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*Beauval - Village - Bénédiction
du Couvent*

A Beautiful Hallew Echo

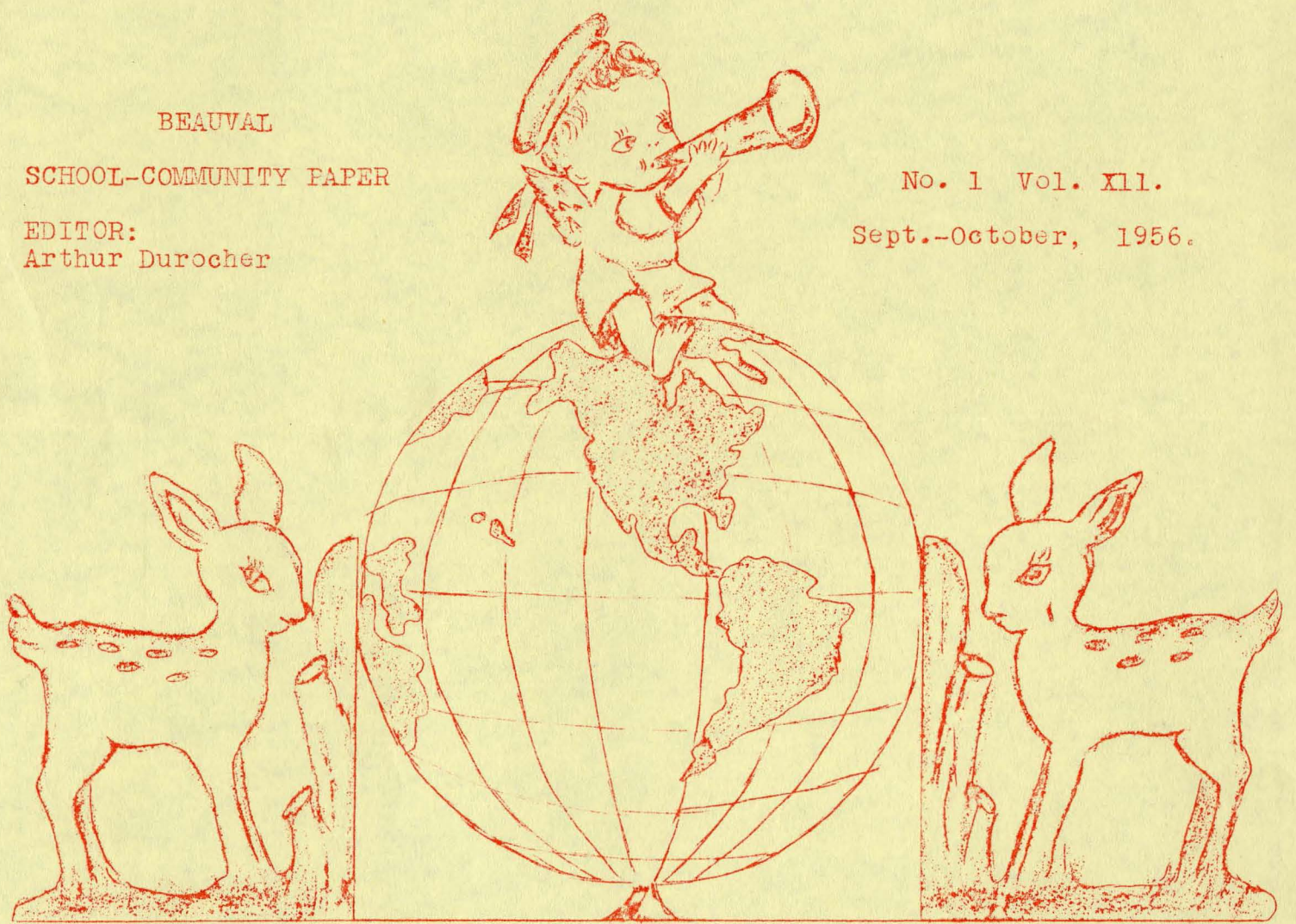
BEAUVAL

SCHOOL-COMMUNITY PAPER

EDITOR:
Arthur Durocher

No. 1 Vol. XII.

Sept.-October, 1956.





MY DEAR CHILDREN

Today I am like the young priest who, about to deliver his first sermon which he had learned by heart, found that his memory failed him when he was about to talk. He could say the first sentence only: "I am going to my Father." Then after a silence he repeated, "I am going to my Father" and that was all. Needless to say he was embarrassed and finally had to go back to his place very confused. As he was walking down the aisle, one of the parishioners whispered to him: "Father, when you see your father, please say hello to him for me."

Tonight I am almost in the same position. Why? I cannot say, but all day I kept saying to myself: "My dear children, and nothing else is coming out of my mind. Well, you know that you are dear to me. If you ask me why, my answer will be: because you are children. Not that I despise the adults; on the contrary, I appreciate them for what they are worth. But they are not like you. I always feel sad to see a child growing up and from the bottom of my heart, I wish you could stay children all your life. I know it is not possible, but perhaps in a way it IS possible.

In the Gospel, our Lord said to the adults: "Unless you become like one of those little children, you cannot enter the kingdom of God." We all know he meant the life of the soul. The soul of a little child is pure, spotless and white. As for our souls, it has to be purified before we can be like the little children of the Gospel, if we want to go to Heaven. Why, may I ask, do we have to dirty our soul so often and so badly to become adults? It reminds me of a "teen" aged boy who, when asked what he intended to do when he would be a man, answered, "I will keep on gettin'drunk." Either he was not very bright, or he had seen so many drunkards that he thought it was the normal way of becoming an adult. Maybe you understand better now why I wish you would always stay young and pure and away from dirt of all kind.

Well, my dear children, I have come to the end, and I think I did not say anything yet; like that great preacher who was used to deliver speeches and sermons to both small and large crowds. His converts today are numbered by thousands. Once he was explaining the Gospel of the three Wisemen. Of course he had to mention the camels the kings were riding on for their voyage. He spoke fluently, using his imagination to a great extent. You could almost see the camels going in front of you. There were many camels; not only for the kings, but for their families, their courts and their servants. They were of all colors: white, grey, pink, brown, and at the very end of the procession there was a black one, without a rider and looking very unhappy. Believe it my dear children, that great preacher, who had been going all over Canada to talk about the Sacred Heart; that great man who had met all kinds of people.. well, his memory failed him, and his imagination too. He kept saying, "unhappy black camel... poor black camel." and he too, had to go back to his pew quite confused because he was convinced that his sermon was a complete failure. But great was his surprise after Mass to see a man coming and saying to him: "Father, will you please hear my confession, because, you know, the black camel, is ME; I have not been to confession for over twenty years.

(Continued on CONCERT page)



SCHOOL

I was surprised to see so many children coming to school on Sept. 4. In fact there are over one hundred children attending school this year. The fourth classroom has been completed during the holidays and all the other rooms have received a new coating of fresh, light colored paint. We were very proud of our school as we walked in on the first day of school.

Sister L. Belley is the new teacher in the primary room. She has twenty-nine grade one pupils in her class. Mrs. John Stoeber is a new teacher too and she has 25 pupils in

grades 2 and 3. Mr. Stoeber, the third new teacher, has 29 students in grades 4, 5, and 6. Sister Mageau, our teacher, has 18 in grades 7, 8, and 9.

Two new drinking fountains have been supplied by Mr. Waugh, for the two junior rooms. The school yard has greatly improved too. The wall has been repaired; a new wire fence has replaced the old torn-down one, and six new chain swings have been put up in the school yard. We thank Mr. Waugh, who has sent a very capable carpenter from Prince Albert to paint the school and teacherage. We also thank Father Rho, chairman of the school committee, who supervised and helped with the fence and the swings.

Claire Laliberté G. IX

MR. WAUGH VISITS US

On October 12, Mr. Waugh, our superintendent, arrived by plane with Mr. Allen, regional director of the Family Allowance department at Regina. Although his time was limited, Mr. Waugh took time to visit all the classrooms and he seemed pleased with the neat appearance of the school. Mr. Allen took pictures of the school children with their teachers.

TWO BABIES DIE

Annette Laliberté G.VII

Mr. and Mrs. Joe Durocher lost their one year old baby boy, Ronald, on September 17. Little Mary Annette Larivière, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clément Larivière, also left this world on Aug. 26. To the parents we offer our heartfelt sympathy.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Bouvier are the happy parents of a baby boy, Léonard, born on August 3. Another little boy, Joseph William, was born to Mr. and Mrs. Archie Buffin. The first boy in the family, he will probably be Daddy's big helper on the Ranch some day. Congratulations to the parents.

Through the voice of Beautiful Valley Echo we wish a hearty welcome to all our new teachers.

Arthur Durocher, Editor.



ACHIEVEMENT DAY

The fall Achievement Day is just like a big picnic for all the members of our 4-H Clubs. This year it was held on September 19. When Mr. Neilson, Mr. Sheard, who was to judge the vegetables, and Mr. Shaw from Regina arrived, our garden exhibits were all

on display and we were most anxious for the big day to start. Then the two clubs got to work. The boys went with Mr. Stoeber to the hall where Mr. Sheard made them judge three samples of potatoes. We wrote a true and false test with Mr. Neilson. The boys then came for the test, while we did some actual judging at the hall.

At night we all gathered at the hall to receive our prizes. The Girls' Garden Club was first on the program and the prizes were distributed as follows: First, Therese Corrigan; Second, Claire Laliberté and Third, Annette Maurice. Then came the Boys' Potato Club with Billy Hood as first prize winner, Arthur Durocher, second and George Hood, third. Sister Annette Mageau gave the ribbons to the girls, while Mr. Stoeber pinned ribbons on the boys.

The prizes were followed by the Horse Race Game, which Mr. Stoeber conducted with such enthusiasm that soon the whole crowd was in the game following with shouts of laughter their favorite "runner" toward the final goal. After the "traditional" pie social, when Joe Landry, the auctioneer was all out of breath selling some thirty pies, we all sat down to a hearty lunch which I enjoyed very much, although I sat at the front table with the judges, ag reps, etc.... It is too bad we have to wait another year for the next Achievement Day.

Simonne Laliberté G. VIII

MEASLES

Many of the school children were away from school in September with measles. All of them are back now, but the little ones said they didn't like staying home for that kind of "sport." Only a few from Mr. Stoeber's class had the measles and none from ours. I'm glad we're all back now, because we missed the small ones when they were away.

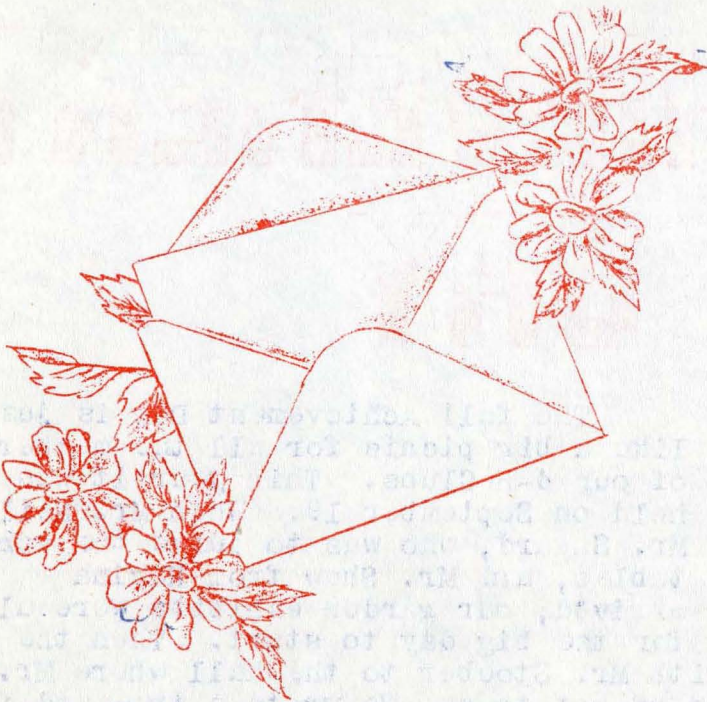
Thomas Alcrow G. VII.

TREASURE ISLAND

Last Saturday we saw the show TREASURE ISLAND, which I enjoyed very much. We had read it in school, so we understood it better. I think Jim Hawkins was the best actor, because he was brave and intelligent. Captain Flint, Long John and Israel Hands were very wicked but they didn't win in the end.

Margaret Hood G. VII.

IN THE MAIL



IN August our teacher received a letter from Miss Germaine Huber, last year's primary teacher. She is now teaching at Fife River, Sask. to a group of 7, 8, and 9 students. Later, Miss Frances Coppock, her cousin and teacher-partner of last year, wrote from Edmonton where she enjoys "moulding" 21 of Alberta's little citizens. We wish both of you the very best of everything in your new schools.

Sister Auréa Mageau, our former principal, tells us that she is teaching a few subjects in grade nine besides her regular Home Ec classes. We regret that she was unable to come to Beauval for the blessing of the new convent. She would have seen many changes in the village since she left.

Johnny Mathieson, now attending the Meadow Lake High School, spent a few weeks with his parents during the holidays. Let us hear from you sometimes, Johnny.

Hermeline Corrigan and Alexina Laliberté, now graduates in nursing, visited their home town after two years of absence. Both wrote soon after their arrival in the North West Territories, where they are stationed. Alexina Laliberté is finishing grade twelve at Fort Smith, while Hermeline has been transferred to the hospital at Fort Resolution, where she will be on duty until..... (we saw an engagement ring in her finger when she came to Beauval. Let us hear from both of you again.

Alex Corrigan is now attending St. Thomas College at North Battleford where we hope he will enjoy a fruitful year.

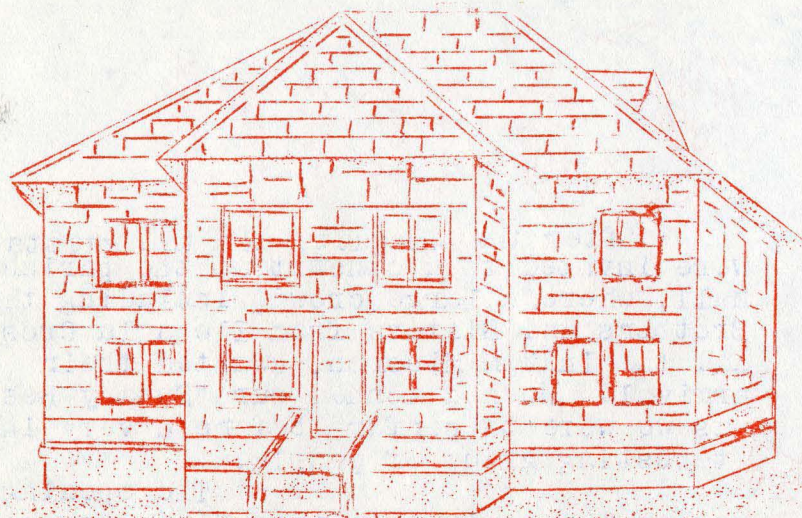
M. Madeleine Durocher, now a patient at the Prince Albert Sanatorium, seems to be making very good use of her spare moments, since she is taking grade ten subjects. Keep it up, Madeleine; that is the best way to chase away the "Home-town" blues.

4-H CLUB ELECTIONS

Mr. John Stoeber is the new Club Leader for the Boys' Potato Club, and Sister A. Mageau remains Club Leader for the Girls' Vegetable Club. After the Achievement Day, the two clubs had a meeting to elect a new president and secretary. The president for the Boys' Club is Arthur D. Billy Hood is the secretary; René Durocher and Tony C. are in the game committee.

Annette Maurice is the new president for the Girls' Club; Claire Laliberté is the secretary. Meetings will be held every two weeks. I am sure we will enjoy our meetings as much as we did last year.

Emilia Roy G. VII.



Sisters' Home

BLESSING OF THE HOUSE

October 7 was a bright and happy day for all the people of Beauval Village. Our kind Bishop, His Excellency Paul Dumouchel, came from The Pas, Manitoba, purposely to bless the convent which he had asked Brother Boisvert to build last spring. Reverend Mother Dorais, Provincial Superior of the Grey Nuns at St. Albert, Alberta, her counsellor, Sister A. Letarte, and Sister M. Laramée, were also most welcome guests to the feast.

At ten o'clock in the morning, Rev. Father Chamberland, principal of the Indian School, celebrated High Mass, while Father Bourbonnais, superior of the Ile a la Crosse mission and Father D'Arche from the Indian Mission, assisted him. His Excellency assisted at Mass from his throne, accompanied by Father Rho and Father Rossignol. The children sang beautifully during the service, while a large crowd prayed with the priest at the altar.

His Excellency Bishop Dumouchel then told of his joy to be with us on this lovely day. He reminded the people that this convent was Mary's answer to all the prayers that had been offered to Her last year to keep the sisters. "You prayed the Rosary," exclaimed the Bishop, "and today the sisters are still with you." He urged the villagers to keep on praying so that the Blessed Virgin would always watch over them as she has done in the past. He also pointed out that the parents are the first to be responsible for the up-bringing of their children. They must therefore co-operate with the teachers by giving good example to their children, and also by sending them to school regularly. Our dear Bishop expressed his happiness to bless the new convent, where the light of charity from within, should ever shine on all those from without, bringing joy and comfort to everyone in the parish who should need the help of the sisters.

In the afternoon the people gathered at the church once more to recite the Rosary while His Excellency, accompanied by the Fathers, Brothers and Sisters, proceeded to bless the new convent.

At six o'clock a banquet was served in the Sisters' home to some forty guests. Therese Corrival, one of the four servants at the table remarked, "We were very happy to serve, although we were very shy at first, but the guests were so nice and friendly that we soon got over it." Interesting talks were given after supper by His Excellency Bishop Dumouchel, Father Chamberland, Father Rho and Mr. Webber from Meadow Lake. Father Rho thanked all those who had contributed to the erection of this pretty building: our kind Bishop, whose untiring zeal has made possible the undertaking of this gigantic task; Brother Boisvert, whose carpentry ability is well-known far and wide; Brother Rioux, our qualified electrician, and all the others who have helped in one or another, to make this day, a wonderful day.

The end of this beautiful day closed a very interesting opening page in the short history of the first convent at Beauval Village.

Sister A. Mageau.



Concert

After the banquet, all the guests were invited to a concert at the parish hall, where a large crowd, including the Brothers and Sisters from Ile a la Crosse and the Indian Mission, awaited their arrival. We had donned our "Sunday Best" as we were to perform before a very interesting group of people.

The opening number was a piano duet by René Durocher and Donald Corrigan. After the welcome song, twelve blue and yellow butterflies danced a sweet little drill, when,

suddenly, a fairy queen solemnly walked in and asked with whose permission they had invaded her garden of flowers. It was the tiny "Buffin Butterfly" who told her they were entertaining some wonderful friends. The queen then joined in and the fun went on. Later on in the evening some of these dainty butterflies were transformed into real Canadian square-dancers, and you should have seen them swaying and dancing in the Virginia Reel. This number had been prepared by Mrs. Stoeber. Mr. Jon Stoeber's pupils showed us in a humorous playlet, how difficult it is for a daddy of a big family to enjoy "a quiet evening", when the children count on him for help, advice and "what not"..... Our play was a comedy too. We were all set to a lovely meeting with a charming gentleman who never showed up, so we packed up our troubles and sang: IT'S A WONDERFUL WORLD. I think the best number was the little grade ones A SECRET action song. Little George Hanson kept the audience laughing by putting his hands in his pockets and forgetting all about the actions.

Before leaving His Excellency congratulated us for our theatrical ability, but I wonder if he knew that we had tried to do better than before, because we were greatly honored to perform before him and all the other distinguished visitors.

Annette Maurice G. VIII.

PRINCE ALBERT FAIR

This year it was my turn to go to the fair at Prince Albert and I looked forward to it all during the holidays. I was in Mr. Halverson's car with Billy Hood, Claire Laliberté, Josephine Alcrow and four others from Ile a la Crosse and Buffalo Narrows. We left at nine-thirty in the morning, nine of us riding in the same car. At Green Lake, the girls got into another car and we kept on with Mr. Halverson.


There were so many things to see at the fair, that I had to keep an eye on the group so as not to get lost. I had never seen so many people in all my life. We stayed at Prince Albert for two days and I enjoyed every minute of my stay there. I thank Mr. Neilson and Mr. Halverson for the nice trip.

Tony Corrigan G. VII.

MY DEAR CHILDREN (continued)

When we will all wake up in the valley of Josaphat at the end of the world, I will be very happy to learn that this article did good to one child of Beauval and helped him to save his soul. Yet, I think that my letter to you is a failure, hardly worth filling the front page of your nice BEAUTIFUL VALLEY ECHO. Your Parish Priest,

Rosaire Phomin



MONTH OF THE ROSARY

"The family that prays together, stays together." With this thought in mind, we gather as one big family at Mary's altar, and together, while even the little birds are still asleep, we pray the Rosary. All the boys and girls are most interested in the rosary chart in Father Rho's chapel. We recite the rosary in English and in Cree. I like to say a decade when my turn comes. Many grown-ups come to Mass in the morning too. We pray for our Bishop, our parents, all those who have authority on us and for our benefactors.

"Help us in all care and sorrow,
Mary help us, help we pray."

Arthur Durocher G.IX

AT ST. THOMAS COLLEGE

At the end of September, Alex Corrigan left Beauval to attend St. Thomas College at North Battleford. Before leaving, he came to say good-bye to all his school friends. Alex has always been a good worker. I often used to look at him and wonder if I'd have to work as hard as that when I take grade nine. Last year he was our coach for soft ball and we found him very helpful and fair. I hope he will enjoy his stay at North Battleford. We wish you the very best of luck, Alex, and we are looking forward to seeing you at Christmas.

Billy Hood G. VII.

I COME BACK TO SCHOOL

The day before I came to school, I thought it would be very hard, but at four o'clock the next day, I was surprised at how easy the work had been. Now the work has been getting easier with each passing day. Algebra is my hardest subject, but it is getting more interesting every day. English is the subject I like the best, because I always liked to work with nouns, verbs, adverbs etc.... I like to read library books too, but I don't get any time for it during school hours. I'm glad I came back to school after having stayed home for a year. I think it will be useful to me in the future and I am sure I will not be sorry for it either.

Jim Miller G. IX

A SWEET LITTLE GIRL

On September 3, Mr. and Mrs. John Stoeber arrived at Beauval. They had a pretty little blue-eyed girl with them. A day later, I found out that her name was Simonne. She was one year old on September 11. I love to watch her when she comes to meet her mother and father after school. I suppose Simonne will be a wonderful teacher like her mother and father when she grows up.

Simonne Laliberté G. VIII.

--Does that painting represent a sunrise or a sunset?

-- A sunset.....

-- How can you tell?

-- I know the artist; he never gets up before eleven o' clock.



WEDDING

On October 1, wedding bells rang merrily for my brother, Ambrose Durocher and his dear wife, Delia Gauthier. They were married on the first day of the month of the Rosary. Rev. Father D'Arche received their vows, while Father Rho recited the Rosary with us. We also sang a wedding hymn in Cree. Ambrose got some presents from some of his friends. He has been clerk at Mr. Sandherr's store for over two years now.

Mrs. Louisa Roy, Delia's sister, was bridesmaid, and her husband, Luis Roy, was the bestman. At night a wedding dance was held at the home of Mr. J.B. Maurice. We offer our best wishes to the newly weds who will be living in the little wooded lane behind the hall

Antoinette Durocher G.VII

T.B. CLINIC

On October 17, the T.B. Clinic from North Battleford arrived at the village to take an X-ray of all the school children. They have a new staff this year and the nurse is Miss Rioux. They put up the "dark room" in our class and we were the first to be X-rayed. Then came the little ones, followed by Mrs. Stoeber's and finally Mr. Stoeber's room. By ten-thirty everyone had been X-rayed. I hope none of the children will have T.B. We are grateful to these good people who have taken our X-ray.

Eva Miller G. VII

NEW HIGHWAY TO LA PLONGE

Late in August, a group of Natural Resource Construction men arrived with their huge machines to work on a highway from the village to La Plonge Lake. The new road winds around the northern side of the Indian School to join the old trail a little farther. The tourists are no longer worried about getting out of La Plonge now. The new highway is very smooth and comfortable.

Raphael Lafleur G. VII.

SOFT BALL

When school opened in September, Mr. Stoeber re-organized our two soft ball teams. He is a very nice coach and we are always anxious to play because he keeps the scores every time we play. The girls have two teams also but they are not fast runners yet. We had a game with them in Sept. and we won. I enjoy playing ball; it is a very interesting game.

Réné Durocher G. VII.

PROFESSOR: (on a note sent to the parents) " John has been naughty at school. I think I will stop at your house to speak to his father."

MOTHER: (answering without delay) " Dear teacher; if you can't handle John, please don't try to attack his father."

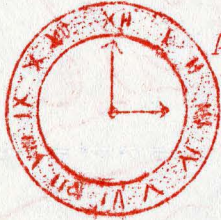
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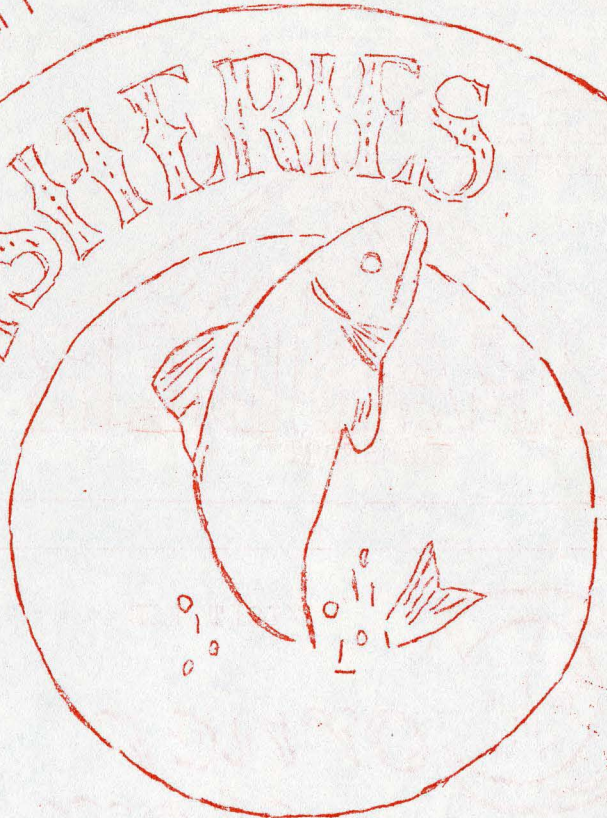
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