

THE SAGKEENG NEWS

v. 1, nos. 5-7, 10-12; Feb-July 1974, March 1975-Feb 1976

The Sagkeeng News

25¢ PER COPY

"Second Class Mail - Registration Number 3182"

VOL. 1

September Issue, 1973

FORT ALEXANDER, MANITOBA

NUMBER 2

Sagkeeng Senior Citizens Group

On July 16th, 1973, the Chief and Council of Fort Alexander called the former Chief George M. Guimond to a meeting to discuss a possibility of forming a program for the Senior Citizens of the community. The meeting was held to see if it was possible to receive the use and knowledge of skills the Senior Citizens have, which were about lost. The Chief and Council felt they were left out in the activities taking place in our community. The Council asked the former Chief to carry out and co-ordinate a program for the Senior Citizens.

On July 18th, 1973, a meeting was called for our Senior Citizens. At that meeting, ten Board of Directors were chosen. Mr. John Morriveau was selected as President; Mr. Joe Spence was chosen as Treasurer; Mr. Ed Henderson as Vice-President with the above three given the Signing Authority. The Co-ordinator is the Provisional Secretary. At the same meeting plans were drawn up as to how they were going to raise funds to carry out the projects they had in mind. The first on the agenda for fund raising was a weekly bingo. The second was a raffle sale of tickets. This has worked out very well. Within three weeks, the Senior Citizens had raised approximately \$700.00. With this money, \$500.00 was given to the Old Folk's making the tour down east which was sponsored by the Chief and Council of Fort Alexander. The S.C.G. met with the Chief and Council to lay out plans for the tour. The Co-ordinator was asked to make a survey to determine how many senior citizens we have on the reserve. In the survey were included people who are not able to carry on in the work force program due to health and disability reasons. A total of 115 senior citizens was recorded and reported to the Chief and Council.

Another survey was carried out to see who was prepared to go on the tour. Out of the 115 people, 45 were willing to make the tour. The Chief and Council then laid out plans as to how the tour was to be financed. A request by the Senior Citizens to the department of Indian Affairs for a cultural grant was made with support given by the Chief and Council. The grant was approved and \$5000.00 was given. Another grant from the Chief and Council was approved. This was for \$5000.00 and the Senior Citizens provided \$500.00 which made a grand total of \$10,500.00.

On July 23rd, 1973, another meeting took place and at this meeting the date was decided upon by the group. August 20th, 1973, at 9:00 a.m. was the starting date. The Council was asked to hire a travel service agency, to make the necessary arrangements for hotel and travel. This was done by Council and the firm of D'Eschambault Travel Service was given the task of making the arrangements with the Co-ordinator.

On August 20th, 9:00 a.m., the Group making the tour got together at the Band Office to board the bus. The Group was sent off with a blessing given by Bishop Billeau, Rev. A. Girard, Pastor of the R.C. Mission, Rev. T. McNear, Christ Church, Pastor of Fort Alexander, Chief and Council, well wishers and families of the Group, a happy Journey and a safe arrival home.



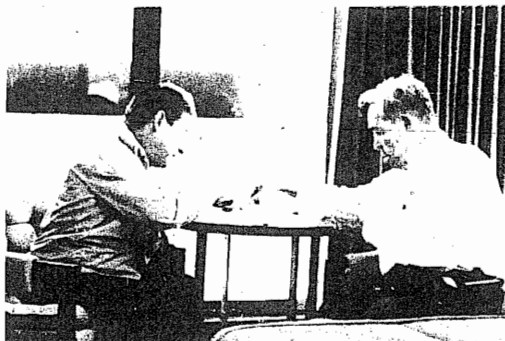
Group pose in front of St. Joseph Shrine in Mount Royal, Quebec.



Ladies of the Senior Citizens Tour relax in front of the Parliament buildings in Ottawa.



Some Senior Citizens taking time out for refreshments after touring War Museum in Ottawa.



Patac and William Fontaine engaged in a friendly game of cribbage. This was just after Patac had skunked Chief Fontaine. William pointing out to Patac 'No need to cheat, you've already been skunked.'

More Pictures and Story
Continued on Page 2

Recreation News

By Jim Fontaine

GOLF TOURNAMENT

On August 4th, 1973, an Indian and Metis Golf Tournament was held at the Victoria Beach Golf Club. A total of 25 golfers were entered in this event. After 18 holes of play, Mr. Gene Courchene and Mr. Butch Fleury of St. Lazare, Manitoba, were both tied for first place honors. Each carded a 76, but after a one hole play-off, Mr. Gene Courchene walked out as the Tournament Champ. Third place was taken by Mr. Philip Guimond.

As this tournament was a success, plans have been made to hold it annually.

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

'Congratulations' go out to our Little League Team. The team did not lose a single game this season in League Play. The team also played in three tournaments, winning one and coming in second in two.

On August 4th, the team was invited to play at St. George, Manitoba. In the first game, the team played the local team beating them 9 to 3 and in final game for championship Trophy, our boys hammered a 22-0 win over Pine Falls.

On August 18th, the team went out of their class when they entered the Pony League Tournament put on by Mr. Fabian Morriveau and staff. In this tournament, the boys came out second place, losing to the Pony Leaguers from East Selkirk. Six teams were entered in the tournament.

Pony League 13 - 15 years; and Little League 10 - 12 years.

On September 16th, a Little League Tournament was held in conjunction with the Senior Citizens Picnic. Four teams entered the tourney. The Hollow Water Colts took home the Championship Trophy as they walloped our Little Leaguers in the game by a score of 12 to 3. After the game Mr. Cliff Fontaine presented the trophies. Larry Seymour, Captain of the winning team accepted the Championship Trophy. Brian Courchene accepted the Consolation Trophy for the Fort Alexander Team.

Charlie Monias of the Hollow Water Colts was voted the Most Valuable Player of the Tournament. Derek Fontaine received the Best Hitter Award.

I would like to express my thanks to the four men who volunteered for the canoeing programs which was held for three weeks in July. The men are Mr. Harold Courchene, Mr. John Bird, Mr. Bert Fontaine and Mr. Mel Courchene. Without these men I am sure the program would not have been a success.

Continued on page 2

**MORE ABOUT
MORE PICTURES AND STORY
Continued from Page 1**

Sagkeeng Senior Citizens Group

**MORE ABOUT
RECREATION NEWS
Continued from page 1**

THE TOUR WAS A TEN-DAY AFFAIR

- Aug. 20 - The group arrived at Thunder Bay and stayed for the night at the Holiday Inn.
- Aug. 21 - Left Thunder Bay, 9:00 a.m. Arrived at Sault Ste. Marie and stayed at the Windsor Hotel.
- Aug. 22 - Left Sault Ste. Marie at 9:00 a.m. Arrived at Ottawa, stayed at the Holiday Inn for 3 nights.
- Aug. 23 - The Group was met by Chief Philip Fontaine of Fort Alexander and a sight seeing tour of the Parliament Building and the Mint was made by the group. They weren't lucky enough to see how the money was being made as they arrived too late.
- Aug. 24 - At 10:30 a.m. the Group left for a tour to Montreal and to Expo. Some of the Senior Citizens took a train ride to see the whole Expo Island and the great Shrine, The Mount Royale of Brother Andre. The group arrived back in Ottawa quite late that evening and were pretty played out.
- Aug. 25 - Left Ottawa, arrived at London, Ontario. Spent the next two nights at the Holiday Inn.
- Aug. 26 - The Group toured the Six Nations Reserve. They stopped at the Craftshop to buy souvenirs to bring home. The Group left Six Nations and toured the Great Niagara Falls. This was on Sunday and what a crowd of people there was.
- Aug. 27 - Left London, Ontario. Arrived at Mackinaw City in Michigan, U.S.A. That evening, the group got together and presented the bus driver, Mr. Percy Palinsky, a pair of Indian Moccasin slippers as a souvenir gift in appreciation for a job well done. The presentation was made by the oldest member of the group - Mr. Albert Morrisseau on behalf of the Senior Citizens Group.
- Aug. 28 - Left Mackinaw City at 9:00 a.m. Arrived in Duluth Superior that evening and stayed at the Holiday Inn.
- Aug. 29 - Left Duluth Superior for home. Arrived home safe and sound with all the members of the Group at 5:00 p.m. Asking some of the Senior Citizens comments on the tour. Some of the comments were: 'It was such a wonderful tour. This tour will long be remembered.' One Senior 'Citizen's Comment was that she was given something that she would never forget till her remaining days. She praised the Council for giving the Senior Citizens a chance to see what it looks like on the outside of the reserve they live in.'

After the group came back, they decided to organize a Picnic and Field Day for the whole community. This event took place on Sunday, September 16th, 1973. More on this event in the next issue. So for now, good-bye and many thanks for the people who worked so hard to make the tour a real success. The Senior Citizens of Fort Alexander, George M. Guimond, Co-Ordinator. (If anyone is interested in seeing pictures of the tour, they're available at the Branch Office.



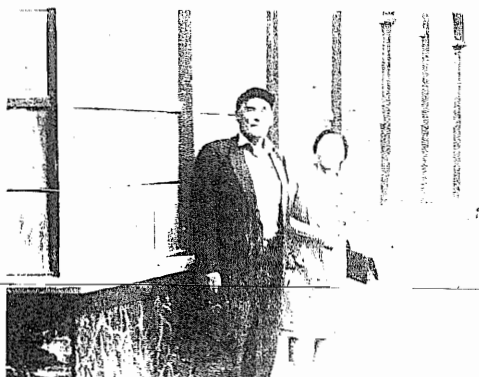
Mrs. Florence Bunn and Mrs. Jessie Twoheart at the Holiday Inn in Ottawa.



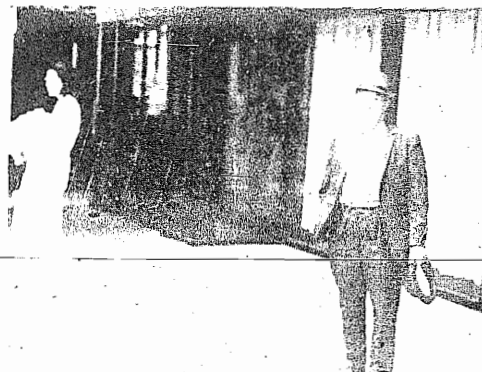
Sophie Courchene and Esther Fontaine at the Shrine of St. Joseph. Esther appears to be enjoying her ice-cream.



The pair of Abraham couples having refreshments at Expo.



Mr. and Mrs. Jim Starr tour Ottawa on foot - what a fine looking couple!



Is this dapper gentleman Punch or Charlie Guimond?

Thirty boys were involved in the Program and I'm sure every one of them enjoyed the trips they took up the lake.

A trip was also made to the Little Black River Reserve which is about twenty (20) miles from Fort Alexander. The boys camped out there for two nights.

More about this trip will appear in the next issue of 'The Sagkeeng News.' And last but not least, a Special thanks goes out to the St. John Cathedral School for Boys, for the loan of their canoes.

Education

BY JERRY FONTAINE



In the last few years, Education has become an increasing concern to the leaders of this community. Education has risen from complete obscurity to immense importance in the last year. The reason for this being the lack of success of native students at the High School level.

No possible or obvious reason for this enormous failure rate has been made known. Although, the high school level. Many of the students often openly admit that they are sometimes left-out and this sometimes produces a feeling of rejectedness. As a result, education becomes much more difficult for the student to bear. Often teachers will say that they try to teach the native students differently, but again, is it necessary for the teachers to react in such a manner? This also may aid the student in developing an inferiority complex. This complex produced thus limits the students ability to learn at a satisfactory rate, for fear of embarrassment and fellow students.

The reason above is one of the main incentives of the Education take-over by the Fort Alexander Band. It is hoped that the Education Authority will help prepare students of the community for the difficulties of high school curriculum. They will attempt to achieve this by designing a curriculum pertinent to the needs of the students. The Chief and Council are hoping to be able to make it at least better than it is at present.

Fontaine Wins Scholarship Awards

The Scholarship Awards Committee of Indian and Northern Affairs have chosen Jerry Fontaine as the successful applicant among six other competitors. Jerry will be receiving an award certificate and a cheque

for two hundred dollars in early November. Congratulations! Jerry has already left for Simon Fraser University and we wish him the best of luck in his studies.

INDIAN CULTURE

INDIAN CULTURE - EXCERPT FROM THE REPORT ON THE YOUTH SEMINAR.

At the youth seminar held on August 20, 21, 22, 1973, Dr. Ahab Spence was invited to give a lecture to the students on Indian Culture. He started out by saying that 'There is no such thing as 'Indian Culture!' Rationale to this statement was pointed out by the speaker. Before the whiteman came, there was no such thing as an 'Indian.' It was by mistake we were classified as 'Indians.' Before they came, we were known as tribes but we didn't call ourselves Indians; we were human beings. Dr. Spence, then proceeded to explain the various misconceptions related to 'Indian' characteristics. Indians are non-competitive. One example used to prove this wrong is that Dr. Spence said that he has been married for 33 years but, had to work like hell to get where he is because of the competition the other young men gave him. As a young man, he used to compete in various ways (trapping, hunting, wrestling, etc.).

Another misconception the whiteman has is that Indians do not care about the future and that time is meaningless to them. White people say we do not worry about the future. My father was very future oriented but it was related to nature and survival. Time was related to the four seasons. So, this business of the Indian not being future oriented is just not true and we are in fact, future oriented.

Another common misconception says that Indians are lazy. My father and mother were hard working people. Mother would tend to the house, ensuring there was plenty of wood, water, and all those things needed to make our home comfortable. My father would be away from home on hunting trips, sometimes for months. We saw many men coming home from a hunting trip, tired and hungry. Still, the first thing they would do would be to feed their animals. Dr. Spence went on to speak of the positive side of the Indians. Indians and Whites got along better in the 14th century because they were dependent on one another. 'Sharing' was then very common and Indian people were considerate. Sometimes people did not have very much luck on their hunting trips and others would share with them. I hope that this is a characteristic that the Indian people maintain. I was taught by my parents not to laugh at but to respect older people, because these older people had a lot of knowledge and their gray hair and old age represents that. In his concluding remarks, Dr. Spence elaborated on culture change and the effects of these changes. Some people are ashamed to be called Indians and others who are caught up in the dominate society's value system. He gave an example of one person who wanted \$15,000 per year to teach at Fort Alexander. There are also many people who are losing their language. What must we do to maintain our culture? Certain things have happened where our culture changed. We must learn about our Indian history and speak our language to realize the things that are important.

EDITORIAL

We hope you noticed the effort the Chief Council has made to make our reserve a place to be proud to reside in.

Many of the houses have been painted, some have been remodeled and others were repaired. All the access roads were gravelled and the North Shore road is presently being repaired. It is our hope that it will be paved in the near future. I'm sure many of you with cars will appreciate this.

The reason for this 'facial uplift' of Fort Alexander is that we hope to start establishing commercial businesses here. You realize that a place which is in a state of neglect will naturally be ignored. With this in mind, we sincerely hope that you help to keep our reserve BEAUTIFUL.

The Editor.

EDITORIAL

With the beginning of the new school year, we introduced the Sagkeeng Education Authority who were responsible for hiring new teachers and changing the school curriculum to fit the needs of the students. There is no denying that this is one more step towards self-government for the people of Sagkeeng.

First and foremost, if we are going to live in harmony on this reserve, co-operation will be needed from all angles. Our first school committee meeting of September 23rd, 1973, was somewhat a failure as there were but a handful of people who attended. We do not blame anyone as there may have been other important businesses to attend to, but I urge one and all to bear in mind that without co-operation from everyone, our efforts will fail.

We know that vandalism, break-ins, and general destructive behavior in the school did not help matters any in the past and this is another reason why we urge you as parents to see to it that participation is being had in school. We welcome you to visit your school as often as you see fit. This might encourage the students when they see that their parents are interested in their school activities.

Our school teachers were hired with full knowledge as to what was being expected of them and are doing their utmost to perform their duties. It will be up to us to show our co-operation by seeing to it that our children attend school regularly. There are facilities available as far as school buses are concerned, so let us join hands and make this school year 1973-74 a successful one. We can certainly achieve our goal if we make up our minds to do it.

The school staff promise you full co-operation, so please take advantage of it.

Fort Alexander Youth Seminar

A youth seminar was held at Fort Alexander on August 20-21-22, 1973. The seminar was planned by the following people: Mrs. Ruth Fontaine - Guidance Counsellor; Mrs. Elaine Fontaine - Court/Youth Worker and Mr. John A. Courchene - Teacher - aide.

Discussion Leaders: Jerry Fontaine and Gerald Courchene.

Resource Personnel: Mr. Earl Duncan - Alcohol Foundation of Manitoba; Dr. Ralph Pippert - Dean - Faculty of Education, Brandon University; Sagkeeng Education Authority - Mr. Ahab Spence and Mr. John Kelly, Mrs. Dorothy Betz - Court Communicator, Constable Bob Norton - Power-view Detachment R.C.M.P., Mr. Fern Courchene - Court Communicator assisted the Youth Planning Committee in the discussion groups.

Chief Fontaine opened the seminar by outlining the purpose of the seminar and what he hopes would be achieved by this exercise. He indicated to the young people present his concerns related to the various incidents of break-ins at the office and the schools. He also pointed out the efforts the elected members of the community made towards assisting the young people in influencing social improvements in Fort Alexander.

Mr. Fern Courchene followed with a short talk on the problems facing leaders today and on the part which must be played by the future leaders of this community. The students then had a discussion on the problems they face at home and elsewhere. These are some that they listed:

- 1) Parents are too strict.
- 2) Parents get intoxicated.
- 3) Parents and teachers play favourites.
- 4) Too much freedom for some.
- 5) Some kids brag about vandalism; they think they're big when they do something wrong.
- 6) No recreation.
- 7) Lack of responsibility.
- 8) Too much prejudice at school.
- 9) Parents are not interested in their children.
- 10) Dislike of neighbors or other people in community.
- 11) Boredom.
- 12) Jealousy.
- 13) Getting blamed for things we didn't do. Too much baby-sitting.
- 14) Other children do not want to get involved.
- 15) Different factions in the community.

The afternoon was spent with Earl Duncan speaking on alcohol and giving a film on 'Bitter Winds' which was followed by a question and answer period.

Why do people turn to alcohol when they have problems?

What is the best kind of liquor a person can drink? How much can a person drink before it affects them?

Where can we get a hold of drugs?

How long do the effects of drugs last?

Do you know any pushers? What is the strongest kind of drug?

Are the effects of drugs and alcohol different?

What are flashbacks?

How long does a blackout last? How long do flashbacks last?

How come people get hangovers?

A number of other questions were asked relating to alcoholism and drugs.

AUGUST 21:

The morning was spent entirely with resource person Dr. Ralph Pippert, who conducted various forms of exercises to enable the students to talk more freely during group discussions. In the afternoon, Dr. Spence spoke to the young people on Indian Culture. The contents of Mr. Spence's talk will be published on another column of this paper. John Kelly then took the floor with 'Education' and this terminated with the young people listing their problems at school.

PROBLEMS

There is no teacher and student relationship.

Students want to be recognized as any other human being whether white or Indian.

The curriculum should be geared to the needs of the students.

Rules are too strict.

Teachers show a dislike or misunderstandings towards some students in the classroom.

Teachers label students.

Parental involvement not encouraged by teacher staff.

Students turn to cheating due to poor structural school system.

Teachers have a poor relationship to slow learners.

No vocational courses offered. Lack of support for recreation.

Teachers pay more attention to smarter students.

Teachers too strict.

Teachers should visit parents. Indian history should be taught.

Lose interest in some subjects.

August 22, Mrs. Dorothy Betz was introduced to the young people and she spent some time discussing the need for Court Communicators for the native people.

Mrs. Betz also talked about the work involving the communicators to compliment Mrs. Betz type of work Constable Norton gave representation on community involvement - citizens responsibility and history of town police.

This concluded the presentations by the resource people. The young people then gave their comments concerning the seminar.

GROUP #1

1) Speakers would jump to different subjects.

2) Some speakers were boring, their language was too high for our level recommendation.

3) Would like a seminar to this once a week.

4) Indian chiefs from other reserves, drop-outs as speakers, different counsellors.

GROUP #2

The first day was not so good because of the subject 'alcohol.'

The rest of the subjects were really good.

We were not really interested in the subject of alcohol recommendation.

Yes, we would like to have another seminar. We learned things that we never knew before. Especially when Mr. Spence said there was no such thing as Indian culture.

GROUPS #3

We would like to have guidance counselling for problems once a month.

We would like to have a seminar every six months. Topics are:

a) Sex education.

b) Recreation.

c) Summer jobs.

d) Student exchange.

e) Drug abuse lessons.

GROUPS #4

1) More seminars with cop's because they are most convincing.

2) We would like a doctor to speak on alcohol and how it affects the central nervous system.

GROUPS #5

Causes of break-ins.

1) Boredom.

2) Lack of recreation.

3) Not enough attention from parents.

4) Parents too strict and when the kids are allowed to go out they cause damage to things.

Groups #1 Recommendations for Recreation Programs

Camping, dances, trips to other reserves, skating, broomball, volleyball, basketball, soccer, floor hockey, walkathons, wakeathons, jobs for after school, study hall, and group sessions in the evenings.

A committee was formed consisting of eight representatives chosen by the young people. At the end of one month of school these students will meet together and discuss the problems they have during the past month.

Articles of a Treaty made and concluded, this third day of August in the year of Our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy one between Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland by her Commissioner Thomas A. Simpson Esquire of the one part and the Chippewa and Menominee Two Tribes of Indians inhabitants of the country within the limits hereinafter defined and delimited by their chief men and named as hereinafter mentioned of the other part.

Whereas all the Indians inhabiting the said country have presented to our appointments made by the said Commissioner, two hundred and thirty at the place hereinafter called Seven Towns several petitions, articles, matters of interest to His Most Gracious Majesty of the one part and to the said Indians of the other and whereas the said Indians have been accepted and informed by His Majesty's said Commissioner that it is the desire of His Majesty to open up to settlement and Immigration a tract of country bounded and described as hereinafter mentioned and to obtain the consent thereof of her Indian subjects inhabiting the said tract and to make a Treaty and arrangements with them so that there may be peace and good will between them and His Majesty and that they may have and be assured of such allowance they are to receive year by year from His Majesty's bounty and benevolence.

And Whereas the Indians of the said Tract, duly convened in Council as aforesaid and being requested by His Majesty's said Commissioner to name certain Chiefs and Headmen who should be authorized on their behalf to conduct such negotiations and sign any Treaty to be founded thereon and to become responsible to His Majesty for the faithful performance by their respective Bands of such obligations as should be assumed by them, the said Indians have thereupon named the following persons for that purpose: that is to say: *Mis-he-ho-mee*

or *Red Eagle*, (*Henry Jones*) *Ma-he-ko-janis* or *Red Fox*, *Ma-shi-ko-janis* or *Spring down Arrow*, *Ma-he-wa-nan* or *Circle of Birds Tail*, *Sis-ee-tig-was* or *Spring Arrow*, *Ma-he-was* or *Whisperer*, *Ma-he-ho-mee* or *Yellow Light*; and thereupon in open Council the different Bands have presented their respective Chiefs to His Excellency the Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Manitoba and of the North West Territory being present and Council and to the said Commissioner as the Chiefs and Head men for the purpose aforesaid of the respective Bands of Indians inhabiting the said District hereinafter described; and whereas the said Lieutenant Governor and the said Commissioner then and there received and acknowledged the persons so presented as Chiefs and Head men for the purpose aforesaid: and Whereas the said Commissioner has proceeded to negotiate a Treaty with the said Indians and the same has finally been agreed upon and concluded as follows: that is to say:

The Chippewa and Menominee Two Tribes of Indians and all other the Indians inhabiting the District hereinafter described and defined do hereby vote, elect, severally and jointly up to His Majesty the Queen and Commissioners for ever all the lands intended within the following limits, that is to say: Beginning at the International Boundary line near its junction with the Lake of the Woods as a fixed line North from the Centre of *Acaem Lake*, thence to run due North to the Centre of *Kisau Lake*, thence *due North* to the Centre of *St. Charles Lake*, thence *due North* to the mouth of the *St. Charles*, thence by the *St. Charles River* to its mouth, thence westwardly including all the islands near the South end of the Lake across the Lake to the mouth of *St. Charles*, thence *due North* to a point on *St. Charles* halfway between *St. Charles* and the mouth of *St. Charles*, thence across *St. Charles* to a line due West to the Western Shore, thence *due South* to the Centre of the *St. Charles*, thence *due South* to the International Boundary line, and thence Eastwardly by the said line to the place of beginning, to have, own, to hold, to sell, to give, to His Majesty the Queen

Signing of a Treaty
THE "ARTICLES OF A TREATY" WERE EXTRACTED FROM A MICROFILM KEPT AT THE FEDERAL ARCHIVES OF OTTAWA.

and the provisions for ever and His Majesty the Queen herby agrees and undertakes to lay aside and reserve for the use and exclusive use of the Indians the following tracts of land, that is to say: For the use of the Indians belonging to the Band of which *Henry Jones*, otherwise called *Ma-he-ho-mee* is the Chief so much of land on both sides of the *St. Charles* River, beginning at the South end of *St. Charles* as well furnish one hundred and sixty acres for each family of *Ma-he-ho-mee* or in that proportion for larger or smaller families beginning from the North of the *St. Charles* and for the use of the Indians of whom *Ma-he-ko-janis* is the Chief so much land on the *St. Charles* River above *St. Charles* as well furnish one hundred and sixty acres for each family of *Ma-he-ko-janis* or in that proportion for larger or smaller families beginning from the North of the *St. Charles* and for the use of the Indians of whom *Ma-he-wa-nan* is the Chief so much land on the South and East side of the *St. Charles* above *St. Charles* as well furnish one hundred and sixty acres for each family of *Ma-he-wa-nan* or in that proportion for larger or smaller families reserving also a further tract enclosing said *St. Charles* to compose an equivalent to *St. Charles* square miles of good ground to be laid out in lots, the survey is being understood however that as the cost of the survey of this Treaty tract is within the bounds of any lands reserved by any Band, His Majesty reserves the right to deal with such matters as shall deem just, so as not to diminish the extent of land allotted to the Indians.

And with a view to show the satisfaction of His Majesty with the behavior and good conduct of the Indians parties to this Treaty the herby through her Commissioner is also to present of their claims for each Indian man, woman and child belonging to the Bands herby presented.

And further His Majesty agrees to maintain a school on each year herby made, whenever the School of the *St. Charles* should close.

Nothing in this Treaty or in any other Treaty made or to be made hereafter shall be taken to be construed to be an interference with the herby authority, or interfering liquor shall be allowed to be introduced or sold, and all laws now in force or hereafter to be enacted to prevent His Majesty's Indian subjects inhabiting the reserves or being claimants from the sale or purchase of the use of intoxicating liquors shall be strictly enforced.

His Majesty's Commissioner shall as soon as possible after the execution of this Treaty cause to be taken an accurate census of all the Indians inhabiting the District above described, distributing them in families, and shall in every year ensuing the date hereof, at some period during the month of July, or in such year to be duly notified to the Indians and as or near this respective census pay to each family of the persons the sum of *Twenty* Dollars Canadian Currency or in that proportion for a larger or smaller family, such payments to be made in such amounts as the Indians shall require of *St. Charles* (including *St. Charles* reserved lands) *St. Charles* or *St. Charles* as the amount and price of *St. Charles* or otherwise if the Majesty shall deem the same desirable in the interest of the Indian people.

And, the undersigned, chiefs do hereby bind and pledge themselves and their people, strictly to observe this Treaty and to maintain perpetual peace between themselves and Her Majesty's White Subjects, and not to interfere with the property or in any way molest the persons of Her Majesty's White or other subjects.

On Witness whereof Her Majesty's said Commissioner and the said Indian Chiefs have hereunto subscribed and set their hands, and seal at Lower Fort Garry this day and year herein first above named.

Signed, Sealed, and delivered in the presence of the same having been first read and explained by W. G. Schofield Esq. of the Indian Affairs Office at Lower Fort Garry as follows:
 W. G. Schofield
 Esq. of the Indian Affairs Office at Lower Fort Garry
 as follows:
 James M. McKay P. & C.
 Montreal Major
 Andrew G. C. G. G.
 James M. McKay
 Esq. of the Indian Affairs Office at Lower Fort Garry
 as follows:
 W. G. Schofield

	Ke-pa-to-humpun Indian Commissioner	his
	Ma-ho-ke-naw or Bird Eagle (Henry Prince)	X
	Ro-ke-ho-penis or Bird for ever, William Promphelt	X
	Na-sha-ke-penis or Flying clouds Bird	X
	Na-na-wa-nanah or Chief of the dead trail	X
	Ke-wi-tay-ash or Flying rounds	X
	Na-ke-wush or Whippoorwill	X
	Ke-ga-we-kovin, or Yellow Quill	X

Chief & Council News

In the end of November, we were chosen to be Chief and Council of our reserve for the coming two years. You probably all know our names, but just in case, we are: L. Philip Fontaine (Chief); Percy Alexander, Angela Bruyere, Victor Courchene, and Andrew Sinclair. (Councillors).

As everybody knows, our people have many difficult problems and it is hard to do something about many of them. We have only been in office for a little more than half a year, and we have in this short time only had time to start on many things, that we will try to implement during our time in office.

When we got into office, we had some long discussions about what we should do. We said, that some things have to be done just in order to give some better service to our people. In other areas, we said that we wanted to change what was going on, so that our people would be better off in the future.

We all know that unemployment is very bad in Fort Alexander. One of our main concerns have therefore been to create employment. Unfortunately, we were refused practically any grants under the LIP project. WE tried to correct this by writing to the federal minister of labour, R. Andras, but got no result. From the province however, we received somewhat more than \$20,352, for winter works program. With this we were able to hire 20 men to repair the arena, the warehouse and build a 'drop-in centre' for the youth. The 'Drop-in Centre' is in our opinion, very beautifully decorated, and the students run it completely on their own. After some initial difficulties, there have been no problems with this whatsoever for several months. Congratulations to the students!

A housing repair program for senior citizens was a good opportunity to provide employment as well as better the conditions for our older people. Some houses were repaired.

During the late spring, we have been able to get some grants for Work Opportunity Projects. For this we have recently employed 24 persons. These are working on brushing the reserve boundaries, painting, most of the houses and doing some other work.

For the students, we have been able to provide some work during this summer. The higher in the grades, the longer employment has been our guiding principle when hiring the students.

The energies of Chief and Council has been directed towards many projects. Particularly, we have tried to find out how a better education can be achieved for our children. To this end, we managed to get a promise about a new school on the north shore, and we have also made a program for 'take-over' of the schools by the band. The north shore school situation became very serious during the winter. The basement flooded, the water was contaminated (which the Band found out when they took their own tests). The buildings were cold and damp.

The schools were closed twice during the spring. Indian Affairs sent out various people, including the Regional Director and the Head of Education from Ottawa. Finally, the Band was able to get a commitment for a new school. Construction of the new school, for which architects have already been chosen, will be started as soon as possible. Before this can happen, however, we will have to discuss these matters with the north shore parents, so that their wishes can be respected. The school will be built by Indian labour.

The school 'take-over' has become more definite the last couple of months. The 'take-over' means basically that the Band will be responsible for all aspects of education, hiring (and firing), of teachers, designing curriculum, handling the physical facilities, and so on. For a long time, the education that has been given to us as

Indian people has not been relevant to our needs. We hope to be able to make it at least better than it is at the present (see our separate article).

The problems with our roads have created many difficulties. Last fall, the school buses could not even pass on the north shore road. This road is presently being rebuilt, and a black-topping will be possible not until next year, but then the north shore road problem should be permanently solved.

Housing is a difficult problem to solve. Many people are badly housed, and the way things are going, it seemed as if we would never catch up with the needs. To do more than the usual, we have decided to make an application to get a loan from Central Housing and Mortgaging. With this loan, we hope to build 30 houses during this fiscal year. Hopefully, we will be able to build some 25 houses next year. For these houses, however, the Band will have to charge a rent to all occupants who are earning a salary. This loan for houses has been approved in principle, and we hope to be able to start construction very soon.

As we have all noticed, we have problems with vandalism and trouble between the people on our reserve. There are problems that have to be approached in many difficult ways. The Band has hired a youth and court worker (Elaine Fontaine, who will try to help young people. We have also hired a second policeman, Fred (Jake) Kent, who together with Fabian Morrisseau will try to provide a better police service on the reserve.

EDITORS NOTE: The projects undertaken will be processed in detail in the next issue.

Signing of a Treaty

In the first issue, we tried to give a brief description of Sagkeeng before the whiteman came to settle permanently.

According to our research - the whiteman first saw Sagkeeng around 1730-32 and this was during LaVerendrye's search for a profitable Western Fur trade route.

For the time being we will jump a span of 140 years to the year of the signing of Treaty #1 in the year 1871.

In the future issues we will return to our original position and we will attempt to piece together a fairly accurate description of events leading up to the present.

The following report of the negotiations leading to the signing of Treaty #1 is extracted from the Manitoban dated August 3, 1871. The negotiations lasted from July 26, 1871, to August 3, 1871.

The Treaty Payments were made on August 5, 1871. According to the Treaty payroll of this date, there were 21 people from Fort Alexander present at Lower Fort Garry for this occasion.

A further payment of three dollars a head was made. This was to be regarded as a present from the Queen. This further payment was distributed by the Hudson's Bay Co. at Fort Alexander.

We will allow the reader the opportunity to decide if the agreement was fair.

L. P. Fontaine.



1871 - Signing of Treaty #1 in Lower Fort Garry.



Kakepenais, Chief from Fort Alexander, is described as a little man wearing a stove-pipe hat of very considerable elevation. - Signing Treaty #1. (Lower Fort Garry).

Second Payment

IN

Fort Alexander

Date.	No.	NAME.
	1	<i>Ka-ke-penais Chief</i>
	2	<i>Ka-che-mus-kosso</i>
	3	<i>Charles Starr</i>
	4	<i>Margaret Canard</i>
	5	<i>Jane Henderson</i>
	6	<i>Sha-wa-ge-si-kokk</i>
	7	<i>Isabella</i>
	8	<i>Mary Henderson</i>
	9	<i>Mary Jane</i>
	10	<i>Mary Pasanguat</i>
	11	<i>Emma Canard</i>
	12	<i>Benjamin Sinclair</i>
	13	<i>Ah-ke-ta-yah-sing</i>
	14	<i>Benjamin Kent</i>
	15	<i>Peter Henderson</i>
	16	<i>William Atkinson</i>
	17	<i>Thomas Spence</i>
	18	<i>Charles Sutherland</i>
	19	<i>Peter Spence</i>
	20	<i>Richard Boyzef</i>
	21	<i>William Sanderson</i>

Notice

PLEASE BE ADVISED THAT THE SUBSCRIPTION RATE FOR THE SAGKEENG NEWS WILL BE \$3.00 PER YEAR. TO SUBSCRIBE CONTACT MRS. ELAINE FONTAINE AT 367-8524 OR 367-8205. YOU MAY WRITE TO HER AT BOX 280, PINE FALLS, MANITOBA. ROE 1M0

FOR SALE

JOHN DEERE TRACTOR
MODEL 420
PRICE \$1250.00
PHONE TONI AT 367-8521

DIAN PAY SHEET.

Treaty No 1 (August 3rd 1871)

William Kinnear
Ka Ke He fceanis CHIEF.

September

1871

Person Paid.	Wives.	Boys.	Girls.	Other Relations.	No. of Persons Paid.	Amount Paid.		Where Paid.	REMARKS.
						\$	cts.		
/									<p><i>Fifty Indians at three dollars a head. \$150 one hundred and fifty dollars</i> <i>Paid to Hudson's Bay Company on the 16th September 1871. the paid to John Alexander Indians as pay sheet of Fort Alexander Indians first payment August 5th 1871. at Stone Fort of which this is a copy.</i> <i>see HBC's receipt Sept 16th 1871</i> <i>Mounted No 17.</i></p>
/	/	"	/						
/	/	"	/						
/	"	"	2						
/	"	"	/						
/	"	2	"						
/	"	3	/						
/	"	"	"						
/	"	"	3						
/	"	"	"						
/	"	"	"						
/	"	"	"						
/	/	2	/						
/	/	2	/						
/	"	"	"						
/	"	"	"						

FILMED

50 150 00 sent to HBC

Wenjo M. Simpson
Indian Commissioner

W. Kinnear
Chief

Water Pollution

WATER POLLUTION

Preamble

We are all aware that pollution of our traditional water supply has been a source of constant trouble ever since the Abitibi Paper Co. established the paper mill directly above the reserve.

Chief and Council are now in the process of taking strong action against these polluters.

In order for the Manitoba Paper Co. to operate, they must be licensed under the Clean Environment Commission of Manitoba. The Commission allows people or concerned parties to raise objections to the granting of the said license and in our case, we have raised an objection to the granting of this license.

We expect this court hearing to be held sometime this fall. We will be represented by Richardson and Co. lawyers (Band Lawyers), at this hearing. The following article will give an idea or remind people of how the Winnipeg River was used by our people in pursuit of decent living.

Fishing:

During the early part of the 20th century, up until the 1940's, fishing was a major occupation for many reserve inhabitants. Various types of fish were caught, i.e., whitefish, pickerel, sturgeon, pike. Since the forties, however, edible fish has become increasingly scarce and presently, there are only a few people, who even fish for their

own household use. This drastic decline might not be solely dependent upon the pollution, but there is a strong suspicion that the spawning grounds for one thing have been affected by the waste from the Pine Falls mill and town. Complaints from the fisherman have also been heard concerning the rotting of the nets.

Drinking water:

The river has always been the source of drinking water. However, the quality of the water has been constantly deteriorating during the period from 1930. In the latter forties our records would indicate the water used in the residential school in Fort Alexander was treated before use, at the urgency of the school principal. A water delivery system

was instituted in the early part of the 1950 era, whereas a resident of Fort Alexander had to pay one cent a gallon for water delivered by truck. In the late sixties, some minute subsidies were obtained from the Department of Indian Affairs towards the cost of water services. However, the Band does each year run a deficit of an estimated 1,500 to 2,000 dollars on their water delivery system.

Swimming and Recreation:

The river used to be a site for recreation, a place for gathering in the summers; where people used to swim, have outings, and generally a good time. All sort of contests were held, i.e., diving contests. Since the water became polluted all activities

have ceased. The Health Nurse at one time recommended that nobody swim in the river. Also rashes that occurred during the summer were ascribed to the swimming in the river and reflected in the boarding schools prohibition for the students to swim in the river.

In conclusion, the river serves no more use to the people of Fort Alexander. Since it has been constantly abused through senseless actions of thoughtless people. The quality of the water has deteriorated so greatly that it is unfit for use.

The Joys & Trials of Native Education

Much water has passed under the bridge since the announcement by the Government of Canada of its intention to transfer control of Indian education to the Indian bands in Canada. As can be expected from people concerned and affected, this statement was greeted with a mixture of hope and despair, frustration and enthusiasm in somewhat unpredictable amounts.

As was indicated in the last issue of the Sagkeeng News, Fort Alexander Band Council, in its optimism and anxiety, jumped at the chance of better education for the people of Sagkeeng. First, it was the formation of the Sagkeeng Education Authority. Second, a carefully planned educational program proposal was submitted to the federal government.

With the submission still in the scrutiny of the officials in Ottawa and the month of June almost over, Sagkeeng Education Authority was given the 'green light' to recruit teachers to fill vacancies. Supposedly, at that late stage of the year, most of the 'desirables' will have had job commitments. At any rate, in spite of this late drive for best teachers possible, S E A was overwhelmed with

applications. Approximately 150 teachers responded, of which 30 or more were interviewed to fill 12 positions. Thus began the difficult and at times boring task of interviewing or screening applicants.

The interviews, financed in total by the Dept. of Indian Affairs were conducted by an all-Indian team, comprised of members of Fort Alexander Band Council, SEA, and the school committee from the North and South shore. The sessions took place in Fort Alexander, Winnipeg, Toronto, and Vancouver. As previously stated, they were laborious in that it was difficult to select the personnel best suited and well equipped to work with the native children. The criteria used for selection was not based solely on academic qualifications but rather on frankness and sincerity of each teacher. To decide on these characteristics alone were difficult. Countless hours of interrogating questions like: 'What compelled you to apply for a teaching position in Sagkeeng?' or 'how would you go about helping parents become more involved with the school?' and many others were asked. Difficult? Time consuming? Perhaps all. However it is hoped that the whole new venture of

recruiting will be beneficial and rewarding for the whole community of Fort Alexander.

Members of the Fort Alexander Band Council, SEA, Sagkeeng School Committee, and Parents are still collectively positive that some good things have been done for the education of the people in Sagkeeng and that many more are possible.

Sagkeeng Education Authority.

SAGKEENG EDUCATION AUTHORITY

Ahab Spence - Director; John Kelly - Education Consultant; Lorraine Monture - Secretary of Sagkeeng Consolidated School; Tim Grew - Principal of Fort Alexander School; Secretary - Darlene Fontaine; Eli Fleury - Principal.

Counselling Services - Edwin H. Bruyere; Ruth Fontaine; Walter Fontaine. Social Counselling - Edwin H. Bruyere. Social Counselling; Ruth Fontaine - Education Counsellor; Walter Fontaine - Home and School Coordinator.

Fort Maurepas, 1973

by Cal Wookey

Since 1738, the remains of a fur trader fort have been lying beneath the ground on the North bank of the Winnipeg River. Fort Maurepas, as it was named, belonged to the French Canadian explorer Pierre de Varennes, the Sieur de la Verendrye (1685-1749). Throughout the summer of 1973 eight young men have been employed through a government grant to investigate a small area of land directly across the river from the Pine Falls Pulp Mill. After two months of kneeling in the dirt the crew has conceded that as yet, no conclusive proof can be given to show that this area of land occupied by Andrew Abraham, was the exact site of the old fort. However, through the diggings evidence has been turned up to suggest that it may have been.

Six of the eight crew members were from the Fort Alexander Indian Reserve. Keith Fontaine, William Canard, Wayne Courchene, Ronald Starr, Erroll Bruyere, and Andre Henderson were employed along with Jim McDonald and Cal Wookey, who were both of Winnipeg. After the six local boys were successful with an application for government grant, the two workers from the city were brought in to assist and supply necessary advice. The two each had practical experience, in this type of archaeological work, prior to the project. The entire crew was kept working by Keith Fontaine, who was assigned the job of project foreman.

Work began in the last week of June and continued through until August 23 when the trowels and rulers were laid down for the last time. Throughout the summer the crew was hampered by swarms of mosquitoes and also the ever-prevailing thought that the fort may never even have been there. But work persisted and they turned up various metal fragments, the center block of a musket, the occasional stone or metal arrowhead, and innum-

erable pieces of bone and pottery.

One of the signs that the crew was always hopeful of finding was mud formations of different shades, showing where the fort's high outer wall had been. This would have provided conclusive evidence that Fort Maurepas was actually located at that spot. But this type of formation was never to be found. However, in another area of the excavations there was success. In the first few days of August, it was determined that some formations of clay which had been uncovered were actually segments of one whole clay floor. This was promising evidence since the possibility arose that this may have been the floor to a building of the old fort. But until further studies are made, the age of the floor will not be known.

One factor which was on the side of all the crewmembers was that they only had to cut through five or six inches of mud to get to the floor level that existed during the time of the fort. The job of excavating the mud was done very slowly and patiently. The boys were all down on their hands and knees with small gardening trowels which they used to scrape away the layers of mud. This type of work is so slow in fact, that a full day's efforts for one person might be to get into an eight foot square pit that was already three inches deep, and take it down to three and one quarter inches. The pits had to be carefully mapped on graph paper at every level and the position of each artifact had to be measured and recorded three dimensionally. After the mud was taken from the pits it had to be sifted through a coarse screen and a fine screen. This practice turned up many artifacts which would otherwise have been piled aside and lost. In general, the work was very tedious due to the need for accuracy in recording everything that was un-

covered.

The other important find for the summer, aside from the clay floor, was the discovery of an old garbage pit which had been dug to a depth of about two and one half feet when it was made. It had been filled with hundreds of bones ranging from mouse to horse or buffalo. However, no human bones were to be found in this area. A bone comb, rocks, and a metal locket which is yet to be opened, were all found along with the other bones. This discovery was made on the final afternoon of digging, August 23, 1973, when everyone was applying the last finishing touches and was anxious to leave the pits once and for all. The crewmember who found the garbage pit, (myself), kept the crew working together in one small area until 8:00 p.m. The rest of the crew members felt very lucky to leave the area alive. But the outdoor work was finally completed that evening and the crew vacated the site for the last time.

As to whether or not Fort Maurepas was actually located at this particular point of digging is yet to be seen. Of course there is the ever-present possibility of a crew making a second investigation of this site next summer, but that too is an unknown factor. Whatever the case, the excavations of the summer of 1973 have provided a preliminary insight into the background of this small area of land and final conclusions can be arrived at only after further studies have been carried out.

EDITORS NOTE: One of the crewmembers of the digging project, Ronald Starr, met an untimely death through a car accident on the night of September 10, 1973. The other crewmember, Keith Fontaine, the driver of the car, is recovering at the Winnipeg General Hospital.

We wish to express our deepest sympathies to the families involved.

Notice

To all parents or interested people, you are welcome to visit the schools anytime. This includes all schools in Fort Alexander.

The next school committee meeting for the South Shore will be held on Monday, October 9th, 1973, at 7:00 p.m. at the Green School.

St. Alexander Parish News

BAPTISMS in 1973:

January 14	Joseph Ferlin Keith Boubard of Joseph Boubard and Florence Kent.
January 22	Ann Sheryl Lynn Bunn of William Boubard and Suzan Bunn.
January 28	Kenneth Jason J. Fontaine of Florence Fontaine.
Feb. 5	Richard Maurice Papineau, of Maurice Papineau and Carol Sinclair.
Feb. 4	Joseph Christopher Darren Starr of Stanley Starr and Ida Arkinson.
Feb. 18	Joseph David Billy Bacon of Dorian Bacon and Linda Starr.
March 7	Darryl Jene Joseph Morrisseau of Caroline Morrisseau.
March 5	John Jason Walter Abraham of Walter Abraham and Sandra Bunn.
March 5	Sheryl Brenda Daniels of Leo Daniels and Martha Guimond.
March 11	Jason Kyle James Harvy of Gladys Harry.
March 25	Gretna Lynn Marie Morrisseau of Caroline Morrisseau.
April 2	Nicole Catherine Swan of Harry Swan and Norma Courchene.
April 9	Douglas Christian Eaglestick of M. Madeleine Eaglestick.
April 12	Natalie May Fontaine of Dennis Fontaine and Frances Keewatin.
April 9	Kimberley Guimond of Marcel Guimond and Bernice Raven.
April 24	Kathleen Rose Thickfoot of Lawrence Thickfoot and Marylen Guimond.
May 5	Sheri Faith Courchene of Romeo Courchene and Jeani Anderson.
May 2	Mak Eaglestick of Lillian Eaglestick.
May 12	Chrystal Charlene Henderson of Clarence Bruce Henderson and Margaret Palaki.
May 15	Marie Ann Bunn of Doris Bunn.
May 16	William Ivan Bruyere of Alma Bruyere.
May 20	Wendy Lee Maria Bruyere of Christopher Bruyere and Dolores Sinclair.
May 21	Neil Martin Bunn of Alex Martin Bunn and Lorna Letander.
May 27	Diana Cook (Bruyere), of Juliana Bruyere.
June 3	Jamie Harold Lavadier of Edwin Harold Lavadier and Alma Rose Swampy.
July 1	Nathasha Marie Henderson of David Henderson and Audrey Courchene.
July 1	Preston Joseph Courchene of Maurice Courchene and Linda Abraham.
July 1	Geraldine Jennifer Howey (Morrisseau) of Esther Morrisseau.
July 4	Frenna Angela Courchene of Wilfrid Courchene and Mary Courchene.
July 8	Frenna Jasmyne Helene Courchene of Adrian Courchene and Corinne Courchene.
July 24	Jonathan Ian Fontaine of Frank Fontaine and Suzan Everett.
July 27	Kyle Burton Courchene of Geraldine Hall.
August 7	Mary Velma Rachelle Bunn of Ambrose Bunn and Harriet Kent.
August 9	Donna Marie Smith of Russell Smith and Rose Marie Guimond.

WEDDINGS:

Feb. 16	Dennis Guimond and Kathleen Hudson.
June 2	Lawrence Rosaire Guimond and Patricia Fontaine.
June 9	Christopher Bruyere and Dolores Sinclair.
June 16	Roger Pepin and Joyce Courchene.
June 30	Peter Bunn and Carol Lucille Morrisseau.
July 14	Ronald Felix Fontaine and Helen Stagg.
July 28	Wilfrid J. Bunn and Karen Sophie Bruyere.
August 4	Theodore Fontaine and Cecilia Guimond.
August 4	John George Swampy and Josephine Prince.
August 18	Norman Guimond and Gloria Morrisseau.
Sep. 1	Gordon Nepinak and Shirley Swampy.

DEATHS:

	Florence Patricia Guimond of Philip and Mary Dean.
April 2	Mrs. John George Guimond.
April 2	Mrs. Myrna Oplaniski (nee Guimond, daughter of Pierre Guimond).
May 2	Mak Eaglestick of Lillian Eaglestick.
June 3	Sharron Grace Mary Courchene of Wallace and Helen.
June 2	Marcel Edward Fontaine.
June 14	Mrs. Melanie Lecoy (nee Courchene).
July 25	Justin Franklin Bunn of Linda Bunn.