

Ella Margaret McCrae Young Mack

Ella Margaret McCrae Young Mack would have chuckled merrily at the suggestion that she had been a trail-blazer in the field of education. But that's just what the late wife of Allan Mack of Ormstown was.

The lady with the laughing eyes was a mere slip of a Bonaventure County lass when, after gaining her Matriculation Certificate at New Carlisle High School in 1925 at the age of seventeen, she organized the first Junior Red Cross group in the elementary school of her native Oak Point. This was just before she took on her first teaching assignment, grades one through seven in the one-room school on the Kempt Road in Broadlands in the municipality of Restigouche. But that was just the beginning!

After she secured her First Class Intermediate (Model) Diploma from the MacDonald College School for Teachers in 1927, she took on the principalship of the Intermediate School at Sunny Bank in Gaspé County, teaching grades four through nine, and looking for new trails to blaze. She found one! It's difficult to visualize "Rae" (as she was known to those closest to her) as the organizer of a school's first football squad, but that's just what she became in Sunny Bank! Quite a venture for a girl in the nineteen twenties.

When Miss Young subsequently took charge of the thirty elementary pupils in New Richmond No. 2 School, she brought in yet another innovation when she set up on her own initiative a hot lunch program for the winter months, providing soup or cocoa. Another "first," carried out by the pupils and their innovative teacher. That year (1929-1930) she received bonuses for successful teaching from both the Department of Education and her School Board. Small wonder! The perceptive young teacher obviously

knew that learning could not take place on an empty stomach.

South-West Quebec was the next region of the Province of Quebec to benefit from Miss Young's enthusiasm, skill and resourcefulness. In 1930 she became Principal of Athelstan Intermediate School, teaching grades six through nine. She organized that school's first softball team, and became a rural teacher's representative for the off-island teachers at the convention of the Provincial Association of Protestant Teachers. She later assumed the principalship of Dundee Consolidated School; her hot-lunch program there was as popular as her earlier venture had been in New Richmond.

Miss Young, as she still was, with Mr. J.B. MacMillan, Principal of Huntingdon Academy, organized around that time the first teachers' association in the county, and she became the second president of what later became the Châteauguay Valley Teachers' Association.

Following two years as Principal of Escuminac Consolidated Intermediate School, in which she taught grades eight, nine and ten, Ella Margaret McCrae Young, in July 1935, married Allan Arthur Mack, and subsequently became the mother of three children, Jean, Robert and Ruth. By 1939, youngster in Elgin, then Port Daniel and Athelstan, were once again benefitting from the many gifts that Mrs. Mack delighted in sharing. She went to Huntingdon Academy in 1946, and during the next eight years both elementary and high school students in that town got to know and value this dynamic teacher. Eleven and a half years in Sherbrooke High School followed, during which she taught people in Grades seven and eight, was chairman of the Program Committee of the Sherbrooke

County Teachers' Association, and, for one year, of the Education Week Committee. She was also advisor to the Junior Red Cross group in her school. She found time in 1967 and 1968 to complete an Extension Course in Spoken French offered by Bishop's University in Lennoxville.

One would have thought that thirty-four years of innovative teaching, together with an active "mater-familias" role, would have been quite sufficient. Not so! The lively Mrs. Mack found time to blaze other trails. She formed the first CGIT (Canadian Girls in Training) group in the United Church in Mille Roches, Ontario, where she and her family lived for a short time. She taught Sunday School in Lennoxville and Sherbrooke, and she was Vice-President of a Christian Education group in that region. She wrote a historical play as well: "Pageant of Canada;" it enjoyed not only several high school productions but also a presentation by the Historical Society of Renfrew, Ontario. Along with all that, Mrs. Mack was a charter member of the Maple Leaf Grange and a member of the Pioneer Rebekah Lodge No. 1 of Huntingdon. How she found time to be polling clerk, enumerator or registrar in several Huntingdon County elections remains a mystery, but it does illustrate Mrs. Mack's breadth of community interest and involvement.

After coming to live in retirement in Ormstown with her husband in the spring of 1975, Mrs. Mack endeared herself to many new acquaintances and renewed many long-standing friendships in the region. Her passing on August 9, 1991 was a great shock to many people in Ormstown, Huntingdon and throughout the province. She is survived by her husband, Allan Arthur Mack, her daughters Jean Brown and Ruth Ness, and by her son, The Reverend Robert Mack and two sisters. Twelve grandchildren and four great-grandchildren also survive. She was also predeceased by one daughter, one grand-daughter and a sister.

Acquaintance with Mrs. Mack enriched all who were fortunate enough to get to know her; her departure from our midst makes each of us the poorer. But we shall remember her happily, rejoicing in the memory of a talented person who made our world a better, more pleasant place because she passed this way.

Births and Deaths

Cards of Thanks, In Memoriams, Marriage Notices, Engagements, Announcements.

BORN

SEDGWICK-LEBLANC - David and Rachel are delighted to announce the arrival of their baby daughter Liane Jennifer on Sept. 6th, 1991 at the Centre Hospitalier de Valleyfield, weighing 6 pounds 10 ounces. Proud grandparents are Eric and Jeannine Sedgwick and Germaine Leblanc. Also great grandparents Elie and Annie Quenneville and Edith Sedgwick.

TOLHURST - Mathew, Jennifer and Jayson are very excited to announce the birth of their baby brother Jeffrey Andrew 8 lbs. 7 oz. on Sept. 4, 1991 at the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Proud parents are Andy and Sandi (McRae). Happy grandparents are Bob and Thyra Tolhurst, and Oakley and Dorothy McRae. 10th great-grandchild for Irene McRae.

ENGAGED

DESCHAMPS - Violet and Renaud Deschamps (Howick) are pleased to announce the engagement of their daughter Lisa to Martin William Lausas son of Ella and James Tallon (Elgin). Wedding planned for August 1992.

DIED

OUMET, Denis - Accidentally at Huntingdon on September 6, 1991 aged thirty-five years. Mr. Denis Oumet, residing at 1797 Boyd Settlement, Huntingdon. Son of Clarence Oumet and Theresa Martin. Beloved brother of Debbie (Daniel Grothe). Funeral service was held Monday, September 9, at St. Joseph Church, Huntingdon.

BIRTHDAY



Leslie Sherry will be celebrating his 80th birthday at a family dinner on Sunday, Sept. 29, 1991.

DIED

HILL, Lena Mildred (née Marlin) - At the Montreal General Hospital on August 25, 1991. Beloved wife of the late Gilbert Hill, dear aunt of Howard (Lois Sutton), Muriel (Mrs. Ernest Sutton), Isabella (Mrs. Percy Sutton), Mary (Mrs. Robert Jackson), Ralph (Carolyn Purdy) and Ruth (Mrs. Fernand Chalfoux). Predeceased by 2 brothers Ralph and George and one nephew Ross (Lynn Thompson). Funeral service was held in the chapel of Collins Clark MacGillivray Funeral Home. Interment in the Mount Royal Cemetery.

ROBERTSON, Hazel - At the Barrie Memorial Hospital on September 16, 1991. Hazel McNeil, age 83 years, beloved wife of Harold Robertson. Also survived by her children Elton (Margaret), Donald, Norma (Doug), Eona (Murray), 5 grandchildren Jeffrey, Steven and Tracey Marshall, Dean and Beth Robertson, on sister Willa Hooker (Alan). Resting at the J.M. Sharpe Funeral Home, Franklin Centre. Funeral service in the chapel on Wednesday, September 18, at 2 p.m. Interment Union Cemetery, Ormstown. In lieu of flowers donations to the Barrie Memorial Hospital, Women's Auxiliary would be appreciated.

CARD OF THANKS

I would like to express my sincere thanks to Dr. Hébert and Dr. Lemieux, for their kindness and care. Also nurses and staff, for their excellent care while a patient in the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Also to friends and neighbours for their visits and gifts. All was very much appreciated. Gordon Sutton

I wish to thank all my relatives, neighbors and friends for visits, cards and letters during my lengthy stay in the M.G.H. also thanks to all the doctors, nurses and staff on 18 West. I really appreciate the kindness shown to my family. Many thanks John Greer

CARD OF THANKS

We would like to express our sincere thanks to family, relatives and neighbours for their expression of sympathy through floral tributes, cards, food, masses and memorial donations. A very special thank you to Claude Poirier of Golden B.C. for all his help.

Anna Sherry Fortin
Francis & Lorraine Fortin

I would like to thank Dr. Aiken and all the nursing staff on the second floor of the Barrie Memorial Hospital for the excellent care I received while a patient there. Also a very big thank you to my family and friends for the flowers, gifts, cards, visits and good wishes. They were all very much appreciated. Gladys Robb

IN MEMORIAM

DOUGLAS - In loving memory of my husband Charles, who passed away September 21, 1990. Sadly missed by Doreen and family

WHYTE - In loving memory of Mary E. Whyte, who departed this life September 21, 1987.

The flowers I place upon her grave
May wither and decay,
But love for her who sleeps beneath
Will never fade away.
Sadly missed by Grant

WILLIAMS, Hilda - In loving memory of a mother and grandmother who passed away Sept. 18, 1989.

"A page in our book of memories is gently turned, to-day"
Sadly missed by Gail, Mac, Malcolm and William.

Card of Thanks



The family of Robert Dulude would like to express our sincere thanks to our relatives and friends. Your expressions of sympathy through floral tributes, cards, food, masses and memorial donations, along with your support and kindness will always be remembered.

20th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
of
JOAN and LAWRENCE
PATENAUE
Saturday, September 21, 1991

8:00 p.m.
HUNTINGDON LEGION HALL
Disco: Debbie Legros • Lunch
Everyone Welcome

JOHN AND UNA GREER
will celebrate their
50th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY
On Saturday, September 21, 1991
Relatives and friends are invited to an
OPEN HOUSE
915 Quest Road,
Hemmingford, Que.
From 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.
BEST WISHES ONLY