

Origin of S. S. No. 3 Louise

(later known as Louise and Dieppe)

By Mr. A. Zettler

School Section Number Three, Louise was first organized in 1918 before the present road to Penage had come even as far as the Vermilion River. The first teachers held classes in a log building (on lot 2, concession 4) which had been erected as a farmhouse and then sold to a local organization for a meeting hall when the builder discovered he had built on the wrong lot. The first day was exciting, as the pupils spoke only Finnish and the teacher only English. A man (present that day as a pupil) has said "when she had tried everything she could do and we didn't understand a word, she went into a corner and cried." Teachers changed often in those years, a Miss T. Drury being the first to stay a full year. The school gradually became a well-equipped one, but was destroyed entirely by fire in the early part of January in 1923.

A building was rented from J. Luukkonen for a schoolhouse. This place was on lot 4, concession 4, by the river. Work was begun on a new school at the present site. This building was of frame construction and was first used in the spring of 1924. In January 1924 the first bridge across the Vermilion River was also built.

As the Boards wished employ married teachers, a teacherage was erected on the school grounds in 1935. Mr. Zettler, teacher at the time, lived with his family in a tent nearby, and toled lumber in his car to speed up the construction. The teacherage, a three-room frame building, was paid for in two years without raising the rates.

Presently it was decided to rebuild the school as there was no cellar or foundation to the one in use. The new building was erected on the same site and with much of the same material in 1937, the taxpayers being assessed one day's work each to help along the construction. The new building was a good sample of a rural school, with hardwood floor, slate boards, indoor toilets (chemical), moveable desks, a piano, and a large basement. An excellent furnace was added in the fall of 1941. An addition was made to the teacherage in the spring of '41 by the teacher at the time, Mr. D. Stewart, whose second boy was born at the teacherage. A garage wing was added to the wood-shed in the fall of '42, at which time buildings on the grounds included a place to keep angora rabbits and a goat.

(1963-64 last year school was open)

Pupils in attendance June, 1964:

Wilma Frantila
Ray Rodda
Deborah Lynds
Roma Dixon
Marilyn Lahti
Alden Petahtegoose
Calvin Boomhower
Nancy Keranen
Bernice Burgess
Tommy Lively
Stephen Lynds
Wayne Petahtegoose
Alan Keranen
Karla Maki
Carolyn Thompson
Jane Schalkie
James Petahtegoose
Bruce Lively
Shirley Lively

Some of the teachers:

Mary Miller 1924-25
G. E. Facey
Aileen Curran
Dorothy Campbell
Queenie Parel (Svensk) ^{Daughter}
Ralph Gibson
Anthony Zettler
Mary Gordon
Donald Stewart
Frank Casey
Christine Lamb
Felix Foley
Robert Watson
Allie Gemmell
Marion Piche
Mildred McFarland
Hilda Cullen 1963-64