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MEMORIAL
to
William Fletcher
and
Margaret McGirr
at
Banting Memorial High School
Alliston, Ontario
1981



WILLIAM FLETCHER

Founder of Alliston. Energetic business man, establishing the first industries in the community, a saw-mill and grist mill.



MRS. WILLIAM FLETCHER

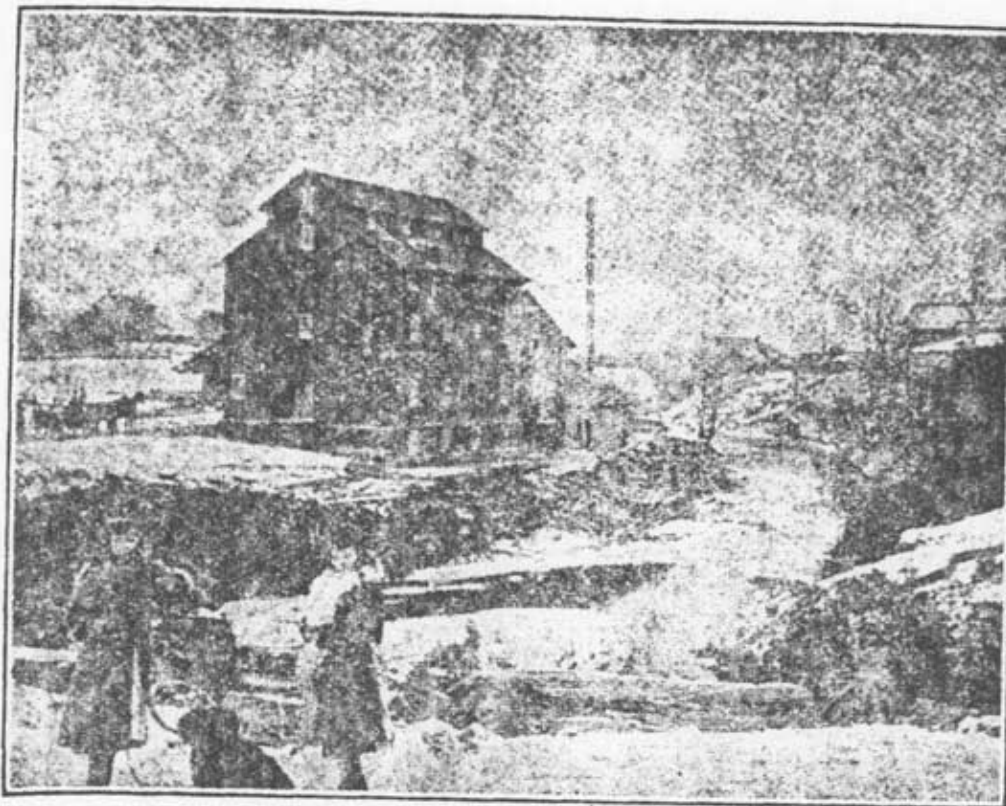
Wife of the founder who made of their home a meeting place in the community.

Starting In the Year 1791

The history of Alliston harks back to the birth of a boy named William Fletcher, in Yorkshire, England, April 1st, 1791. He and his two brothers John and Dickson became dissatisfied with life in England after some years, and set out for Toronto. They arrived with the princely sum of 6d between them. They worked for some time on farms in the Toronto Gore to earn money with which to buy property for themselves. Eventually in 1821 William was able to do this, taking up land at lot 15, concession 3, Tecumseth Township. One of his brothers settled in the Gore the other went to the Thornbury District. In 1828 William took to himself a wife, a Miss Margaret McGirr, who was born in Clougher, Ireland, April 3rd, 1796. In the same neighbourhood with

the Fletchers and McGirrs were the Dales and Clarks.

On this farm the Fletchers prospered and raised three fine boys. In the fall of 1847 Mr. Fletcher and his eldest son, John Fletcher, set out in search of a mill site, but, after exploring the streams of Adjala, Mulmur, and Tossorontio, they found nothing to suit their ideas of a site. Not discouraged by their lack of success they crossed over into Essa, and on lot 1, concession 1, discovered the site upon which Alliston now stands. This proved very attractive because in addition to ideal water power the location was valuable for the quality of its timber and the richness of its soil. This river was later called the Boyne. Over a period of years the Fletchers purchased ten or twelve



THE ORIGINAL GRIST MILL

Built by William Fletcher and his sons on the north side of the River in 1853.

hundred acres of land, part of which was in Tecumseth Township.

First Dwelling Erected

Early in November of the same year he and his son erected a log shanty, the first building in Alliston. This pioneer structure was composed of logs in the round, with gable ends and round poles for rafters, and was roofed with clapboards fastened with small wooden pegs. It was floored with rough lumber and the chinks in the walls were filled with split cedar and moss. This residence stood on the south bank of the river, facing north at 80 Victoria Street West, where the Canadian Tire Corporation is now located.

Saw Mill Built

In the early part of April 1853 the rest of the family settled here. During the summer this ambitious pioneer erected a saw mill on the north side of the river, and established the first industry of the town. At that time the nearest neighbour on the west was at McMulkin's Hill, on the

east at Sharpe's Hill, on the south near Beeton, and, on the north at West Essa, where the Ruthven's, Stevensons and Turnbulls had settled.

Oldest House Erected in 1849

In 1849 a fine frame residence was erected and still stands at 18 Fletcher's Crescent. Miss Sarah Fletcher, a descendant of John Fletcher, still lives there. This home, throughout the years, has been a centre of social activity for the community, a place known for its hospitality. In the early days Indian ladies calling to sell their hand made baskets, received a gracious welcome at this home, and down through the years people of high and low degree found a measure of hospitality far exceeding that which we know today.

Shortly after this time the community was enlarged by another business establishment. Mr. William Turnbull of West Essa decided to open a General Store about 1856. This store which served the people



FAMILY OF JOHN FLETCHER

Mr. and Mrs. John Fletcher and their family. Between the parents in the back row are Mary and William. Front row, from the left, Margaret, Edward, Annie and Sarah. Margaret died about a year ago. Sarah lives in the old home on Fletcher Crescent.

Later developments in the 30's included the acquiring of a Driving Park situated between Centre Street on the West and Dufferin Street on the East, Tupper Street on the North and Beech Street on the South. The C.P.R. Stock Yards occupy part of this ground now. In 1888 a street watering apparatus was purchased for the sum of \$30.00. About the same time a fifty dollar reward was offered for information leading to the conviction of a "Firebug" who was causing trouble in town. The same year a fire hall was built by William O'Connor on land donated by William Fletcher. The total outlay for the fire hall was \$150. In the same year Mr. Johnson received a dollar a week for lighting the street lamps, and Mr. Squares acted as Constable for nothing.

In 1889 the Mercer Brothers were induced to come to town by granting them exemptions from taxation for a period of five years. This company occupied the large building at the south end of Paris Street where

they manufactured many agricultural implements of high quality. Unfortunately, they changed the knoter on their binder and this proved very unsatisfactory, so unsatisfactory that a shipment to South Africa proved fatal to the firm's finances.

In 1890 the problem of having electric lights on the street came up and it was finally decided, after much deliberation, to have five lights installed. The lights were to be on 313 nights a year at a cost of 90 cents a night.

Incorporated As a Town

The year 1891 was possibly the most important year in Alliston's existence. In the first place, on January the 1st it became a town on proclamation of the Lieutenant Governor in Council. The first town Council was made up of John Stewart, Mayor, Dr. James D. Sutherland, Reeve, and Councillors John Moore, George McGirr, John F. Wilson, William Hutchinson, Thomas O'Callan-

Alliston, Ontario

Fletchers of Alliston

-from scrapbook of Municipalities under Alliston pages
(Joan McLean's books)

717
- In 1847, William Fletcher built a mill on the Boyne River near the corner of the Townships of Essa, Adjala, Tossorontio and Tecumseth. The community thus begun has grown into the prosperous town of Alliston which with its suburbs, now has a population of about 4,500 and is growing. (1977)

This was all virgin forest then. Tall timber covered the land. Wolves and bears roamed the woods. Pioneers worked hard to clear their farms and raise crops. The pioneer settlement drew more settlers and more industry. Stores were opened. By 1862 a school was needed and progress accelerated.

The 1870's were years of activity. The settlement was incorporated as a village in 1874. The Wesleyan Methodist Church was built. A newspaper was started in 1872. Much of the Village was destroyed by fire in 1877 but there was a quick recovery. By 1890 electricity was being generated by water power from the Boyne river. Then in 1891 was the village was incorporated as a town, a fire swept through most of it, leaving 30 acres in smoking ruins. Again Alliston rebuilt. The Hamilton North-west railway came in 1877 followed by the C.P.R. in 1906..

Another article on Alliston.

-Named after the birthplace of its founder in Yorkshire, Alliston is a progressive town. History of the community dates back to 1821 when William Fletcher, a settler from England constructed a log shanty the first building on the present site of the town. The following year the pioneer settler erected a sawmill on the north side of the Boyne river which was the first industry in this area.

Establishment of the sawmill attracted more settlers and the community started to develop. By 1857 the growth was sufficient to warrant establishing a post office. It was located in the Fletcher home with the pioneer Mr. Fletcher's second son, George, appointed the first postmaster.

(a first store was established by William Turnbull in 1856.
(This article was printed in the Barrie Examiner April 8, 1969.)
- First incorporated 25 years ago, the council for the then Village had George Fletcher, the postmaster as reeve.

;Under "The Resting Place"" Union cemetery --Members of the founding family of Alliston, the Fletchers are buried in Alliston Union Cemetery.

""Alliston Prepares to Mark Centennial""

--Miss Sarah Fletcher recalls "" 100 years ago, her grandfather and John Fletcher, her father, built the first building on the site which was later to become Alliston.
The first structure was a mill, but shortly afterwards the two men

Alliston
cont'd

-built their home, a shanty of logs on the south bank of the River Boyne where the Canadian Tire Corp. plant is now situated.

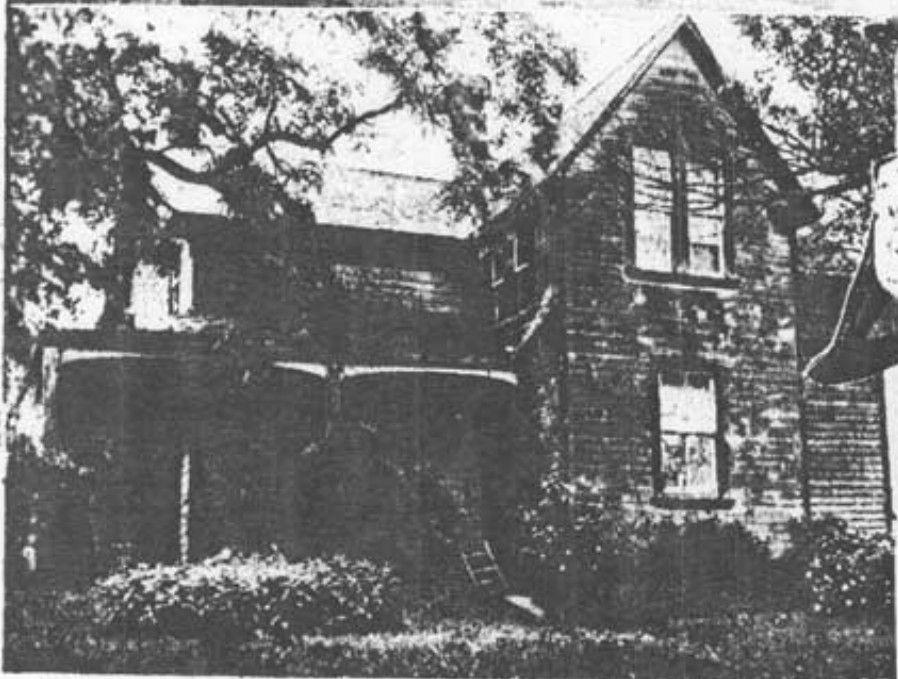
William Fletcher came to Toronto from England in search of work and was employed on a farm in Toronto Gore Township. With the money he saved he managed to buy a site for the mill.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ In 1854 the first white child was born in Alliston and christened Margaret Grant. She was later to marry William Banting and give birth to a son who is known all over the world today as Sir Frederick Banting, the late co-discoverer of insulin.

*From Alliston dated June 16, 1886.
old circuit notes spread the
word:-*

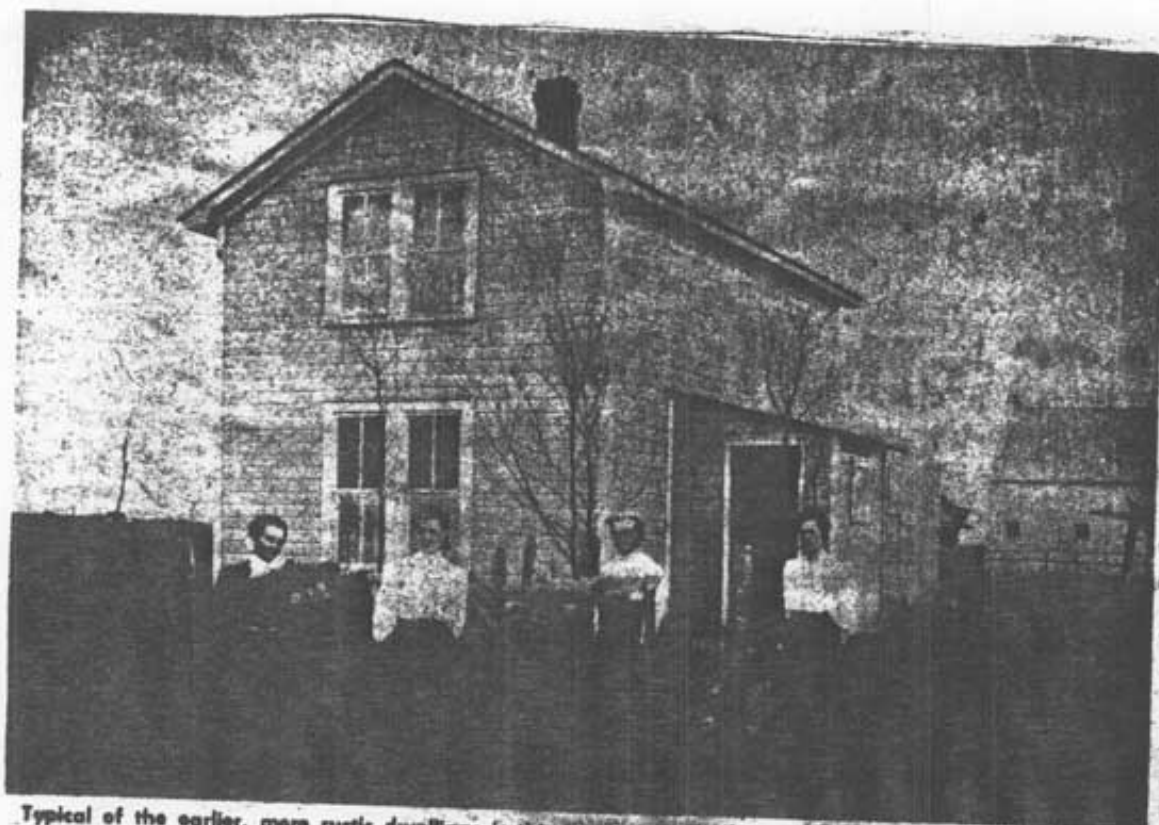
*In 1854 the Methodist church hall in
which the war was at 44 Victoria St W in
Alliston. A circuit riding preacher
from the York-Simcoe area would lead
the service every two weeks. George
Fletcher, son of Alliston's founding
settler, would preach on the other Sundays*

Alliston Prepares To Mark Centennial



Miss Sarah Fletcher, 79, granddaughter of Alliston's founder, lives in its oldest house.

Alliston's main street (top), which was rebuilt after two fires, will be gaily decorated for the centennial. The oldest house (bottom) was built in 1849.



Typical of the earlier, more rustic dwellings is this frame structure from around 1885. This type of home was characteristic of most of the early dwellings of the early Temperance Colonists who settled here just after their arrival in 1882. This pioneer home at Main and Eastlake appeared in the local paper some years ago when a campaign to raise funds to move the Temperance Colony House to a permanent location was being launched. The photo shows Mrs. Grace Fletcher (second from right), an early storekeeper and prominent in temperance and church work. Grace Methodist Church, now Grace-Westminster was named after her. In 1890, she organized the shipping of carloads of buffalo bones which were gathered up after the prairies were settled, and later shipped to the United States.

A flashback into Saskatoon's past from the photo collection in the Local History Department of the Saskatoon Public Library.

ALLISTON, July 19—(Staff Special)—As one drives through the streets of this small Ontario town it is hard to believe that it is 100 years old. Its modern homes and stately churches protected from the July sun by large shade trees, command a second look at the large posters advertising the centennial celebration to be held in August.

But once one has talked to the older residents or looked at the volumes of records in the clerk's office and learned of the two disastrous fires the town survived, a feeling of great respect overwhelms one. Walking out on the sunlit street again one feels like calling out the 1,800 residents and shaking their hands.

There are no signs or posters advertising the history of the small town, but the few buildings that withstood the conflagrations are pointed out with great pride by the old-timers.

One of these, a small frame home, built two years after the town was founded is occupied by a granddaughter of the founder, William Fletcher.

RECALLS OLD TIMES

Although 79 years of age, Miss Sarah Fletcher is quite active and loves to talk of Alliston as it was "years ago."

"Years ago," 100 to be exact, her grandfather and John Fletcher, her father, built the first building on the site, which was later to become Alliston.

The first structure was a mill, but shortly afterwards the two men built their home, a shanty of logs, on the south bank of the River Boyne, where the Canadian Tire Corporation plant is now located.

William Fletcher came to Toronto from England in search of work and was employed on a farm in Toronto Gore township. With the money he saved, he managed to buy a site for his mill.

In 1854 the first white child was born in Alliston and christened, Margaret Grant. She was later to marry William Banting and give birth to a son who is known all over the world today as Sir Frederick Banting, the late co-discoverer of insulin.

Today in the public school is a bronze plaque with the words:

"A commemorative tribute to Dr.

F. G. Banting, discoverer of the insulin process for the treatment of diabetes, 1922. An epoch in the history of medicine. A boon to the human race."

An Orange Lodge was organized in 1855, the year before the village was named Alliston after Fletcher's birth place in England.

NEWSPAPER FOUNDED

Twenty years later the town had progressed rapidly and boasted a newspaper, The Alliston Star, later to become the Herald. The Methodists, after holding services in a hall, erected a church at the corner of Victoria and Centre streets and the first school, a two-room building, made its appearance.

About this time the first fire struck and although the records hardly mention it, the greater part of the business section was wiped out.

Alliston was first incorporated as a village in 1874 and the first Reeve was George Fletcher. The council immediately set about regulating traffic and passed a bylaw prohibiting animals other than cows had calves, from running at large in the streets.

The town went into debt for \$8,000 to aid the building of a railway from Clarksville, now Beaton, to Glencairn. The agreement was signed by the town and the Hamilton and Northwestern Railway.

The H & NW became the Grand Trunk and it in turn became the CNR, which still serves the town. In 1881 a bylaw was passed to raise \$4,000 for the building of a new school.

INCORPORATED AS TOWN

A firehall was built in 1888, and in 1891, the same year the village became a town by proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council, the municipality was almost wiped out by fire for a second time.

The blaze in the year 1891, however, was much greater than the earlier one and fanned by a strong wind, moved across the town with great speed.

The fire of 1891 first broke out in the stables of the Queen's Hotel, now the Windsor House, at 12.45 p.m. on Friday, May 8. The fire quickly spread to other business establishments on both sides of the

street and before long was threatening the whole community.

Mayor John Stewart telegraphed to outside towns for assistance. The Collingwood fire brigade left immediately on a special train with its fire engine. When the firemen arrived they were rushed to the southeast section of the town where they were instrumental in saving many buildings.

However the fire had taken its toll. Swinging up the main street it skirted the Methodist Church and St. Paul's Roman Catholic Church but left everything else in ashes.

30 ACRES DEVASTATED

More than 30 acres of the town proper had been reduced to rubble by the fire, and hundreds of people were homeless.

Neighboring towns and the government sent aid to Alliston but it was several years before the town was back on its feet.

The year after the big fire, the town had a waterworks system installed and a year later bought the newly constructed Market Hall for a municipal building.

In 1894 a notation in the minutes of the council mentions its concern over speeding on Front street.

Offering industries free water and several years' freedom from taxation, as well as \$100 rewards to anyone instrumental in bringing an industry into town were but a few of the programs that built the town to what it is today.

PLANNING CELEBRATION

Everyone has pitched in to make the celebration one of the best that can be held. Ernest Cumberland, a former high school principal, is writing the history of the town, while others prepare entertainment for the four big days, August 2, 3, 4 and 5.

On the program are an old boys' and girls' reunion, memorial services, community singaongs, bands and parades, sports, picnics, fireworks, airplane flights, old-time fiddlers, log-sawing contests, dances and games in the park, and other attractions too numerous to mention.

And as if that wasn't enough, the town is already considering plans for the celebration of the Alliston's centennial as an incorporated town. But that won't be until 1991.

Grace Church Here Has Pioneer Woman's Name

Beneath a stone in Nutana Cemetery lie Joseph Fletcher and Grace Hall Fletcher, whose deaths occurred within two month, less two days of each other. Mrs. Fletcher was a particularly active Church worker and it is in her honor that Grace Church was named.

The inscription on the stone reads:- "In loving memory of Joseph Fletcher, died October 1, 1907 aged 70 years. Grace Hall Fletcher, died August 3, 1907 -- aged 57 years. Until the day break and the shadows flee away".

The Rev. G. H. Bennet, who will speak at the Oldtimers' memorial service in Nutana cemetery at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon was pastor of the Methodist mission here in 1892 when Mrs. Fletcher was active in the work of the church.

--- clipping from a newspaper in the scrapbook of Josena M. Kidd.

THE PIONEERS AND THEIR VISION

In the dynamic decade that followed the formation of the Dominion of Canada in 1867 and the purchase of Rupert's Land from the historic Hudson's Bay Company, the Government of Canada, under Sir John A. Macdonald, pushed through several important legislations to insure quick settlement of the wide plains of "the great lone land". Among these historic measures were the Dominion Lands Act of 1872 effecting the square township system of land survey, and the offer of free homestead lands to prospective settlers. By other legislation, the Indian tribes were persuaded to surrender title to the vast domain and settle on reserves. A transcontinental railroad linking the British colony on the Pacific coast to the eastern provinces was started, and the North West Mounted Police force was established in 1873 to bring law and order to the North-west Territories. In 1876 a telegraph line was completed linking Winnipeg to Edmonton.

These measures were far-sighted and acted upon decisively, but the anticipated settlement that followed was slow and disappointing. The government reviewed its land policies and in 1881 offered the sale of tracts of land to colonization companies. Following an enthusiastic promotion and publicity campaign in Toronto, over 3,000 prospective settlers from Ontario applied for land to be selected by the Temperance Colonization Society in the great north-west, "where settlers might protect themselves, their families, and their friends from alcoholic abuses." The Minister of the Interior granted the Company a reserve of land in the Northwest Territories a degree each way, consisting of around two million acres. However, the Dominion lands regulations stipulated later that the Colony could sell only the odd-numbered sections in the tract, while the even-numbered sections were to be left open for free homesteads.

In April, 1882, the Temperance Colonization Society, now organized as a Company, received its first grant of twenty-one sections in a block lying across the South Saskatchewan River, extending south to the present Dundurn and north to what is now Warman. This tract of 200,000 acres was to cost the company \$2.00 per acre, and the first instalment of \$84,000 paid to the government proved to be the total paid. Two settlers were to be placed on each of the Company's sections, and two settlers on the free homestead lands, for which rebates would be made to the Company amounting to \$1.00 per acre. The colony was to be settled within five years. This agreement was ratified on June 6, 1882.

Under Land Commissioner John N. Lake, a group of Temperance Company men travelled by rail from Toronto, to Chicago, St. Paul, Winnipeg, and Moosomin, then the end of steel on the newly constructed Canadian Pacific Railway line. Thence the party followed the wagon and cart trail near Qu'Appelle and the Touchwood Hills to reach Clark's Crossing, the telegraph post, three weeks later. Accompanying Lake were George W. Grant, assistant commissioner, S. W. Hill, a practical farmer, Frank Blake, surveyor, and Harry Goodwin. Prospective settlers in the party were Peter Latham, James Hamilton and his son Robert, J. M. Eby and John Clark. Eby and Clark travelled the water route from Winnipeg to Prince Albert.

As Lake and his assistant inspected the tract and made contact with the Sioux Indians at the Moose Woods Reserve near Dundurn, Frank Blake outlined the boundaries of the Company's block of land. On his advice the administrative centre of the new colony was moved from Clark's Crossing which proved to be on its northern boundaries, and for his townscape Lake chose a spot on the high east bank of the river, overlooking the broad stream and the vista of spreading prairie land for miles around. His diary reads: "Camped at 2 p.m. Minnetonka is the name of our camping place, the finest we have ever had. Sect. 29 Twp. 36 R. 5." On August

20 one of the survey party brought to the commissioner a branch covered with succulent red berries. These, he reported, the Indians called "Mis-sask-quah-too-min" meaning "carpet of flowers". The beautiful name with the beautiful meaning, shortened to Saskatoon, was approved for the townscape, and proved a fortuitous choice.

Before the party departed from the new site to return east with its report four members located and signed for their lands. They were Peter Latham, James M. Eby, James Hamilton and his son Robert. The Hamiltons and J. M. Eby remained at Prince Albert for the winter, and before winter set in the Hamiltons erected a house on their land east of the present exhibition grounds, the first house of Saskatoon.

The first group of colonists to the new settlement travelled west in 1883 with their carloads of settlers' effects as far as Moose Jaw, then the end of steel. They arrived in the chill winds of April, when the ground was partly frozen and partly thawed, making transportation with heavily laden wagons difficult. From the Moose Jaw terminal the long trail stretched 150 tortuous miles north and slightly east to the promised land. The party of settlers left Moose Jaw on April 19, and arrived at their camping site near the river bank south of the Hamilton cabin on May 19. This historic group of hardy pioneers included Joseph and Robert Caswell, Harry and Jim Goodwin, J. J. Conn, S. Pugsley, R. McCordick, P. Latham and two sons, and the Kusch family.

During the weeks that followed other pioneer settlers arrived; R. Dulmage, John Clark and sons, the Richardson family, the Hunter family, and the Peter Coplands. Later Commissioner Lake and his two sons returned, and the Willoughby and Garrison brothers came. A. L. Brown and William Horn came over the trail in July. By August 18 the survey of the townscape was completed, and a celebration was held to mark the founding of Saskatoon. The whole population of the Colony, numbering 35 people, gathered in the centre of the townscape to raise a flagpole and mark the auspicious occasion.

With the arrival of a raft of lumber from Medicine Hat in August a flurry of building seized the new settlement. Sod and log shanties had been erected on homesteads, and the first building in the Saskatoon village was a sod house erected by J. J. Conn on the river bank west of the present 25th Street bridge. The first place of business was a tent store opened by Dr. J. H. C. Willoughby on Broadway. John Lake named the streets on the southeast side of the river where Blake had surveyed the townscape, and most of these names are in use today in the older part of the Nutana district. The boundaries of Lake's townscape were Clarence Avenue on the east and First Street on the south, stretching to the east bank of the South Saskatchewan River.

On the corner of Broadway Avenue and Main Street the "Company Buildings" were erected by the crew of Swedes who rafted the loads of lumber down the treacherous river from Medicine Hat. The roof was installed by R. W. Dulmage, tinsmith.

A house built by Charles Garrison became the pioneer store of Mrs. Grace Fletcher, and a building erected by Silas Lake who later left the colony served the community as a hall, school and church building for many years. The substantial home of George Grant on Dufferin Avenue was later used as the Mounted Police barracks. A similar house was built for the Temperance Colonization Society on Main Street, and has been moved to the Western Development Museum grounds to form the nucleus of a pioneer village.

The first real estate deal in Saskatoon was completed in September 1884 when W. H. Trounce paid J. J. Conn

mand of Surgeon-Major C. M. Douglas, V.C. Douglas made an epic trip downstream from Saskatchewan Landing in a collapsible canoe to reach Saskatoon. The steamer Northcote docked at Saskatoon on May 19 with an important prisoner aboard. The following morning Louis Riel was transported to Moose Jaw by local teamsters and wagons guarded by military escort, thence to his tragic trial in Regina.

The sad events of 1885, although resulting in ready cash for the settlers, discouraged settlement for the rest of the year and pointed out the isolation of the community. Late-seeded crops were destroyed by a heavy frost in August. However, two progressive steps were accomplished: the Pioneer Society succeeded in having the Territorial Government declare a herd district restricting the running of cattle at large in the settled area, and a school district was established with government support.

The pioneer community rejoiced on March 19, 1885, when the Saskatoon Protestant Public School District No. 13 was gazetted. In July T. Copland, Dr. Willoughby and G. W. Grant were elected as trustees. The Territorial Board of Education supplied new seats, maps and apparatus, and the school occupied the Company's double store on Main and Broadway until 1888. In that year the ratepayers approved a by-law raising \$1,200 by debentures for construction of a stone building. Alexander Marr, stone mason, was given the contract to erect the school, and the first classes were held in January, 1889.

Memorable teachers at the old stone school which served as classroom, church and meeting place for seventeen years, were James Leslie, George Horn, and R. B. Irvine. The beloved Horn, in charge of the school for six years until December, 1896, was an Anglican lay preacher and cultural leader in the little settlement as well as an inspired teacher. For his inspector's rating as "excellent", the school received the highest capitation grant paid by the government at that time.

The historic stone school was in use until 1910 when it was moved to the University of Saskatchewan campus through the good efforts of the Daughters of the Empire, and stands there proudly today amongst the imposing buildings of higher learning that surround it.

The Temperance Colony settlers were for the most part devout Methodists, and in 1886 they organized a mission that was the beginning of Grace Church, the pioneer church of Saskatoon. The first permanent Methodist Church, a concrete structure, holding 100 people, was built in 1892. Wm. Stephenson was contractor for the concrete work. W. P. Bate was the first organist. In 1910 the original Methodist church was named Grace Church after Mrs. Grace Fletcher, pioneer storekeeper and church worker. Presbyterian services were held also in private homes or in school buildings as early as 1885. Anglicans and Roman Catholics conducted missions as well.

The well-known, co-operative "Saskatoon spirit" was evident even in these early years. The Pioneers Society was reorganized as the Central Saskatchewan Agricultural Society under the direction of Joseph Caswell, and the first agricultural fair in October 1886 attracted nearly 200 entries. Held on the high ground where Nutana Collegiate now stands, the first exhibition was highly successful.

Prizes were won by Joseph Caswell for Durham cattle, Charlie Kusch for a trotting ox, and Robert Caswell for poultry. There was a display of garden produce and women's work. Climaxing the sporting events were exciting horse races. The exhibition in 1887 attracted 430 entries and paid out \$297.52 in prize money, most of which was supplied by grants from the government.

The stationing of a detachment of North West Mounted Police in Saskatoon in late 1886 added prestige and import-

ance to the community, as well as brightening its social life. The original force of six men, later reduced to three, was diminished to one, Constable Clisby by 1896, at the time of the Klondike gold rush. During the winter of 1886 a Literary Society was organized to stimulate the intellectual life of the Community. Social events of that winter were concerts, Christmas tree celebration, a Mounted Police ball, and a bachelor's ball. Summer was clipaxed with the sports days held on the Queen's birthday and Dominion day, as well as the exhibition.

In the midst of the excitement of a growing community there was sadness and tragedy. Prairie fires took an annual toll of buildings and fodder. Two young English immigrants, Ted Meeres and Charlie Coster, lost their lives by freezing near Saskatoon, and Neville Pendergrasse was drowned accidentally from the ferry. Their bodies lie in the Pioneer Cemetery.

McPhillip's Directory for 1888 lists 13 places of business, including: general merchants: Mrs. G. A. Fletcher, Lambert and Wilson, H. Trounce; tinsmith, R. W. Duimage; physician, Dr. Willoughby; notary, real estate and insurance, G. W. Grant; agent of the Temperance Colonization Society, Thos. Copland; hotel, Garrison House; builder, Jas. D. Powe; mason, Alex. Marr; music teacher, George Horn; dress-maker, Miss Janie Clark. The directory listed 83 residents, but an official census of the district, including the Indians, listed 800 inhabitants.

The main problem of the Temperance Colonization Society settlement at Saskatoon was the isolation of the community. Hopes of river navigation were grounded early on the sandbars. The arduous trail to Moose Jaw, although improved by a shorter route to Regina, precluded regular trips for supplies. Mail was routed by way of Batoche. Prince Albert, Battleford, and Saskatoon clamored for railway service from the transcontinental Canadian Pacific Railway line across the southern plains.

Dramatically, the railroad became a reality. The Government of Canada, on April 30, 1889, granted \$80,000 annually to the Qu'Appelle, Long Lake and Saskatchewan Railway and Steamboat Company in exchange for free transportation for government officials. In addition, the railway received a land subsidy of 6,400 acres per mile, to construct a railway linking Prince Albert with Regina, crossing the South Saskatchewan river at Saskatoon. Capital was raised in England by the promoters, Osler, Hammond and Nanton. Construction was carried out by the enterprising contractors, James Ross, H. S. Holt, William Mackenzie and Donald Mann, men noted for ability and financial acumen in the construction field.

By October, 1889, 500 teams and 1,000 men were engaged in constructing the roadbed and laying the track from Regina north to Saskatoon. In the spring, work proceeded at a record pace, and the entire population of Saskatoon participated in a great celebration May 14, 1890, as the work train approached the village. Late in June the first railway bridge was completed on the site of Lake's river crossing, forecasting Saskatoon's future as the "City of Bridges". On October the last spike was driven at Prince Albert, linking that centre and Saskatoon to Regina and the main line of the Canadian Pacific transcontinental railway to the south. This new branch line was leased to the C.P.R. until 1906.

The pioneering days were over with the coming of the railroad. The days of isolation and privation, of anxiety and back-breaking toil had been bridged by the faith and hope, the courage and determination, the original "Saskatoon spirit" of the settlers and their leaders. These formative years before the railroad moulded the character of the city that was to grow on the foundation so firmly established.

FAULKNER CRESCENT

City records show that Faulkner Crescent in the Hudson Bay Park area of our city was named in honour of Clinton Tully Falkner who came from England to Saskatoon in 1892. Somewhere an error was made in the spelling of his name and the street sign shows it spelled with an added "u". Mr. Falkner settled on a farm in the Smithville district west of the town. He moved into Saskatoon in 1900 and went into the lumber business. Shortly after this he was employed by the Town Council as Treasurer.

Mr. Falkner was one of the founders of St. John's Church and became its organist and choir master in 1904. In 1908 a typhoid epidemic swept Saskatoon and Mr. Falkner was one of its victims. This was a tragic end to a promising career.

Today if you visit St. John's Cathedral you will see a bronze plaque in their choir loft which reads: "To the glory of God and the beloved memory of CLINTON TULLY FALKNER. A faithful, eager and untiring church worker, organist and choir master of this church from 1904-1908 who entered into rest February 21, 1908 aged 41. I shall be satisfied when I awake, with thy likeness."

Ps. 17:15."

FERGUSON AVENUE

Ferguson Avenue runs south off Wilson Crescent just a bit west of Adelaide Park. It is named for John D. Ferguson the third lawyer to set up practice in Saskatoon—the first was Herbert Acheson and the second was Col. Dan T. Smith.

Mr. Ferguson's first office was over a Chinese laundry in the vicinity of the present Windsor Hotel. His office had only one ply of boards through which the daylight showed. He was the first Collector of Customs and

Excise officer. He was responsible for bringing out several other lawyers, the first of whom was John Milden from Cornwall, Ontario, who had played hockey and lacrosse with Newby Lalonde as a boy.

FITZGERALD STREET

Fitzgerald Street is in Sutherland. It was named for Sydney E. Fitzgerald. When Dr. Oulton was appointed superintendent of the Saskatoon Public Schools in the late 1920's, Mr. Fitzgerald was his clerical assistant. When Mr. W. P. Bate left in 1934, Mr. Fitzgerald became secretary of the School Board.

Mr. Fitzgerald was a bachelor of some means and nothing pleased him more than to buy a new big car each year, fill it with children from Kilburn Hall and take them to Pike Lake or Beaver Creek for a picnic.

FLETCHER STREET

This street caused the longest search of any in the booklet. First of all we knew that it was named for Mrs. Grace Fletcher, pioneer Nutana businesswoman who ran a store on Twelfth Street between the present Public Schools of Victoria and Albert. A Methodist Church which was erected in 1892 was named the Grace Methodist Church in 1910 to honor her.

So, it wasn't that we didn't know the story behind the name—we just could not find the Fletcher Street! It showed on the city map up until 1971-1972. When you tried to trace it you landed up on the Old Western Development Museum grounds on Eleventh Street West. A search of the grounds revealed no street sign. The help of George Shepherd, noted local historian, was enlisted and he dug the story out. In fact, it was news to him.

We went back to a 1912 map of the city showing Saskatoon in the middle of the first real estate boom

and there it was. It was in Rosedale subdivision which was located right south of Eleventh Street where the old Western Development Museum is now. From Eleventh Street south the streets were named: Dudley, Schuyler, Victoria and Fletcher. It was all laid out as neat as could be—and that was in 1912!

Rosedale has disappeared. The Western Development Museum has flourished and moved on to become a glittering gem in the Saskachimo Exposition Limited on Exhibition Grounds and Fletcher Street disappeared from the 1972-1973 city map.

Fletcher street is not the first street to disappear. Catherwood Crescent in Westview Heights was gobbled up by Northumberland Drive shortly after it was created.

Perhaps in the future these two streets could reappear in some, as yet, undeveloped subdivision in Saskatoon. Certainly both these people deserve to be so honored.

FOREST DRIVE

Forest Drive connects 115th Street East, in Sutherland with Forestry Farm Park. It takes its name from the Park, one of the beauty spots in Saskatoon. There, they prove what can be grown on the bald-headed prairie. They also have a fair collection of wild animals. It has been proposed by many people that the Golden Gate Animal Park on 33rd Street West be moved to the Forestry Farm Park.

FOREST STREET

Forest Street runs west of Forest Drive about half way between the new housing development of Forest Grove and Forestry Farm Park.

FRASER CRESCENT

Fraser Crescent is in the Greystone Heights area. It was named for one of Western Canada's outstanding sci-

entists, William Pollock Fraser. He was born in Pictou, Nova Scotia and received his early education at Dalhousie and Cornell. He received a teaching position at Macdonald College, Quebec in 1917 and while there was asked by the Department of Agriculture to take charge of the rust investigations as well as studies on other plant diseases.

The Department of Agriculture and the University of Saskatchewan co-operated in this work. A laboratory, under the auspices of the Department, was opened at the Saskatchewan University with Professor Fraser in charge. He also assisted with the teaching work in the university.

He and his assistants carried on much of the pioneer work which made possible the ultimate solution of the rust problem.

In 1924 he severed his connections with the Department of Agriculture and became a full-time member of the university faculty in the biology department, where he continued until his retirement.

On his retirement he was given the honorary degree of LL.D. "in recognition of his outstanding service to Western Canada through his researches in plant pathology, more particularly wheat rust".

GALT COURT

Galt Court is just off John A. Macdonald Road in Confederation Park. It is named after Sir Alexander Tilloch Galt (1817-1893). A delegate to the Charlottetown and Quebec Conferences of 1864 and to the Westminster Conference in 1866, he was a father of Confederation and one of the chief architects of the British North America Act. In 1867 he became the first finance minister of the Dominion; following a disagreement with his colleagues, he resigned later in the year. Galt never again held cabinet office.

Streets & Roads

Published in 1973 concerning the origin
of street names in Saskatoon.

A supervised Saskatoon School Project.

The minutes of Quarterly Official Board Meetings through the subsequent years record growth that was not spectacular but steady. They record also some customs of the church that have now vanished. One of these was the institution of lay or "local" preachers. Such entries as these occur regularly:

The character, ability, and punctuality of Bro. E. J. Wooldridge as Local Preacher were considered and licence renewed.

The character, and ability as exhorter, of Bro. W. R. Tucker were considered and licence renewed.

The practice of appointing Local Preachers regularly continued for more than two decades. The use of the titles "Brother" and "Sister," which gives these early minutes a homely touch, was gradually discontinued about 1908.

The difficulties that beset the minister of those days, as well as the need of local preachers, are suggested by a letter written in January, 1895, to Mr. Eby, by Rev. T. G. Bethell, then in charge of the pastorate. As will be seen, his territory was a large one, in horse-and-cutter days:

Dear Mr. Eby,

As I am just about to leave for the Reserve & then leave Monday for Dundurn, then Wednesday for Clark's Crossing, I do not expect to have time to see you.

... I am completely out of wood. Could you see some of the friends that I may get some, I think another load will see me through O.K.

I was stuck in the snowdrifts all day Saturday & most of Sunday & hence did not get home until Sunday after 10 p.m.

The letter goes on to express good wishes, then ends with a postscript:

If I should not be back for Sunday afternoon or in case of storm will you take charge of the service & oblige

Yours as ever,
T.G.B.

A letter written in 1928 by Rev. Dr. W. A. Cooke, to Dr. R. L. McTavish, then pastor of Grace Church, gives a glimpse of Saskatoon in those early days. Dr. Cooke was stationed in Prince Albert in 1892-93, but had supervision over the Saskatoon church. He writes to Dr. McTavish:

Saskatoon has come up in the world. When I was at Prince Albert, following my ordination, we had a train twice a week from Regina, by Saskatoon, (it had been running about two years then, and was the only railway to the north) and at that time we stopped at Saskatoon for lunch. There were two eating-houses near the small station, and on the other side of the track a little branch store run by Mrs. Fletcher. On your side of the river was a little village. That was the day of small things...

It was also a day of growth, however, for both the village and the church. The congregation had as yet no place of worship of its own, but had been meeting at first in tents, then in the kitchens or parlours of private houses, or in the "Company Building," and still later in the stone schoolhouse. At the Quarterly Official Board meeting in January, 1892, it was moved by Bro. Roberts seconded by Bro. King, That in the opinion of this Board the time has come to erect a church.

After a full & free discussion of the question in all its bearings the motion was unanimously carried with the understanding that the church be of the approximate value of \$1200.

The Board of Trustees were instructed, and at once took the matter in hand. By the beginning of March they were making good progress with the plans, and had begun the purchase of materials.

Mr. Roberts' plan for a building 40x26, 14 feet high was adopted, modified by putting three windows on each side & one at the back, high... Windows to be gothic, size of glass 14x28 in. Walls to be built from the ground with concrete.



The Chancel of Grace Church

reverted to a "Literary Society" before fading away. Some of the meetings of this society were held in the church, and in its athletic phase it used the church tennis courts. The minutes are full of delightful detail, the secretary obviously having taken the word "Literary" in all seriousness. It is pleasant to read that the first regular meeting "opened with a selection on the Grama-o-Phone by Mr. Clarkson." On the other hand, reading that at a later meeting "Mr. Tucker made a short speech after which he handed in his bill for lumber to the amount of six dollars," one would like to know the contents of that speech. The Society's meetings were given over to dialogues, recitations, songs, and so on. Debates were held frequently. On January 18, 1907, the resolution was debated "that it is a greater calamity to be an old maid than to be an old bachelor." The judges—all ladies—decided in favour of the negative. Whether they were influenced by a demonstration of "Club-swinging" by one of the gentlemen present, after the debate, the minutes do not record.

After more than twenty years of existence, and notable growth in numbers and influence, the church was still without a name. It had been known variously as "Methodist Mission Church," "Nutana Mission," "Saskatoon East Church," and, occasionally, "First Methodist Church." On May 27, 1910, responding to a request of the Board of Trustees, the Official Board resolved that the church be named Grace Church. The name was chosen in honor of a woman who had arrived to join her husband in Saskatoon in 1885. She was Mrs. Grace Fletcher. Hers is the first feminine name to appear in the church records, for she was appointed a Sunday-school teacher at the first meeting of the Official Board. She was a devoted worker for the church, and very generous with her financial support. At her death in the summer of 1907, the church received a bequest of \$4,500.

The christening of the church was not in itself a major event, but it somehow symbolizes the end of an era in the church's history. Not only Mrs. Fletcher, but others of the original group,

Mr. Eby goes on to sketch the organizing and development of Methodism in Saskatoon during the subsequent quarter century of settlement and expansion. The new community - hardly even a community then - received its christening at the very service referred to. For Mr. Lake, the preacher, tells that "On the first Sunday in August (1882) I was lying in my tent about 3 p.m. when a young man came in with a handful of bright red berries and gave them to me. After eating some, I asked where they were found. He said, 'Along the river bank.' I asked if people had a name for them. He said they were Saskatoon berries." The account goes on to say that Mr. Lake exclaimed in an instant, "Arise, Saskatoon, Queen of the North." One may be allowed to doubt that his enthusiasm was quite so rhetorical, but at any rate the name was proposed to the directors of the Colonization Society in the following winter, and was formally accepted by them.

The early years of settlement were years of toil and hardship and uncertainty, in all of which the Methodist group shared. Mr. Lake, who was Commissioner of the Colonization Society, returned to the East, as did some other members of the original group. But some, and notably James Eby, remained to work for the cause in which they believed, in the expanding community. By the fall of 1886 it was felt that the time had come for establishing a regular church organization. The minutes of the organizing meeting, which are preserved in the Church archives, read as follows:

1886

Saskatoon Mission, Regina Dist., Manitoba & N.W.T. Conference of the Methodist Church.
The first Quarterly Official Meeting, held in the School House, Saskatoon, on Wednesday, Aug. 18th, 1886.

Rev. Alfred Andrews of Qu'Appelle (Chairman of Dist.) in the Chair.

1st. Reception of members.

2nd. Bro. Henry Smith appointed as Class Leader.

3rd. Bro. E. Wooldridge recognised as Local Preacher in good standing.

4th. Bros. Mason, A. Smith, & Wooldridge appointed Church Stewards for Saskatoon and Bro. Lake for Clark's Crossing Appts.

5th. Church Representative left for after consideration.

6th. Church Trustees appointed were Henry Smith, Peter Latham, James M. Eby Sr., E. Wooldridge, Archie Smith, Jas. Powe & Bro. Mason.

7th. Church Building Committee appointed, Henry Trounce, Robert McCordick, Robt. Dulmage, Jas. Powe & Dr. Willoughby.

Sunday School then organized.

Superintendent, Peter Latham.

Asst. Superintendent, H. Trounce.

Bible class teacher, James M. Eby Sr.

Other Teachers, Mrs. Fletcher and Robt. Hamilton.

Sec. Treasurer, Robert Hamilton.

N.B.—Mr. Wagner, Timber Agent of Prince Albert, promised the Church a free timber grant for church building. Also Ten Dollars (\$10.00) of Subscription.

JAMES M. WRIGHT
(Superintendent of Missions)
Sectary *pro tem*

MRS. GRACE FLETCHER
For Whom the Church is Named



1884 House erected by Charles Garrison
later became Mrs. Grace Fletcher's
store.

"The Saskatoon Story" page 14.

1886 Mission organised by Methodists was
the beginning of Grace Church, pioneer
Church of Saskatoon.

1910 Original Methodist Church was named
Grace Church after Mrs. Grace Fletcher,
Pioneer Store keeper and Church worker.

"Saskatoon - The Serenity & The Surge"
page 11.

Resided in Saskatoon During Riel Rebellion



—Star-Phoenix Photo

Mrs. Maud McIntosh, 83-year-old artist, with a painting she had recently displayed in an art exhibit in the Royal Alexandra Hotel in Winnipeg.

Mrs. McIntosh is visiting in Saskatoon after recently attending an art show in the Royal Alex where she was honored with an award from the Manitoba Government for her contribution to art with her paintings of Northern Canadian towns. She is the house guest of Misses Gladys and Florence Andrews.

"There have been bewildering changes in Saskatoon, even in the last eight years, since I lived here as a girl," said Mrs. Maud McIntosh, who is now residing in Cranberry Portage.

Mrs. McIntosh first came to Saskatoon in 1885, the spring of the Riel Rebellion. "The only thing that I really remember about the Rebellion, I was just four years old at the time, was seeing an Indian pow-wow. The Indians, in their feather head-dresses, bright shirts and leather leggings, seemed to relish eating a cooked dog!" Mrs. McIntosh said.

Born in Alliston, Ont., Mrs. McIntosh, her mother, two brothers and a sister, joined her father, Mr. Joseph Fletcher, three years after his journey to Saskatchewan with the first group of settlers to come West shortly after Saskatoon and Regina had been established.

"The first home I lived in was

the house that is now on the Pion-Era grounds, my mother purchased it from the Temperance Colony," Mrs. McIntosh said. It is now known as the Colony House.

Mrs. McIntosh was educated in the little stone school house now on the university campus, and continued her high school education in Regina. "At that time, my address was Miss Maud Fletcher, Regina, Assinaboia, N.W.T." Mrs. McIntosh said. She also attended the University of Saskatchewan when it first opened in Saskatoon in the Drinkle Block.

Mrs. McIntosh, who, at the age of 83 is still painting, and whose art work is of the old school and is finely detailed, said that she had studied art in Rome in 1907. "I think that this modern art is crude, in fact, I think that it is the bunk," Mrs. McIntosh laughed.



Saskatoonian of 1885 Honored at Cranberry

Cranberry Portage. -

One of Saskatoon's early pioneers, who recalls when Louis Riel stayed on her parents' farm overnight, Mrs. Robert MacIntosh, was honoured by the congregation of Knox Presbyterian Church here this week, prior to her departure.

Mrs. MacIntosh was leaving to reside with a daughter, Mrs. Robert Andrews at Wafeking Manitoba, and was presented with a shellwork framed picture and a figurine, in appreciation for her services as Church organist.

The daughter of Joseph Fletcher, believed the first homesteader in Saskatoon, Mrs. MacIntosh recalled that her father came to the site of Saskatoon in 1861, building a huge stone house just south of where the government elevator now stands. Louis Riel, rebel leader in the Riel Rebellion of 1885 stayed overnight at the farm when the North West Mounted Police escorted him to Regina, where he was later hanged.

Mrs. MacIntosh spent several years in the north country here, operating the first newsstand on the Hudson Bay line at Herb Lake and operating an art shop here for the last year. She is known as a painter and first studied art in Rome in the early days.

Recalling names of early Saskatoonians, she referred to Jim Hill, who brought the railroad to Saskatoon in 1889, Charles Fisher, the first railroad dispatcher who took her across the bridge in 1890 to see the first train come in; Peter McCaskel and his mother, operating the first railway restaurant. She has a list of 100 names of those in Saskatoon during the Riel rebellion, including Bob Caswell, G. H. Fletcher, Thomas Copeland and others.

The late Mr. MacIntosh built Saskatoon's first modern garage in 1908 at Second Avenue and Nineteenth Street.

Died For His Country

P. O. Grant A. Fletcher, son of Mrs. Fletcher of Ottawa and the late DeWitt Fletcher of Saskatoon, who was flying a Halifax bomber when he was lost in April in a raid over Essen, and is now for official purposes presumed dead. Born in Saskatoon 27 years ago Pilot Officer Fletcher taught school for five years prior to his enlistment in the R. C. A. F. in July 1941. He received his training at Prince Albert, Edmonton, Dafoe and Rivers, graduating as an air observer at Dafoe in March 1942. He took a navigation course at Rivers and was sent overseas last March, where, after further training, he was appointed to the commissioned ranks. Besides his mother he is survived by a sister, Nora with the Naval Treasury at Ottawa, a brother P. O. J. Kay Fletcher, recently returned to Canada from the Bahamas, and his grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. McConnell, 427 Ninth Street. Howard McConnell, R.C. is his uncle.

--newspaper clipping from scrapbook of Josena M. Kidd.

Manitoba Looks North - New life in the muskeg

There's new life in the muskeg as Manitoba looks north again and activity grows along the Hudson Bay railway. The fur trade extending for some years into fur farming, summer and winter commercial fishing, lumbering, the hunt for gold, mining and transportation are finding fresh impetus with peace-time.

In pictures reproduced here, Mrs. Robert McIntosh of Herb Lake has caught some of the northland feeling of the muskeg country.

Mrs. McIntosh sketches in ink and then uses water color to highlight her pictures of the settlement 80 miles northeast of the Pas, where a gold mine operated before the war.

Herb Lake area today has fewer than 300 people but between 60 and 70 children attend the school. There is a church and a store and every scrap of floor space is being used. Mrs. McIntosh says there would be more people if there were more houses.

At least five mining companies are operating in and around Herb Lake, Snow Lake and Squal Lake.

Recently 30 men joined one crew four miles from Herb Lake.

There is a road from the Hudson Bay railway into Herb Lake and others will be built to mining properties. A bus service is contemplated.



Former Maud Fletcher Dies in Manitoba

Mrs. Robert McIntosh, eldest daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Fletcher, died in Le Pas, Manitoba on January 11, 1970.

Maud Fletcher was born in Alliston but her family moved to Saskatoon while she was still very young. She married Robert McIntosh, who predeceased her leaving a son and three daughters.

Mrs. Nina McClean is the last surviving member of this family.

Mrs. McIntosh's funeral was in Le Pas and she was buried in Saskatoon.

--The passing of Mrs. Carrie Maud May McIntosh age 88 years of The Pas, Manitoba occurred on Jan 20, 1970. The funeral service was held on Thursday Jan. 22, 1970 at 2 p.m. from Hayes Funeral Home at the Pas. A graveside service will be held on Saturday, Jan. 24 at 10.30 a.m. Park Funeral Chapel of Saskatoon will be in charge of local arrangements. Surviving are : Mrs. Herb Houson of Bradford Ont. Mrs. Mary Fischer of The Pas, Man and Mrs. Gordon Crosby of Ganges, B. C. also two grandchildren, Captain Hugh Fischer of Comox, B. C. and Mrs. John Russell of Vancouver.

Born in Alliston, Ont., Mrs. McIntosh came west to Saskatoon in 1885. She resided in Saskatoon until 1924 when she moved to Herb Lake, Man. In 1935 she moved to Cranberry Portage and resided there until 1966 when she moved to The Pas. Interment will be made in the family plot in the Woodlawn Cemetery.



Maud McIntosh receiving Order of Buffalo for contributions to art in Manitoba - from Conservative M.P. Jack Carroll at the "Northern Trappers" Festival in the 1960's.

new insights to north

By Bob Lowery
Winnipeg Free Press

SNOW LAKE — It's a long hike from Herb Town, Manitoba's original gold-mining community, to a teaching stint in Paris, France, to searching out ancient art forms in Guatemala and Mexico, to founding a school of art on Salt Springs Island in British Columbia.

But teacher-artist Emily Crosby has been that route, and for the last four years has shared her experiences by touring her northern Manitoba homeland, mostly at the wheel of a half-ton truck.

When Emily, who refuses to divulge her age, returned to Canada in 1976 she received a 24-month Canada Council grant as resident artist in northern Manitoba. It took her to 20 cities, towns, Indian reserves and remote places. She travelled with her material for workshops and displays loaded on the back of the half-ton.

Today, the slightly built, peppery northerner is president of the Pre-Cambrian arts group comprising more than 300 northern Manitoba residents.

Emily lives on the shore of Wekusko Lake, just east of here. She is surrounded by many old and new friends, some dating back to her days in Herb Town, a bustling mining town on Wekusko Lake in the '20s and '30s but today nothing more than a ghost town now.

Born in Saskatoon

She was born in Saskatoon, but after her father's death in 1924, her mother, Maud MacIntosh, loaded the family possessions into a railway boxcar and set out with her two young daughters for Herb Town.

MacIntosh chose Herb Town because her husband, who had hunted and fished in the area, said it was "probably the most beautiful place on earth."

In those days the closest stop to Herb Town on the Bayline was about 60 kilometres away. This distance had to be covered on rough bush road and on the wide, often windy lake.

Emily received her elementary school education through correspondence courses. She also got to know many of the greats of the Manitoba prospecting community, men such as Walter Johnson and Joe Kerr, whose names are linked with the discovery of the nickel find which produced the Thompson mining development.

While growing up in Herb Town, Emily also picked up her mother's spirit of adventure and her love of the arts.

"She painted watercolor landscapes and portraits all her life," Emily says

of her mother. "We always had so much fun painting together."

MacIntosh had studied art in France, Italy and Great Britain.

When it came time to go to high school, Emily balked. She was working at a grocery store across the lake at the time and her mother had to persuade her employer to fire her.

After graduating from high school in Flin Flon, Emily took a teaching course at the teaching college in Winnipeg. Her early teaching assignments included Wanless, Norway House, Mafeking and Cranberry Portage.

Taught in Paris

She also taught in Paris, where her pupils included children from the families of NATO officials and the diplomatic corps.

Emily says the big bonus, however, was the chance to spend every spare moment in the Louvre.

Back in northern Manitoba she married a bush pilot, Gordon Crosby. However, they eventually went their separate ways.

For the next eight years Emily lived on Salt Springs Island in B.C. to pursue her art studies.

But she tired of trudging off to the Banff School of Fine Arts, even though it gave her the chance to learn from distinguished artists such as Walter Phillips and Murray McDonald.

So Emily figured why not invite the masters she wanted to study under to Salt Springs Island, where she and others could benefit. Interest grew and in less than eight years, Emily found herself directing a school of art which included painting, pottery, sculpture, weaving and the ballet.

Today, her living room reflects her love affair with the arts.

In one corner is a large loom where homespun mats are being finished for use as Christmas presents. Along another wall are a selection of her choice paintings.

One is called the Jump Over. It depicts a small portage across Wekusko Lake and is a "wet on wet" watercolor. Emily explains that to produce it she first put a piece of art paper with a blotting paper-like texture into a barrel of water. She then applied watercolors on the wet paper.

"Any decent watercolor is a happy accident," she claims. The Jump Over is done in rusty brown and light blues and has a misty and feathery effect.

She is also experimenting with batik paintings, which she does on cloth from worn cotton shirts.

Scattered through the living room are examples of Emily's pottery and sculptures. Some of the pottery has been

fired in the oven of her wood stove while she was cooking supper.

Building fireplace

The living room also has a nearly finished stone fireplace which Emily is constructing.

During her northern travels Emily has collected clays from Norway House to Lynn Lake and feels they have great potential as art media and for commercial use. She believes that a sewer pipe industry could be developed from the clay in the Lynn Lake area.

She brought eight moulding wheels and eight looms from Salt Springs Island and hopes to develop a family-type summer workshop either at Cranberry Portage or near her home.

Each summer Emily holds weekend paint-ins where families come to her home.

This is also one of the objectives of the Pre-Cambrian art club. Emily is also keen to get on the road with a van carrying material for an art library workshop as well as a collection of exhibits by northern artists for display or sale.

The workshop sponsors an annual juried art show with prizes in the \$25 range. "It's a great event and it shows the magnificent talent that's spread all over the north, but the prizes don't even pay for the artists' materials," Emily says.

Irritated

She is irritated by the "overemphasis" being put on sport and other types of recreation.

"They get the hundreds and thousands of dollars while we, at least in the northern art community, have to settle for a few odd dollars. They get the arenas and other big facilities. The arts are usually consigned to an annex or, in some cases, even to a furnace room," she says.

Emily says the trouble is that "artists don't yell." She hopes to get the 300 northern artists, art lovers and other people 'yelling' for aid in 1981.

Emily's work doesn't end in the living room or in the kitchen, where she is an expert cook. She also tends a large garden and this fall supplied about a tonne of potatoes to the local grocery store. A long, neat woodpile is another indication of her handiwork.

One of her neighbors reckons he probably saved Emily's life a few years ago.

"I found her breaking ground for her garden with her tractor in high gear," the neighbor says. "The front wheels were off the ground. At least I've taught her to drive a tractor in second gear."

That may be, but Emily's friends agree she still does everything else full throttle.

Pilots practice landing helicopter in water

Captain Hugh Fischer, CFB Shearwater, hit the water of MacDonald lake near the base yesterday morning with a Sea King helicopter.

It was the first time in 19 years of Armed Forces flying that the Captain was forced to land in water.

However, it was a training session, not an accident for Captain Fischer, a native of The Pas, Manitoba.

VT 406 Squadron, the training squadron at Shearwater teaches pilots from the operational 443 and 413 squadrons how to land a Sea King in water if for any reason they must go down.

Lt. Col. Glen Brown, a native of Ottawa, commander of 406 squadron says the Sea King does a lot of hovering in both Search and Rescue work and while using its sonar for anti-submarine training. It usually hovers 40 feet above the water and it is possible it might lose power from one of the engines.

Pilots must practise putting the helo down, taxiing in the water, and taking off in about two minutes.

The reason for the haste is because water can come into the Sea King through the sonar

hole and also in the cockpit area. Salt water is heavy and would inhibit the take off. Also it would destroy valuable anti-submarine warfare equipment.

Instructor for the training period was Captain Brian Northrup, Sussex, N.B. and navigator was Captain John Wasag, Toronto.

Captain Northrup said the Sea King weighs about 19,000 pounds with a full load of fuel and with a full crew.

He said it is not an amphibious airplane and there is always the danger it might tip over.

He instructed Captain Fischer on how to land and take off using both engines, using only one engine, how to land if the try-for take off isn't successful, and how to best use the power to get out of the water.

The Sea King is equipped

with flotation devices which can be used if necessary.

Captain Northrup said if an accident occurred and he had to land in the water he would stay in the aircraft as long as possible if he couldn't get airborne again. If the aircraft was flying from a ship, the ship would come toward them immediately and the helo has enough power to taxi about 20 miles.

Top skater

Dana Fischer is a 14-year-old member of the Shearwater Figure Skating Club and a grade nine student at Sir Robert Borden Junior High School in Cole Harbour.

Dana started skating three years ago at the Portage La Prairie Figure Skating Club in Manitoba.

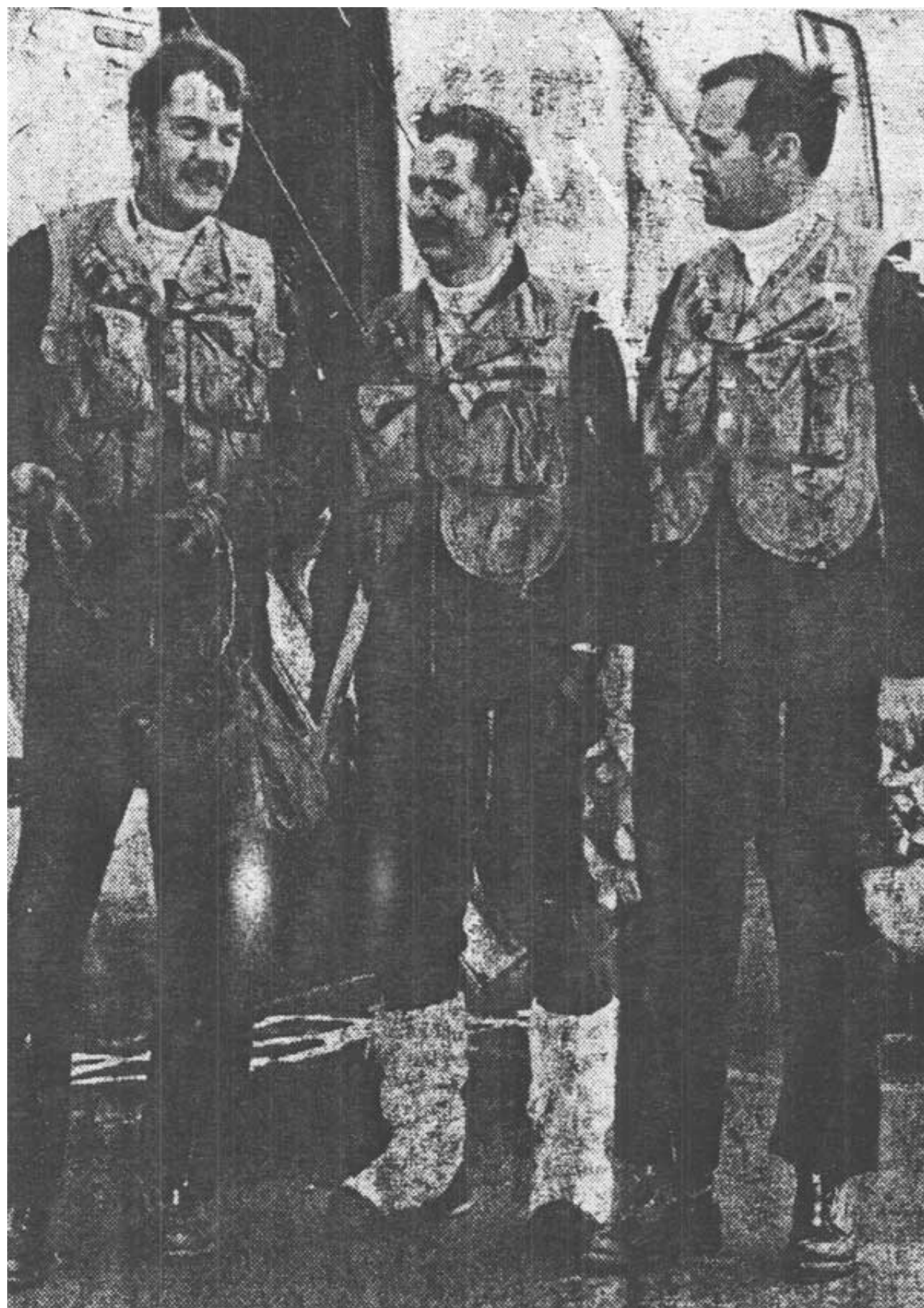
Last December, Dana placed first in the preliminary ladies held during the Shearwater Club competition and also in the area competition held at St. Mary's.

Dana has been working on her second figure and junior bronze dances. Dana is coached by Josie Hudson, of Halifax. Dana also coaches at Shearwater on Thursday and at the District Seven arena.

Dana also enjoys volleyball and swimming.



DANA FISCHER



CAPTAIN HUGH FISCHER, right, a Sea King pilot at CFB Shearwater dipped his first aircraft in the water as he took instructional training on landing in water from **Captain Brian Northern**, left, an instructor with 415 Squadron. At centre is Navigator, **Captain John Waag**.

MCLEAN - At the Good Samaritan Nursing Home, Alliston, on Friday, October 7, 1977, Nina McLean in her 91st year. Wife of the late William K. McLean and dear mother of Wilma (Mrs. H. Taylor) Hugh, John and Georgina (Mrs. W. Ryan). Also survived by 6 grandchildren. Rested at the W. John Thomas Funeral Home, Alliston after 2 p.m. on Sunday, October 9th for service in the chapel on Monday, October 10, 1977 at 1:30 p.m. Interment in Alliston Union Cemetery. 27 27 a

Obituary

Mrs. McLean dies at 90 in Alliston

Nina Grace McLean died at the age of ninety at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home in Alliston on October 7.

Mrs. McLean, the former Grace Fletcher, was born in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, February 26, 1887. She attended Saint Margaret's Girls' College in Whitby, Ontario.

Mrs. McLean was a member of the Elmgrove Church and later a member of Saint John United Church in Alliston.

Mrs. McLean was predeceased by her husband William.

She is survived by daughters, Wilma Taylor, Capreol; and Georgina Ryan, Edmonton; and sons Hugh, Egbert and John D. Bowmanville; a niece, Bobbie Hodgson, Bradford and a nephew, Stewart McIntosh; seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Rev. J.F. Shilton conducted the service from the John Thomas Funeral Home. Interment was in Alliston Union Cemetery.

