

KATERI SCHOOL

It was during this period that two fine schoolhouses were erected by the Department of Indian Affairs—Kateri School, just opposite the Catholic Church, for girls, and the boys' school in the East end of the town.

In the course of those years, many ladies also were added to the teaching staff: an Indian, Mrs. A. Beauvais, who taught for 36 years; the Misses Parent, Miss Beaudin, Miss Fitzgibbons, the Misses Burke and others.

In 1914, Mr. Frank Jacobs was elected Mayor of Caughnawaga. His main concern was the fostering of education on the Reserve through an organized programme of studies. This could best be attained by a group of well trained teachers who would guarantee continuity of purpose and discipline.

Thanks to the concerted co-operation of the Pastor, Rev. Fr. Gras, S.J., and the Councillors, the Sisters of Sainte-Anne from Lachine, accepted to come. They were immediately put in charge of both schools by the Federal authorities.

Things did not run too smoothly at the start, possibly because compulsory education was being enforced. But as the parents gradually noticed that their children took to the Sisters, greater sympathy developed towards the new teachers; these favorable sentiments have been constantly on the increase with the general progress of studies, especially since the first generation of the Sisters' pupils began to send their children to school.

The constant growth of the population of the Reserve forced the Department to erect a third building in 1928. It was named the Senior School and housed the boys and girls of the higher grades; it also afforded an adequately equipped section for domestic arts. This valuable asset to education went up in smoke in the short space of two hours at the end of 1941.

Most trying conditions, both for the teachers and pupils ensued. War conditions made it impossible to consider the immediate reconstruction of the *Senior School*.

TEKAKWITHA SCHOOL

But patience and sacrifices were finally rewarded. Thanks, no doubt, to the intercession of Kateri, thanks also to the munificence of the Federal Government, not only has the *Senior School* been replaced, but it has been enlarged to almost twice its original size and equipped with the most up to date facilities. Its twelve spacious classrooms easily accommodate the 350 boys and girls now attending the Catholic school. Provision has also been made for domestic arts in Tekakwitha School. The manual training courses will be attended to in the former Kateri School, soon to be fitted and equipped to that effect.

Another new feature of Tekakwitha School is that the older boys, since the beginning of the school year, have been confided to the care of two Jesuit Fathers and two laymen. They fully appreciate the fine work being done by the Reverend Sisters and are making their task easier by taking care of the arduous work of enforcing discipline among the older boys. And boys' games and sports fall more naturally into a man's sphere of action. The general spirit of the Mission should gain by this closer co-operation of all concerned.

Kateri's latest favor to the Mission, her 1949 Christmas Gift to her fellow Iroquois, we firmly trust will not have been in vain.

RÉAL LALONDE S.J.

A Canadian businessman discovers Kateri

SIGNAL FAVOR



LTHO I have resided in Montreal for the past twenty years, I had never heard of Saint François Xavier Mission until last March when I received a copy of *Kateri*.

Being impressed with the publication and its aim, "The Beatification of Catherine Tekakwitha", I sold to twenty of my friends subscriptions to *Kateri* and was pleased to receive with your acknowledgement of the subscriptions an invitation to visit the Mission.

My visit to the Mission and the opportunity to view the many objects of piety dating back hundreds of years left me with a deep impression of the Mission, for altho I had visited a number of Missions across Canada, no Mission which I had visited offered so much to a visitor as Saint François Xavier in historical data and priceless objects of art.

My visit to the Mission was not made with the intention of asking Kateri for any special favors, however a month after visiting the Mission, I developed a severe pain in my back and upon entering the hospital and being X-rayed the X-ray disclosed a stone lodged in my right kidney.

After a five day period, the doctor performed a cystoscopy on October 5th and advised that he felt the stone would dislodge from my kidney. The evening of October 5th, I asked little Kateri's help and for the first time in ten days I went to sleep and slept until five a.m. October 6th. The stone passed from my kidney the morning of October 6th with absolutely no pain of any description and I left the hospital for my home October 8th.

I am convinced after my personal experience that a great number of people would receive the special favors that they desire if they would pray to Kateri and work and pray for her Beatification.

WALTER J. TARDIFF

PAGING ALL CATHERINES !!!

Miss Catherine X., Miss Katherine Y., Miss Kate Z! . . . Mrs. C. A., Mrs. K. B., Mrs. K. C.!

You at least, should help: subscribe to KATERI; have your name enrolled in the Tekakwitha Guild; become a promoter of devotion to the Lily of the Mohawks! . . .