road, on his way home, hoping the inspector's bike would puncture a tire on his homeward trip!

During Miss Wheaton's tenure my adventurous young brother Donald had the misfortune to sit on a half-open jack knife on one of the desks. The stream of blood was almost too much for the teacher, particularly as it emanated from that part of Donald's anatomy that modest maidens hesitated to behold. A "big boy" removed the knife and drove the victim home.

My last teacher at Tobacco Creek (Grade 7) was Miss McDonald. I recall how she used to break down in tears while reading aloud to us from "Uncle Tom's Cabin".

Memories of Annie, Jean and Tillie Burnett

students

Submitted by Jean (Burnett) Wilson

We came from Stirling, Ontario with our parents, Adam and Lizzie Burnett and a brother (John - too young to go to school). This was in 1909 and we settled on the Harry Black farm $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the school. We lived on this farm until spring of 1914 when we moved to a farm (13-5-6) in the Rosebank School District.

Some memories are very vivid, such as walking $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles on a prairie trail road. I can still feel hot, thirsty and dusty for the times we walked to school. Bill Bruce, Florence and Mel McNee walked the same trail. As I remember, we didn't get there much in winter because it was too far to walk and not much of a road to drive on. We were too young to drive unless Dad took us.

There was no water at school so we had to carry water as well as our lunches. We had to face the sun all the way home from school.

The memory of my first car ride remains very clear. One afternoon, as we were about a half mile west of the

school, a roadster car came up behind us. It was driven by Doctor Welch (veterinarian of Roland). He stopped the car and asked Bill, Florence and Mel to get in. Since he could only have three passengers at a time, he told my sister and I to just sit down and wait until he came back for us. What a racket next morning because we had gotten the longest ride!

Mrs. Sanderson was superintendent of the Sunday School and Mrs. Weir played the organ. I think this must have been in the schoolhouse because I can't remember there being any church building.

Annie married Cecil Sandy in 1926 and lived near Springwater, Saskatchewan until about 1942 when they moved to Vancouver, British Columbia. Three children, Ted, Helen, and Jean still live in Vancouver and the youngest one, Bert lives in San Leandra, California. Annie passed away in February 1964.

Tillie married Frank Wickens in Saskatchewan in 1941. He passed away in June 1965. They had one daughter, Lynne Clayton, who now lives in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. In June, 1978, Tillie married Ralph Ramsdale of Moosamin, Saskatchewan. Tillie passed away in December 1982.

I (Jean) married George Wilson in 1945 and we lived on a farm near Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. In October 1983 we retired and moved to Saskatoon.

"School Days"

by Cobb and Edwards

Chorus:

School days, school days,
Dear old golden rule days
Readin' and 'ritin' and 'rithmetic,
Taught to the tune of a hick'ry stick,
You were my queen in calico,
I was your bashful barefoot beau,
And you wrote on my slate,
"I love, you Joe",
When we were a couple of kids.

Memories of Melvin R. Park

student 1910 - 1920

In 1910 I started Tobacco Creek School. I walked across country as it was much shorter. I followed the Creek until I came to Blackwell's farm yard, then crossed the Creek and went through Aunt Aggie and Uncle Frank's (Sylvester) place - the school was then on the north side of the Creek. Aunt Aggie would look out and say "There is Mel, late again!" There were so many things to see on the way, I lost track of time. It was more fun than school anyway. There was always a new kind of bird's nest, maybe a new butterfly or insects of some kind and I had to see them first. I also remember climbing trees and taking a crow's eggs for about 19 or 20 days until I gave up. Also I would disturb an ant hill only to see next day if they had put it together again. I loved nature and still do. I liked all my school teachers and my best friend was Glen Kyle. We were in the same grade. I took my high-school in Carman.

I became interested in the "Boys and Girls Club", now called the 4-H Club. In 1916, I won the Silver Watch, donated by T. Eaton Co. Also I was the most successful exhibitor that year and received the bronze engraved medal, donated by the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

In 1918, I was one of 27 young people that won a trip to Ottawa. I showed a sheaf and a $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel oats. This being the year of the flu, we didn't get to go. Instead they gave us \$100.00 each.

I spent the year 1928 - 1929 in California, living with Uncle Jim Pettigrew. While there, I visited a large hatchery at Petaluma and became interested in that business. I came home and in 1932 opened up the Park Carman Hatchery in Carman. In 1960 we closed down and moved to the farm. Our son, Jim Park, took over the farm in 1976. We retired to Carman at 20 Lynwood Place.

Memories of Tommy Bruce

student 1913 - 1921

Sometime during the first week I started to school, Jack Gibson warned me not to tell the teacher anything or there would be trouble. I am not a tattler to this day - took the strap before I would tell.

I hit Sylvester on the head (forehead) with

the baseball bat. The bat flew out of my hands when we were playing baseball. This jar started his brain working!

Mr. Sid Sutton was my first teacher. My other teachers were: Miss Annie Phillips, Miss Hattie McDonald, Miss Winnie Sanderson, Miss Frances Stevenson (married F.L.C. Brown), Miss Ella Roe, Miss Edna Matheson (she was from Carman and only taught a short time - she took a package of tobacco from me!), and Miss Gertie Hurton (wrote my entrance).

Memories of Velma (Park) Miller

student 1916 - 1925

One of the younger boys used to pester me a lot and get my dander up. I thought and thought about how I could get even with him. There was a platform in front of the old schoolhouse and we often drove up on it with our horse and democrat. The boys would let me climb in there for home. The next day after school, Mel and Cy drove up on the platform and "Old Maude" let go a pile. The teacher was mad and told us to get the buggy off of there. Mel drove up a few feet, calling me to get in. The little pest was sitting down a short space away and all of a sudden my idea of revenge came to me. I grabbed him by both feet and pulled him through the "Old Maude" fresh deposit. I ran like H--- to the democrat and away we went - fast and furious. He never pestered me again.

My little curly white haired baby brother "Irv" came to school in September, 1920. At Easter he decided to go through the ravine to school, instead of going the long way. Well - he went through the ice, up to his neck. Cy and I pulled him out by holding hands and dragged him to safety. He was so cold and shivering that the teacher wrapped him up in our buggy robes and put him in his underwear by the old pot bellied stove. He cried and shivered for a few hours. He was devastated but finally got dry enough to put back his clothing. Was lesson #1 in life!

One of the busy school days, the "big boys" decided I should have my appendix removed. After chasing me around the schoolyard, they caught me and put me on the work bench, where they did woodwork. I was hysterical as they tied my knees, ankles and wrists down. Also one strap across my torso so I would be quiet enough to do their interesting surgery. They got out a wild looking knife to begin the tedious procedure. I struggled bit and screamed and kicked and fought, to no avail.

After they had my belly exposed and I could see for sure my appendix was really going to come out by this worthy surgeon - I panicked and blanked out. They thought I was dead. The teacher hearing the ruckus (and recess was over), found me and came to my rescue. She assured me that I was alright. I thought - narrow escape - Wow! Was another exciting recess - was there any other kind?

The "big boys", always at noon, at least once a week, held a fight on the school bridge. Usually the set up was between Earl Park and Harry Philp, not their idea at all, as they were friends, but either had to fight or else! - I don't know what "else" was. We young ones watched and cried and were rewarded only with bloody noses or black eyes. This was a spectacular sport and should really have been disbarred. It was a bloody mess until the teacher would find out what exciting thing was going on at the bridge. She would be dismayed at the cruelty as the poor kids would be splattered with blood. She would try hard to punish the "big boys" and clean up the fighters. Was really cruel, I felt, and we hated those "big boys" in their joy and sadism.

One memory is of the days we young kids had to steal potatoes, tomatoes and corn at Uncle Frank Sylvester's for the "big boys." We would go down to the bush and the "big boys" roasted the potatoes till they were raw and black with ashes and tasted like sin. We were forced to go along and got whipped for playing hooky after. Those were the days!

We had a honey pail of hot soup every day during the winter. This was provided by the families in the district. It sat on the stove all morning to keep hot. I will always remember Mrs. Willis Kyle's bean soup - it was the best in the world. I couldn't wait for her day to come around - yum! yum!

My Uncle Frank's tomatoes were great - and didn't need any salt. Amen!

Playing baseball and pick-up sticks was really fun at recess.

I must say, I enjoyed Tobacco Creek. There was good and bad. I learned to pitch baseball. The worst part of school was walking in deep snow and blizzards, over fences and struggling to breathe - sure took its toll, missing school and trying to keep up at school. Happy? Yes and no - came out even.

When I crossed the United States border and they asked me where I was born I would reply, Tobacco Creek, Manitoba. I would get a dirty look and I would say "That's the truth officer and quite proud of it!"

I went on to Carman Highschool, on to Palmer College of Chiropractor in Davenport, Indiana, United States and never regretted a minute of it. Would do it all over again.

My childhood in the Tobacco Creek area was happy (between breaths) and thank God for wonderful parents, brothers and sister, Iva and Tobacco Creek district. A great big "thank you."

Memories of Arthur Sanderson

student 1917 - 1928

I started to school to my sister Winnie at Easter time, 1917.

My next teacher was Frances Stevenson, who later married Frank Brown and lived north of Rosebank for a number of years. One day I was sitting behind Glenn Sylvester and I picked up a straw and tickled him on his neck and he jumped, so she made me go down to the creek and get a willow switch. She told me to put my hands face down on two books on my desk. Then she pretended she was going to hit me with the switch. I guess I was crying so hard by this time that she didn't have the heart to hit me very hard.

My next teacher was a friend of my sister, Ruby-Ella Roe. My sister Edna was teaching at Pomeroy and Ruby was teaching Anderson School, just south of Jordan. They had a school picnic of the three schools at the end of June. I had a terrible ear ache and my Mother made me wear a woollen toque.

The next teacher was Edna Matheson. I remember her as a nice looking young lady with fair hair.

Gertie Hurton was my next teacher. She was from the Pomeroy District.

My next teacher was Mr. Eldon Wiltse. He boarded at our place and the boys at our school really liked him. He had us make crossbows out of wood that would shoot arrows. They were dangerous too. He showed us how to make points of tin. One morning, before anyone else but my brother Elmer and I were there, he put a paper target on the blackboard and told me to see if I could hit it. I missed the target but the arrow went right through the blackboard. He took it out and shoved a piece of white chalk in and said: "Boys, we won't tell anyone about this."

He was to come back for another term but he lost his life in a canoe accident in the Winnipeg River at Lac Du Bonnet.

Another teacher I had about that time was Miss Ruth Spurway. She also boarded at our place for a while.

My next teacher was Jean Richardson from the Carman area. One morning, when my Mother and Dad were not

home, I didn't want to go to school. My sister, Bonnie made me go. I was so late that as I came in the door the kids sang:

"A dillar, a dollar
A ten o'clock scholar.
Whatever made you come so soon,
You used to come at 9 o'clock
But now you come at noon."

I was very mad at the teacher for getting the class to do this, so I left the next morning and went to Kilmory School, where my brother, Elmer, was taking his Grade Ten. There was a boy there (Sigmar Goodison) who wanted to fight all the time. Of course, he could beat me every time. I soon got tired of that so after a few weeks, I went back to Tobacco Creek. Miss Richardson told me she was sorry about the whole thing and I was happy there were no more fights.

Miss Viola Lang was my next teacher. She boarded at Weirs. She was pretty strict, which was a good thing. One day Merle Kyle, Earl Park and I were kept in at recess for a strapping. I can't remember why. When she went to give Earl the strap she missed his hand and hit herself. I guess that made her a little mad as Merle said something to her and she hit her on the face with the strap. I never cared much for her after that but she was a good teacher and got me through Grade 8.

We used to climb up on the school shed and play tag on the roof. One day, Earl Park slipped and fell off the roof onto some ice. It knocked his wind out and we all thought he was dead as he lay so still. He laid on a bench in the school the rest of the afternoon. We were not allowed on the roof again.

My next teacher was Fred Woods from Carman. I went to him for part of one year in the old school and then in the new school for one winter. I then stopped going to school to help my Dad on the farm.

There are lots of instances I remember of my days at Tobacco Creek. When the Creek froze, we could skate all the way to Blackwell's dam at noon hour. Sylvester's had a dog named "Paddy." He would wait at the bridge on the corner and race me and my pony, "Gyp", for a half a mile north, then he would turn around and go back.

I recall when the school inspector (a Mr. Woods) came with a horse and top buggy from Miami. We all dreaded to see him come as he would get the different grades up at the front of the school and ask us questions on our work.

It was also a scary day when the district nurse came. She would have each kid come out in the porch and give you a quick examination. She had a pocket Ben watch to test your hearing.

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I didn't like it much when she sent a note home with me to my Mother telling her to see a doctor about my tonsils and adenoids, also have my eyes checked. The result was an operation and also glasses.

One Winter there was a big snowbank on the north side of the school. The older boys dug down from the top to the ground in several places making big rooms, then they made tunnels connecting the rooms. They covered these rooms so it was very dark in there and there was only one outlet to the outside. One day when the bell rang to go to school, Harry Philp and Earl Park were the last to start out. They got mixed up coming out as one of the older boys had covered up the only entrance and they couldn't see where to go. They were late for school so the teacher made one of the bigger boys go out and unplug the entrance and help them get out.

There was quite a nice bush along the creek, south of the old school and we would choose sides and play "Deer and Hound" among the trees.

We played a game sometimes that we made up ourselves. The smaller boys would get on the bigger boys back and try to pull the other boy off and the last one to stay on was the winner. Cy Park was my horse and we got along real good.

I well remember the outside toilets, in the winter-time, they would drift in with snow so sometimes we would sneak down to the shed where the horses were. It was lots better there.

Another time, we were playing baseball and Tommy Bruce was batting. The bat slipped out of his hands and hit Have Sylvester on the head. He was hurt pretty bad and the teacher walked home with him. He still has the scar to this day.

Memories of Havelock Sylvester

student 1919 - 1928

The schoolhouse had four walls, no cloakroom or anything else. It was heated by a potbellied stove. The stove pipes ran almost the full length of the school. In the winter, during the night, everything would freeze solid. It would take hours before things began to warm up in the morning. I remember the kids putting their ink bottles on the stove to thaw out. They would leave them on too long and the corks would fly out when they got too hot. Needless to say, this did not please the teachers. Sometimes someone would throw in a few 22 bullets which made small explosions.

Toilet facilities were outside, west of the school. When winter came these were half full of snow and you could not shut the doors. I still don't know how the young kids and the young lady teachers survived. I guess that's why a lot of the teachers only stayed one year - one only stayed 2 months. Most of the teachers had to walk 1½ miles to school each day. It was a great thing for us when we moved into the new school with all new facilities. However I did not spend very long in the new one.

My first teacher was Miss Frances Stevenson. I can remember her putting me over her knee on my birthday and giving me a few gentle taps for fun. I don't remember very much about the first years at school. Miss Stevenson later married Frank Brown. They had 3 children - Ruth, Kathleen and Bob. Mrs. Brown used to bring them many times during the summer to swim in the creek at our place.

Mr. Wiltse, my fourth teacher I believe, was liked by all the pupils. He liked to go out at recess and noon hours to play with us. He showed us how to build a crossbow. I believe the bow part was built with oak. It was sad when we learned that he had drowned while fishing.

My classmates most of my time in school were Merle Kyle, Orville Kyle and Irvine Park.

It was always a big thing for us at Christmas time when we put on the concert. The parents were all happy to see their kids perform on the stage. As usual, some of the younger ones got stage fright, when they saw all the people in the audience watching them. This did not make their parents too happy. There were always some good plays to perform and all of us had to sing some Christmas carols. The big thing of the evening was when Santa arrived and gave us all presents and candy. I always thought a lot of old Santa but at that time I did not know that in later years I would be Santa at Tobacco Creek and twice at Central School. I remember Bill Weir acted as chairman at the concert and he always had a few stories to tell.

As a kid, I always liked animals and birds. About this time I raised a young crow. I named him Bob and he got to be a real pet. He would ride on your shoulder to the garden then fly to the ground and walk around. My uncle, who was a veterinarian, said that if you split a crow's tongue, he could talk so he performed the operation. When Quentin and June were young and playing outside, Mother could not tell at times if it was them or the crow. In warm weather the schoolhouse door was always open. "Bob" would walk into the school and come to my desk and jump up on the seat. You could just see his head showing above the desk. I think he was just looking things over because in a few minutes he flew up to the teacher's desk. She was scared stiff.

He grabbed her yellow pencil and flew up near the ceiling and sat on the stove pipes with her pencil. It took Glenn and I awhile to get him out of the school. The kids enjoyed the fun but the teacher had other views.

Church was held in the school. During the summer months, one of our family always had to sit near the open door as "Bob" would also show up for church and try to walk in.

I can remember, before I went to school, our dad and mother telling us about other children going home from school and telling their parents that they had seen a bear. None of the parents believed their stories, however a few weeks after this a bear was shot east of Tobacco Creek.

Some of the games we played at school were; ball, Prisoner's Base, Pom Fom Pullaway and we also did some skating. In those years it seemed that the creek flood would come around the 25th of March every year. The ravines and fields would all freeze over so you could skate for miles. During the summer at noon hour, the boys would go swimming in the creek in our pasture field, just east of the old school. One day after I had eaten dinner, I jumped into the creek with the rest of the boys. I took a cramp and went under. I think this was a good lesson to not go swimming right after eating.

We lived $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from school. We ran to school in the morning, ran home for dinner, ran back after and ran home after four - kept us in good shape.

I remember one day in the spring when the snow was soft. We were having a snowball fight and some cars were driving past the school. Some of the kids were throwing the odd snowball at the cars. One car stopped and a man got out and chased us. He caught Max Park, who was not too old at that time. The man was Andrew McMillan and he shook Max a few times. This scared us all. He then drove off. Needless to say there was no more throwing snowballs at the cars!

One day we were playing ball at school and Tommy Bruce was up to bat. Somehow the bat flew out of his hands and struck me on the forehead. I guess it kind of knocked me out. I believe the teacher was Miss Ruth Spurway at the time. She walked home with me, holding a cloth over my bleeding forehead. My parents took me to the doctor. He said that when the bat had struck my head, it had broken the skull bone. Since then I have never liked to see kids standing too close to the batter.

During my school years I had taken 2 years of piano lessons from Thelma Weir. One day when Thelma was leaving our place, she started away in low gear, got moving along fairly good then accidentally shifted the car into reverse. The car went backwards about 30 feet which gave her quite a scare. Mrs. Weir played

for most of the church services but Mother played sometimes also. There was a time when neither of them could play and I was asked to play for a few weeks. I was not very old and did not think much of the idea. I did not want to make any mistakes playing in church but finally agreed to go. After the first time, Tom Bruce, who always sat near the front of the church, came over to me and said "I did not know that you could play. It was nice to see a young fellow playing in church. I hope that you will play again." This gave me the confidence for the next time.

My last teacher was Fred Woods. We all thought a lot of him. He would come out and play anything that we were playing. You could get him into a snowball fight, play ball or whatever we were doing. When we went back into the school he would say that playtime was over and now it was time to study, and we did. During his time teaching we won most of the awards at school field days. The back wall of the school was covered with pennants.

I enjoyed competing at field days and school picnics. Years ago, at the Carman Fair, they had the half mile run. I have many medals for; the running long jump, high jump, hop step and jump, and the running which I liked the best.

During my school days I had many pets. Lyle and I were hunting crow's eggs and came across a nest of young owls. The tree was quite high and I couldn't go too high, Lyle climbed up to the nest and tossed down one young owl. It was just like a small ball of fluff. When we took the owl home, our hired girl (Alice Ford) said that we would never be able to raise an owl. She promised to give us 25¢ if we did. Well - we collected the 25¢ which was a lot of money in those days. The owl turned out to be a Great Horned Owl. Lyle named him "Olie" and this became Lyle's nickname. I also had 4 baby skunks, just a few days old. They had no smell and were pretty little fellows. We were unable to keep them living very long. I also had pigeons, rabbits, wild ducks, wild pheasants, wild mink, turkeys, and geese.

We had Shetland ponies when we were kids. I bought a Shetland stallion from the States and we raised and sold ponies. We used to have a great time racing and driving them. I can remember Lyle, Quentin and I going up to the school corner, then back to our east gate. The 3 ponies always knew what was up and we could hardly hold them to get started. We showed them at local fairs for many years, winning 62 ribbons.

Near the end of my school years and the following years, Tobacco Creek had a good ball team and also a good hockey team. Much of the credit for the two sports was due to the work of Elmer "Shorty" Sanderson. As many of you know, he was a great ball player, and was in

demand to pitch ball in Manitoba and the States. He got all of us playing ball and we played in Graysville and many other school picnics. We practised a lot of hockey up on the Sanderson ravine. Later on we played in Miami, Roland, and Carman, winning the league trophy in Carman in 1934 with Don Weir as manager and Art Sanderson as coach.

When we had to write our grade eight and nine exams, we had to go to Rosebank School. We were not allowed to write them at Tobacco Creek School. I always thought this was not too good for us. We were in strange surroundings and with some pupils and a teacher we did not know. I always stayed at Mrs. Lowe's home which was close to the school.

After Tobacco Creek School, I spent a short time in Carman School taking grade 10. I decided that I'd had enough of school so I stopped. Some time after this, the Carman School principal and R.H.B. North came to our place to see if I would come back to school. I told them that I did not think I would. They wondered if there was anything wrong and I told them "no." Mr. North loved sports and I believe all of his children were good in sports. He wanted me to come back to school to run for Carman in the races and relays at the school field days. I had, at one time, run the last leg of mixed relay with 2 of his children, Travis and Ellen, and Aileen Maddison. We easily won that race. These three are now deceased.

My parents wanted me to go back to school, then go to University. I have often wondered what I would have done had this happened. However the professions that I chose were interesting and hard work but I enjoyed them.

After many happy early years of my life in the Tobacco Creek district, I took up the occupation of raising bees and minks. I married Hazel McDiarmid and we lived in the Tobacco Creek district until 1946. We then moved to the Central district where our daughter, Heather Lynne was born. We are now living on highway #3 - 2½ miles south of Carman.

It was the period reserved for English composition and the teacher had suggested as a theme, baseball. Each pupil was to write an account of a ball game. All fell earnestly to work, except one lad who chewed on his pencil. Finally his face lit up. Turning to the blank sheet before him, he wrote:
"Rain - no game."

Memories of Pearl (Abbott) McKay

student 1920

We spent such a short time as pupils at Tobacco Creek that the activities of the district really mean more to me. Miss Gertrude Hurton was our teacher for the four months we attended school and she was a good teacher and friend.

I remember with pleasure the times we had at the Tobacco Creek Ladies Aid, at my Mother's home, or I took her to the homes of many other ladies. We made quilts and I will always continue to appreciate the kind efforts put forth to teach me many things I have used in my craft work through my life.

As teen-agers we played ball with the girl's team. I can't remember that we won all that many games but we did have fun. We also took part in the plays put on by the young folks of the district and enjoyed taking our "production" to the Memorial Hall Auditorium in Carman.

Some of my earliest recollections are of the Tobacco Creek picnics held on the John Sanderson lawn. I am not sure just what entertainment the grown-ups enjoyed but, there was always enough ice-cream to keep us happy. Our Mothers had us all dolled up in starched dresses (no jeans and T-shirts in those days) and, no doubt, had plenty of washing to do the next day.

It is with nostalgia that I think of all the Tobacco Creek folks. Just too many to start naming them all.

Memories of Lyle Sylvester

student 1921 - 1931

I started school with Mr. Wiltse as my teacher. I was never in a hurry to get to school. Always the last one to leave home - usually with my shoe laces untied, hurrying out the door. We always walked to school, across the foot bridge over the creek and then across John R. Blackwell's field to the school. We came home for lunch, as a rule, ran home and ran back. We didn't want to miss playing ball or other games such as "Prisoner's Base" or playing in the snowbanks in the winter. We used to jump off the school bridge into the snowbanks - pretty near go clean out of sight. When the snow was soft we had some dandy snowball fights.

I remember moving from the old schoolhouse into the new school in 1927. What a change - didn't improve my grades though!

I started lighting fires at the school in 1929. I had to be at school an hour before classes started so the school would be warmed up by the time the teacher and the rest of the pupils arrived. I got the big sum of 25¢ a day for this job. The pupils usually took turns at sweeping the floor. My brothers and I were the 3rd generation of Sylvesters to light fires for Tobacco Creek School. By the time my children went to school there, it was all automatic heating.

We had a pet lamb that my father had acquired from another farmer. Whenever the school children were let out at recess or noon hour, our lamb would run over to the school to play with the children. As soon as they all went back in for classes, our lamb would come home again. It was a sad day for many of us when the lamb got too big to keep and was shipped to the meat market in Winnipeg.

The sports days and field days were the highlights of my school days. We won a lot of pennants and awards. The back wall of the school was covered with all the pennants we had won.

Our chores at home always had to be done before we went to play ball or hockey. My brothers and I played on the Tobacco Creek Maple Leaf Hockey Team. This team played in many of the surrounding towns. During the 1930's we travelled by horse team and sleigh. Carman's old skating rink was usually full of spectators and the livery stable full of horses, when the Tobacco Creek Maple Leaf's played in Carman. We boys made a rink on the creek and this was where we skated and practised hockey. There were usually extras around for a game of hockey, followed by a big feed of baked beans, homemade buns and hot chocolate.

Our Tobacco Creek baseball team played at many tournaments and field days throughout the years. The men of the district later had a strong ball team (during the late 1940's and the 1950's). Games were played against other district teams at various school grounds. One game, when we were scheduled to play against Central District men's team, we decided to have some fun. The Tobacco Creek team came over to our place and all dressed up as women, complete with make-up. We drove back to the school and "daintly" ran onto the ball diamond crying "play ball"! We played the whole game as women and won the game.

I always liked Halloween. As kids we could dress up for the school parties. As bigger kids we gave that up and had our fun after dark on Halloween night. We played lots of tricks on our neighbors but I better not say what we did or who we did it to. A bunch of us kids would meet after dark and set out on foot for our night of fun. Usually we never got home until 2 or 3 a.m. Bushed - but satisfied with our nights work.

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I remember taking part in Christmas concerts all through school. In later years, some of us had to help out with the entertainment when there was a small class of students. We had lots of fun rehearsing for those plays. One year Cliff Pattle was to play the father in one of the plays. Cliff could never remember his lines so we taped the script to the inside of his newspaper. He sat in his arm chair through the whole scene reading his paper and never missed a line. No one knew the difference.

I was on the school board for several years. My father and grandfather had been on the school board also. I was a trustee when our school burned down in 1952.

Descendants of 4 of the earlier families still live in the district, namely Parks, Weirs, Gibsons, and Sylvesters. There have been many other families who have come and gone through the years. They have all contributed to our community and have all been good friends and neighbors.

Memories of June (Sylvester) Drysdale

student 1927 - 1937

My memories of school days are having other children to play with - - - I remember being sad on Fridays after school.

I started to school with my friend Ruth Brown. I went home for lunch each day. We had a trail through Mr. Blackwell's grain field and a foot bridge across the creek. On rainy days and cold stormy days, my brothers would bring my lunch back to school - this was a great treat for me.

Noon hours in winter were getting to Bruce's snow banks as fast as we could to slide and play "King of the Castle" on the high banks.

Summertime we played a lot of softball against the other school districts. Quentin was "Toar", the pitcher and Milt Pattle was "Popeye", the catcher. Milt always said "Hit It" and the other team would swing at everything.

My Mother also took part in school activities. I remember one Valentines Day she sent a card for Have-lock with two large nuts on it - it started his nick-name of "Nuts."

Reading? Writing? Arithmetic? Did we have those in school?

Memories of Verna (Gibson) Pattle

student 1928 - 1937

I can still remember the first day I went to school. My dad took me in the car. I started to the new school with two of my first cousins, Arthur Sylvester and Phyllis Gibson. My first teacher was a Mr. Fred Woods from Carman. I remember I didn't have a scribbler with lines in it and Edith Evert gave me one with a nice picture of a horse on the cover.

We kids all looked forward to the Halloween parties and the Valentine parties at the school. I remember there was always nice homemade candy. The pre-school children in the district were all asked to come to the parties. We mostly made all our own Valentines. We always got a nice bought one from our teachers.

I remember practising for the Christmas concerts. The trustees would put the platform in a few days before the concert. We were always nervous about getting up in front of an audience. I think Tommy Bruce was the Santa Claus for years. I remember at a couple of Christmas concerts when Tommy was Santa Claus, he got Frank Sylvester's night gown. I don't know how he managed to get it, but he had it with him up on the platform. He would hold it up so everyone could see it and he would make some jokes about it. It always caused a good laugh. Mr. William (Bill) Weir and later Gib Weir were the chairmen for our Christmas concerts.

I remember taking our turns cleaning the blackboard and the brushes just before 4 o'clock. The flag was put up in the morning and taken down at night. I remember once, my brother, Alton, got a book from his teacher Miss Johnston for being the best flag boy.

When I got big enough to drive a horse we used to take ourselves to school in the winter with the horse and cutter. I remember my hands used to get so cold, I could hardly get the horse unhitched and get a blanket on him and tied in the shed.

We walked to school quite often in summer. When walking home some nights, the boys, Harold (Bus), Alton, and Milt would get bark off the fence posts along the way and make cigarettes and try to smoke them.

When we were small, I remember Kyle's Ayrshire cows with the big long horns used to be out on our road at night quite often in the spring and the fall. We were afraid to walk by them. We could get inside the fence on Bruce's side of the road, but didn't feel altogether safe there either, or we waited a few minutes until they moved farther out in the field or away from us. I don't think they would have chased us, it was just the way they looked at us.

I remember playing ball at school in our noon hour

and playing ball against the Central School kids and the Sharon School kids.

These are some of my school memories.

Article taken from
The Dufferin Leader
(Contributed by
Irvine Park.)

Another school year came to a close Friday night when the pupils gave their annual concert to a well-filled school house. The length and variety of the excellent program reflected great credit on the teacher, while the chair was very ably filled by Mr. Weir. The arrival of Santa Claus was a very exciting event and he was in a particularly delightful mood, in spite of having, as he stated, encountered bad roads and culverts in the district. In the midst of his duties, Santa brought forth a parcel from his inside pocket and presented it to Mr. Woods with the following address:

Tobacco Creek,
December 21, 1928.

To Mr. Woods,—

We take this opportunity to express to you our appreciation of your genuine worth to the district during your stay here as teacher. Your ambition to attain a higher standard in your profession is gratifying to all. We feel by your going from our midst after two and a half years, your place will be hard to fill. You have taken an active interest in everything pertaining to the community, always cheerful and modest.

As a token of remembrance from pupils and friends, please accept the wrist watch and wear it as a reminder of your many friends at the Creek.

Signed, "Santa Claus."

This was followed by a general round of applause and "For He's A Jolly Good Fellow," after which Mr. Woods made a suitable reply. After the New Year, Mr. Woods will continue his studies at Normal school in Winnipeg, and his many friends here wish him every success in his future undertakings.

Memories of William and Edna Miller

residents 1931 - 1934 , 1941 - 1944

The Miller residence at Tobacco Creek was, for a short duration, in two stages -- at the farm originally owned by the Blackwell family. Bill had established a bachelor residence from 1931 to 1934. The Clayton Eby family resided there from 1934 to 1941 when Bill, along with Edna, returned. The Savage family rented the land while we lived in the buildings and occupied our time raising chickens, geese, turkeys, pigs, and cattle along with our faithful dog, "Sport." We grew a large garden and the "beef ring" was our main meat supply.

Tobacco Creek was well known for its sociability. The schoolhouse was the place for entertainment. Many well-attended dances were held there, where Bill and Edna, on occasion, happily shared their musical talent on the violin and piano. Archie Gibson assisted on the banjo and the late Milton Allison on cornet. The ladies of the district bountifully supplied the food for these occasions. Tommy Bruce kept things humming as Master of Ceremonies.

Church services were held for some time in the schoolhouse with Mrs. William Weir as the organist.

The senior and junior ladies each had social get-to-gethers in Ladies Aid and Busy Fingers. There were also representatives from the district on the Dufferin Ladies Agriculture Society. In 1942, Mrs. William Kyle retired her office and asked Edna to fill out her term. This was a great experience for Edna and she continued to hold this position until we left the district in 1944.

Our happy memories of our short stay from 1941 to 1944 continues, with our friendships made with the fine people of the Tobacco Creek area. Names must be omitted in case we leave out some worthy person, however we must mention the Sylvester families who were our near neighbors and whose friendship we have valued over the years. These ties are further united by the fact Bill's grand nephew, Glen Carr is married to June (Sylvester) Drysdale's daughter, Maureen.

From 1942 to 1944, Jean Jackson (teacher of Tobacco Creek School), lived with us - a friendship which has continued over the years.

We join with other Tobacco Creek folks in grateful thanks to those responsible for their tremendous venture in the preservation of the memories of Tobacco Creek School District.

Memories of Mary (Sprutt) Park

teacher 1936 - 1937

I taught at Tobacco Creek School the year of 1936 - 1937. It was a well built school, nicely located and lovely people.

I had children in every grade and four in grade 9. I knew this would be a very hard year with so many grades and this was the term we were compelled to start teaching French in grade 9. Well, we all dug in our heels and made it. But there were many days I wished there were more hours in the day. I never seemed to accomplish all I wanted to. If I spent a lot of time with the upper grades, then the little ones suffered and I thought vice versa.

I loved all my students and hope they didn't mind being pushed so hard.

Our Christmas Concert was very special and dear old Santa Claus appeared and of course being none other than Tommy Bruce. Irvine Park and Quentin Sylvester were the curtain pullers. The young people put on a play. I remember Minnie Sanderson, Cy Park and Havelock Sylvester were in it, but excuse - I can't remember the others taking part.

However, there was a lot of sadness too at Tobacco Creek in 1936 - 1937. Little Iola Gibson started school in the fall of 1936. Her mother had just died and I remember looking in those big brown eyes and wondering to myself how and if she could make it. However, a little loving and a hug would bring a smile. Then her brother, Alton, my Grade 5 pupil, got badly burnt and didn't make it. This all seemed to tie in with the school year.

There were church services on Sunday afternoons. Reverend Conly came out from Carman. Mrs. William Weir played the piano. I remember sitting behind Don Weir one Sunday and could he ever draw a horse perfectly in no time (Sorry, maybe I should not have mentioned it - some people sleep, but this was Don's way of doing it!).

More sadness came to Tobacco Creek. Both Mr. and Mrs. Jim Park passed away. Mrs. Park in July and Mr. Park in September.

Come October Melvin Park and I decided to tie the knot. I put in my resignation. We married on November 6, 1937 and as the saying goes: "Lived happily ever after."

Education is what remains when we have forgotten all that we have been taught.

- George Savile

Memories of Dorothy (McKay) McLarty

student 1936 - 1944

I can remember my father, Ralph McKay, while secretary/treasurer of the school - advertising for a teacher in the 1930's. He received around 100 applications. When he got down to the last 4 or 5 to choose from, he would draw from a hat. I can remember thinking through the year why he couldn't have picked someone else.

We did not have a caretaker while going to school. We each took turns sweeping the floors, cleaning blackboards and doing other chores.

For several years Bruce and Don McKay would go to school an hour or so early to light the furnace so it would be warm when everyone else arrived. When Bruce was lighting the fire, the school was always warm when we arrived. However, when Don took over the task there were many mornings we would all huddle over the large register to get warm. He always left home in plenty of time to have the fire going but seemed to get sidetracked on playing hockey or some other activity before he lit the fire.

Memories of Don McKay

student 1937 - 1944

Two incidents that happened at Tobacco Creek School which stand out in my memory are as follows:

1) One year, the teacher (I don't remember which one) decided that May 24th would not be a holiday so we all went to school. At noon all the kids, after having lunch, except one family called Klassen, left the school yard and hid along the creek bank over in Sylvester's field. From where we were situated we could see the school quite clearly. At 1 p.m. the teacher came out and rang the bell. When no one showed she must have panicked because she was running up and down the road, all the time ringing that bell. After some time she gave up and returned to the school. At (or about) 3:30, we all returned to the school and took our scolding.

2) Tobacco Creek School always played Rosebank School at least one baseball game each year. We were always able to beat them. One year they arrived and at the same time, Archie McKay (whose kids attended Rosebank School) came on the scene. He had left his work in the field so that he could umpire the game.

Needless to say with him umpiring, they won the game. He never let us forget that Rosebank had beaten Tobacco Creek.

Other events that stand out in my mind are the summer picnics (especially the ice cream) and the dances held at the school. It's a wonder that building held together at some of those dances.

I find that my memories of Tobacco Creek School are of events that had nothing to do with school work or education. I guess this would indicate where my main interest lay.

Memories of Leah and Murray Maddison

residents 1938 -

We moved to the Tobacco Creek district in the spring of 1938. Don arrived on November-9/39. We were not involved with the school district until Don began attending Grade 2 in 1947. Fern Banting was teaching at the time. In the fall of 1948 Fern came to board at our place. From then on it was Murray's job to drive the two of them to school. We had a lot of snow in 48/49 and the weather was frosty. We had a good team of drivers so it didn't take long to make the trip but by the time they completed the trip, the horses were white with frost.

The card parties were a special event every two weeks. With team and sleigh, we would pick up Mrs. Fluker and Ross Sanderson and away we would go for an evening of fun. Some were quite serious with their cards but for most it was just a time for fun and visiting. These parties always ended up with a bountiful lunch provided by the ladies.

The men had a softball team in the 50's which was hard to beat. They had a league and I believe the top team.

The annual school picnic was a special event. Folks came from other districts and there was always a ball game to wind things up.

On Christmas night, 1952 we arrived home from Winnipeg to see a lot of activity down south. We drove down to see what was going on and found out it was our school burning. The Christmas concert had just been a few evenings previous, all was lost in the fire.

School was carried on in an unfinished house which was moved out from Carman onto the north-west corner of Lyle Sylvester's land. Murray was a trustee at that time, so they had their work cut out for them in seeing

that a new school was built. The new building was ready for classes the beginning of the school term in 1953. Gladys Howie was teaching there at the time.

The Christmas concerts were looked forward to by young and old alike. All helped in some way. The adults often put on a short play after the children had shown their talents.

Joan Hodgson (Goldsborough) was the last teacher Don had in Grade 8. Joan remarked that Don spent most of his time trying to find out how old she was. This was Joan's first year of teaching.

School closed in 1959 and was sold in 1961. Our children went to school in different directions, some to Carman, others to Rosebank or Miami. We missed the closer contact with people that a school district brings.

Memories of Elizabeth McIver

teacher 1938 - 1941

I spent three very pleasant years as teacher at Tobacco Creek School from 1938 - 1941. The school itself was a fine building, one the district could be justly proud of. There was never a heavy enrollment in those years, attendance being from 15 - 18 pupils. Most grades were represented by 2 or 3 pupils and one year Dorothy Sylvester took her Grade 10 by correspondence, but worked on her own.

One of the "big events" of the school year was the Christmas Concert. Many hours of practice went into this, after the daily school work was done. The program usually opened with a "Welcome" recitation by the youngest pupil, this being his first introduction to public speaking.

It always surprised me how well the pupils performed the night of the concert, especially when they were dressed up. I was amazed at what they foraged from home for costumes. The attics in those years held many old fashioned accessories which today can be found in some of our local museums.

One winter the mumps hit Tobacco Creek just before Christmas - and I mean hit! Of course, no program was complete without a drill. Every two or three days another pupil dropped out so the drill was changed for either an odd or even number of marchers. By this time we were all confused and there were several with two left feet! Nevertheless we carried on and Santa Claus arrived in due time with treats for everyone.

"Field Day" in Carman was another big event. Students were outfitted in uniform clothing and carried a banner emblazed with "Tobacco Creek". The main event of this day was the ball games. I can remember one year we met up with a team of "men" - as I thought - from Giltedge School and they made short work of us. However, it was fun and the kids were good sports about it.

Gathering everyone together before the games was a problem. While two volunteers headed out to round up the missing one, he inevitably came around the other side of the grandstand and we were still left with two missing players! We usually went into town in Ralph McKay's truck and returned home at night, a tired but happy lot.

School days went on as usual depending on the weather. Spring and Summer was ball season, the teacher being the umpire and sometimes a player. One winter there was a lot of snow and the boys discovered it was great fun to leap off the bridge railing at the Creek into several feet of snow. Sounds dangerous and maybe it was, but the kids came back happy with rosy cheeks. It took a good ten minutes to sweep them off, but it was fun!

Those are only a few memories of school days at Tobacco Creek. All in all, they were good days - no two alike. Some of my former pupils live around Carman and some I have not seen for some years. However, I remember each and every one and hope life has been good to them as it has been to me.

The country school is gone, but it was the heart of the community. Some of my happiest teaching days were at Tobacco Creek and I hope most of my pupils feel the same way.

Memories of Deane (McMillan) Harlow

teacher 1942 - 1943

Tobacco Creek was my first school, which I taught on permit before attending Normal. I had received my education in a town school and found it difficult with so many grades. In the fall of the year, five Kyle children, from Ontario, attended from their grandparent's home while they waited to go to the United States. The curriculum is different in Ontario so the grade levels differed. However, the two older girls had been in the band in Fort Frances and they helped greatly with my Christmas Concert, for they taught the other girls drill routines which we used.

Memories of Jean (Jackson) Anderson

teacher 1943 - 1944

Forty years is a long time back to recall but a few highlights stand out.

First, the friendliness, openness, and cooperation of the students that was so typical of most rural students in small, multigrade, country schools.

Second, the cooperation and support of the school trustees - particularly that of the secretary/ treasurer Ralph McKay.

Third, the lovely boarding place with Mr. and Mrs. Bill Miller until April and then with that super couple Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ganske and Raymond.

Fourth, the beautiful weather in the autumn of 1943. I walked back and forth to school and there was an almost continuous succession of balmy warm days, purple gold and scarlet sunsets, and believe it or not, rain and a rainbow in the middle of December.

During the first term there were sixteen students in Grades 1 to 9 but no Grades 3 or 4. During the second term, the three Leonards and two Dennings transferred and that raised our enrolment to 21 and added a Grade 4.

Grade 9: Bruce McKay who was the efficient caretaker and rode to school on horseback; Dolores Park comical and about 6 inches taller than I; and clever, studious Benny Klassen.

Grade 8: The inseparable Iola Gibson and Dorothy McKay and later, Vera Leonard.

Grade 7: Donnie McKay, quiet and studious and later Phyllis Leonard.

Grade 6: Cliff Sylvester, a good kid who rode to school on a wild little pony, and shy, hard working Emma Klassen.

Grade 5: Marlyn Sylvester and Eva Klassen, a loveable pair of little girls and Robert McKay who didn't like Spelling.

Grade 4: Rose Ann Leonard and her nephew Mervin Denning. The Leonards and the Dennings seemed like a happy bunch who fitted in well.

Grade 2: Anena Klassen, Larry Sylvester, Wesley Wiebe and Marlene Denning. Who could ask for a nicer bunch of typical grade two's.

Grade 1: Wayne Sylvester and Anne McKay - both so sweet and eager to learn.

There they were, twenty-one friendly faces and not a bad apple in the bunch!

I remember Mr. Morrow, the blind piano tuner, came just before dismissal time once, and played "God Save the King" for us.

I remember worrying, at the beginning of the year, about the creek that ran right behind the school. In

those days the teacher was busy marking and preparing work at recesses and noons and the children supervised themselves. They also developed high degrees of responsibility. The older children sorted out their differences on the playground and also most of the problems of the little ones.

I remember herds of cows grazing in the schoolyard. I was always afraid there would be a bull among them that might be cross, but the kids would chase the herd off the ball field - bull or no bull.

This was my first school after graduation from the Winnipeg Normal School in June 1943, and I had a lot to learn. It was during the war and I remember getting along with the minimum in supplies and equipment. If a child was lucky enough to have a softball of his own, he brought it to school and shared it, then took it home at night to play with. Many a softball was stitched and restitched many times with "waxed" thread.

I remember our Hallowe'en party. It was over 70 degrees Fahrenheit and we had a peanut scramble on the brown grass.

I congratulate the committee and the people of the Tobacco Creek district for having the will to put up a cairn and to publish a history of the past years.

I wish I could remember more details but as I said - forty years is a long time ago.

Memories of Lydia Shanks

resident 1944 - 1956

My husband (William Shanks) and I along with our family of 3 came to the Tobacco Creek district in April, 1944. Our children at that time were Marion (10 years), Jim (7 years) and Robert (2 years). We settled on the south half of section 5 - 6 - 5.

Our children started school after Easter. They enjoyed their school years and most of their teachers. Baseball and skating on the creek were favorite pastimes for them. They enjoyed the school picnics and playing ball when other schools joined them.

We lived 1½ miles from the school. Most of the time our children walked but sometimes we let them use the horse and cart. During the winter months we drove them to school along with the neighbor's child, on occasion.

We remember the card parties in the winter. This was a time for visiting, along with cards and crokinole, on the weekend.

Later on, another member joined our family, Agnes arrived in 1948.

The years passed quickly - Marion left to go to work in 1951; Jim left in 1953 to work for Irvine Park and for other farmers in the district; In 1954 Agnes started school and Jim left to work at Brandon, Manitoba (he is still in the garage business there); The same year another member was added to our family - we adopted Kimberly Ann.

Later we sold one quarter section of our land to Ivan McIntosh. We grew mostly feed for our 20 head of cattle. The crops were poor for a couple of years so my husband, Bill, decided to go and get a job elsewhere. I then rented the farm to James Allen. I lived on the Tom Bruce farm for the summer and then moved to Carman in 1956.

That same year our farm land was flooded. We had to travel by horseback or team and democrat. The horses would swim across the coulee, which ran through our yard. The current was so great at our yard that it took a horse downstream.

Our memories of Tobacco Creek were exciting and eventful. I was really sorry to leave the farm and my friends in the district when I moved away.

Memories of Mervin Denning

student 1944 - 1945

The most significant memory I have of Tobacco Creek School days was V.E. day in 1945. There was a commotion at the door to which our teacher responded and rushed into the classroom to make the announcement. She was the happiest I had ever seen her and that happiness was soon reflected in the rest of us. We had already lost my Uncle Jack Leonard to the war and were relieved that this kind of sacrifice would not be repeated.

We immediately were excused from class and that evening were treated to a firepower display put on by the local Militia at the Carman Park. Big deal for an eleven year old boy.

Competition was always keen at Tobacco Creek, in the classroom and out. In the classroom Rose Ann Leonard always gave me lots of heat and outside I had my best friend Clifford Sylvester to contend with.

Clifford had a pinto pony that was blind in one eye but ran like the wind. My horse was larger and should have been as fast but he was a bit lazy. Consequently I never did beat Clifford in a horse race,

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but I did develop an intense dislike for being second best. Not bad attitudinal training for the years ahead.

Memories of Dorothy (Mrs. Lyle) Sylvester

resident 1944 -

I came to Tobacco Creek as a bride, 40 years ago (June 1944). I joined The Busy Fingers and later on was a member of The Willing Workers. Both of these ladies' groups hold pleasant memories for me. It was a chance to visit, quilt and to sample someone else's cooking, for a change. Many a recipe was exchanged at these meetings. At one time our ladies group looked after the spring cleaning of the schoolhouse. We held a work bee. Everyone took scrub pails, soap, cleanser, rags and wax (cushion floor and no-wax floors were yet to come). That school sure got a going over! The "art work" of the pupils was removed from the desks with cleanser and a lot of elbow grease. We always took a tea break, then back to work. It wasn't long before everything was shining clean, but just like our homes it wasn't long before it acquired that "lived-in" look again. However I do believe that the teachers and pupils did appreciate our efforts.

Our three eldest children, Joan, Blake, and Doug all started their schooling at Tobacco Creek. They usually took their lunches as they thought it was a waste of time to come home for lunch. We no longer had a foot bridge across the creek so they had to walk around the road. It seemed like I was forever buying new lunch kits for our boys, as they were getting bent and the catches or hinges were broken on them. One day when I was in the garden and saw them coming home from school, I soon realized why their lunch kits did not last long. Our boys, along with a few other boys in the district were having a contest to see who could kick their lunch kits the furthest. From then on lunch kits were not replaced.

I also had a hard time keeping the buttons sewn on our boys' shirts. I'm sure the other mothers had the same problem. Apparently when the boys played "Tag" at recess they didn't just "tag" each other but grabbed them by the shirt as they ran away. No buttons could stand that strain! I even sewed them on with linen thread but that resulted in a piece of the shirt coming off with the button. I finally smartened up and started putting zippers on their shirts in place of buttons.

One Christmas concert in particular stands out in my memory. Wilma Skeavington, the teacher, was boarding with us. She had asked Dennis Webber to sing "Frosty the Snowman". He was only six years old then. Wilma and I made a snowman costume for him. We sewed cotton batting all over a suit of Dennie's long underwear and also made a cardboard top hat for him. He was a big hit!

The students at the creek were taught many crafts. The parents could always count on a handmade gift from their children for special occasions, such as birthdays or Christmas. We still have some of these "labours of love" from our children.

Whenever a party was held for the school children the parents provided the lunch. Our kids always volunteered a cake or cookies from Mom. I didn't mind a bit but sometimes never got much notice. Usually the night before the party, as they were getting ready for bed, I would hear "Oh yeah, Mom, I forgot to tell you, we're supposed to take a cake (or cookies) tomorrow for the party". Somehow I always managed to honour their commitment.

When Tobacco Creek School District #808 closed, there were only 7 pupils and 3 of them were our children. We were not in favour of consolidation but such is progress!

Upon returning to her 6th grade class one day, a teacher found the children sitting quietly at their desks. Since this was unusual, she asked them for an explanation.

Rather hesitantly, a girl said, "Well you once told us that if you ever left the room and came back to find everyone sitting perfectly still, you'd drop dead."

We just heard about a little boy who said to his teacher, "I ain't got no pencil."

She corrected him at once: "It's I don't have a pencil." "We don't have any pencils." "They don't have any pencils." Is that clear?"

"No," said the bewildered child. "What happened to all them pencils?"

Small boy, showing teacher's report card to his father: "They're not paying her enough, for one thing!"

- Mort Walker

Memories of Beatrice (Frazer) Siska

teacher 1944 - 1945

I remember:

- Boarding at Cliff and Irene Pattle's
- Teaching very cooperative children
- Riding the horse, Molly. It was the first time I ever rode a horse.
- Skating on the creek. Result: six stitches on my head from tripping on a stick while skating backwards. Cliff and Irene had to take me to the doctor in Roland.

Memories of Mary (Taylor) Shorrock

teacher 1945 - 1947

I boarded with Dorothy and Lorne Jefkins.

I enjoyed my two years in the district. The pupils and the people were terrific.

I can remember walking to school the day after Halloween to find my chair at the top of the flagpole.

Another very strong memory happened the first year in the district. I returned to the district after Christmas and was snowed in till Easter. That was a new experience for me as I had always lived within a mile of town.

Memories of Raymond Ganske

student 1946 - 1954

As a kid I hardly remember ever walking down the lane and road to school. Walking through the bush paths and across the field seemed easier and more interesting. Playing in the hut that the kids built across the creek, riding our bikes across the creek on planks and then through the paths in the bush were a couple of ways we entertained ourselves.

When thinking about the creek, I'll never forget Barry Bruce roaring down the hill, missing the plank and landing in the water. Bob Shanks used to play "Tarzan", swinging from branch to branch across the creek. One day he was showing off with this stunt when he ran out of branches and landed in the creek.

One of my favorite punishments seemed to be writing lines for Fern Banting. When doing this, at recess, one day a terrible ruckus was going on in the cloakroom. The teacher went to investigate and came out with both Don Weir and Barry Bruce by the scuff of the neck, demanding to know what they had to say for themselves. The reply from one of them was "If I ever get my hands on him again I'll kill him."

I remember Don Weir choosing to have his mouth washed out with soap rather than write lines. After the job was done, you could tell by their faces that it was worse for the teacher than it was for the student.

Fern Banting boarded at Murray Maddison's. One day she was waiting for Don to go home after 4. Don and I were playing in the bush and were in no hurry. Fern was waiting with the horse and buggy and getting madder by the minute. She made Don walk a ways to teach him a lesson. However Don had the last laugh when he told me about it the next day. When Fern got out to open the gate Don took hold of the reins and headed for the house, leaving a surprised teacher to walk in the lane.

I always enjoyed harvest time when I was needed at home to drive a truck. Oh how I gloated as I drove by the school while the other kids were inside working! At least one of my classmates decided to take advantage of this. He would check with me as to the approximate time I would be going by the school. At the appointed time, he would raise his hand and get permission to leave the room. As I drove by the school, he flagged me down and hopped in. We spent the rest of the day hauling grain.

Memories of Fern (Banting) Gibson

teacher 1947 - 1950

I taught at Tobacco Creek from August 1947 to June 1950 starting with a class of fifteen. At one time we had three named Don, two Ken's, a Ray, a Rae, and a Raymond. I boarded at Joe Tannahill's a year, Graydon Woods a couple of months, and Murray Maddison's.

With eight grades, many classes had to be combined such as grades one and two, three and four, etcetra. It was not easy for the grade seven class to have to take the grade eight literature or social studies. Social studies was a combination of history and geography. Students went ahead with their studies while the teacher took another class. Sometimes it was

necessary to have an older class in at noon for specific help.

Because we had a small enrolment, we had difficulty putting together a baseball team to compete against Central and Kilmory districts. These schools came back to challenge us at our picnic. The teachers at both these school had taught at Tobacco Creek before me so the competian was good.

We had Hallowe'en parties when pre-schoolers and parents joined us for contests and lunch supplied by the parents. Specially decorated cookies or cakes to suit the occasion were enjoyed. Valentines were made or bought to put in a decorated cardboard box to be given out by a student chosen to be the postman on the day of the Valentine's Party. Pre-schoolers joined us for the whole day if they were ready to begin school in the fall.

For parents day we had a bit of a program of readings and recitations.

The Inspector's visit was something which made the teachers and students nervous. The teacher's work was under scrutiny as was the progress of the students. They were often sent to the board to do some arithmetic problems or other task when the mind blanked out. Recesses were always longer on these occasions as the Inspector discussed problems with the teacher. Inspector Peterson seemed nine feet tall but must have been only six.

Our Christmas concerts were held the last night before holidays. The trustees installed a platform, seats of planks were set up and a real tree decorated. It was a big event to get hydro in December, 1948 to put electric lights on the tree. Dress rehearsal was held the morning of the concert and school dismissed for the afternoon. The students were good singers so we were able to have solos and duets as well as choruses of the whole class. Mrs. Leah Maddison made many trips to the school to play the piano for our singing and marching. Some plays were adapted with local names to add some fun. Santa Claus always arrived after the program to hand out gifts and bags of candy.

Many noon hours during the winter months were spent playing "500" with the teacher called on to settle an argument or make a decision. I learned the card game after I came to the district so I depended on the older students for answers.

Items were cut with fretsaws from plywood, of doorstops, lawn ornaments, and shelves. These were painted and sold to parents as were plaster of Paris plaques. The money was used to pay for the material or buy some sports equipment. Making an electric table lamp from a pattern sent to school by Annie Burnett was a challenge. The boys and girls were taught to knit by making afghan "squares." It was a hard task

for the lefthanded and also their instructor. The task of putting these knitted patches together into an afghan was given to the ladies of the district who had a club called the "Willing Workers." The afghan was raffled to make money for the Red Cross. We belonged to the Junior Red Cross and held meetings Friday afternoon once a month with a president, secretary and treasurer.

When the roads were heavy, Mr. Alex Mennie used to leave mail at the school to be picked up or taken home by students. In the fall, Mr. Mennie brought plums from his tree to share with the school. He was always obliging the teacher with some shopping errand as well.

Card parties every two weeks kept everyone interested during the winter. Prizes were given for high and low scores so competition was keen. Couples took turns buying prizes and looking after lunch.

In the spring it was not uncommon to have to send a student home for dry clothes after some stunt at the creek had failed.

There was bedlam in class as I opened a desk drawer to find a mouse had made a nest in the box of Kleenex. The mouse was either killed or scared to death if we could catch it.

From Easter to June, boys and girls ready to start school that fall would attend every day. It was some task to settle these beginners into routine and keep the other classes at their books to finish their courses and get ready for final exams. This was before Kindergarten. The spring Darlene Nicholshad to start, she cried so much that Don Gibson took her home with his white horse "Sally" and the cart.

The students were great and the parents very cooperative, making these years very enjoyable. I've been reminded by former students of unjust decisions and punishments, so I hope they forgive me.

Teacher: "Yes, Johnny, what is it?"

Johnny: "I don't want to scare you, but Papa said if I didn't get better grades someone is due for a licking."

Teacher to colleague: - Not only is he the worst behaved child in school, he has a perfect attendance.

Teacher: "I hope I didn't see you looking at Mary's paper, Tommy."

Tommy: "I hope you didn't too, M'am."

Statutory Contract as set out in Schedule D of the Public Schools Act.

This Agreement made in triplicate this sixth day

of May, A.D. 1947.

Between;

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF Tobacco Creek
Number 808, hereinafter called the Board,

--AND--

Jern Banting
of Birch River, Manitoba (Home Address)

Insert highest
Manitoba Cer-
tificate held by
Teacher

the holder of a Regular Certificate Number 472-46 as a license to teach in the
Principal's Province of Manitoba, hereinafter called the Teacher.

1. The Board hereby engages the Teacher and the Teacher hereby accepts engagement for service with the Board at the yearly salary of Thirteen hundred and fifty Dollars, such engagement to commence on the twenty-sixth day of August 1947, and to be terminated in the manner hereinafter provided. The Board agrees that it will pay the said salary to the Teacher in 12 equal consecutive monthly payments of \$112.50 Dollars each, on or before the last teaching day of each month beginning with the thirtieth day of Sept. 1947, in each year during the continuance of this contract.

Provided that if a salary schedule is in force in the School District, the Board shall Pay the Teacher at the rate prevailing from time to time in said schedule or any temporary modification of it. If any salary is payable during July and August, it shall be paid on the last day of the month.

2. The Teacher agrees with the Board to teach diligently and faithfully and to conduct the work assigned by and under the authority of the said Board during the period of this engagement, according to the Law and Regulations in that behalf in effect in the Province of Manitoba, and to perform such duties and to teach such subjects as may from time to time be assigned in accordance with the statutes and the regulations of the Department of Education of the said Province.

3. This Agreement is subject to the following conditions:

- (a) That the Teacher shall not be required to teach on holidays and vacations prescribed by said law and regulations.
- (b) That the days on which the Teacher has attended the meetings convened by the Inspector of the District (which attendance shall, if required, be evidenced by the certificate of the said Inspector), shall be allowed him or her as if he or she had actually taught for the said Board during such days.

(c) That in case of sickness, the Teacher shall be entitled to receive his or her salary without deduction for such period as may be authorized under the statute in that behalf.

4. This Agreement shall be deemed to continue in force and to be renewed from year to year with such variations as to the time of payment and the amount of salary as may be provided by the bylaws, resolutions or schedule of the Board from time to time in force (of which said variations the Teacher must be notified forthwith, and concerning which shall have the right of conference with the Board, unless and until terminated by one of the following methods, provided that no variation of salary shall take place before October 1st, unless notice be given the Teacher on or before the 30th day of June of the same year:

- (a) By mutual consent of the Teacher and the Board.
- (b) By written notice given at least one month prior to the 31st of December or the 30th of June, terminating the contract on the 31st of December or the 30th of June, as the case may be.
- (c) By one month's previous notice, in writing given by either party to the other in case of an emergency affecting the welfare of the School District or of the Teacher, provided that in such event the School District may, in lieu of one month's notice as aforesaid, pay the Teacher one month's salary at the said rate.
- (d) By one month's notice in writing, by the Teacher in case of variation of salary, said notice to be given at the discretion of the Teacher at any time after notification of such variation and to take effect one month after the date it is given.

5. The statutory provisions of the "Public Schools Act," namely: Sections 135 and 198; and of the "Education Department Act," namely: Section 19 to 24, shall form part of the Agreement.

6. If this contract shall be terminated by notice as provided in Clause 4 of this Agreement the final payment shall be so adjusted that the Teacher shall receive for the part of year taught such fraction of the salary for the whole year as the number of days taught is of two hundred days.

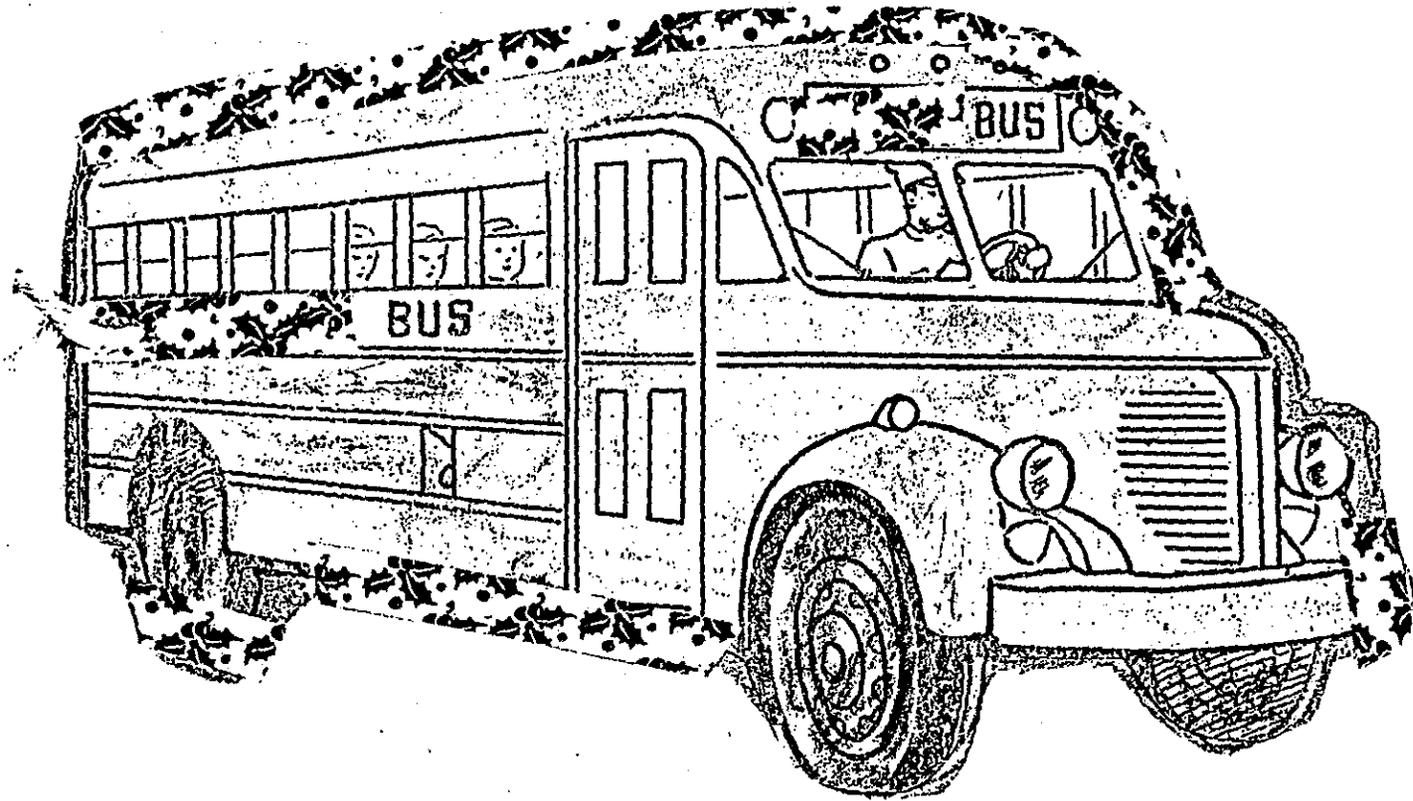
As witness the corporate seal of the said School District attested by the signature of its Chairman and Secretary, in virtue of a resolution or by-law passed by the said Board at a meeting held on the fifth day of May, 1947, and the hand and seal of the Teacher, on the day and year first above mentioned.

[Signature]
Chairman
Dorothy M. Jenkins
Secretary
 Seal

[Signature]
Teacher
E. J. Lindsay
Witness
 Seal

Teacher's Address in District

(In triplicate), one copy to be retained by the Board, another by the Teacher, and the third to be forwarded by the Secretary-Treasurer to the Department of Education.



One Christmas, before Bus Gibson and I were married, I found this "BUS" hanging on the School Christmas tree. The following inscription was on the back of the bus:

MISS BANTING

ALL I WANT FOR CHRISTMAS

To this day I do not know who left it there.

Memories of Bob Burnett

student 1948 -1956

There were three generations of our family who went to Tobacco Creek School. There was Grandma (Blanche Sylvester) Burnett, my Dad (Rockley Burnett) and his five children; Bob, Joyce, Ken, Ray, and Judy. The younger generation finished their education at Miami.

I went to Tobacco Creek School from 1948 - 1956. When I was there, the teachers were: Miss Fern Banting, Mr. B. Fedak, Mrs. G. Howie, Miss Joan Hodgson, and Miss Wilma Skeavington.

We had to have our own transportation to school. In the summer we would walk, Mum or Dad would take us, or pick us up. One trip I remember was a frosty winter morning. The temperature was 52 degrees Fahrenheit below zero. Dad took me to school with the horses. When I arrived at school I had frost bite on my face. It was a cold trip.

There are many memories of school days at the Creek. One was a bridge we had across the creek. The bridge was a plank approximately 2 feet by 10 feet. One morning, Don Weir was going to cross on his bike but he missed and went right into the creek! That morning after singing "O Canada", Miss Banting asked:

"Don, do you have your bike here?"

He answered "Yes."

She said "Well you had better use it!"

On rainy or damp mornings, the dads would bring their children to school. Everyone would stay and have a visit with their neighbors. Of course there would be a clown in the group. One trick would be to make mud balls and throw them up by the window. The teacher had trouble keeping the children's attention on their school work when that was happening. Even the teacher would look out once or twice.

One thing that was a big event was the Christmas concerts. Everyone would have a part to do and the highlight would be when Santa Claus came and kissed the teacher.

Mr. Alex Mennie would bring the mail for the district to the school. In the summer he would sometimes bring a Cornflakes box full of wild plums for the children. Miss Banting would talk to him in the hall for a long time. We would try to listen to them but we couldn't understand his Scotch accent. In the winter, Mr. Mennie would sometimes give us a ride home with his covered cutter which had a stove in it.

In June we would pick wild strawberries in the east ditch by the school.

Every school had a barn which was an important part of the playgrounds. You could hide in it, play

Cowboys and Indians around it, or play Anti - Anti - Ai - Over, over it.

At our school there wasn't any fresh water. One family would bring the water in a cream can for a week. In the summer after a game of baseball or Kick the Can we would come in for a drink of water. All you would find was a water cooler with a couple of inches of warm rusty water.

Memories of Margaret (Mrs. Len) Nichols

resident 1948 - 1953

Len, myself, and Darlene moved onto the Willis Kyle farm (32 - 5 -5) in November 1948. Our second daughter, Barbara, was born in January 1949.

We attended the card parties at Tobacco Creek School. I still have one of the prizes that I won at one of those parties. I think Mag Park had purchased the prizes for that night.

I remember one Christmas concert at the school when our Barbara was only four years old. The pupils were all up on the stage singing when Barb wandered up onto the stage and stood beside her big sister, Darlene.

I belonged to the Tobacco Creek ladies' club, the Willing Workers. We took turns having the meetings in our own homes. I remember one meeting at our place when we had a quilt set up, in the big farm kitchen, ready for the group to quilt.

I think it was the spring of 1952 that we had seeded early. The crop was coming up nicely but we had a lot of winds. We had to tear up a lot of it and reseed.

We did mixed farming - raised pigs and cattle and milked cows. We used a threshing machine, to get our crop off, for many years. The last couple of years we owned a small combine. We always had a hired man for summer help.

Graydon Woods had lived on the Kyle farm before us and John Stucky after we left. We bought a farm near Elm Creek and moved in April 1953.

I am now living alone in Carman. Len passed away June 1975.

People are like pencils. If they are very dull, they are pointless.

Memories of Darlene (Nichols) Hay

student 1950 - 1953

I spent the first $3\frac{1}{2}$ years of my schooling at Tobacco Creek. I remember the fire on Christmas night, December 25, 1952 when the school burnt to the ground. That year I had the biggest pencil box so all the kids had given me their pencils and pens to store for safe keeping. They were stored under the steps for the Christmas concert. My biggest concern when I knew the school was burning was everyone's pencils.

Another memory I have was how I hated school at first. I started school with two boys: Ken Burnett and Ken Gibson. The second day of school Ken Burnett was sick and vomitted all down the aisle to the wash-room - what a scare as I never remembered anyone being sick before. That really put the fear of school into me and I never wanted to go back. Mom and Dad had lots of trouble getting me there after that.

I left Tobacco Creek in April after the fire. I was in Grade 3 and what a change when I went to Wingham School. There were only two grades per room with more kids per room than Tobacco Creek had altogether.

Memories of Joan (Sylvester) Russell

student 1951 - 1959

I started school with Boris Fedak as my teacher. He had a habit of pulling our ears or hair or slapping our knuckles with the yardstick. This did not go over too good with many of us, so I'm afraid he was not one of our favorite teachers.

Joyce Park, Sandra Ganske and I used to play together at school. Most of the time we got along very well but one particular day, during the winter, Joyce and I had a little tiff with Sandra. She stayed in the school while Joyce and I went out to play in the snowbanks along the creek. The weather was getting warmer as spring was on its way. Joyce and I got soaking wet in the snow. The teacher sent Sandra over to my place to get dry clothes for Joyce and I so we would not catch cold. Poor Sandra, I'm sure at that moment, could have cared less if we caught a cold or anything else for that matter. However she went obediently on the errand and returned with dry clothes for us. Our differences were soon ironed out and we were friends again.

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I remember one day in class when a knock came to the door. I spoke up and called "Come on in, Bob," thinking it was Bob Shanks who had left the room earlier. To everyone's surprise and my embarrassment, in walked the Inspector. I felt like crawling under my desk.

We used to take our lunches to school. During the winter we could take our choice of food in a pint sealer. We took macaroni and cheese, stew, soup, or whatever Mom had for us. At morning recess, the teacher put each jar on a rack in a canner on a hotplate. By noon everything was piping hot and sure smelled good. Sometimes we traded "a bite of mine for a bite of yours" just for variety.

There was a small record player in the back room of the school. We took some records from home and there were some at the school that we played at recess or noon hour and danced when the weather was not fit to play outside.

Don Maddison used to come home with Blake and I sometimes. His parents helped us when we were pelting him. I remember one day when we were playing in the snowbanks by the school bridge, Don got stuck in a bank. Blake and I had one heck of a time trying to get him out. We all got laughing and Don would sink deeper. Finally Don said "OK guys, this is serious - get me out of here!" Well we really dug then and finally got him out.

One of the teachers, Wilma Skeavington, boarded at our house for a year or so. She was like a big sister to me. It was so nice to have another girl to walk to school with. In summer we walked around the road but in winter when the creek was frozen, we took a shortcut across the creek and through Ganske's field to the school. This was the same route that my father had taken to school. Miss Skeavington was always willing to give us help with homework (if we ever had any) and help us study for exams. I can remember her asking me questions in Social Studies while we did the dishes after supper.

I completed my grade eight at Tobacco Creek School. Consolidation came so I attended Rosebank School for 2 years and then Carman Collegiate for awhile. I decided to take a course in hairdressing. Later I married Ron Russell. We have 2 children, Denise and Murray and live at Portage la Prairie, Manitoba.

I really feel my children have missed something by not having attended a country school. I know I have many happy memories of my years at the Creek.

I owe a lot to my teachers and mean to pay them back some day.

- Stephen Leacock

Memories of Gladys Howie

teacher 1952 - 1954

It was my privilege to teach the children who attended Tobacco Creek School for the two school terms for the years 1952 - 53 and 1953 - 54. The "Creek" as we fondly dubbed it for short, was the last school I taught before retiring to raise my family. When I look back on those six years I spent as a teacher, I think that the two years at the Creek are my favorite. For most of the time my students were there to learn the three "R's" and not to see how much they could aggravate the teacher. Of course they weren't perfect all the time - perfection makes for dull - dull!

Those two years in the school's history are different from any of the other years. The reason being because of a fire, we held school in three different buildings. The fall term was started in the school which was built in 1927. On Christmas night of 1952, it burned to the ground, only the chimney was left standing. It wasn't too long before the school board moved a small two bedroom house on the north west corner of Lyle Sylvester's pasture field. This was north east across the creek from the school grounds. For the fall term of 1953 a new school had been built on the regular school grounds, which the children and myself happily moved into.

Everyone who lived in the district at the time of the fire probably remembers that Christmas night. Jim and I were at his Mother and Dad's. It was in the evening and we were playing the card game "Hearts" around the dining room table. The phone call came - "Tobacco Creek School is on fire." By the time Jim and I drove there, people were parked all along the sides of the road allowance. However, the fire had gotten out of control, so there was nothing for anyone to do but watch the flames leap higher and higher until the roof fell in. The only things that were saved were the school register and some folding chairs. The register, because I had taken it home to work on the half yearly report. Being busy with the Christmas concert preparations just before, I had broken a rule and taken the register out of the school. Needless to say, everyone was glad I had. The chairs were saved, because Sylvester's had been over earlier in the day and borrowed them for extra seating for Christmas dinner. There was no sign of fire when they got the chairs. We never did find out what caused the fire. It was thought it might have started in the oil furnace or there was speculation it might have been the wiring. Whatever the cause, the end result was the same, the district was left without a school. Because there was so much consolidation going on at the time, there was a chance

that the board and the local tax payers would opt not to rebuild. However, the decision was made to build a new school.

Meanwhile my class and I set up temporary "shop" on the corner of Sylvester's cow pasture. Desks, as well as other school equipment from the closed down Anderson School were purchased. Texts and library books were obtained from the Department of Education, and other sources donated to our cause. Soon the children were working at their lessons in the kitchen-living room area. The men having taken an existing wall out between the two rooms. The two bedrooms served as cloakrooms, while the small bathroom boasted an indoor chemical toilet (pail you emptied by hand) for all.

Our class that year and the next, had more boys than girls. This was the reverse situation from other schools I had taught in previously.

The one thing that stands out in my memory of the temporary school was this: One day in class we were having a discussion about climbing through a window to escape fire or some such disaster probably. Don Weir made some remark about me being too fat to get through the window. I was angry with him for daring to make such an insolent remark. But that night when I went home, I looked in the mirror, took a good look at myself and had to admit he was right! I went on a diet shortly after, lost a lot of weight. I've never put it all back on since! So, thanks to Don, even though the truth hurt, it made me improve my appearance. Was that remark before or after I gave him the minus number in a spelling exam? If it was after, I don't really blame him! Spelling was not his best forte but being an excellent writer, there was never any trouble in reading his writing to find the spelling mistakes. Unfortunately for Don there were no marks for penmanship in a spelling test!

The new school which was built by Jack Ross Construction was ready to move into the fall term of 1953. It was a stucco building painted white with blue asphalt shingles. It was 34 feet by 28 feet with one large class room, a kitchen, a small science laboratory, two cloak rooms, two lavatories and a full basement. It was really great after our cramped temporary quarters. The class and I made the pages of the Dufferin Leader that fall. A picture of our group standing proudly in front of our new school with the Union Jack blowing in the south east breeze. The first students in the new building were: Bob, Ken, Ray, and Joyce Burnett; Glen Corden; Joan and Blake Sylvester; Sandra and Raymond Ganske; Bob Shanks; Ron Stucky; Barbara Weir; Joyce and Rae Park; Don Maddison. Blake and Glen were beginners in Grade One. Darlene Nichols had moved and the Stucky family had moved on to the Kyle farm where Nichols

had lived. The Bruce family had moved to Rosebank, so Barry, Carol, and Blaine were no longer in our numbers. Don Weir was also at Rosebank.

There is one "student" that should not be forgotten in my recollections and that is "Rusty", Ray and Sandra Ganske's faithful dog. He always attended school. I don't think he missed a day even when Ray or Sandra were absent. Rusty's speciality was that he didn't know the difference between a bird or a plane. That opening for "Superman" always comes to mind when I think of Rusty - "It's a bird! It's a plane! It's Superman!" Sparrow, crow, prop or jet, as long as it flew Rusty chased them all across the length and breadth of the school yard. In the pictures taken at the temporary school he is disappearing around the corner. As long as he was able Rusty followed the children to school. He came with the territory!

The new building was not without its problems. A high wind stripped a lot of the asphalt shingles off. One morning we came to school after a rain to find a number of large ceiling tiles on the floor near the front blackboard and teacher's desk. Jack Ross had to be called upon to make repairs to both the roof and ceiling.

As with all country schools it was not all class room work. We had our Christmas concerts, our Valentine and Hallowe'en parties as well as our school picnics at the end of the term.

The only Christmas concert I remember at the Creek was in the old school. Probably because, the school was still with its Christmas tree, room decorations, platform, curtain and all the other trappings of a concert still in place when it burned down. Don Weir, Senior, was master of ceremonies, announcing the items and adding his own brand of wit and humour which earned him the honor of this job year after year. Everyone received gifts and candy. Santa and his helpers doing the honors. As the teacher I always fared very well in the gift department. We still have an excellent grapefruit knife with an ivory type handle that Bob Shanks gave me one of those two Christmases.

We had a pretty enthusiastic group of ball players on the Tobacco Creek team. Naturally they used to get great satisfaction out of going to other school picnics and beating the host school. Don Maddison was usually pitcher and Ken Burnett loved to catch. Don Weir was always a good batter, when he came to bat it was a signal to the opposition to back up. The men of the district had a good team, too. One year at the school picnic they dressed up as women and then played. They made a pretty strange looking bunch of "girls" but caused a lot of hilarity and fun for all. Another incident which I remember where the joke was on me, was after we moved into the new school. One morning the

pungent odor of mink wafted into the classroom. Now when I was teaching at Kilmory we had a ranch mink which had gone wild get into the school basement. Of course as soon as I smelled the odor, I immediately thought of that occasion. So I sent some of the boys to look for this mink. With a diversion from the monotony of school work, they were only too glad to comply. After much prolonged searching they announced "No mink." I began sniffing and finally followed my nose to the boy's cloak room. The scent was strongest in the vicinity of Blake Sylvester's parka. Of course the boys had probably already figured this out from the start, especially Blake. But it was too good a chance to have some fun at my expense plus have a respite from school work at the same time. Those years Sylvesters had mink and Lyle was busy pelting. The odor had probably been passed on to Blake's jacket from the men's being hung over or nearby.

In recollections about school days at the Creek I must mention the gumbo on the road the mile north of the school. Those days there was little or no gravel on its extent. When the weather was dry I used to drive our light green Chevy to work but when it rained - "forget it." Sometimes Jim used to drive me, but most times if the ruts were really deep I would get a ride with Murray and Don Maddison from their corner. What a ride it used to be! We wouldn't dare slow down because without speed, the sticky black goo wouldn't fly off the tires. In no time flat the tires would be packed solid up to the fenders and all would grind to a complete stop. Sometimes even the Maddison's blue Chev ton truck couldn't navigate. We would resort to the tractor for transportation. Even a tractor could meet its match in that glue-like soil. Sometimes we drove in the ditch more often than the road. Travel to and from school was certainly a challenge after a wet spell.

At the school picnic in June of 1954, I bid farewell to the students at the Creek, as well as my teaching days (with the exception of a few days I substituted at Kilmory a few years later). Jim and I made a lot of friends during my teaching days at the Creek and later when we curled at Rosebank. Occasionally I run into some of the students who live in this area. Don Maddison lives in the Carman Trailer Court where we live. Ray Ganske, Rae Park, Bob Burnett and Don Weir are married with grown or almost grown up children. They are all living on the farms in the district where they went to school from. The girls are married, too, but most of them live away. Carole (Bruce) Storey lives at Miami, Joyce (Park) Ross and Joan (Sylvester) Russell live at Portage and Joyce (Burnett) Debreuil at Morden. The other girls live even further away, some out of the province.

Memories of Blake Sylvester

student 1953 - 1959

My first teacher at Tobacco Creek School was Gladys Howie. I remember how she used to whack us boys across the back with the yardstick. I'm sure now that we probably deserved it, but at the time we felt it was unjust punishment.

The boys at the Creek were sure proud of our fort across the creek from the school. We had taken old boards, nails, and hammers from home and built it without any adult help. We spent a lot of time there.

We swam in the creek behind the school every chance we got. Mom used to take Joan, Doug and I over there to swim during summer holidays too.

I remember running down the road trying to beat Rae Park to school. I looked back to see if he was coming and tripped. I hit the gravel hard and ended up with a scraped chest and face, even the inside of my mouth was scraped.

We walked to school around the road during the summer. The Burnetts drove to school with a horse and cart- boy did I envy them! If we happened to see them coming down the road, we ran like blazes to the corner just so we could ride the rest of the way in style.

The old horse barn at the school was a great place to play at recess or noon hour. We spent many hours climbing on the rafters, swinging from rafter to rafter or chinning it.

One of the teachers, Wilma Skeavington, boarded at our place. I remember making a bet with her that she'd get married before I did. She said that she would never marry. Well she did get married but I still haven't collected my \$2.00.

I remember getting a piece of art gum eraser stuck in my ear. I don't know why I put it there but I caused a commotion before it was finally removed with tweezers.

We always looked forward to the card parties at the school. The kids didn't play cards but had their own fun in the basement of the school. We played "Spin the Bottle" - - - sure beat playing cards. The ladies of the district served sandwiches and cakes after. We sure ate our share!

Our school joined Tracy school to play ball at field days and picnics. This was a lot of fun and gave us a good ball team. We didn't have enough kids in our school to enter a team on our own. I really liked the field days, sure beat sitting in a stuffy old classroom. I still have some of the ribbons I won at field days.

Memories of Wilma (Skeavington) McLennan

teacher 1955 - 1957

April 30th, 1955 was the date I met the Tobacco Creek School Board - around 5 p.m. as Murray Maddison had an appointment to get his income tax done.

My first day of school when everything was to go so perfect. Dennis Webber locked me in the outhouse and refused to let me out. Finally Bob Webber came to my rescue.

I boarded at Bob and Ev Webber's until February of the first year then Webber's went south for six weeks. I moved to Lyle and Dorothy Sylvester's. I had heard my folks talk about them as my Aunt Annie (Phillips) Foulston boarded at Frank Sylvester's when she taught at Tobacco Creek in 1914 and 1915. In fact, she called her first born after Lyle.

I have fond, treasured memories of Tobacco Creek - the fun loving people, the two adult plays we got together for the Christmas Concert the second year I was there. I had 15 pupils in 1955 - 1956. Then the five Burnett children and Barb Weir went to Miami school as Bob Burnett was promoted to Grade 9 - this was 1956 - 1957. The Shanks also moved. The many walks we took as a class along the Tobacco Creek. I probably learned as much as I taught in those two years.

Boarding at Sylvester's was an experience in itself. There were many card games that Dorothy and I played against Lyle and Frank Stucky. The men always had signals arranged so each other knew their hands. In the spring it flooded and Lyle drove Blake, Joan and I to school on the bucket of the farm hand - up and down all the way to school. My legs were rubbery all day - not only that but during the process my skirt had ripped and I sat down all day rather than go back to change.

This was my only experience in a country school Grades 1 - 8. I really defend them when an attack is made on their value. They were two of the best years of my teaching career. I have all you lovely people at Tobacco Creek to thank for them.

Seven-year-old John had finished his summer vacation and gone back to school. Two days later his teacher phoned his mother to tell her that John was misbehaving. "Wait a minute," she said, "I had John here for two months and I never called you once when he misbehaved."

- F. Tracey

Memories of Fern (Banting) Gibson

teacher 1957 - 1959

I returned to teach in the fall of 1957 to June 1959, when the school closed. There were only nine students (1957). We were living in Rosebank, so Bus used to drive me out in the winter. There were some very stormy trips when the weather was bad as it could be counted a school day if the teacher was present. One very windy day, Joyce Park, had her finger pinched in the south door, so we used the north door after that when the wind blew from the south.

We combined with Tracy School (NE 33 - 7 - 4) to make up a ball team to enter at Field Day held for rural schools in June at Carman Park. We made a few trips back and forth for practice.

For handicrafts we did some basket weaving and dressed a doll with foam circles.

With such a small enrolment, the adults practiced a play chosen by the teacher and put it on at the Christmas Concert. There was a good deal of tom-foolery carried on during these evening practices and many tricks played on the teacher.

When the school closed, Bus or I drove the students to Rosebank school in a 4 wheel drive jeep. When Rosebank consolidated with Miami, the route was taken over by a Midland bus.

The teacher was telling about Sir Isaac Newton. He was sitting on the ground looking at a tree, she said. "An apple fell on his head and led to his discovery of gravitation. Wasn't it wonderful?"

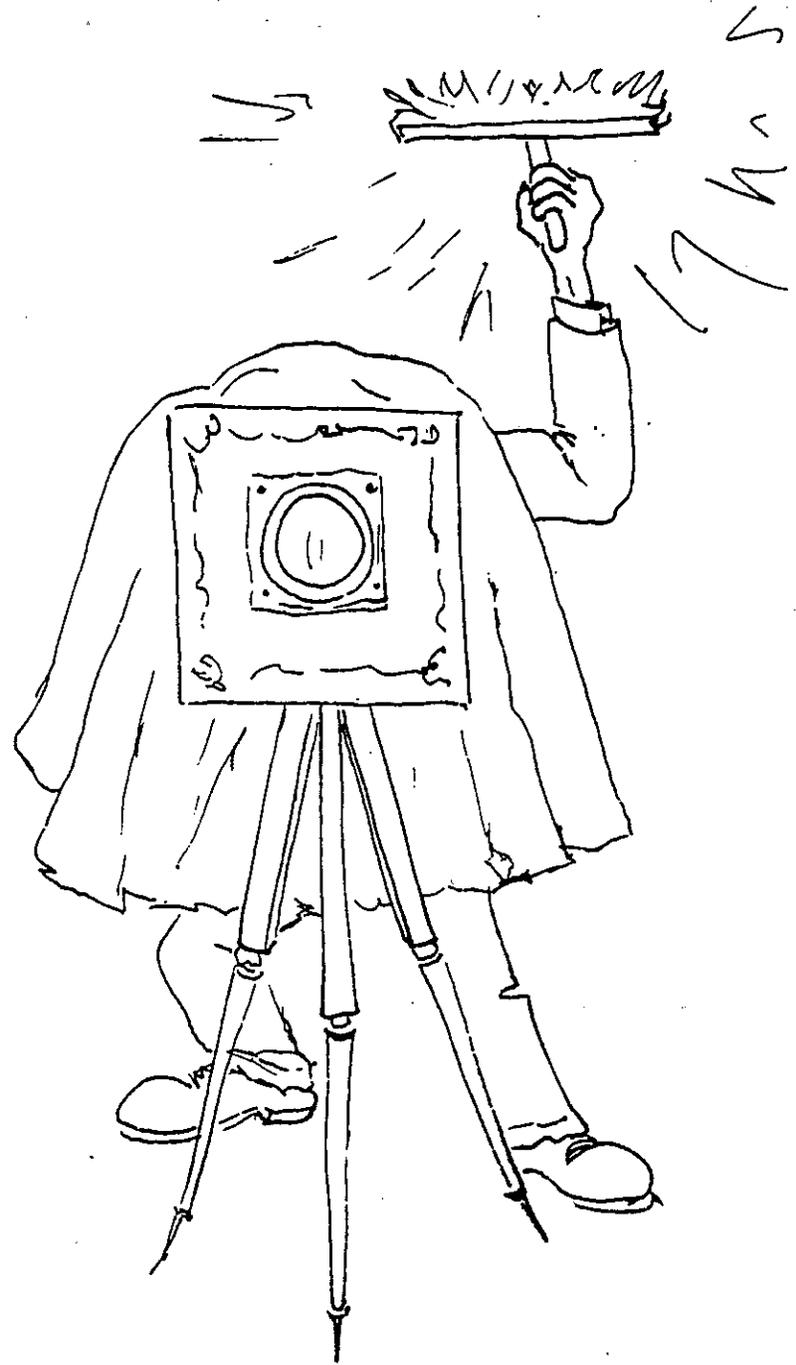
"Yeah", piped up a boy. "But if he'd been sitting in school like we're doing now it never would have happened."

After pulling and tugging for several minutes the Grade 1 teacher finally succeeded in getting the 6 year old's galoshes on. She remarked, "They're awfully hard to get on."

"Yes," replied the child, "That's because they aren't mine."

Patiently the teacher pulled them off again and was about to set them down when the child said in a resigned voice, "They're my brothers, but I have to wear them."

PHOTOS





Some of the pupils by the Tobacco Creek School prior to 1915. Behind flag (left to right): Laura Gibson, Eva Gibson, Donald E. Weir, Harold Simpson, Ken Rogers, Victor Rogers, Glenn Kyle, Bonnie Sanderson, Thelma Weir. In front of flag: Elmer Sanderson, Gordon Kyle, Archie Gibson. (Photo contributed by Eva Kelly.)



Pupils beside Tobacco Creek School in 1915. Back row (L to R): Archie McKay, Bonnie Sanderson, Bill Bruce, Eva Gibson, Harold Simpson. Middle row (L to R): Mel Park, Laura Gibson, Glenn Kyle, Maude Stacey, Gordon Kyle. Front row (L to R): Elmer Sanderson, Cy Park, Tom Bruce, Bob Stacey. (Photo contributed by Laura Gibson.)



Back row (L to R): Bill Bruce, Bonnie Sanderson, Laura Gibson, Thelma Weir, Harold Simpson. Middle row (L to R): Glenn Kyle, Victor Rogers, Ralph McKay, Archie McKay, Mel Park. Front row Cecil Park, Gordon Kyle, Archie Gibson, Tom Bruce. Photo taken about 1916. (Photo contributed by Tom Bruce.)



In 1916, Jack Gibson quit school to join the army. He bought a motorbike and came back to "The Creek" to show his former classmates. Back row (L to R): Harold Simpson, Archie McKay, Mel Park, Jack Gibson, Bill Bruce, Glenn Kyle, Gordon Kyle. Front row (L to R): Cy Park, Elmer Sanderson. (Photo contributed by Mel Park.)



The boys in the class of 1926. Back row (L to R): Harry Philp, Glenn Sylvester. Middle row (L to R): Have Sylvester, Arthur Sanderson, Orval Kyle, Irvine Park, Lyle Sylvester (with hockey stick). Front row (L to R): _____, Bill Sylvester, Quentin Sylvester, Max Park. (Photo contributed by Irvine Park.)

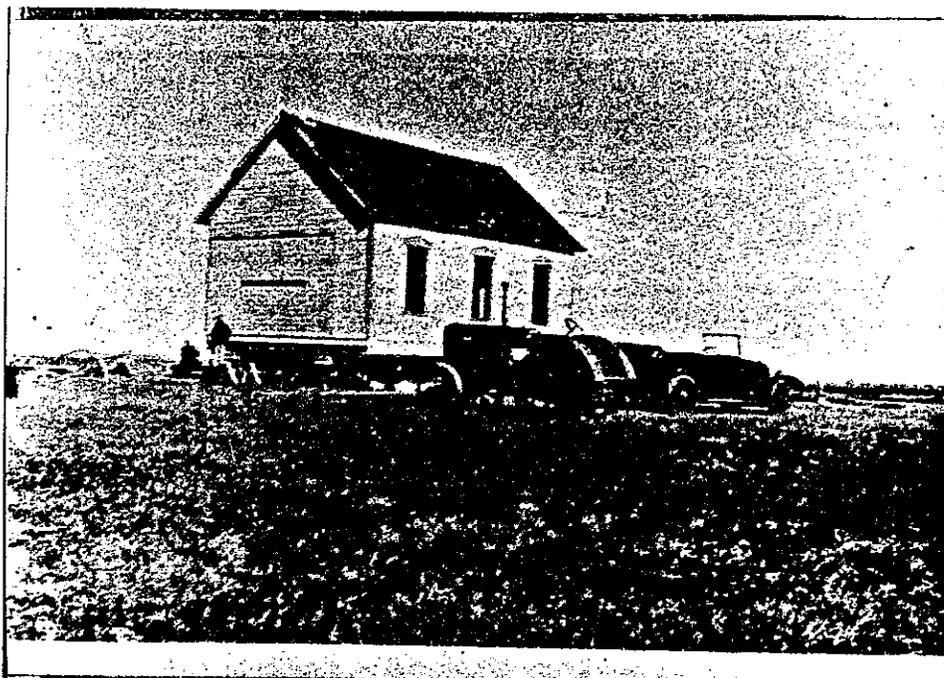
Tobacco Creek Float entered in Carman Fair Parade in 1927. (Photo contributed by Irvine Park.)



Pupils in front of the new school in 1927. Back row (L to R): Marion Philp, Dorothy Kyle, Merle Kyle, Orval Kyle, Edith Everts, Have Sylvester, Lyle Sylvester, Irvine Park. Front row (L to R): Orton Tovell, June Sylvester, Quentin Sylvester, Ruth Brown, Bill Sylvester. (Photo contributed by Have Sylvester.)



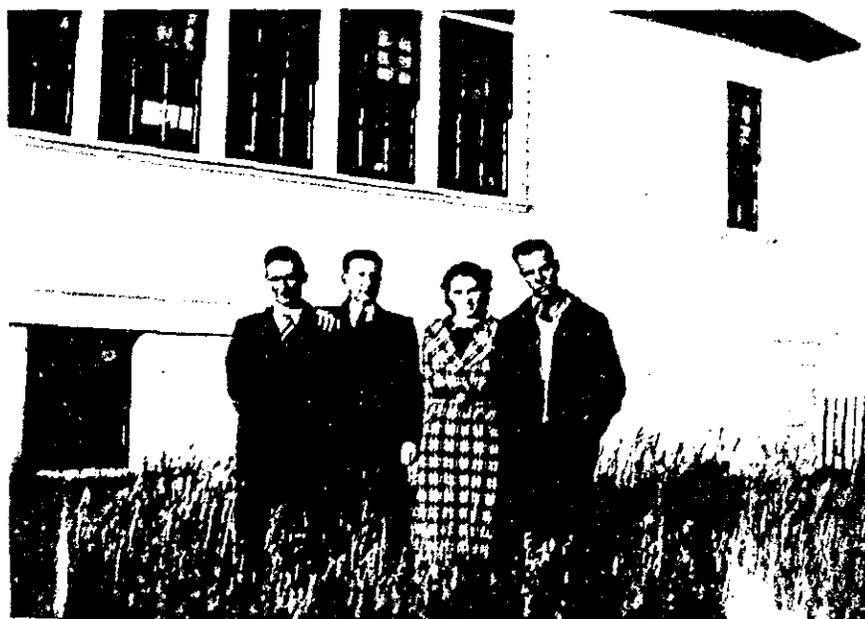
The first Tobacco Creek School. Jack Burnett to the right and Audrey, Richard (Dick) and Hazel Burnett are standing in front. Taken in the mid 1920's. (Photo contributed by John Burnett.)



In 1927 the first Tobacco Creek School was sold to Emery Kyle to be used as a granary. This photo was taken on the day the school was moved. (Photo contributed by Tom Bruce.)



Gwen Sanders (teacher at Tobacco Creek School from 1929 to 1931.)
Photo contributed by Irvine Park.



L to R: Irvine Park, Fred Woods (former teacher),
June Sylvester and Lyle Sylvester standing in front
of the Tobacco Creek School during the mid 1930's.
(Photo contributed by Lyle Sylvester.)



The Tobacco Creek Maple Leafs Hockey Team in 1935.
Back row (L to R): Norm Cochran, Dibbs Walker, Quentin
Sylvester, Don Weir, Arthur Sanderson, Demill Hannah,
Lyle Sylvester, Have Sylvester. Front row (L to R):
Pete Miller, Ernie McGregor, Talbert McGill.
(Photo contributed by Lyle Sylvester.)



The Tobacco Creek School that was used from 1927 until 1952. (Photo contributed by Lyle Sylvester.)



Another view of the same school. (Photo contributed by Don Gibson.)



Verna Todd - teacher
1941 to 1942.
(Photo contributed by
Iola (Gibson) Dickey.)



Pupils at Tobacco Creek School
in June of 1942. Back row (L
to R): Ben Klassen, Dolores
Park, Bruce McKay. Middle row
(L to R): Iola Gibson, Dorothy
McKay, Emma Klassen, Eva
Klassen. Front row (L to R):
Bob McKay, Larry Sylvester,
Marlyn Sylvester.
(Photo contributed by Iola
(Gibson) Dickey.)



Left to Right: Marlyn Sylvester, Iola Gibson,
Dorothy McKay, Dolores Park, Emma Klassen,
Eva Klassen, Anena Klassen. Taken in 1943.
(Photo contributed by Deane (McMillan) Harlow.)



The boys of the 1942 to 1943 class. Ben Klassen and Larry Sylvester on horse at left. Bruce McKay is standing. Cliff Sylvester and Donnie McKay on horse at right. Bob McKay missing from photo. (Photo contributed by Deane (McMillan) Harlow.)



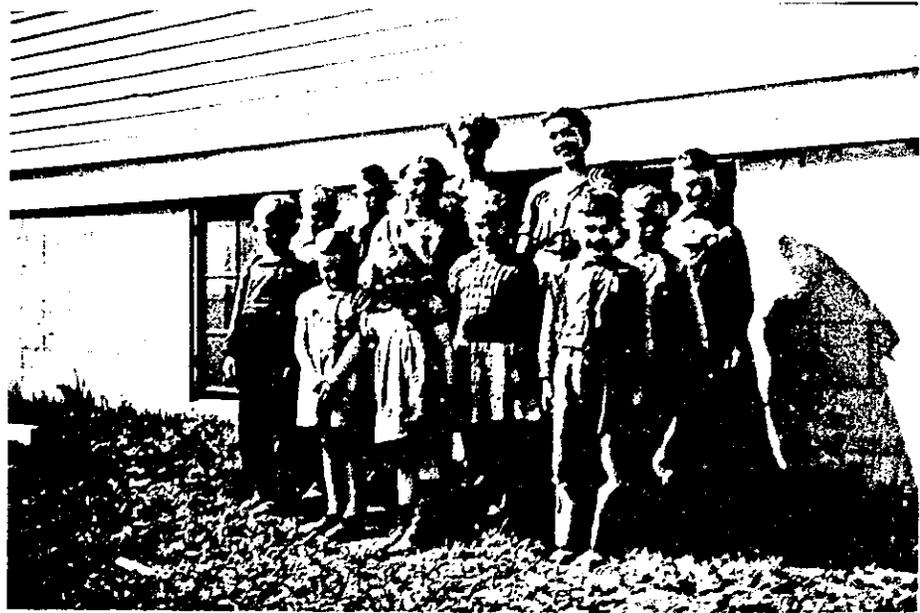
Class of 1943 to 1944. Back row (L to R): Donnie McKay, Iola Gibson, Dorothy McKay, Dolores Park, Vera Leonard, Ben Klassen, Emma Klassen. Middle row (L to R): Eva Klassen, Phyllis Leonard, Cliff Sylvester, Mervin Denning, Robert McKay, Marlyn Sylvester, Rose Ann Leonard. Front row (L to R): Larry Sylvester, Marlene Denning, Wayne Sylvester, Anne McKay, Anena Klassen, Wesley Wiebe. (Photo contributed by Jean (Jackson) Anderson.)



Class of 1943 to 1944 Back row (L to R): Eva Klassen, Bruce McKay (standing behind Eva), Phyllis Leonard, Iola Gibson; Dorothy McKay, Dolores Park, Vera Leonard, Ben Klassen, Emma Klassen. Middle row (L to R): Larry Sylvester, Marlene Denning, Cliff Sylvester, Mervin Denning; Robert McKay, Marlyn Sylvester, Rose Ann Leonard (behind Wes). Front row (L to R): Wayne Sylvester, Anne McKay, Anena Klassen, Wesley Wiebe. (Duplicate photos were contributed by Jean (Jackson) Anderson and Bea (Frazer) Siska.)



Back row (L to R): Eva Klassen, Cliff Sylvester, Marlyn Sylvester, Emma Klassen, Middle row (L to R): Anena Klassen, Wayne Sylvester, Larry Sylvester, Jim Shanks, Marion Shanks. Front row (L to R): Garry Jefkins, Freida Klassen, Barry Bruce. Class of 1945 to 1946. (Photo contributed by Mary (Taylor) Shorrock.)



Back row (L to R): Nelson Gibson, Don Gibson, Anena Klassen, Marion Shanks, Eva Klassen, Jim Shanks.
Front row (L to R): Raymond Ganske, Carole Bruce, Gail Jefkins, Freida Klassen, Barry Bruce, Garry Jefkins. The class of 1946 to 1947.
(Photo contributed by Mary (Taylor) Shorrock.)



Back row (L to R): Marion Shanks, Fern Banting (teacher), Myrville Tannahill. Middle row (L to R): Nelson Gibson, Don Weir, Jim Shanks, Barry Bruce, Don Gibson. Front row (L to R): Raymond Ganske, Carole Bruce, Don Maddison. Blaine Bruce is standing at the front.
Class of 1947 to 1948.
(Photo contributed by Raymond Ganske.)



Back row (L to R): Don Maddison, Don Gibson, Jim Shanks, Don Weir, Nelson Gibson. Front row (L to R): Bob Shanks, Joyce Burnett, Barb Weir, Barry Bruce, Carole Bruce, Raymond Ganske, Bob Burnett, Rae Park. Taken Fall '49. (Photo contributed by Raymond Ganske.)



Class of 1950 to 1951. Back row (L to R): Don Gibson, Raymond Ganske, Jim Shanks, Barry Bruce, Don Weir, Nelson Gibson. Middle row (L to R): Joyce Burnett, Don Maddison, Carole Bruce, Barbara Weir, Darlene Nichols. Front row (L to R): Ken Burnett, Ken Gibson, Bob Shanks, Rae Park, Bob Burnett. (Photo contributed by Don Gibson.)



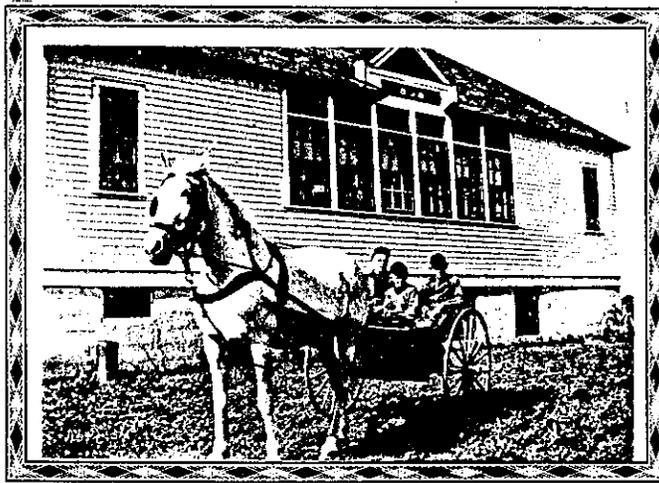
Tobacco Creek School Destroyed By Fire

Tobacco Creek school was completely destroyed, Christmas night, by a fire of unknown origin, which started at 9:45. The fire was first sighted by Wayne Sylvester at the Lyle Sylvester home. Mr. Sylvester phoned the telephone office, and later the Miami fire brigade arriv-

on the scene, but the building was virtually destroyed by that time and nothing could be done to save any part of it.

The blaze was visible for a radius of 12 miles and a large crowd gathered to watch the destruction of the school, which had recently been renovated. The fire appears to have started in the attic, which seems to do away with any theory that the oil heating apparatus was a fault.

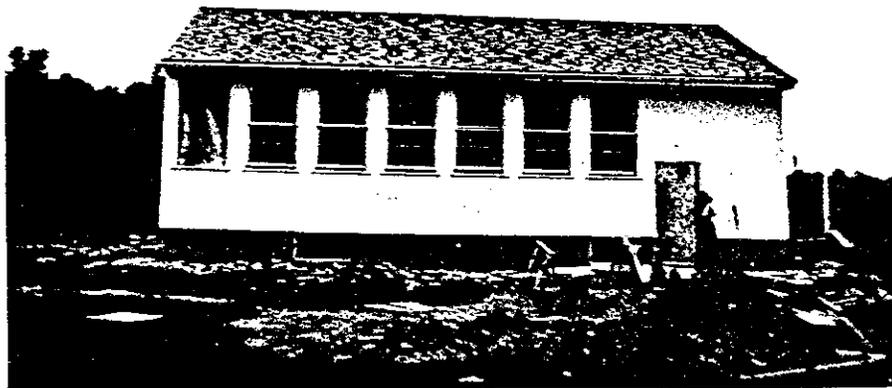
Taken from the Dufferin Leader (December, 1952)
Submitted by Verna Pattle.



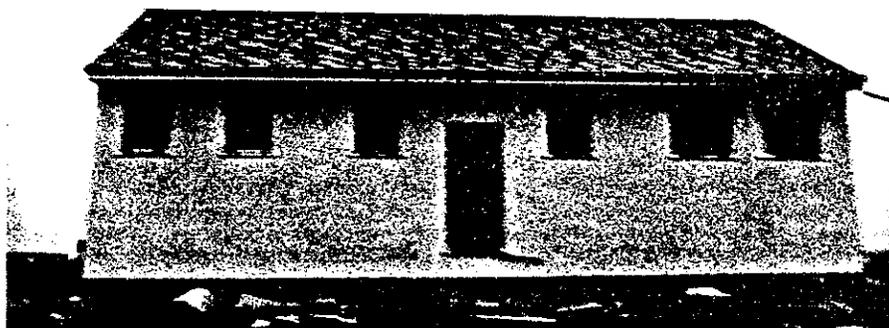
Transportation to and from school. Don, Ken and Nelson Gibson. Taken in the early 1950's. (Photo contributed by Don Gibson.)

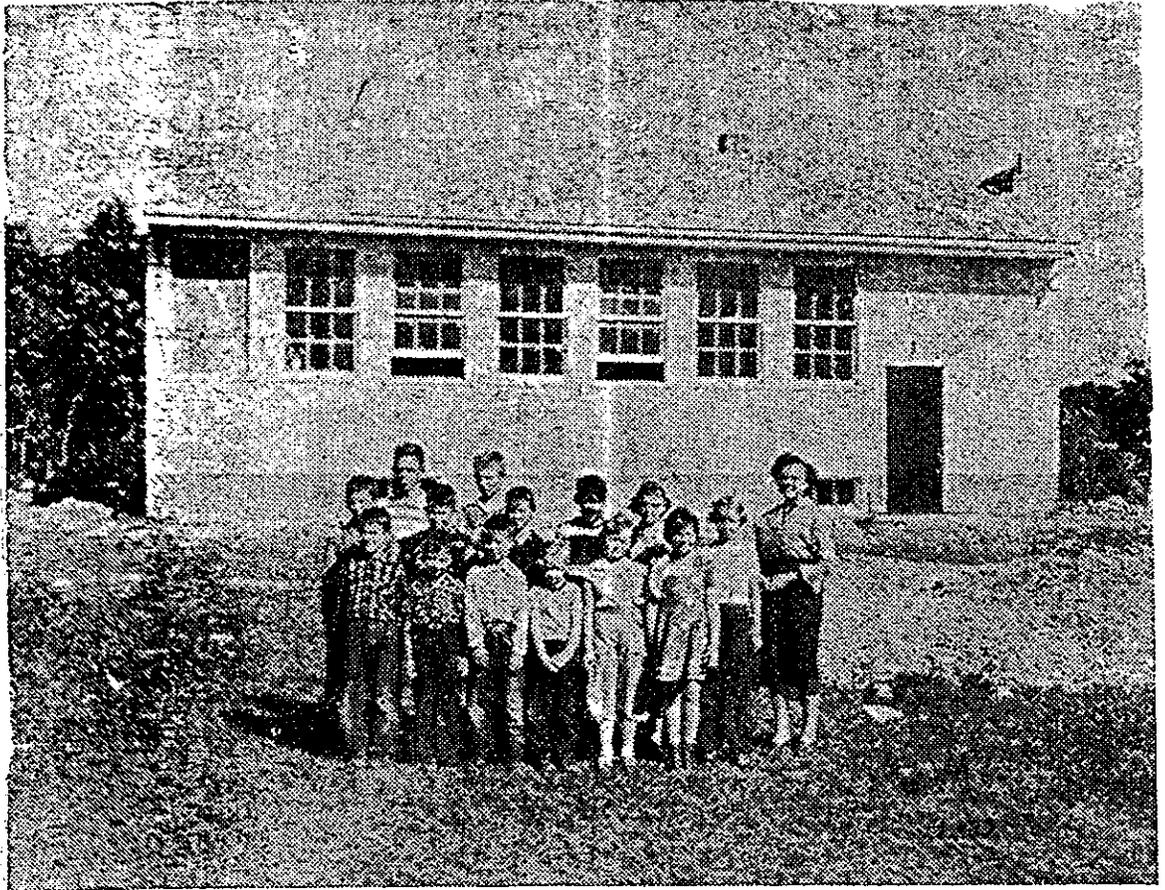


The whole class of Tobacco Creek School in front of the temporary school in the Spring of 1953. Back row (L to R): Raymond Ganske, Don Maddison, Don Weir, Barry Bruce. Second row (L to R): Rae Park, Bob Shanks, Ron Stucky, Bob Burnett, Barbara Weir, Carole Bruce. Third row (L to R): Blaine Bruce (with ball and mitt), Ken Burnett (with bat), Ray Burnett, Joyce Park, Joyce Burnett. Front row (L to R): Joan Sylvester, Sandra Ganske. (Photo contributed by Gladys Howie.)



Construction of the new school in 1953. The top photo shows the South side while the bottom photo shows the North side.
(Photos contributed by Gladys Howie.)





THE NEW TOBACCO CREEK SCHOOL

The new Tobacco Creek school recently completed is now in use, replacing the old school which was destroyed by fire Dec. 25 last year. The new school is 34 by 28, with one large spacious classroom, a kitchen, two cloak rooms, two lavatories, and a full basement. Two entrances have been made, one in the south side, and the other to the north, a safety precaution in the event of fire. The building has a full sized basement and is heated by oil.

Shown in front of the new school is Mrs. Jim Howie, teacher, and her students. Front row, left to right—Ken Burnett, Glenn Corden, Ray Burnett, Blake Sylvester, Joyce Park, Joan Sylvester. Back row—Donald Maddison, Raymond Ganske, Bob Shanks, Rae Park, Bob Burnett, Ronny Stucky, Barbara Weir, Joyce Burnett.

Taken from the Dufferin Leader (October, 1953)
Submitted by Gladys Howie.



1954 Tobacco Creek Baseball Team
 Back row (L to R): Jake Feakes, Murray Maddison, Elmer Rutter, Jim Adams, Bill Ganske, Tom Rockey.
 Front row (L to R): Delmar Dickey, Jim Howie, Lyle Sylvester, Tom Bruce.
 (Photo contributed by Lyle Sylvester.)



The Class of 1954 - 1955. Back row (L to R): Bob Shanks, Don Maddison, Bob Burnett, Rae Park, Joan Hodgson (teacher), Barbara Weir. Middle row (L to R): Joyce Burnett, Sandra Ganske, Joyce Park, Ray Burnett, Ken Burnett, Glen Corden, Joan Sylvester. Front row (L to R): Judy Burnett, Agnes Shanks.
 (Photo contributed by Murray and Leah Maddison.)

5



The Class of 1955 - 1956. Back row (L to R): Joyce Burnett, Barbara Weir, Wilma Skeavington (teacher), Bob Shanks, Rae Park, Bob Burnett. Middle row (L to R): Joan Sylvester, Joyce Park, Sandra Ganske, Ray Burnett, Ken Burnett. Front row (L to R): Robbie Corden, Agnes Shanks, Judy Burnett, Glen Corden, Blake Sylvester.
 (Photo contributed by Lyle and Dorothy Sylvester.)

6



Wilma Skeavington (teacher 1955-57) and Sylvester's dog Scotty.
 (Photo contributed by Lyle and Dorothy Sylvester.)

7



School weiner roast in 1957. L to R: Rae Park, Glen Corden, Denny Webber, Robbie Corden, Blake Sylvester, Sandra Ganske, Joyce Park, Joan Sylvester. (Photo contributed by Lyle and Dorothy Sylvester.)



Tobacco Creek Students in front of the Eldorado School in 1958. Back row (L to R): Glen Corden, Doug Sylvester. Front row (L to R): Robbie Corden, Blake Sylvester, Joan Sylvester, Joyce Park, Sandra Ganske. (Photo contributed by Lyle and Dorothy Sylvester.)



Pupils from Tobacco Creek School who travelled by van to Rosebank School in 1961. Left to Right: Dennis Webber, Doug Sylvester, Robbie Corden, Blake Sylvester, Glen Corden, Sandra Ganske, Joyce Park, Joan Sylvester, Ken Gibson.
(Photo contributed by Fern Gibson.)



The site of the Tobacco Creek School as it
looked from 1961 to 1984.
(Photo contributed by Nevae Sylvester)

TOBACCO CREEK CHURCH

Rural districts, lacking a church building, held their church services in the homes. Many such services were held in the Renwick home in the Tobacco Creek district. When the first building was available for church services, it was called Renwick Mission Station.

"Renwick Mission Station - September 3, 1894. Meeting called by the Moderator, Rev. Mr. Sutherland. Present - Rev. Mr. Stewart, Rev. Dr. Robertson, Chairman. John Sylvester appointed Secretary. Mr. T. H. Sharp, Treasurer. James Gibb, Thomas Sharp, John H. Sylvester, James Simpson, John F. Sylvester, Trustees. James Gibb, Thomas Sharp appointed to take up collection. John H. Sylvester, Elder. John Sylvester, Secretary."
Taken from Renwick Mission Station church minutes page A (Note: Punctuation has been added by editors.)

Abstracts at the Morden Land Titles Office indicate that the Trustees of the Renwick Church did own approximately one acre of land on NE 29-5-5. A 1911 entry in the abstracts show that an application was made to bring all of the NE quarter, except the school, church and municipal road portions under the Real Property Act. There is mention of a church barn in the school minutes (1904). These two entries, as well as reports from former residents, lead us to believe that there may have been a church building as well as a schoolhouse on 29-5-5. We were unable to find any records showing how long the church building was in use. For the most part, church services were held in the schoolhouse.

Until the end of 1912, church services were held every week, weather permitting. Beginning in 1913, they were held from mid April or early May until late November, depending on the weather.

In 1927 a new schoolhouse was built by the district. On page 104 of the minutes of the Tobacco Creek School District #808, there is a write-up of the first church service held in the new school. It reads as follows:

"A very impressive service was held in the new school on September 4, it being the first church service held in the new building.

A number of friends from the district and Carman being in attendance. The room was decorated with a profusion of plants and cut flowers. Special music was rendered by the choir and a solo 'The Ninety Nine', was beautifully sung by Mrs. Fred Frost, of Winnipeg, who was spending her summer holidays in the district.

The Rev. D. M. MacKay in his well chosen remarks, commended the district on the spirit of progress and good will shown by the erection of such a splendid building.

At the close of the service Mr. MacKay in-

ducted the two new elders, F. H. Sylvester and T. Philips, in which the ceremony was assisted by J. F. Sanderson and the visiting elders from the St. Andrew's Church, Carman. The visiting elders were Mr. Davidson, Mr. John Wilkie and Mr. Ed Abercrombie."

The first ministers to serve the Renwick Mission Station were supplied by the Rosebank Church. A few of these were: Rev. Mr. Stewart; Rev. Mr. Sutherland; Rev. Mr. Matheson; Rev. Mr. Volume; Rev. Mr. Hood; Rev. Mr. Charles C. Whiting; Rev. Mr. Alexander Riddell; Rev. Mr. John A. Beattie; Rev. Mr. John R. Humphill.

Records show that two Baptist ministers served the congregation from 1913 to 1919. They were Rev. Mr. Waterworth (1913, 1918, 1919) and Rev. Mr. J. R. Coutts (1914-1917).

Rev. Mr. W. J. McIvor, of St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Carman, also preached at the Creek during 1916 and 1917.

From 1919 until the close of the church in 1941, the ministers were all supplied by St. Andrew's (now known as the Carman United Church). They were: Rev. Mr. Hugh Hamilton (1919-1922); Rev. Mr. H. M. Lyon (1923-1926); Rev. Mr. D. M. MacKay (1926-1931); Rev. Mr. A. M. Grey (1931-1936); Rev. Mr. David Conly (1936-1941).

The church pianist was Mrs. William Weir. When she was unavailable, Mrs. Frank Sylvester played the piano.

It is uncertain when the Renwick Mission Station became known as the Tobacco Creek Church.

The last church service to be held in the Tobacco Creek District was in November of 1941. This ended a 47 year period of family involvement with the community church.

Tobacco Creek Rhymes by Bea (Mrs. Jack) Park

Walking thru the pasture the other night,
When all was green and oh! so bright.
It got me thinking, wouldn't it be great
To always walk the furrow straight?
Life has a way of setting crooked paths,
Which we are left to straighten out;
To see if we are strong enough
To take in hand, by work and toil,
His crooked paths to foil,
And walk the furrow straight.
The pasture's still there, so bright and fair,
As I feel God's hand in mine tonight.
And all I pray is for peace on earth,
Faith, hope, and charity for all mankind,
And set our sights on all that's great
So we can follow the furrow straight.

July 7, 1945

The Tobacco Creek Ladies' Clubs

Every rural district had its own ladies' club and Tobacco Creek was no exception. This group was comprised of ladies of all ages in the district. Later on the younger members formed their own club and became known as "The Busy Fingers." The older women were called "The Ladies' Aid".

The two groups met separately in the members' homes or at the schoolhouse. They held meetings twice a month and fees were paid twice a year. The meetings opened with roll call, minutes of the last meeting were read, then any new business discussed. After the business was taken care of, the members quilted or made items to sell at a bazaar. Quilts were made by the ladies and raffled or custom made for someone else. Bazaar items were also sold to make money for the club.

The ladies group was always called on to serve lunch for any auction sale in the district. This usually gave a big boost to the club's bank account.

Lunch was always served before the members closed their meetings. The hostess family could generally count on "ladies club leftovers" for their supper.

Donations were made annually to many charitable organizations either in the form of money or clothing.

Later, in November 1947, the two above groups joined forces and became "The Willing Workers!". Their projects and activities remained much the same as before.

Regretfully we have been unable to locate the earlier club records. However the minutes from The Willing Workers have been kept and make for interesting reading.

The charge for quilting a double bed size quilt for members or non members was only \$2.00. Club fees were set at 50¢, paid twice yearly. The members also paid 10¢ for lunch and 5¢ for a draw on a hostess gift. Two ladies comprised the lunch committee for each meeting.

There were no group meetings during the busy harvest season.

Tom Bruce always had a booth at the annual school picnic in June. The proceeds from the sale of candy bars, gum, pop, etcetera was always donated to the ladies' club.

In 1950 the group purchased a radio and donated it to the Carman Hospital. The same year the group made a quilt and donated it to the Flood Relief and another one to the Carman Kinsmen Club for a raffle.

In 1952 a cheque for \$50.00 was given to Carman Hospital towards a new anesthetic machine fund.

Wool collected from group members in 1955 was sent to Fairfields to be made into satin bound blankets. These were raffled off.

The Willing Workers group was dissolved in February 1961 due to lack of members. The balance of their bank account was divided among several charitable organizations and the accounts closed.



Tobacco Creek Ladies Aid 1919/1920
Back row (L to R): Mrs. Willis Kyle, Mary Blackwell, Nell Bruce, Mrs. J. F. Sanderson, Ida Evans, Nellie Clark, Mrs. George Bruce, Mabel Park, Blanche Burnett, _____, Della Sylvester, Annie Pettigrew, Annie Sylvester, _____, Mrs. Frank Brown.
Front row (L to R): Daisy Park, 3 unidentified children, Marion Philp, Mrs. Philp, Thelma Weir, Chrissie Sylvester holding Bill Sylvester, Mrs. Jack Park, Mrs. William Weir, _____, Miss Ella Roe (teacher), Mrs. Jim Simpson, Mrs. Jim Gibson.
(Photo contributed by Eva (Gibson) Kelly.)



Tobacco Creek Ladies Aid about 1940. Back row (L to R): Merle Kyle, Mrs. C. Pattle, Mrs. C. Eby, Mrs. Wm. Weir, Thelma Weir, Mrs. Philp, Mrs. George Bruce, Mrs. R. McKay, Mrs. Jack Park, Miss Elizabeth McIvor (teacher). Front row (L to R): Irene Pattle, Audrey Weir, Dorothy Kyle. (Photo contributed by Dorothy (McKay) McLarty.)

Article taken from The Valley Leader June 29, 1977. (Contributed by Dorothy Sylvester.)



A reunion of the Tobacco Creek Ladies original "Busy Fingers Club" was held at the home of Mrs. Lyle Sylvesters on Tuesday, June 21. A wine and cheese party was held in the afternoon followed by a smorgasbord. Of the ten original members of the club one has passed away, Mrs. Tillie Ganske. The nine members attending were - Mrs. Norma (Woods) Matheson, of Abbotsford, B.C.; Mrs. Marion (Bruce) Mackenzie and Mrs. June Drysdale of Winnipeg; Mrs. Audrey Weir of Miami, Mrs. Irene Pattle of Morris; Mrs. Dorothy Jefkins, Mrs. Ethel Sylvester and Mrs. Hazel Sylvester all of Carman; and Mrs. Dorothy Sylvester the only member still living in the district. It has been 20 years since this club has been together. All had a most enjoyable day.

Tobacco Creek Busy Fingers during the late 1940's. Back row (L to R): Norma Woods, Tillie Ganske, Irene Pattle, June Sylvester, Marion Bruce, Dorothy Jefkins. Front row (L to R): Ethel Sylvester, Dorothy Sylvester, Audrey Weir, Hazel Sylvester. (Photo contributed by Dorothy Sylvester.)

TOBACCO CREEK MARKER

Attention former residents of Tobacco Creek School district. Are you interested in preserving the memory of our school? If so please attend a meeting in Chicken Delight banquet room, July 3, 7:30 p.m. For more information call 745-3470. 4-1T

Valley Leader
Classified Ad
June 27, 1984

Don't forget the meeting at the Chicken Delight banquet room in Carman July 3rd 7:30 p.m. re preserving Tobacco Creek school. Bring along any photos of the school, teachers and pupils. A book is in the making of the history and memories of the school. Please jot down your memories of your days in school.

Valley Leader
Tobacco Creek News
June 27, 1984

A meeting was held in the Banquet Room of the Chicken Delight in Carman on Tuesday evening, July 3, 1984 with approx. 30 people in attendance. The purpose: to discuss erecting a marker on the Tobacco Creek School site.

Nevae Sylvester opened the meeting. She asked for a chairperson and a secretary to be appointed. Murray Maddison nominated Nevae Sylvester as the chairperson, seconded, all in favor. Dorothy Sylvester nominated Verna Pattle as secretary, seconded, all in favor.

All were in favor of putting up a marker. It was also agreed to place the marker on the south side of the Tobacco Creek on the school site. The Municipality of Thompson had previously agreed to fill in the school site in exchange for a corner of the land (owned by John Guenther) to place a marker.

It was decided that the marker would read: "TOBACCO CREEK S. D. NO. 808".

A discussion was held on the type of marker to erect. The various choices were: 1) A stone boulder (from the hills) with a bronze plaque; 2) A cairn with a marble plaque; 3) A rought iron frame with the inscription also in rought iron. Majority were against rought iron, so a vote was taken on a stone or a cairn. The results were: stone with a bronze plaque - 17; cairn with a marble plaque - 11.

A bronze plaque would cost approximately \$300.00 (plus labour) so a discussion was held on how to raise money. It was decided to have a set donation of \$15.00 per family/couple/person.

It was decided to have an unveiling and a party or picnic when the marker is completed.

Mel Park and Eva (Gibson) Kelly were nominated to help unveil the plaque.

An unveiling committee was chosen, their duties being to plan a short ceremony and to contact people to speak about their memories of the school. Those on the committee are: Rockley Burnett, Hazel Sylvester, Leah Maddison, and Irvine Park.

A social committee was also chosen, their duties being to plan a picnic/party, its location, menu, and any entertainment. Those on the committee are: Elaine Ganske, Nedra Burnett, Arthur Sanderson, Glenn Sylvester, Murray Maddison and Lydia Shanks.

Nevae Sylvester and Verna Pattle were appointed to contact former students, teachers and residents who are no longer in the area.

A book is being written by Nevae & Dorothy Sylvester on the history of the T.C. School District. 48 pages (50 copies of each page) are completed and include: Some school board minutes, lists of board members, teachers and students. The book will also include memories and photos of those involved with the school, dedication and other info. The book will be approx. 100 pages and cost \$10.00 each. All were in favor of the book. A deadline of August 1, was set to have all write-ups and photos handed in.

It was also decided that Ray Ganske, Lyle Sylvester and Don Weir be appointed to find a suitable stone and prepare the site.

As there was no other business to be discussed the meeting was dismissed.

Verna Pattle
Verna Pattle
Secretary

Nevae Sylvester
Nevae Sylvester
Chairperson

The following items have been "clipped" from
"The Valley Leader".

Tobacco Creek

By V. Pattle

July 11, 1984

A meeting was held in the banquet room of the Chicken Delight in Carman, Tuesday evening, July 3, with a good attendance. The purpose, to discuss erecting a marker on the Tobacco Creek School site. A book is to be compiled of photos, memories and the history of Tobacco Creek School. Contributions to the book are welcome from residents, former residents, teachers and students. Further information can be obtained from your correspondent or Nevae Sylvester. We hope to be able to unveil a marker this fall, as it is 90 years since the first school was built in the district. If you are interested please contact us before August 1, 1984.

July 25, 1984

Just a reminder — have you jotted down your memories of your Tobacco Creek school days yet and handed them in or sent them to Nevae Sylvester or your correspondent?

December 5, 1984

Here's an update on the progress of the Tobacco Creek Book and Marker. The unveiling of our marker will not take place until the spring or early summer of 1985. The book is nearing completion with only the proof-reading and the duplicating left to do. Before the book can be duplicated, we have to know how many books to make. If you have not yet ordered and/or paid for your copy, please do so at once.

The books will not be distributed until the unveiling. You will be notified when the date has been set.

January 16, 1985

A meeting was held, re the unveiling of the Tobacco Creek school marker. It was decided to hold the unveiling of the marker on Saturday, June 29, 1985 at 3 p.m., followed by a pot luck picnic supper.

May 29, 1985

Do you have June 29, 1985 circled on your calendar? The ceremony for the unveiling of our Tobacco Creek marker starts at 3:00 p.m. at the former school site. A pot luck supper and reunion will follow at the Legion Auxiliary Hall in Carman. The Tobacco Creek history books will also be handed out at the hall.

Please consider this as an invitation to attend the unveiling of the Tobacco Creek Marker. The date has been set for Saturday, June 29, 1985.

The ceremonies will begin at 3:00p.m. at the former Tobacco Creek School site. A social time and a picnic supper will follow the unveiling.

The Tobacco Creek History books will be distributed at this time.

For anyone travelling from a distance, please let us know if you wish us to make hotel/motel reservations for you. Please state number in party and how long you plan on staying.

If you wish further information, please feel free to contact us.

Hope to see you there!!!

Nevae Sylvester
Nevae Sylvester
418-1833 Pembina Hwy.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3T 3X8

Verna Pattle
Verna Pattle
R.R.#3
Carman, Manitoba
ROG OJO

This publicity release was sent out in late May, to be aired on the Public Service Announcements of the following broadcasting stations: CBC Radio, CBC Television, CFAM (Altona), CFRY (Portage), CISV Country, CJOB Radio, CKND Television, CKRC Country Music Stereo, CKWG Stereo 103, and CKY Television.

PLEASE ANNOUNCE THE FOLLOWING:

ATTENTION all former residents, students and teachers of the Tobacco Creek School District #808.

A marker will be unveiled on Saturday, June 29th, 1985 at the former school site at 3:00 p.m. with a pot luck supper to follow at the Legion Auxiliary Hall in Carman.

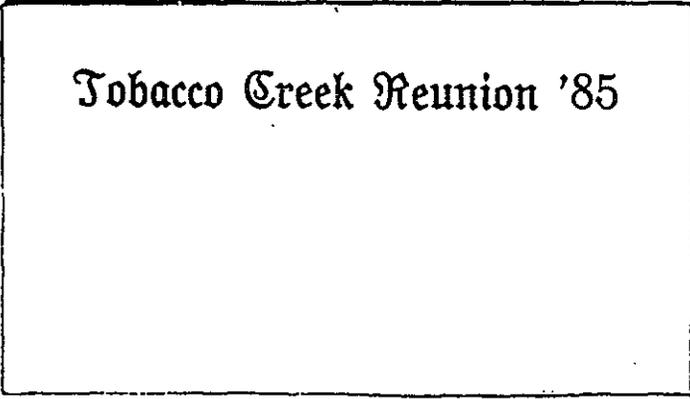
A book has been written on the district and a limited number are still available.

For more information phone 745 - 3470 in Carman or 261 - 5803 in Winnipeg.

Thank you,

Miss D. Neve Sylvester

Miss D. Neve Sylvester
Chairperson/Editor
418 - 1833 Pembina Hwy.
Winnipeg, Manitoba
R3T 3X8



Name tags used for T. C. Reunion '85 were printed by the Employment Preparation Centre, Winnipeg.