

## The School History of Our Community

Education has always been considered as important in every day life. Especially is it as <sup>so</sup> such in our community and we are all proud of the schools we have in Chelmsford.

The history of our schools is rather interesting and one fact is apparent, that of the increased educational facilities with the passing of time. Even now there is serious discussion of having a High School built to accommodate the <sup>local</sup> overflow of school children.

The first school was built, in 1889 with Mrs. Montpetit as the first teacher. Soon this became too small; so in 1906 the parish priest Father Stephane Côte encouraged the people to have a larger school constructed. This was completed in the year 1906. and the old school was sold. Three nuns belonging to the order of the Gray Sisters of the Cross arrived from Ottawa, to take charge of the teaching. (As the town grew, the school became over crowded; so plans were made to build a bigger school. This school was later sold to Eugene Villeneuve a local barber, who moved it to another location. At present this same building is on the corner of Errington and Main Streets and is used as a Clothing Store.

In 1927 a brick school was built, but unfortunately, it burned down within a year. At that time there was only a bucket brigade with which to fight fires and very little other equipment; so it is not surprising that many homes were destroyed by fire.

### ANOTHER-SCHOOL

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Paper - Historic Research  
Governor - Mrs. Rose Guitkovich  
Chelmsford Women's Institute  
Date - January, 1923.

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structed on the same location. This is still in use.

In 1947 two classes, grades ~~IX~~ <sup>8-10</sup> & II were started in the convent. Later these classes were transferred to the big school, and grades 2 & 3 were taught in the Parish Hall. Grade 4 was taught in a private dwelling on Main St. East, then on Errington South. Having classes in different places proved inconvenient to the teachers and uncomfortable for the pupils. Therefore plans were soon under way for a modern addition to the old school.

The low, one storey building was completed in December, 1950. The entire building is 125 ft. long and 75 ft wide. A large assembly hall runs down the full length of the building. It is 35 ft wide and has a 15 ft. stage at one end. *Part of this is used as a class-* There are two classrooms on each side of the hall. Each room is 23' by 32' and can seat approximately 40 pupils. Roomy windows equal one - fifth of the entire floor space. Large cloak rooms with special sliding doors make the class rooms neat & modern. There is an office for the principal and another office set aside for a nurse. The wash-rooms are large and up-to-date and are near the stage, which is at the back of the building.

The front entrance is very attractive. There are also two side entrances to the building. The exterior of the school is constructed with cement blocks which are covered with stucco.

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### REMARKS

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