

# East Kildonan School House

By LES. BODIE

For many years there has been a deep-rooted prejudice held against Polson School by many of the residents of East Kildonan—a prejudice that cannot be supported by any facts, that is very vague, yet very real.

I have had a number of reasons suggested to me as to the origin of this bias, but I believe that the real root of this feeling goes back to the building of Prince Edward School.

In 1917 when I attended Polson there was no objection on the part of parents to sending their children to it, possibly because there was no other school to attend, except Lord Wolseley or Salisbury.

However, after Prince Edward was built, everyone living within reasonable distance of the school wanted their children to attend there, because it was new and modern at that time. Even some families living in the shadow of Polson and beyond made an effort to have their children go to the new school.

As a result, the enrollment at Polson dropped and rooms became empty. The inevitable was bound to happen. Any building that is only partially occupied or used, soon drops into a state of disrepair. No one will spend money to decorate or repair unused space, par-

ticularly when money is as hard to raise as it was in the '30's. It was only natural, therefore, that Polson should invest itself with a somewhat unjustified, unsavory reputation.

With the extensive building program proceeding in our municipality, the school board realized last spring that the accommodation at Prince Edward would be unable to handle the fall enrollment and that the only possible solution was to re-locate the school boundaries to transfer sufficient pupils to Polson to fill its empty rooms.

Many parents have expressed the opinion that we need another school. That day is not far off, but before any such step can be taken, the Municipal and Public Utility Commission must be satisfied that our present accommodation is fully used and overtaxed.

It was, therefore, imperative that Polson School be brought back into favor. During the summer months the interior was altered, repaired and redecorated until by the opening day of school we had a building that we were not ashamed to present to the parents for their inspection.

The interior has been redecorated in the latest color scheme for schools and the decorator, Norman Shaw, is to be congratulated on the final effect. We feel confident that the staff and pupils of Polson School will derive great benefit from this color design during the coming term.

Many people have already visited Polson School, both from the district and other parts of Winnipeg, and have expressed their pleasure at the work that has been done. An opportunity will be given in the near future for further inspection, when Polson plan their Fall tea.

The Board wish to express their appreciation of the splendid co-operation that has been given by the parents in the redistribution of pupils from Prince Edward to Polson. We can assure you that they are going to a school that is modern in color, clean and staffed by teachers that are second to none.

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## MRS. ARIE VANDERGRAAF SUCCUMBS MONDAY

Mrs. Johanna Christine Vandergraaf, 63, of 204 Melrose ave., died Monday at the Winnipeg General hospital. The funeral service will be held at 2:45 p.m. today in Gardiner's funeral chapel, with Rev. A. Disseiko officiating. Burial will be in Elmwood cemetery. Pallbearers will be Dirk Degraff, H. Sulker, N. Enfield, H. Vanderbeek, J. Wyenberg and A. Degroot.

Born in Dordrecht, Holland, she married there 43 years ago. Mrs. Vandergraaf came to Winnipeg in

## Social News

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MRS. C. E. Williams, 316 Campbell st., held a miscellaneous shower in honor of Miss Evelyn Wright, whose marriage to Mr. William J. Simpson will take place Friday. Mrs. J. Wright presided over the tea table. Assisting were Mrs. A. H. Simpson, Mrs. Jack Simpson and Miss May Wright.

BUSINESS associates of Miss Margaret Grieve entertained at a kitchen shower Wednesday evening in the TT club rooms. Mrs. E. Wilson and Mrs. A. Grieve presided over the tea cups. A gift and corsage were presented to the guest of honor by Miss Eleanor McKenzie. Guests numbered 30.

Mrs. J. G. Leighton, of Victoria, B.C., a former resident, arrived here last week-end to visit relatives and friends. She is accompanied by her daughter, Aileen.

MRS. Hartley Towers, 147 McPhail st., entertained on Thursday evening in honor of Miss Chrissie McLean, who is leaving to study at the Toronto Conservatory of Music. Those assisting were Misses Jean Stevenson and Joyce Dakin. A presentation was made to the guest of honor.