

We were fortunate in having a Collegiate with a fine reputation in Renfrew, 20 miles from us. The chief drawback was its distance, especially for Dad who met the Cobden train, 7 miles distant, every Friday Eve. & drove back each Mon. morning. In winter we left about 6 a.m., Dad in his buffalo coat, myself with my grandfather's coon coat over my own cloth one, and buffalo robes over & under us. Bricks heated in the oven overnight & wrapped in newspaper kept our feet reasonably warm as did a baked potato in Mother's muff, ^{my} hands. Our sturdy Hackney horse, Ted, soon learned that turning in John Bulmer's gate on Cobden Road meant a shorter trip for him (Mr. Bulmer & Dad took turns taking Edna & me the remaining distance). In fact it was not until years later that Ted finally gave up trying to get in through their gateway.

Normal School in Ottawa meant few week end trips home. Our board was \$30. a month, and since our parents were sacrificing to pay our way, we didn't spend money on "extras". At that time girls outnumbered boys 9 to 1. There were only two First Class Sections (classes), mine with all the boys, and 6 Second Class Sections. Ours became noted for being noisy in the corridors, reaching the highest standing in Practice Teaching, having the most musical members (several of us in the Orchestra), its debaters, athletes and Executive members. So I was indeed fortunate.

Discipline-wise, my first two years teaching was a dismal failure! Half hour practice teaching, no experience even dismissing a class - let alone handling or observing discipline problems - coupled with my being an only child - meant I had to resort to trial & error methods (mostly error). My two following years in Pembroke Centre Ward School were very happy ones. The Music Supervisor got me interested in School Choir work which I used later in Ottawa, too. This was all done out of school hours. To-day it is part of the school work, and Music has become a recognized credit in the Course of Study on through High School. By the time I had Student Teachers, they were given a much more practical training. A week was spent in one classroom, first observing, then teaching $\frac{1}{2}$ day in 2 shifts, dismissing the class, doing yard duty etc., at first under the regular Teacher's supervision, then entirely on one's own, - even to keeping the Register (in pencil!). I had finally realized that children of all ages respect discipline and even punishment, - if it suits the crime. Using one's eyelids occasionally and praising improvement in the child's own progress, works... such as sending the improved work or conduct record with him to the Principal's office for commendation; or if Homework is being neglected doing it a few days before leaving, with Teacher's help, to gain confidence and a pride in accomplishment.

On the whole my 40 years teaching provided many interesting, varying and rewarding experiences, - 2 years in Forester's Falls Public & Continuation work, 2 years in Pembroke, 29 in Ottawa's Elmdale Elementary, and the last 7 at Broadview Intermediate. It took me through 'grading' by the City Inspectors with salaries adjusted accordingly; contracts that would be cancelled when a female teacher married; cuts in salaries during the depression; special considerations given by a smaller more personal School Board; to 1960 when "Paper Qualifications" determined one's salary and when the married female teachers outnumbered the unmarried ones.