

Principal Miss McIntyre retires after 47 years

26
1967

Praise and encouragement are the tools Mima McIntyre uses effectively to transform emotionally upset children into attentive students.

Retiring this June after 47 years in the teaching profession, quick moving Miss Anna Mima McIntyre taught in rural high schools, and suburban junior highs before assuming executive duties in elementary schools in East Kildonan.

For the past ten years she has been principal at Sherwood school where she found her most satisfying work in helping "little ones with problems."

"I get them to bring me work they have taken great care to prepare, and I write all sorts of comments praising their efforts," she explained in an interview.

"If they say they have nerves, I tell them I've suffered from the same condition all my life. You just have to wrestle with yourself to control nerves," she continued. "Then, every day, I tell them how well they look, and encourage them in their activities. Usually it's all they need and by the end of the term they've found themselves — they're individuals who can stand on their own."

NEW COURSES

Another aspect of her work which she found of special interest are the changes in the curriculum in recent years. The harder courses now given in elementary grades "are being successfully handled by the children. They meet the challenge well and they like the work," said Miss McIntyre.

English and music were Miss McIntyre's teaching subjects when she began her career almost 50 years ago in Manitoba, in a two-room school at Sinclair. After teaching in Crandall, Waskada and Hartney, she spent one year as an exchange teacher in Derbyshire, England.



Mima McIntyre

But before returning to join the East Kildonan teaching staff she spent a summer in Paris taking a French course. "And when I returned I switched to teaching languages and music," she explained.

"I really enjoyed those years in high school, because many of my best friends to-

day are the students I had as teenagers," she reminisced.

Among her students who went on to gain recognition are fine arts specialists John Pankiw and Ted Korol and hockey players Alfie Pike, Don Raleigh, John McCreedy, and Terry Sawchuk.

Uncertain of her plans for the future, the vibrant Miss McIntyre knows what she does not want to do.

"I have no intention of going back into the classroom or substituting," she said decidedly. "I've worked hard to do a conscientious job as a teacher for a long time, and to make a success of teaching the new curriculum I'd have to start working very hard all over again."

She does plan to go Anchorage, Alaska early in July to attend a Delta Kappa Gamma Sorority convention, as president of the local Alpha chapter.

And then it's back to Winnipeg for the Pan-Am Games where "I intend to see as many events as possible — except for wrestling and boxing," she said.

May 31 the teachers of East Kildonan will hold a reception in her honor at 8 p.m., in Munroe Junior High school, when former students, colleagues, parents and citizens of East Kildonan will be in attendance.

Pre-Expo presentation

A pre-Expo presentation of the children's operetta by the Ukrainian Children's Theatre will be given Sunday at 7.15 p.m. at Institute Prosvita, Pritchard Ave. and Arlington St.

The troupe of approximately 50 children will be going to Expo to perform the operetta "Koza-Dereza" on July 27 at the Hospitality Pavilion. The funds raised there are to help orphaned and crippled children.

The operatta is a classical composition by Mykola Lysenko.

Proceeds of the Winnipeg performance, and also by the Debutantes' Ball on Saturday evening at the Royal Alexandra Hotel, are to provide travelling expenses for the troupe and their chaperones.

The Ukrainian Women's League of the Ukrainian Canadian Committee is sponsoring the project.