

AGNES HEALY
(MRS GEORGE
MATHESON)



Miss Aggie Healey attended
the High School here for some
time and it gives me pleasure to
state that she was a student who was
energetic and thorough in every
subject she undertook.

Miss Healey is a young lady who
is possessed of much more
than ordinary ability which
combined with her assiduity and
diligence, will, I am confident,
win success for her in any
school where she may accept a
position.

J. B. Clark C. G.
Principal T.H.S.

Tilsonburg Dec. 3^d 96

Primary Certificate.



This Document gives the Holder NO AUTHORITY TO TEACH in a Public or High School.

No. 1000

Agnes Healey

having passed the prescribed examinations held in July, 1896, at Tilsonburg
is hereby granted a PRIMARY CERTIFICATE.

F. A. Stadel

Registrar.

Certified,

J. P. Quinn B. A.

Chairman Board of Examiners.

Dated at the Education Department,
Toronto, 26th August, 1896.

NOTE.—The holder of this Certificate may (on satisfactory proof of age and character) be admitted by the Board of Examiners to a Model School, to be trained for a Third Class Professional Certificate.

Matheson

Matheson - At the Hamilton General Hospital on Thursday, May 26, 1960. MaryAGNESHealy, widow of George Matheson, 153 Fairfield Ave., North in her eighty----second year. Dear mother of Deloss Matheson, Hamilton, and Miss Georgina Matheson, at home. Sister of Lloyd Healy, Toronto, grandmother of George Matheson. Member of Delta Tabernacle. Resting at the Robinson Funeral Home, King Street East at West Avenue. Service in the chapel on Monday at 1:30 p.m. Interment in Woodland Cemetery.

In Tillsonbrg News - Mrs. J. C. Inman received word on Friday of the death of her cousin, Mrs. George Matheson of Hamilton. Mrs. Matheson was the former Agnes Healy who spent her childhood in Eden and before her marriage taught school here.

Eden, Ont., Dec. 26th / 1899.

To whom it may concern,

Miss Aggie Healy was for three years a teacher in the Junior Room of Eden Public School and she gave the best of satisfaction that any school could wish for. Miss Healy is a young lady of more than average ability, studious and thorough, so that her classes were always found in the first rank of proficiency.

Having had ample opportunity of judging her work, we are of the opinion that she is an excellent teacher as she possesses in a marked degree the qualities necessary to success. We cannot too strongly recommend her to any Board of Trustees.

Signed {

John Patton {

Ira Stilwell { Trustees
Wilton Sumner }

I have pleasure in endorsing the above recommendation

within

Inspector

E. C. P.

COPY OF LETTER DATED Aug. 20th, 1900 from Mr. Milton Inman of Eden.
1900
Eden Aug.20th

To whom it may concern

This is to certify that Miss Agnes Healey taught the Junior department of Eden P.S. for three years and gave up the school to attend school at Woodstock with the intention of securing a certificate to teach again her 3rd class having expired.

Miss Healey had charge of Eden school until Jan 1st 1900 leaving this place with the intention of fitting herself to pass the examination which she just passed. The Board of Trustees met and agreed to wait as long as possible with the intention of re-engaging her should she be successful in passing her examination.

Owing to lateness of reports of examinations and believing it impossible for her to pass her examination in such limited time we decided to engage a teacher one week before school began. The enclosed reference speaks for itself. By writing (sic) Mr. J. D. Eichenberg, Eden, Ont. or M.J. Inman, Vienna, you may secure further reference if required, they being former trustees and two of the trustees who first engaged Miss Healey.

signed Milton Inman
S.S. No. 18 Bayham
Treasurer&Chairman

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Milton Inman
S.S. No. 18 Bayham
Treasurer & Chairman

Eden Aug 20th 1900
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EX-PUPILS HONOR RETIRING PRINCIPAL

Beneath sunny skies, an outdoor ceremony was held on the school grounds at Straffordville, Tuesday to mark the retirement of Everett McCurdy, principal at Bayham-Area Public School.

Over 200 visitors signed the register, and over 300 students were in attendance during part of the program.

Mr. McCurdy, who has been in the teaching profession 40 years, taught 8,000 days, losing only 10 days due to illness.

He began his career September, 1920, and for a year taught at Jacksonburg, in Houghton Township. The following year he was at S.S. No. 4, Southwold (River Road School).

For three years from September, 1922, to June 1925, he taught at S.S. No. 18, Bayham (Eden village school, and for $6\frac{1}{2}$ years, from September, 1925, to December, 1931, was behind the desk at S.S. No. 12, Dereham (Brownsville school), Miss Opal Wilson accompanied him when he applied for the position at the school and three years later on Aug. 13, 1928, they were married.

Then, Mr. McCurdy took a position at Simcoe Public School, for a year and a half from January, 1932 to June, 1933. For nine years after, from Sept. 1933, to June, 1942 he taught at West Lorne. While a resident there, he was a Sunday School teacher in the Baptist Church and president of the Horticultural Society for several years.

In Sept. 1942, he started to teach at S.S. No. 8, Woolwich, St. Jacobs, where he stayed until June 1943. He returned to Eden in Sept. 1943, and taught school in the village until Mar. 1951. His wife, Mrs. Opal McCurdy, began teaching music in 1938.

In Mar., 1951, when the Bayham Area School opened, Mr. McCurdy took the principalship, and kept that position until June of this year, when he retired from the teaching profession.

Born on Sept. 18, 1898, in a little farm home on the Second Concession of Bayham he was the first son of Mr. and Mrs. Richard McCurdy. On Aug. 13, 1928, he married the former Opal Wilson, daughter of the late Edgar Wilson and Mrs. Florence Cridland of St. Thomas, who was his pupil in the ninth grade when he taught at Eden.

They had one son, Ronald, who is now a successful teacher in Toronto, and have

three grandchildren. Mrs. Pat Nichols of London, and Gordon Cull of Straffordville niece and nephew grew up in their home and became a part of the family, and the two were among those present at the occasion.

He began his education at Otter Valley school, and in his first year in high school at Vienna, in the fall of 1914, he contracted the dreaded disease, polio, then very rare and was left badly crippled, with his education just nicely begun.

During the following high school years he was often drawn to school on a home-made sleigh. In spite of his handicap, he successfully passed his grades and the fall of 1918 found him at Teachers' College, London. This year was also passed successfully in spite of tedious ascending and descending of so many staircases.

The above is part of an address presented in the form of "This is your Life", and read by Art Martyn of Straffordville.

Cecil Ball, of Eden presided as chairman, and among presentations to Mr. McCurdy were a gift from the school pupils, presented by Linda Francia; a book of letters by Mrs. Lawrence Mitchell of R.R. # 1, Straffordville; a watch and a purse of money from friends and members of the Home and School Association, made by Bud Thurston of Straffordville; and an honorary year's paid up membership in the Lions Club, presented by Lion George Cameron of Straffordville.

Mrs. E. McCurdy was presented with a gift and arm bouquet of roses from the Home and School Association, the presentation made by Mrs. Rose Knowles, past president of the Association.

Mrs. Lawrence Mitchell read excerpts from letters received from the former pupils, staff and board members prior to presenting the book of letters. A number of visitors stood up and gave comments, among them Rev. D.M. Stinson, minister of the United Church, Straffordville.

Musical numbers were provided by George Jenkins, who played a piano solo; Paul Langohr, who played an accordion number and Don Nickerson who performed on his Violin. Grant Mitchell, chairman of the school board, in his remarks paid tribute to the honored guest for his services to the board, and Dewey Vallee gave a Board report, that outlined the activities of the group since its inception in 1946.

Charles Davis, assistant principal, read a letter from Mr. McCall, assistant inspector, who wrote his regrets at not being able to attend also those of the inspector, Earl Rawlings, who is hospitalized. Mr. McCurdy addressed the crowd briefly and Rev. P.D. Augustine pronounced the benediction.



MR. + MRS.

EVERETT MCCURDY



TED CASWELL GERALD MOODY PATSY CULL EDDIE ZAMENIK MORLEY HARVEY
 DAVID LESTER SHIRLEY MOODY BOBBY LESTER BETTY DAVIS HELEN WILSON
 VIRGINIA TAYLOR EVELYN HARDING RUTH VASILUNAS FRED BENNETT WAYNE BALDWIN
 PAUL FISH DOROTHY DAVIS BERTHA RATKUS GORDON CULL MURIEL WILSON
 EUNICE BARNES MARIE CASWELL BARBARA MOORE LILLIAN HARDING DONALD STANKUS

Everett McCurdy was Principal of Eden school, S.S. # 18 for the school years of 1922 - 1925 inclusive.

He returned to Eden in 1943 and was Principal until 1946 there. He was transferred to the Straffordville School as Principal to an eight room school just recently built there. He held an Elementary Certificate in Agriculture and Horticulture, Elementary Course in Manual Training and also a Permanent Certificate First Class.

His wife, Mrs. Everett McCurdy supervised Music in Eden School and area schools, including Straffordville, for seventeen years. Summer courses were taken in Toronto.

