

UNION R.C. S.S. NO. 5 & 8 SEPARATE SCHOOL

Union R. C. S. S. No. 5 & 8 Separate School located at what is called the "Six Corners" and is at the point where Maidstone-Sandwich South Townline, Malden Road now Hwy No. 114, 98 Highway, formerly Middle Road and now County Road #46 and North Talbot Road all meet. This school built of frame construction and opened on Oct. 1st., 1901, drew its pupils from a long distance in Maidstone and Sandwich South Townships. Originally it was a single room school without modern facilities, containing pioneer equipment and furnishings of the early 1900's. One outstanding teacher they had was Miss Nellie Moynahan, sister of John Moynahan, the Townships' first clerk. She taught twice at this school, early in the century and again in the 1920's both for considerable time. Mrs. James Beaudette, who with her family came to reside in the township later. Other teacher's names are not available as the school was phased out in the early 1960's when a new modern Union Separate school was built and opened in the village of Maidstone which they named St. Mary's. Up until this time the village children all attended the "Six Corner's School". Miss Emma Greenway taught in 1916.

Bernadette and Evangeline Halford, daughters of the Ignatius Halfords of the village and who operated the village country store graduated from this school and enrolled at St. Mary's Academy, Windsor, in Sept. 1914. Their father was Postmaster at Maidstone for over 50 years. Also the first telephone was installed in their store within the township and these two young ladies were early operators of the System. Bernadette (now Mrs. Daniel McLean and resides on No. 3 Highway not far from the village.

July 26th, 1935 - Promotions for this year were: Sr. 1V - Ella Mae Belleau, Rose John, Rita McGuire; Jr. 1V - Jennie Kotow, Clifford McGuire, Clare McLean, Annie Melnik, Olga Melnik; Sr. III - Wilfred Brockman, Anna Doyle, Donald McCann, John McCann, Robert Sexton; Jr. III - William Barry, Catherine Deehan, Vera Deehan, John Doyle, Claudia Gulewich, Carl Leclair, Marie Leclair, Lucretia McCloskey, Stanley McGuire, Alex Melnik; Sr. II - James Barry, Aurelia Belleau, Wilfred Belleau, William Gulewich, Helen John, Sylvester McGuire, Jr., Mary Melnik, Mildred Sexton; Sr. I - Agnes Brockman, Stanley Deehan, Michael John, Jr., Norman Kane, Andrew Kotow, Chester Leclair, Everett McGuire, Christine McLean, Charles Sexton, William Zakhosh; Primary - Catherine Adlea, Donald LeClair, Patricia McCann.

June 22, 1956 - A meeting was held in the school of the school board to discuss the addition of a classroom and another meeting was called for August 3rd to pass a by-law to borrow from Imperial Bank of Essex Six Thousand Dollars (\$6,000.00) for the purpose of adding one classroom. Thomas J. Mullin was Secretary-Treasurer.

Aug. 6th, 1956 - Sealed tenders were being received for the following work: No. 1 - Construction of foundation and refinishing of interior and exterior of School House presently located on Concession 8, Colchester North, known as Public School No. 8, which would be moved on or about July 31st to the site of R.C.S.S. 8 known as "the Six Corners". No. 2 - Installation of wash basins, drinking fountain and lavatories. Specifications may be had from the chairman of the Board, Bernard Collins of Maidstone or the Secretary-Treasurer, Thomas Mullin, R. R. 3, Maidstone.

Sept. 14th, 1956 - The new school enlarged at Six Corners would soon be completed and ready for the teacher and scholars.

When the new St. Mary's was built this school along with S. S. No. 7 which had been called "Ragtown" but was actually the old St. Mary's, situated at Sexton Sideroad and No. 3 Hwy were phased out.

In January, 1964 tenders went out for the sale of the then two-room structure plus annex. It was extensively repaired in 1951 and the annex added in 1956 and it was thought by the board in 1963 that an addition to St. Mary's to take care of the pupils from S.S. No. 5 & 8 and S. S. No 7, now St. Malachy's would be well advised rather than spend any more in renovations of the two old schools.