



## Sunday School Superintendents in Methodist and United Church

- 1887 — Mr. Thomas Johnston (Records prior to this lost in fire)
- 1889 — Mr. W. T. Musgrove (a Boissevain teacher, and brother of C. C. Musgroves)
- 1890 — G. C. Currie
- 1891 — A. C. McEwen (owner of store where Chapman's Garage was)
- 1892 — W. C. Cottingham (owner of harness shop)
- 1893 — W. T. Musgrove
- 1898 — Thomas Johnston (owner of part of townsite of Boissevain)
- 1901 — Robert King (Mrs. C. C. Musgrove finishing term when Superintendent resigned)
- 1902 — W. C. Cottingham
- 1904 — Thomas Johnston
- 1907 — G. C. Currie
- 1908 — T. H. Hughes
- 1915 — C. C. Musgrove
- 1919 — O. Hibbert
- 1922 — G. A. Culbert
- 1934 — J. A. Baskerville
- 1950 - 1963 — John McDonald
- 1964 - 1966 — Don Bold
- 1967 - — Henry Janzen

## Reports of Early Sunday Schools

### FAIRBURN

The very earliest Sunday School of which we have knowledge, being held in the area around Boissevain, was in 1881, and was in the home of Mr. Sam Oke, of the Fairburn district. Our report deals with Sunday School held in the Fairburn School, and began the first Sunday in January, 1936. It was organized to fill the needs of boys and girls growing up in the area, but cut off from town churches by poor roads, and long cold winters.

It was, by choice, an inter-denominational Sunday School organized under the auspices of the Canadian Sunday School Mission, in the hope that members of any Christian denomination would feel free to attend, and join in the work. It was most fortunate that the Pettypiece family, Miss Bernice, Miss Rhoda, and Mr. Whitney, were willing to act as leaders — with Miss Bernice as superintendent. This dedicated family with its high spiritual value, and deep concern for children and their welfare, was an inspiration to all.

The aim of this Sunday School was simple — to teach the love of God and His son Jesus Christ, who died for our sins — to believe in Him, and to study His word. The services were never dull, but were made bright and happy with stories and lively songs where the children took part. This was enjoyed by both young and old. A wide interest in Missions was fostered, by welcoming visitors from Mission fields in many parts of the world. The children adopted a little missionary of their own, the daughter of a missionary in Nigeria, and contributed to her support for a number of years.

Over the years, an active Young People's group was also formed where Bible study, songs, games, and handicrafts were enjoyed. Young people from other districts joined in this venture, and at one time, they had a very good choir.

This Sunday School was unique in many ways. The hope expressed in it being interdenominational was realized. Friends from the Presbyterian, Anglican and Baptist churches, from the Mennonite Brethren, and from our own United Church, joined in the work there at various times, making a great contribution to the Sunday School, and through it, to the community as a whole.

Another unique feature; this Sunday School, which was first opened that wintry January day, 1936, continued to function without interruption, until Fairburn School was permanently closed in the summer of 1967. In their places on the last Sunday, as on the first, were the well-loved superintendent Miss Bernice Pettypiece, and her equally indispensable co-workers, Miss Rhoda Pettypiece and Mr. Whitney Pettypiece. Thirty-one years of devoted service! Surely God's blessing rested on this little country Sunday School.

### BURNSIDE

In the year 1882, Burnside Sunday School was organized by the first settlers of the district. Sunday School was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Linklater on the farm now owned by Mr. Jim Harper, (a grandson). It continued to be held there until the church