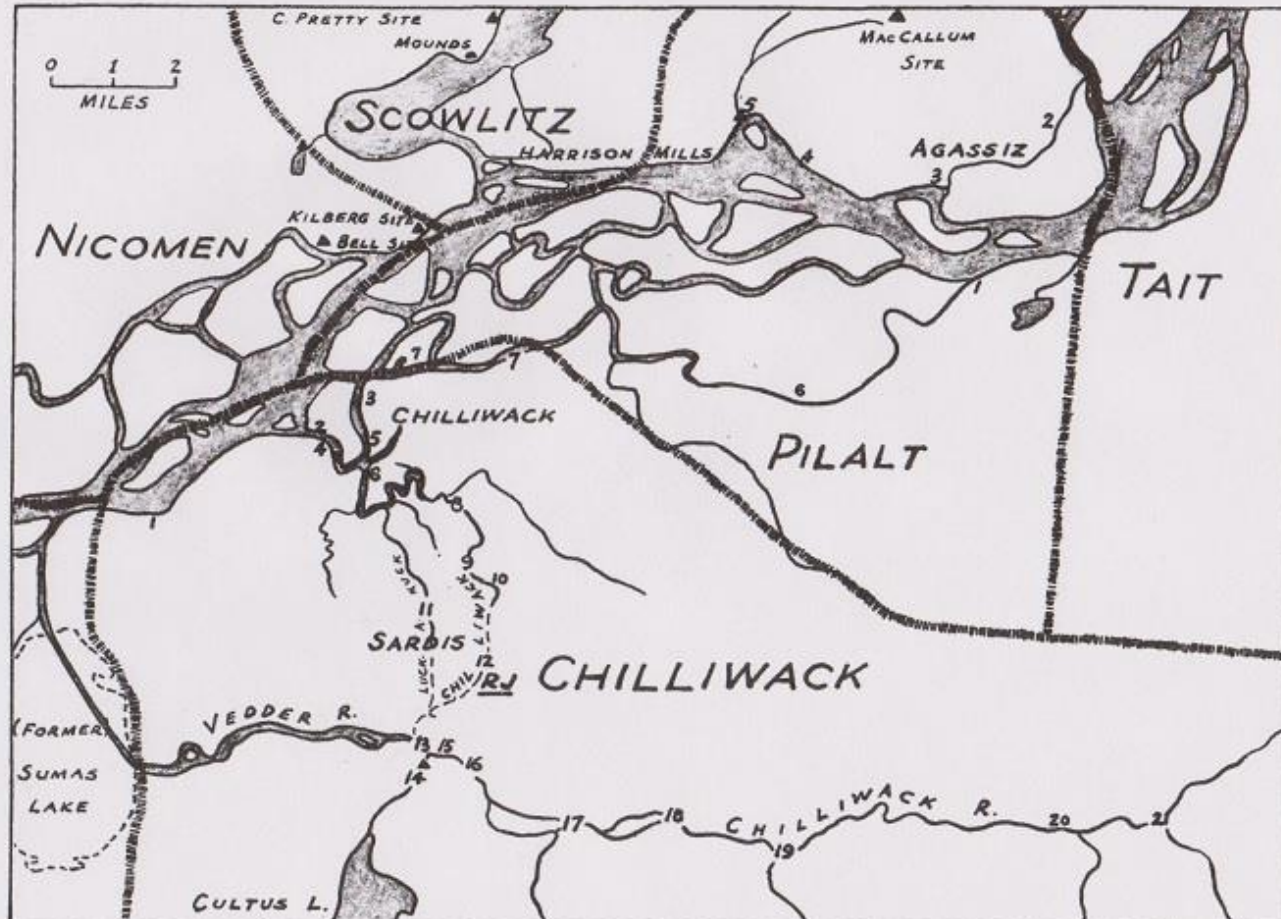


History of Yarrow

We acknowledge that Yarrow and surrounding area are on the ancestral, traditional, and unceded territory of the people of the Sumas (Sema:th, Sum-Aht) and Chilliwack (Ch.ihl-kway-uhk, Chilukweyuk) tribes of the Stó:lō and Tzeachten Salish First Nations.

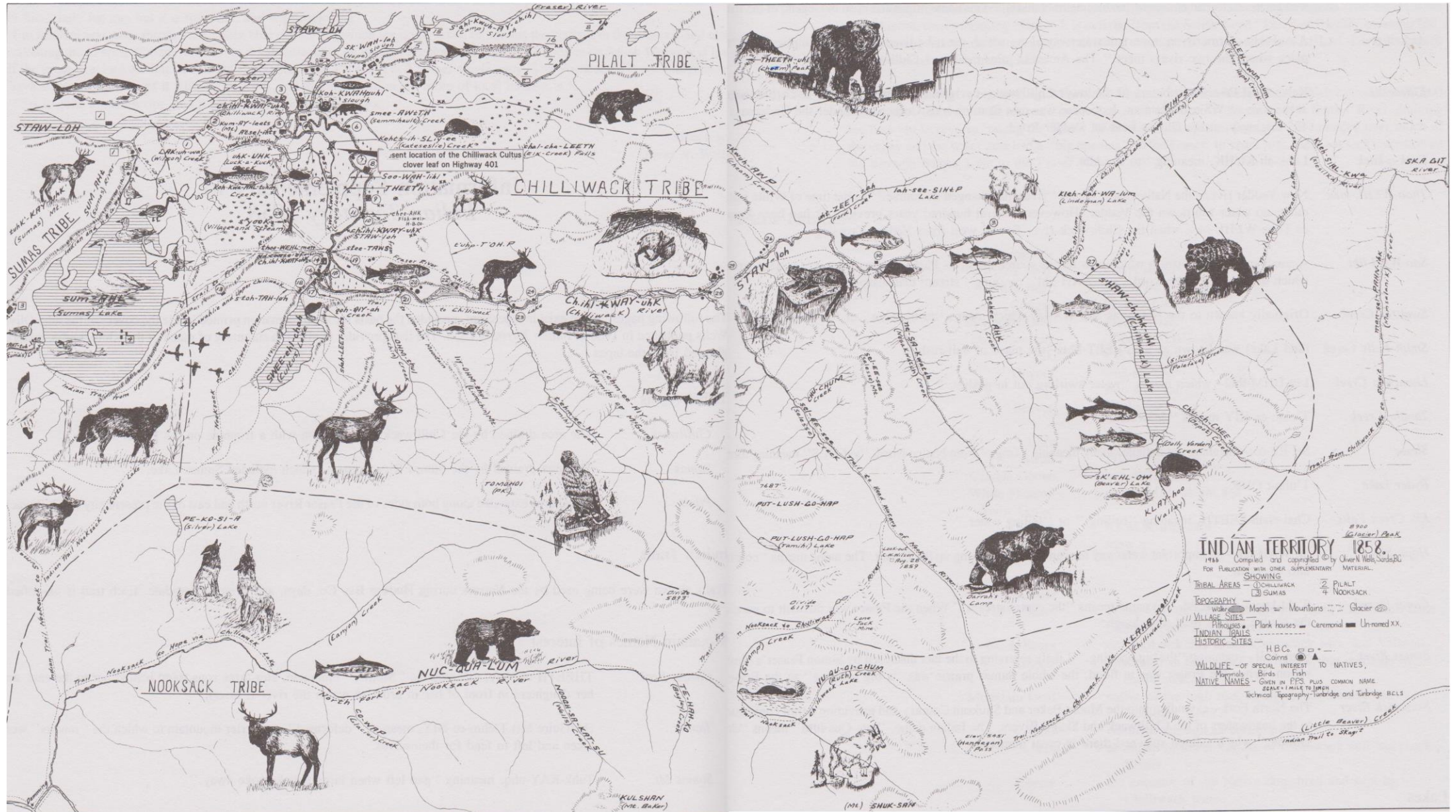


Historically, people of the Sumas (Sema:th, Sum-Aht) and Chilliwack (Ch.ihl-kway-uhk, Chilukweyuk) tribes of the Stó:lō and Tzeachten Salish First Nations resided in the region around Sumas Lake.



The Chilliwack traded with the Salish tribes on the Nooksack River of Washington State by way of the Old Nooksack trail meandering between Vedder Mountain & Sumas Lake, and by way of Cultus Lake and Columbia Valley.

Indigenous Territory 1858 : Oliver N. Wells: The Chilliwacks and Their Neighbours



In 1905, Joseph Knox (c. 1857 - 1931) and Margaret Knox (1845 - 1910) bought the Vedder Ranch located east of Sumas Lake and south of the Vedder River.

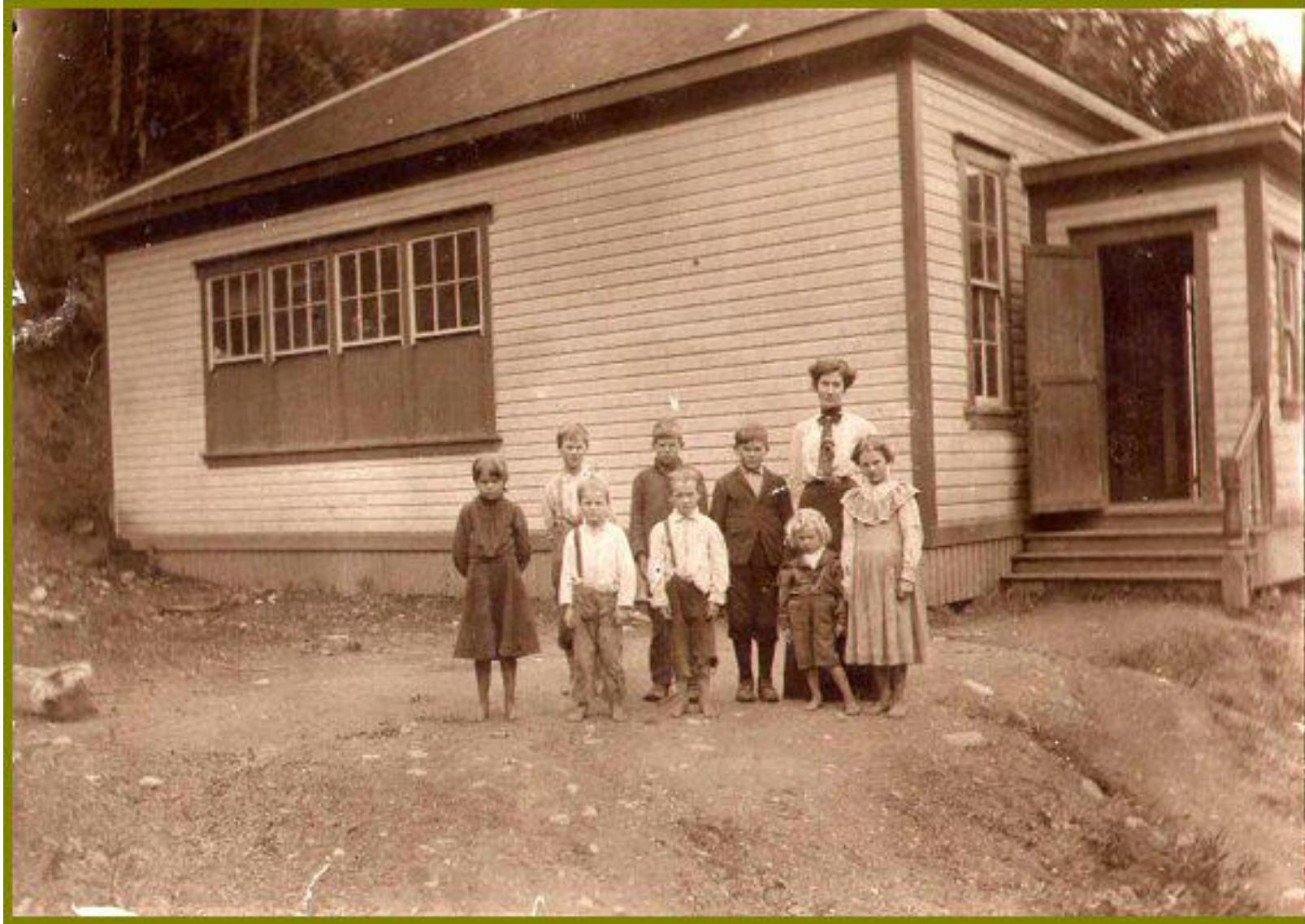


Circa 1908, Knox sold to Ernest Crain and Chauncey Eckert a large portion of his farm west of Yale Road (Wilson Road), which went due north to the Vedder River from the eastern end of Majuba Hill.

Joseph and Margaret Knox

Photograph Courtesy of Ethel and Edith Knox

Majuba Hill School 1905



***Miss Pearl Crankshaw-Dusthoeft and Students
From Majuba Hill and Vedder River Flats***

Vedder Mountain School 1915



Students From Vedder River Flats and East Along the Vedder River

Photograph Courtesy of Donald Hudson

Majuba Hill School 1920



Looking North toward Sumas Mountain from Majuba Hill

Vancouver – Chilliwack Train Tracks Completed 1910

— — — The Vancouver Daily Province, Monday, October 3, 1910 — — —



New Westminster, 10:00 AM, October 3, 1910
Official Guests Board the
First Interurban Train Bound for Chilliwack
(Ewert, Henry. *The Story of the B.C. Electric Railway Company*. P 86.).

Premier McBride Celebrates
Driving the Last Spike



After the "last spike" ceremony, the official party opening the line sat down to a sumptuous banquet.

LAST SPIKE DRIVEN ON CHILLIWACK TRAMLINE

**PREMIER MCBRIDE OFFICIATES AT
HISTORY-MAKING CEREMONY AT CHILLIWACK**

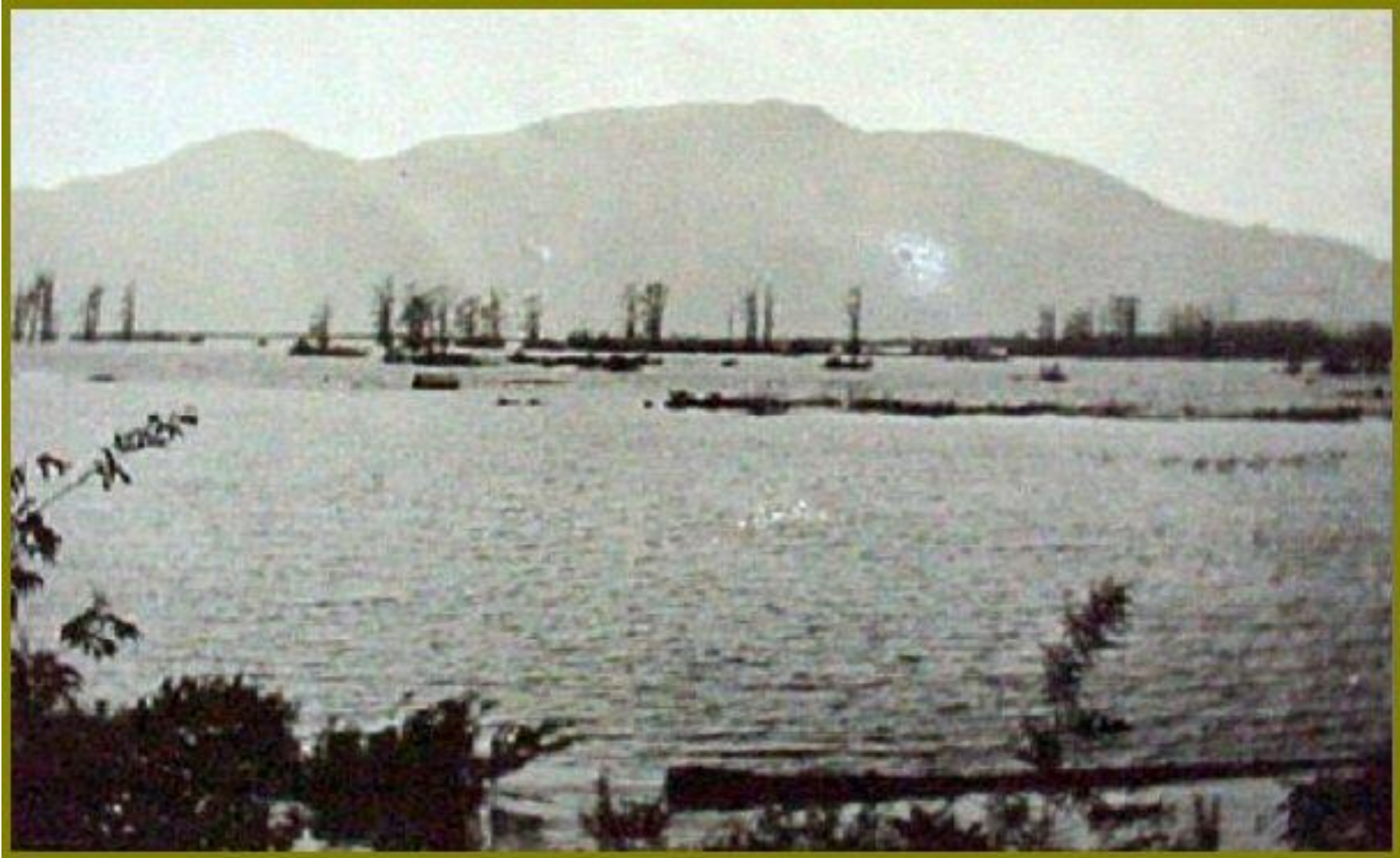
**Official Party Made First Run Over Line,
Leaving Granville Street Station,
Vancouver, Early This Morning**

Chilliwack End of the Line: BC Electric Railway Line



Chilliwack, B.C. — Chilliwack Depot
(Ewert, Henry. *The Story of the B.C. Electric Railway Company*. P 126.)

Sumas Lake Towards Vedder Mountain 1915

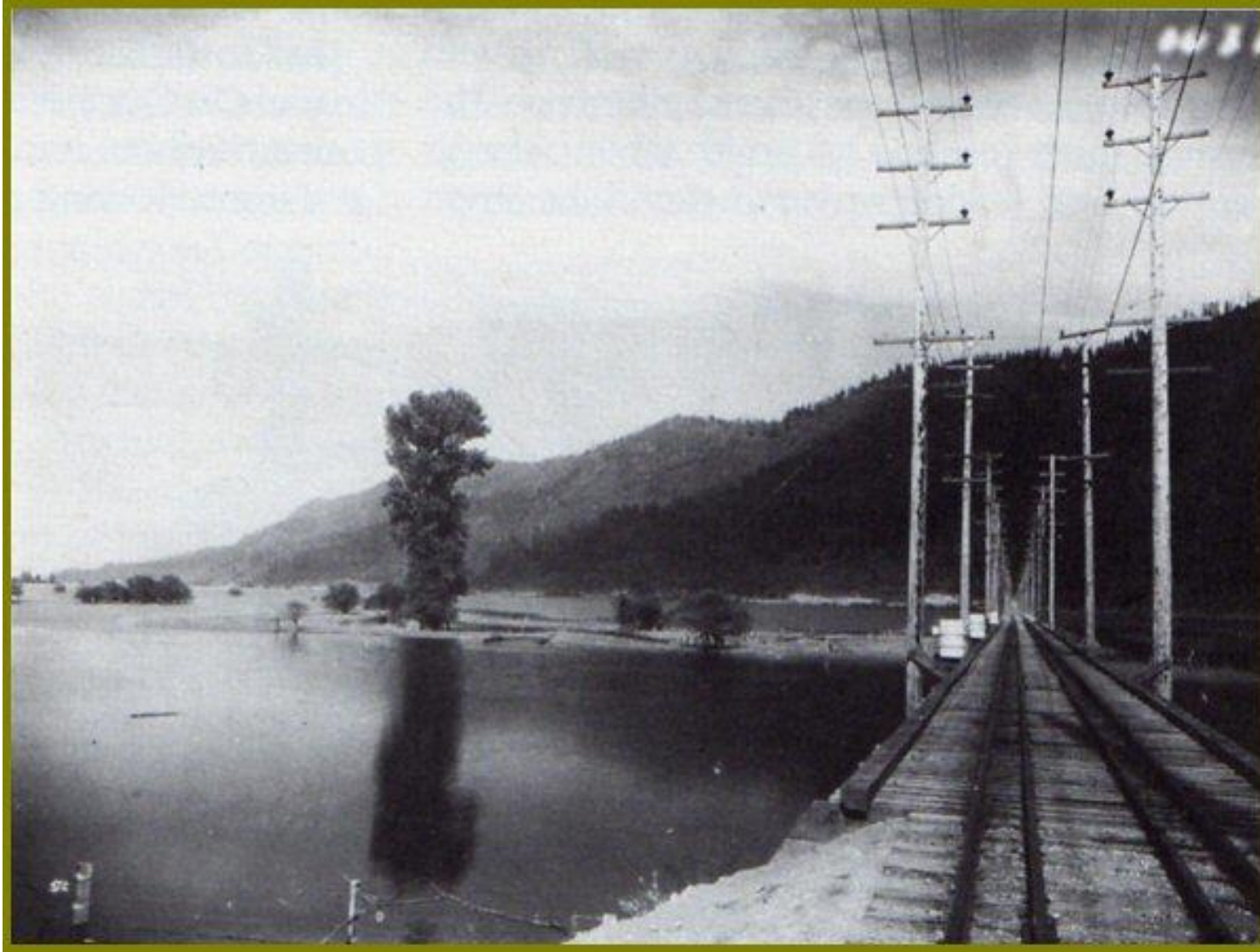


Sumas Lake Along Vedder Mountain 1915



***Sumas Lake Looking East Along Vedder Mountain — 1915
B.C.E. Tracks Lower Left, Yale Road Center Right***

Sumas Lake: Chilliwack BCE Line Dyke 1923

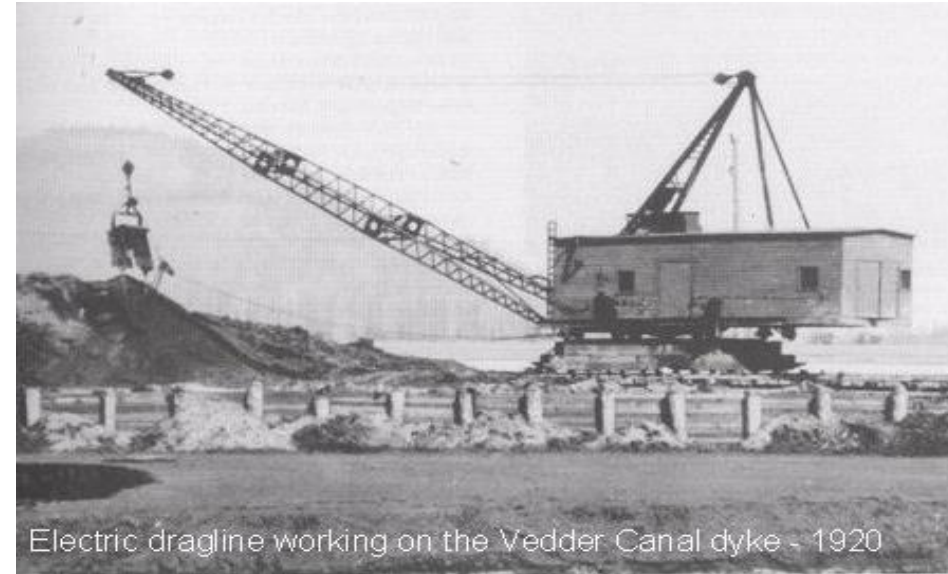


Ewert, Henry. The Story of the B.C. Electric Railway Company. North Vancouver, BC: Whitecap Books, 1986. 159.

Vedder Canal Construction 1920-24



Building the
dam at
Pump Town
1920



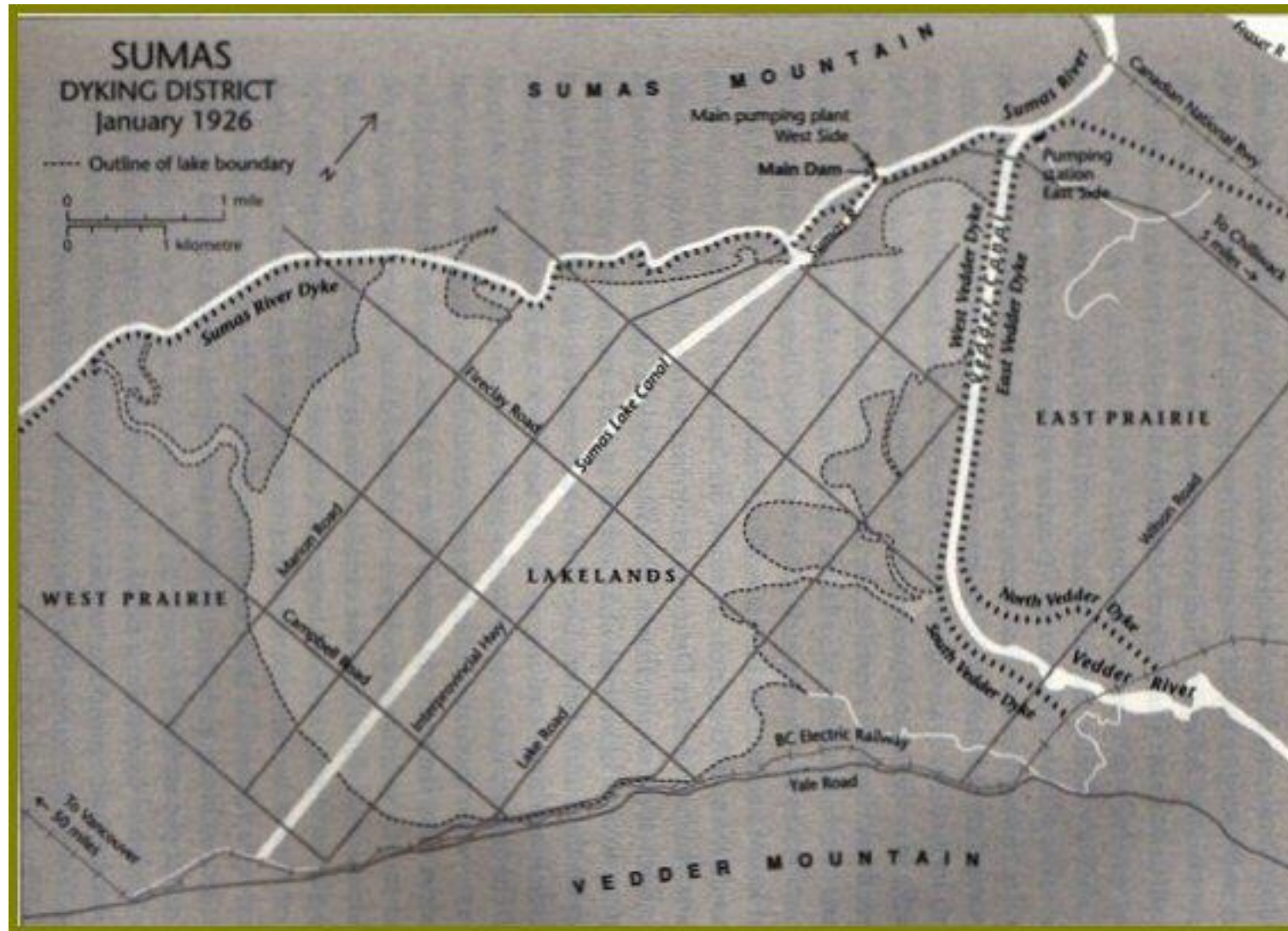
Electric dragline working on the Vedder Canal dyke - 1920

'Old Sumas Station'
was used from
1923 - 1983



Suction dredge Colonel Tobin and Work camp at Pumtoun

Sumas Dyking District — January 1926



Murton, James. Creating a Modern Countryside: Liberalism and Land Resettlement in British Columbia. Vancouver, BC: UBC Press, 2007. 117.

Sumas Prairie: Bellerose Station looking North-East 1926



Sumas Mountain and Chilliwack Mountain in Background

Vedder River Flats 1920s



***Mr & Mrs Abe Simmons, Mrs Hudson, Rosa Martin, Jack Martin & Mrs Martin
Photograph Courtesy of Chester Brown***

Vedder River Flats 1920s: Hudson Family



Esther and Edward Hudson



Ed Hudson Jr. and Esther Mathews

Vedder River Flats 1920s: Hudson Family



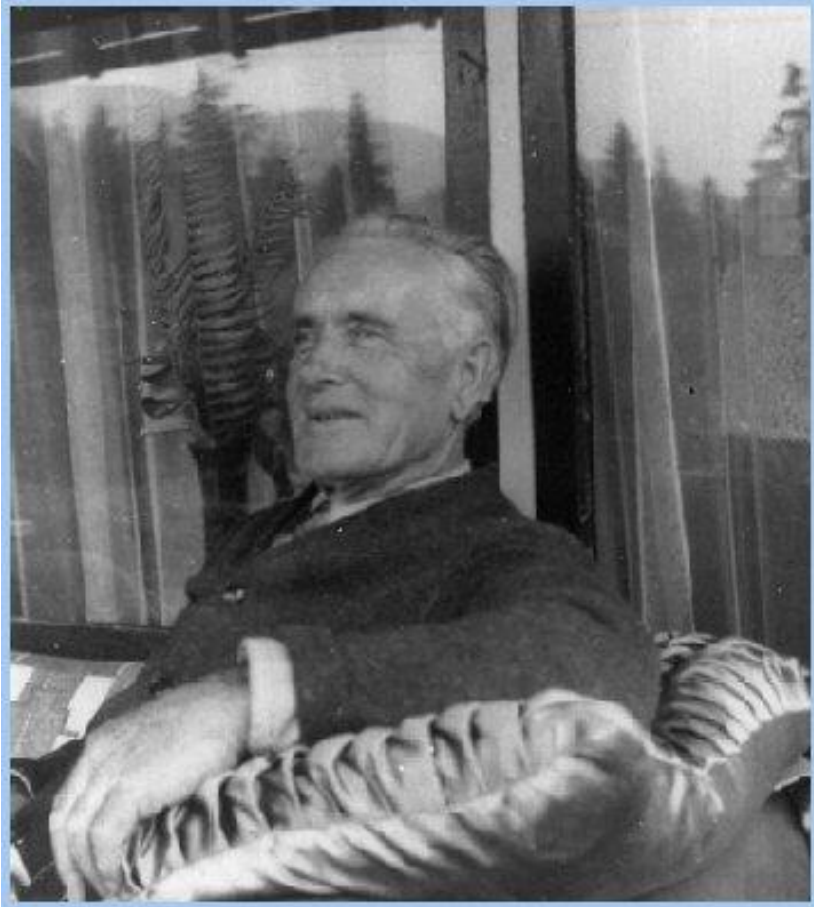
Original Hudson House Prior to 1920



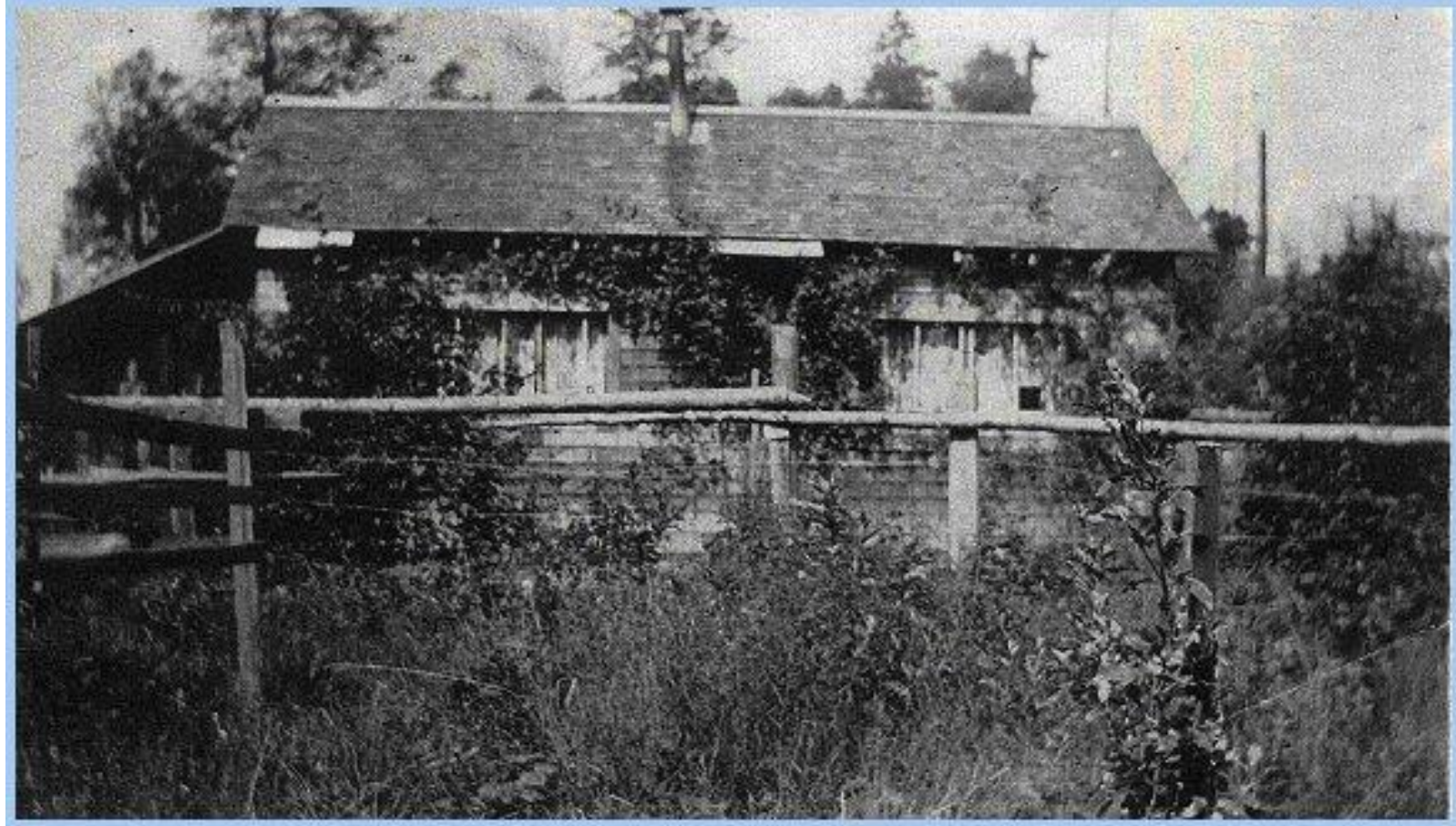
Edward Hudson's Farm House Duncan Road at the "S" Corner

Hudson Family Photographs Courtesy of Donald Hudson

Vedder River Flats 1920s: Brown Family



Robert Brown

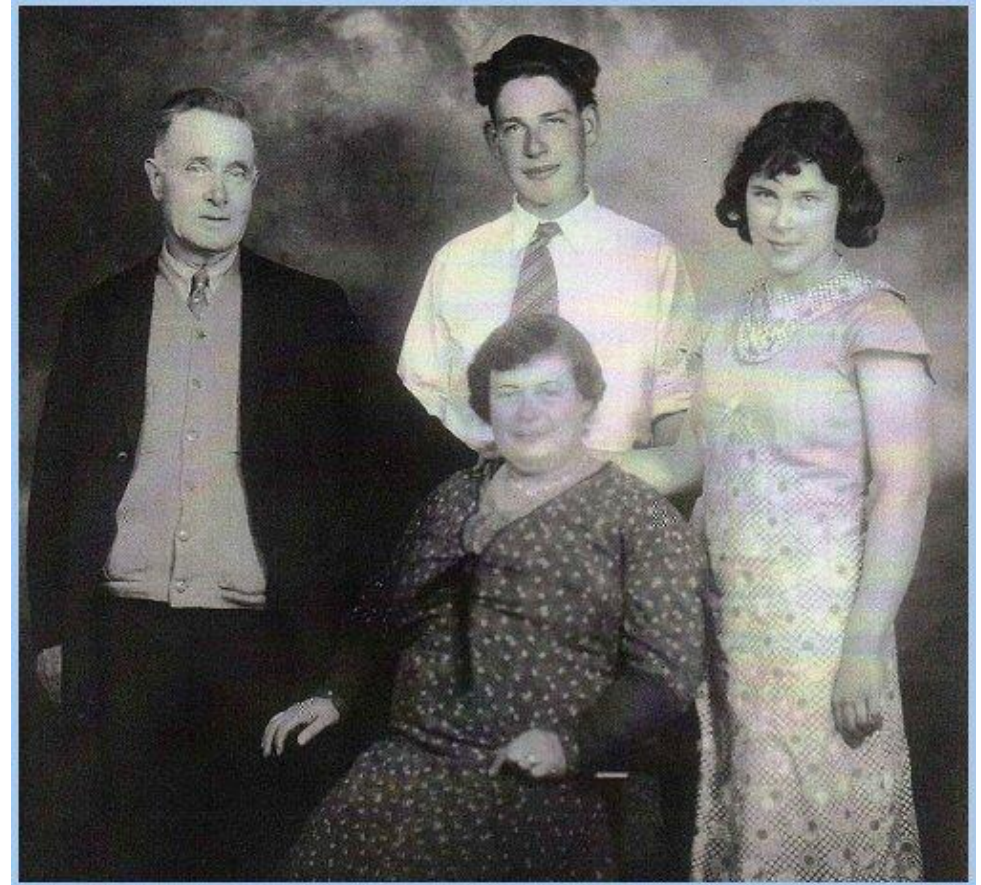


Original Brown Family home and back yard on Browne Road

Vedder River Flats 1930s: Brown Family



Elizabeth Brown, Margaret Maitland, Annetta Brown 1936



Robert, Elizabeth, Chester, Annetta 1934

Brown Family Photographs Courtesy of Chester Brown

Yarrow Founder: Chauncey Eckert



- 1905: Joseph and Margaret Knox buy the Vedder Ranch.***
- 1908: Chauncey Eckert buys land west of Yale Road (Wilson Road), which went north to the Vedder River from the eastern end of Majuba Hill.***
- 1927: Eckert advertises “farmland for sale” in the Winnipeg Free Press Farmer.***
- 1928: Mennonite families from the Canadian Prairies are eager buyers.***
- 1930’s: More Mennonites from Russia, and Mexico arrive. They develop a village like their Mennonite villages on the Ukrainian steppes of Russia.***

Majuba Hill 1920s



***William Siddall and Chauncey Eckert
Siddall Residence Garden 1920s***

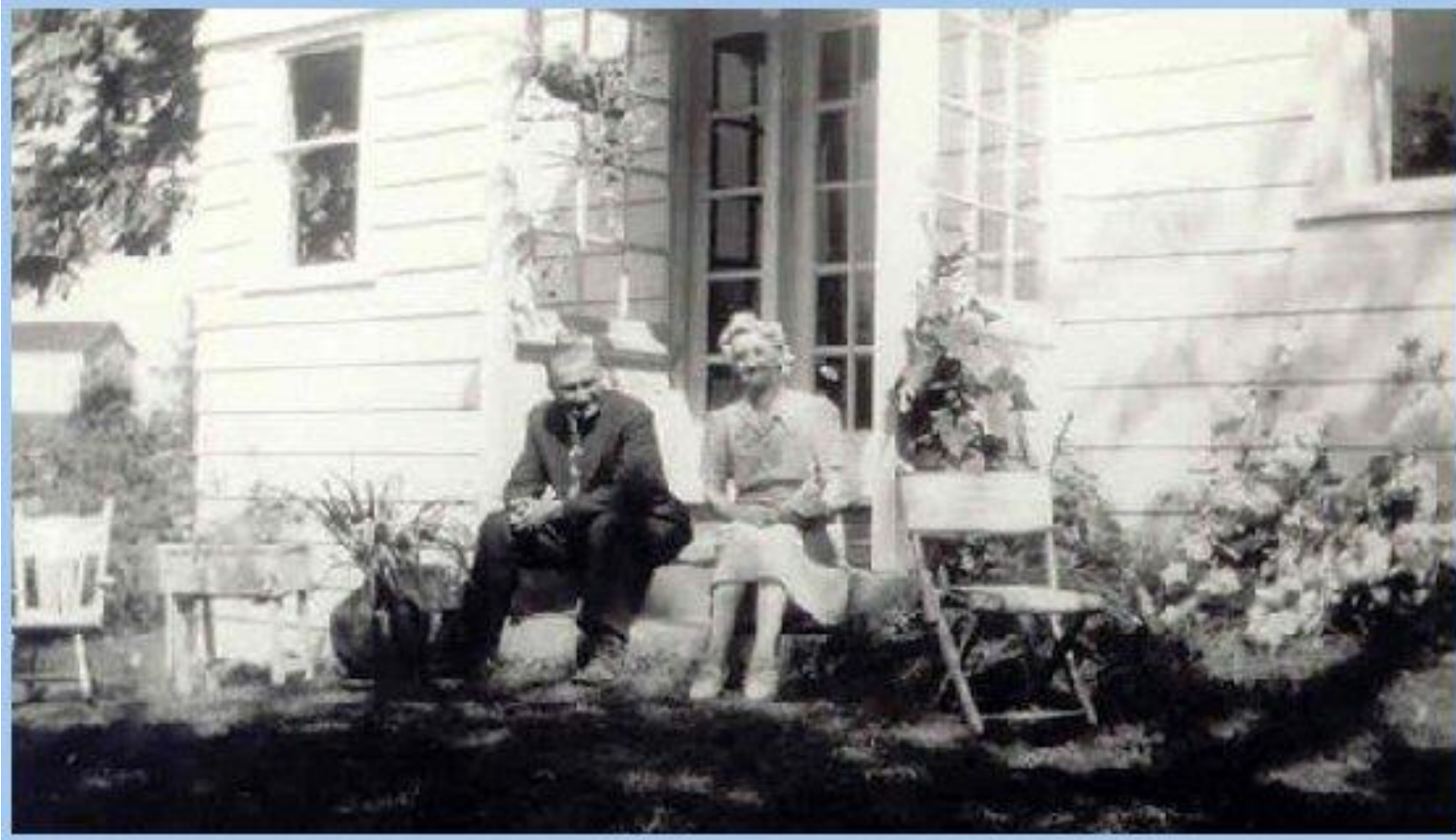
Photograph Courtesy of Ray Parker – Son of Vivian (Siddall) Parker

Majuba Hill: Siddall Center 1920s and 30s



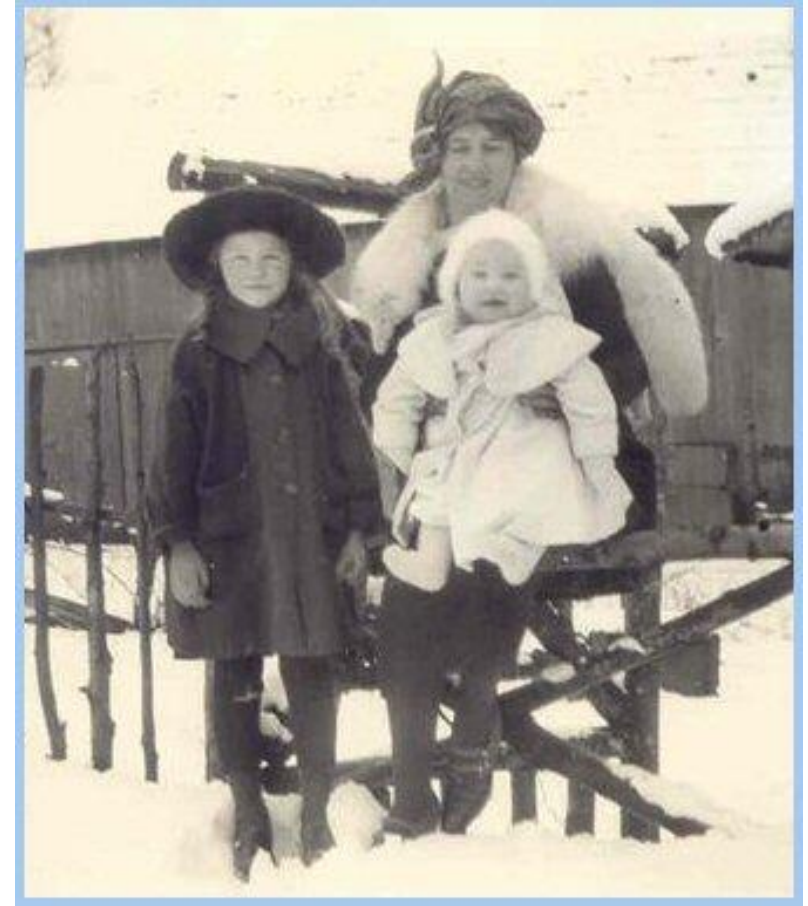
***Siddall's Store, Post Office, and House south of Yarrow Station on the BCE Railway
Yale Road on the right and Wilson Road heading north on the left
Photograph Courtesy of Frank Parker***

Yarrow Pioneers: Ella and Bill Siddall



Ella and Bill Siddall

Photographs Courtesy of Frank Parker



Ella Siddall with Vivian and Arthur, circa 1922

Majuba Hillcrest United Church Congregation, circa 1925

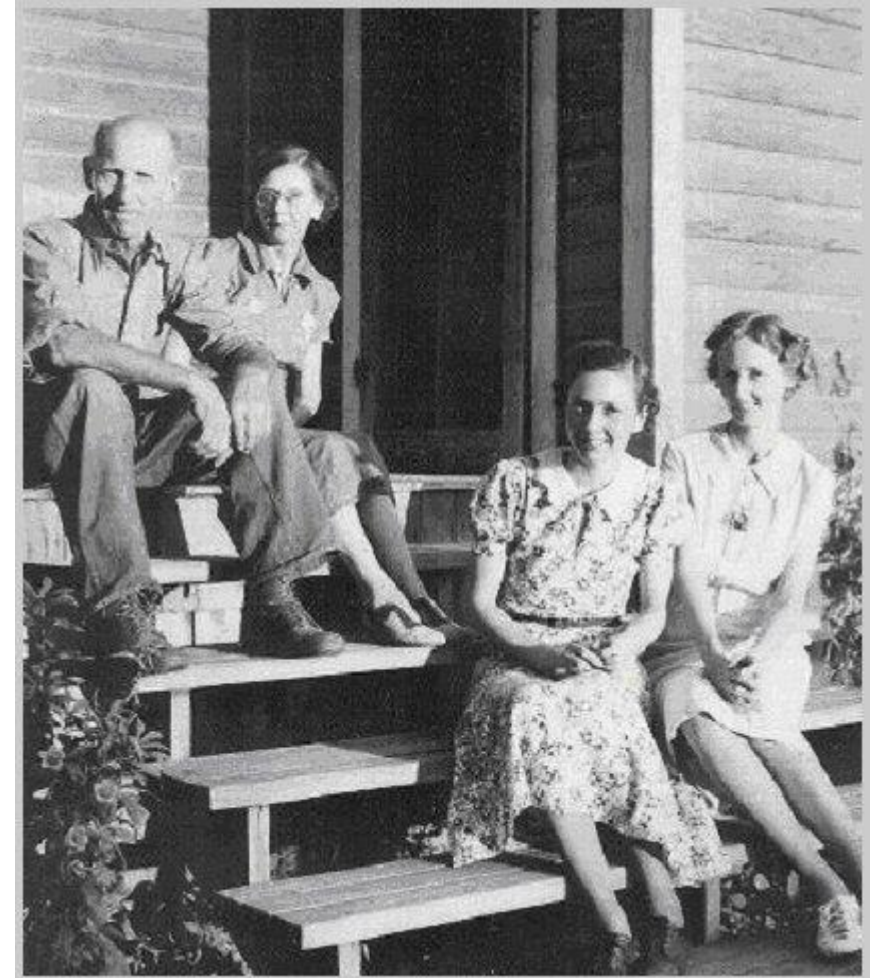


***Rev. R.A. Redman and congregation: Charles & Julia Sabo, Fred & Maybelle Maitland, Chauncey & Frances Eckert, Ralph Golder, Eva Siddall, Julia Wittenberg, Cora Haley and several unidentified people.
Photograph Courtesy of Frank Parker***

Majuba Hill Pioneers



***George and Henrietta Knox
Edith Caroline and Ethel Irene
Photograph Courtesy Ethel and Edith Knox***



***Maitland Family: Fred, Mabel, Margaret, Evelyn
Photograph Courtesy of Bill Bigmore***

Yarrow Pioneers: The Ord Family



Helen and Harry Ord



Ord Family's Majuba Hill Home

Photographs Courtesy of the Ord Family Album

Yarrow's Majuba Hill Settlers: The Wiensz Family



***Peter and Maria Wiensz's Majuba Hill Farm 1945
Vedder Mountain and Old Yale Road in the background
Yarrow Station to the left and east
Belrose Station to the right and west***



Extended Wiensz Family: Spring, 1946

Photographs Courtesy of Irwin Wiensz

Yarrow Station at Wilson Road and Majuba Hill



***Photograph Courtesy of Agatha Klassen
Klassen, Agatha. E. Yarrow: A Portrait in Mosaic. Clearbrook,
BC: Klassen, 1976.***

Sumas Prairie Hop Fields



Helen and Henry Ord with twins Edmund and John



Canadian Hop Yards, Sumas Prairie

The American Henry Norton Ord was a joint partner of Canadian Hop Yards, and owner of Ord hop fields on Sumas Prairie (Fuggle Hop Garden) and in Kamloops

Picking Hops by Hand



From youngest to eldest... everyone picked hops...
They didn't have to know English to get a job picking hops...

Weigh-Up...
weighing the hops of
Rev. Jacob Epp (right)
are Rev. J.B. Harder,
Weigher, holding scale
and Rev. Petrus Martens,
checker who punched the
weight of the hops on the
ticket....



Mr. Harry
Ord...
himself out
picking
hops....



THE
INSPECTOR

TOO MANY HOPS LEFT BEHIND...



Canadian Hop Growers, Ltd.	
SARVER, B.C.	
Redeemable only after harvest at State Office	10% 1%
Valid after Oct. 1 1943 or if punched before or less than 24 hrs or for more than 99 lbs.	20% 2%
Date	30% 3%
Picker No.	40% 4%
Back No.	50% 5%
	60% 6%
	7%
	8%
	9%
	0%
No 47318	
1943 (Not Transferable)	



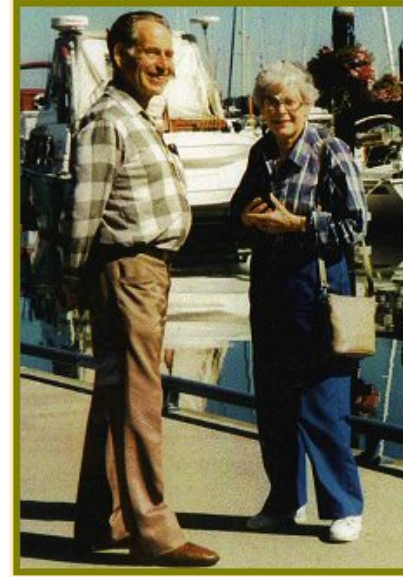
Tickets punched...
...we're going home...

Yarrow's Pioneers 1919 & 1924

Yarrow's Pioneers: 1919

Broe J L	mixed farming	<u>Brown Elizabeth</u> Robert	mixed farming
<u>Chadsey Lockhart</u>	mixed farming	Duncan W	dairying
Genson Geo	mixed farming	<u>Hounscome James</u>	mixed farming, post master
<u>Hudson Edward</u>	mixed farming	Hudson E	poultry breeding
<u>Knox Joseph</u>	gen store, mixed farming	Latty D F	mixed farming
<u>Maitland Fred H</u>	mixed farming	<u>Martin John J.</u>	mixed farming
Sanford Jos	bee keeping	<u>Simmons Abe</u>	dairying
Smith A A	mixed farming	Smith Herbert	mixed farming, bee keeping
Town I L	mixed farming	Town Lonzo	mixed farming
Wright Geo	mixed farming		

Chester and Annetta Brown



Yarrow's Pioneers: 1919-1924.

Yarrow's Pioneers: 1924

Allan R	logger	Beldam C H	farming	Bellrose Edgar G	farming	<u>Bellrose Geo H</u>	farming
Bellrose Vincent	farming	Brown Elizabeth Robert	mixed farming	Chadsey Lockhart	mixed farming	Carlaw Fred	mixed farming
Chapman Wm	farming	Crickard W	retired	Cruetzer E	mechanic	Duncan W F R	farming
Hounscome Jas	post master	Hudson E	farming	Jensen Geo M	farming	Knox J	farming
Langren J	farmer	Latty David F.	farmer	Lien Henry M	farmer	Maitland F H	mixed farming
Manuel Philip C	farmer	Martin John J.	mixed farming	Martin Tom	mixed farming	Merton H	farming
Moir J	farming	<u>Porter Mrs P</u>	farming	Ruddock Robt	farmer	Sangford J	contractor
<u>Siddall Will</u>	gen store	Simmons A	dairying	Smith Mary C	farming	Smith Robt J	farmer
Stevens J	farm hand	Stromberg J	dairying	Town Alonzo	mixed farming	Town P L	mixed farming
Town R J	mixed farming	Wickander N	farming	Wright Geo	farming		

1927: Eckert advertises “farmland for sale” in the Winnipeg Free Press Farmer.

Winnipeg ad initiates Mennonite settlement

by Lois Dickinson,
Chilliwack Museum and
Historical Society

“WANTED: Settlers for prime farm land in the Fraser Valley of British Columbia,” said the ad in the *Winnipeg Free Press* that summer of 1927.

The advertisement was placed by Chilliwack businessman Chauncey Eckert. It promoted the lands recently reclaimed from Samas Lake and it initiated the first Mennonite settlement in B.C.

Chauncey Eckert knew the potential of farm land when he saw it. He was born in Iowa and had worked in South Dakota. He was 33 years old when he came to Chilliwack in 1906 to begin the operation of a large dairy farm on Chilliwack Central Road.

He believed strongly in group effort and was one of the founders of the Fraser Valley Milk Producers' Association in 1917. He also operated the Chilliwack Producers' Exchange, which was the forerunner of co-operatives as we know them today.

In 1921, Chauncey Eckert built his city home, a mansion on Yale Road, just a block and a half east of town. Made of stone, and named Stonehurst, it has had, like its first owner, an enduring place in the history of Chilliwack.

Chauncey had good neighbors. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Henry Eckert, who had travelled west with him, erected a fine white house right next door and Chauncey and his father worked together in the formation of Chilliwack's first hospital in 1912. The neighborliness continued when the white house, since moved



CHAUNCEY ECKERT

ed around the corner to Williams Street, became the property of Chauncey's partner E.A. Crain.

On Sundays, the Eckerts, Chauncey and Frances with son Keith and their young daughter, drove in their fine touring car to the tarred Chilliwack Methodist Church at Yale and Spadina where Chauncey sang in the choir with the Marshalls and the Mannells.

On Mondays, Councillor Eckert (1913-1917) drove to council meetings at the new city hall.

On other days, plain Mr. Eckert gave many young Chilliwack people their first car rides, and their transportation to picnics at Cultus Lake.

Chauncey Eckert always believed in the potential of Chilliwack and was greatly interested in the Samas Lake reclamation scheme developed by E.D. Barrow and engineer Fred Sinclair.

He watched as Earl Brett's tractors removed the willows from the new land, and, being more optimistic than others, acquired over 1,000 acres along the

old lake margin. Together with property he had previously purchased at the base of Vedder Mountain, he would build a new community, and he placed his ad in the *Winnipeg Free Press*.

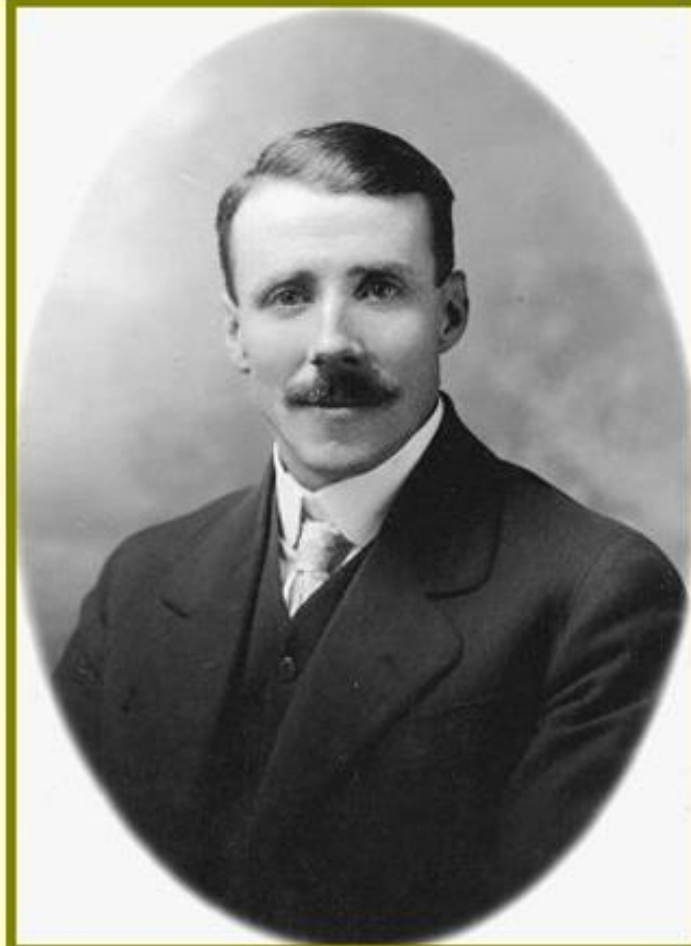
So it was that on a February night in 1928, Chauncey Eckert, in his touring car, welcomed some of the first 15 Mennonite families to arrive in Chilliwack. They settled in Yarrow, named for the flower which grew so persistently along the B.C. Electric tracks, and persisted would be the Mennonite efforts to develop their land.

They were the new pioneers in the area where Volkert Vedder, William Chadsey and the Marcy family had lived in earlier days.

Other historians . . . George Baer, Jacob Krause, and Agatha Klassen have told the story, and all mention Chauncey Eckert's kindness to the newcomers. He loaned what German he could. He loaned money for their first land payments, and he gave long-term credit. He furnished building materials, assisted with the buying of farm machinery, and allowed groceries to be charged in his store.

He had great faith in the Mennonites and the Mennonites had great faith in God. Their faith was not misplaced and Yarrow prospered.

Chauncey Eckert died in Vancouver in 1936. Today, his stone house (La Mansione restaurant) is a Class 'A' heritage building . . . but there is also the heritage of Yarrow and those Mennonites who have gone to other places in the province.



Eckert waited twenty years to get a return on the land purchased in 1908 from Joseph and Margaret Knox.

Eckert advertised his land for sale in in the *Winnipeg Free Press Farmer*, reprinted as a letter in the [Mennonitische Rundschau](#).

Mennonite families, anxious to escape the harsh climate of the Canadian Prairies, were eager buyers.

They saw these Fraser Valley, virgin farmlands as a golden opportunity for a fresh start.

Mennonites thronged west, drawn by Eckert's generous financial terms.

1928-29 Mennonite Settlers Flock to Yarrow to take up farm land.

— Yarrow's Pioneers (excluding Belrose): 1929 —

Bargen John G	farming	Bennett Robt W.	farming	Berg George	farming	Berg Isaac	labourer
Bishop J.W.	labourer	Bolley Henry J.	labourer Can Hop Gardens	Braun John	farming	Brown Elizabeth	farming
Brown R.	mstr menr	Cameron John	lbrmn	Post Office	Siddall postmistress	Canadian Hop Gardens	Ord mng dir
Clark J.	labourer	Dahl Jacob	labourer	Dahl John	farming	Dahl Mary	domestic
Davies T.C.	farmhand Can Hop Gardens	Doerksen George	labourer	Downham Saml A.	farming	Duncan Alex H.T.	farming
Duncan Wm F.R.	retired	Dyck Abraham	labourer	Dyck Henry	labourer	Dyck Kate	domestic
Dyck Ormin	labourer	Dyck Peter	farming	Epp George	labourer	Epp Jacob G	farming
Erdman John H.	tmstr	Esau John	farming	Fast George J.	farming	Fraser John A.	farmhd
Friesen David	labourer	Friesen David R.	farming	Friesen Jacob H.L.	farming	Friesen Nettie	domestic
Funk Adolf	farming	Giesbrecht Annie	domestic G.H. Hooqe	Giesbrecht Elizabeth	domestic H.N. Ord	Giesbrecht Margaret	domestic
Giesbrecht Peter	farming	Goertz Daniel H.	farming	Goertz Elizabeth	domestic	Goertz Mary	domestic
Golder Harold P.	farming	Graham Neil	farming	Haines Henry P.	farming	Hill Ernest J.	labourer
Hooqe George	labourer	Hooqe George H.	labourer	Hudson Edward H.	labourer	Hudson Esther M.	farming
Hunter John P.	labourer	Isaak Cornelius J.	farming	Jantzen Aaron	farming	Jantzen John J.	farming
Johnston Frank	labourer	Klassen Abraham	labourer	Klassen Henry	labourer	Klassen Kornelius	farming
Knox G. Marshall	farming	Knox Joseph	dairying	Kornelsen Frank	labourer	Krause Jacob C.	farming
Landin Gus	trkmn BCER	Langran C.A.	labourer	Larsen Louis	logger	Latty D.F.	farming
Linda Carl L.	poultry	Loewen George J.	farming	Maitland Fredk H.	farming	Marshall William	lbrmn
Martin John	farming	Matyshen Peter	laboure	Messere Emilio	trackman BCER	Neufeld Helen	domestic
Neufeld Henry	barber	Neufeld Mary	domestic	Neufeld Peter H.	school teacher	Nichel Richard	farmhand
Nickel Abraham	farming	Nickel Abraham Jr.	labourer	Nickel Cornelius	labourer	Nickel Henry H.	farming
Nickel Jacob A	farming	Norman Jas	labourer	Ord Henry N.	managing director Can Hop Gardens	Pankratz Jacob H.	farming
Pauls Peter	farming	Peacock W.J.	lbrmn	Peters David	farming	Peters Gertrude	domestic G.M. Doerksen
Peters John F.	farming	Porter Mrs. Rosalind	farming	Reimer Elizabeth	farming	Reimer Gerhard	labourer
Reimer Gertrude	farming	Reimer Nikolai N	farming	Reimer Sarah	farming	Rempel David N.	farming
Rowles Thos J.	logging	Sawatsky Agnes	farming	Sawatsky Isaac	farming	Sawatsky Tina	farming
Schellenberg David	farming	Siddall Mrs Eva E.	Postmistress	Siddall Wm H.	general store service station	Simmons Albert	dairying
Smith Mary C.	widow farming	Standing Frieda C	domestic	Stevens Samuel W.	farmhand	Thiessen Daniel	farming
Thiessen Elizabeth	domestic	Thiessen Helen	domestic	Thiessen Henry	chiropractor	Thiessen Susanne	farming
Thiessen Tina	domestic	Town Ira L.	farming	Town Ira L.	farming	Town Ira L. Jr.	farming
Town Robertt	laborer	Waslynchuck George	farming	Weibe George W.	farming	Wiens Lena	farming
Zandiro Gustaf	trackman BCER						

Between the summers of 1928 and 1929, passengers travelling regularly between Chilliwack and Vancouver on the B.C. Electric interurban trains witnessed a village emerge on the plain below Vedder Mountain.

To occasional travellers, however, Yarrow materialized as an instant village.

That Yarrow was an instant, Mennonite village is evident from the Mennonite names that appear on the list of residents in Wrigley's Yarrow Directory for 1929.

Mennonite Arrival - 1928

*Twelve stalwart men from that Prairie Town,
All healthy and hearty, and of famed renown,
All came to B.C. without a dime,
To look for work and bask in our clime.*

*They went to work for "Hops" Henry Ord,
Hoing, and pegging and tying the cord.
They toiled from morning, till late at night,
Then a muddy old Ford they all packed tight.*

*On their way home they got out to push,
As the trail climbed the mountain into the bush.
When they all got home, tired and forlorn,
They ate beet Borscht with beans, bacon and corn.*



*They brewed their tea in an old tin pail,
Chewed sunflower seeds on an old fence rail.
Each early morning at half past four,
They were up and about, as the day before.*

*The sun was hot, and the water was bad,
They all had to do it, that was all that they had.
They had no church when they began,
So Jacob Epp, that grand old man,*

*Loaned his house for prayer and song;
They came there early staying ever so long.
They had no barn that any could see,
So they put their cow in a hollow tree,*



*They left her there till late that fall,
Then built their barns, both large and small.
Now, that same Fall the trek began,
As others heard of the promised Land,*

*They came by train, they came by bus,
They came in droves without much fuss,
Until today, as you can all see:
Our beautiful town, in the Land of the Free.*

William and Ella Siddall

Mennonite Arrival by William & Ella Siddall

***Yarrow's original pioneer
residents could have
viewed this influx of
Mennonite immigrants
with concern, and even
some alarm and
trepidation.***

***Thankfully, in answer to
prayers, the new
pioneers made friends,
got work, built homes,
raised children, and
founded churches, and
establishing their
Mennonite society and
town.***

Yarrow Elementary School 1928



***On opening day, September 13, 1928 the school had twenty-nine children.
Miss Currie transferred from Majuba Hill School.***

In 1929, Mr Carl Wilson became the Principal of the Yarrow Elementary School.

***Photograph Courtesy of Agatha Klassen
Klassen, Agatha. E. Yarrow: A Portrait in Mosaic. Clearbrook, BC: Klassen, 1976.***

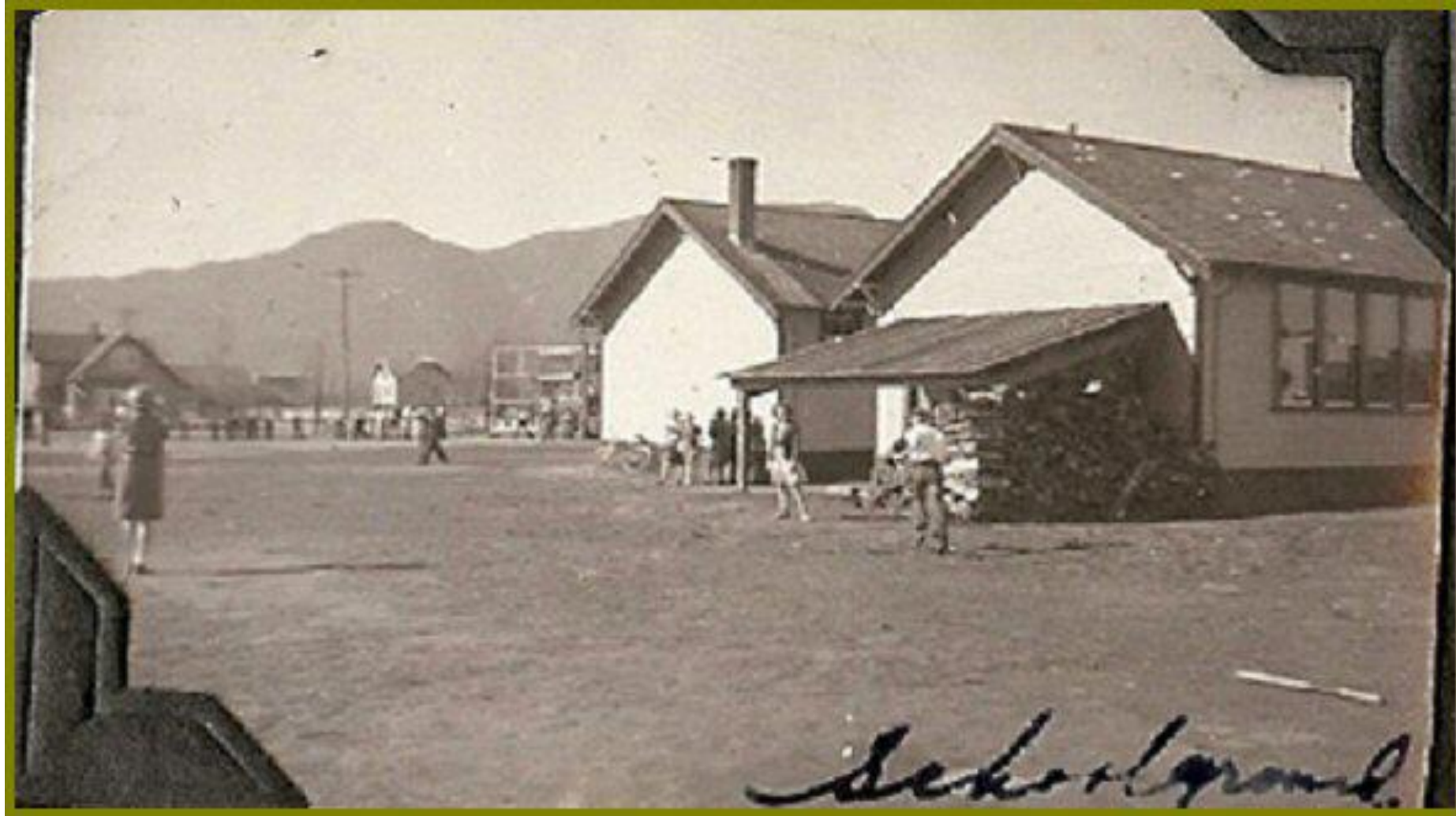
Yarrow Elementary School 1932



In 1930 with Yarrow's spiralling growth, the School Board built another one-room building. The two buildings fronted on Yarrow Central Road.

Photograph Courtesy of Elizabeth Sukkau Penner

Yarrow Elementary School 1932



Looking Northwest toward Sumas Mountain
Photograph Courtesy of Elizabeth Sukkau Penner

Yarrow School Children 1934-35



Yarrow School Mr. Wilson's Grade 6 Class 1934-35



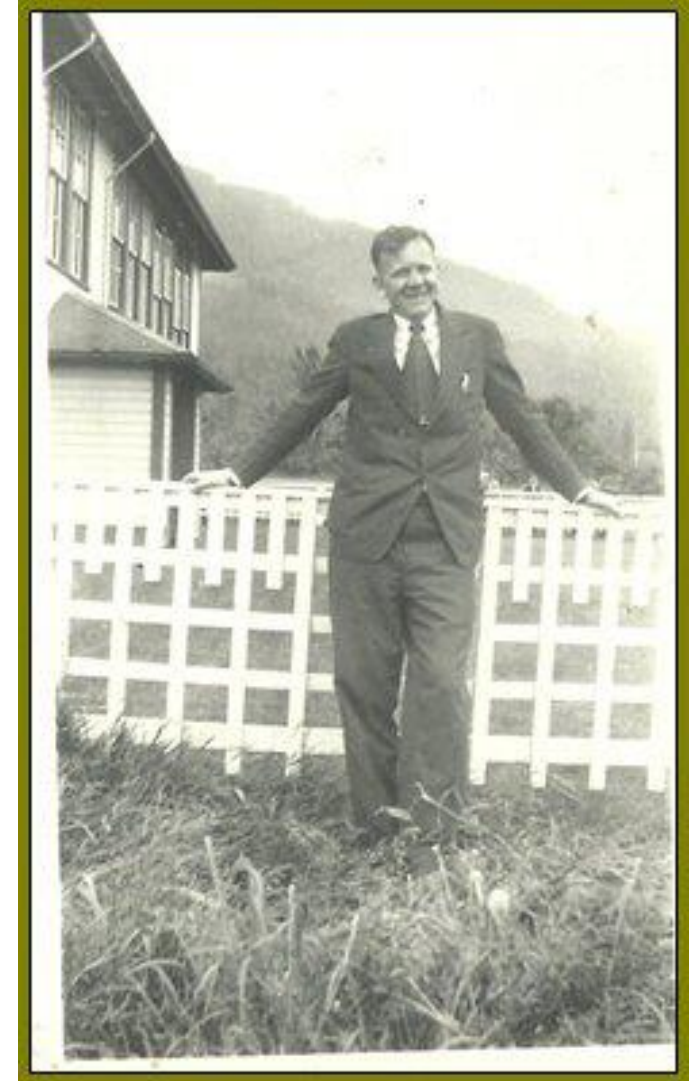
Photographs Courtesy of Elizabeth Sukkau Penner



Miss Kerr's Girls P.E. Class

Yarrow Elementary School 1937

with Principal Carl Wilson



Gathering of Yarrow Mennonite Pioneers 1928



Park Where Eckert Road Crosses Stewart Creek Near Vedder Mountain

First Mennonite Church Meeting 1928



Good Friday 1928

***Home of Johann
Jantzen Family***

***Northwest
Corner of Central
and Wilson
Roads***

Yarrow Pioneers

Peter P. Giesbrecht and Elizabeth Wittenberg Giesbrecht

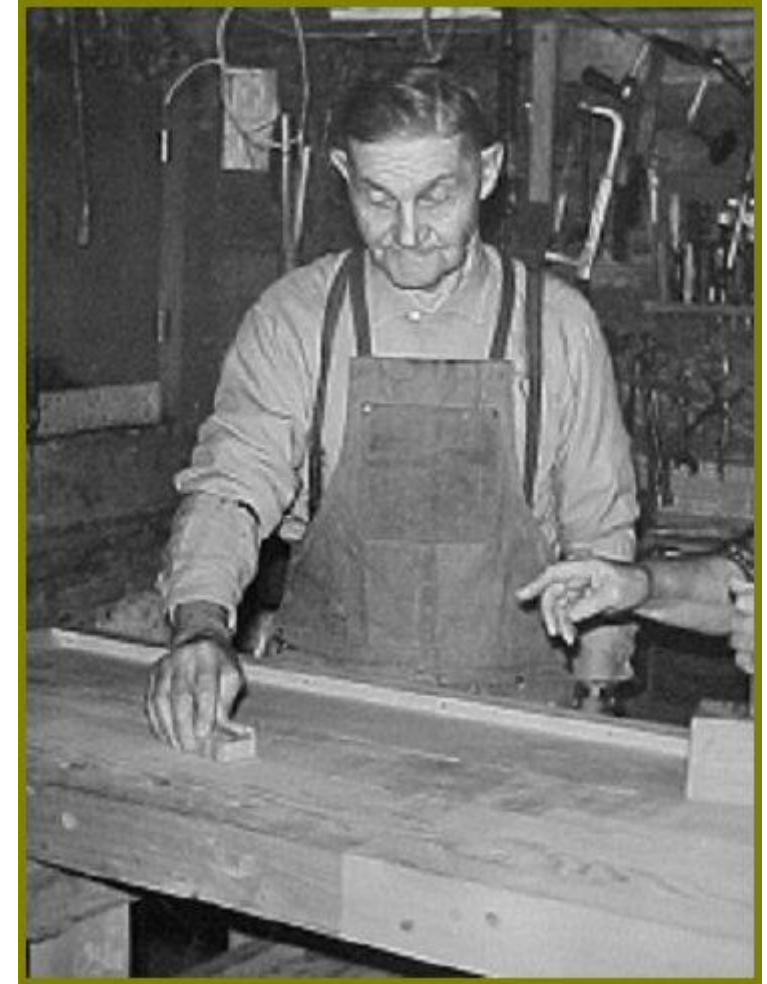


Children: Margaret, Peter P., Elizabeth, Mary, David, Susie, Gertrude, Cornelius, Helena, John

Yarrow Pioneers: Margaretha & Heinrich Enns 1929



Heinrich Enns: woodworking shop.



Margaretha & Heinrich Enns came to Yarrow with their eight children February 20th, 1929.

Mrs. Enns trained as a mid-wife in Russia. Until the 1940's Mrs. Enns delivered many of Yarrow's babies.

She was well known to Chilliwack doctors and they often asked her to continue the care of a patient.

Four Derksen Brothers Arrive in Yarrow 1929



1929 — Four brothers, Derksen. (left to right) Johann, Henry, Gerhard, Peter.

Top right: Johann Derksen's General Store & gas pump were the first in Yarrow.

Bottom right: Gerhard Derksen's home on Central Road with a garage for son Jake's truck and their Texaco gas station.



Sumas Prairie Tobacco Industry

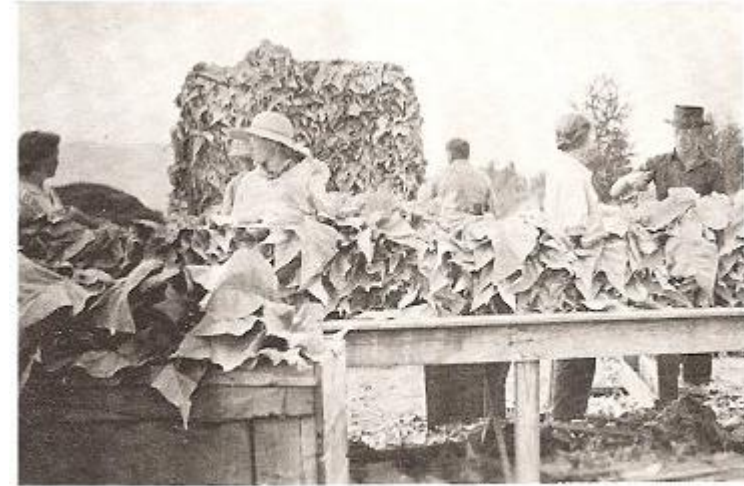


***Henry and Anna Buhler's Farm: Site of Totem Tobacco Company
Corner of #3 Road and Interprovincial Highway
Photograph Courtesy of Bob Buhler.***

Sumas Prairie Tobacco Industry



Above: 1937 - Tobacco leaves were picked by hand, placed on a stone boat or rubber wheeled vehicle and hauled in to the tying station.
Left: 1937 - The tobacco leaves are ready for picking and processing



The Tying Station The tobacco leaves are tied to long poles in readiness for drying*



1942- Some Yarrow girls on their way to the Tobacco farm.
Far left Annie Siemens, far right Lena Kroeker.



1942 - The tobacco-tying crew



Drying the tobacco leaves in the kilns

Yarrow's Pioneering Businesses

Right: 1932: After BC Electric installed power to Yarrow. Henry Sukkau wired houses for electricity.

Below: George Reimer's Machine Shed on Stewart Road. Note the steel wheels on the tractor.

Bottom Right: Yarrow Bicycle Shop on Central Road. The building housed many different business over the years: Shoe Maker, Pizza Takeout, etc.



Yarrow's Pioneering Businesses



Yarrow Electric with Dave Epp



Jacob A. Froese built Yarrow's first Meat Market

Klassen, Agatha. E. Yarrow: A Portrait in Mosaic. Clearbrook, BC: Klassen, 1976.

Yarrow's Early Settlers' Homes



1928: Peter & Liese Berg home on Central Road, was the first house built in Yarrow



***1928: Eckert Road home of Jacob G. Epp family.
The wood, ordered from a catalogue, was shipped by boxcar to Yarrow by the BCE Railway.***

Yarrow's Early Settlers' Homes



***Yarrow Central Road Looking East in 1929
1007 Central Road Background Left:
Gerhard Derksen's
1012 Central Road Foreground Right:
Peter Tiessen's, Corney Langemann's,
Wilhelm Martens', & Katie Wiens'
Photograph Courtesy of Agatha Klassen***



***1940's: Central Road looking west.
Right: Jake Derksen's Texaco Station,
Gerhard Derksen's home behind it;
Heinrich Harms home & barn,
MB Church & Elim Bible School.
Left: Derksen's Lumber Yard***

Vedder River Flats Mennonite Settlers

1928 Nickel Family at 1930 Duncan Road



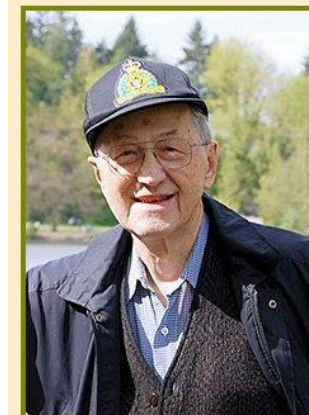
Among our first family snapshots after reaching Yarrow in December 1928, this shot shows my oldest sister, Marie Nickel, the girl at far right of picture, with friends at likely her first hop harvest in the Haas Hop field in Sardis in September 1929, when she was 18. *Bill Nickel*



Maria, Henry H., Henry F. Nickel at summer 1930 hay harvesting on rented Duncan farm at Browne and Duncan Road outside the Yarrow dyke. My mother holding the horses, my father pitching up the stacks, my brother at 17 building the load. *Bill Nickel*

***The Vedder River Flats lay outside the Yarrow dykes.
making it subject to flooding during the spring freshets.
The flood damage made farming impossible.***

***Summer 1931 the Nickel family moved to
the rented Chadsey farm on Majuba Hill.
Courtesy of Bill Nickel.***



Vedder River Flats Mennonite Settlers

***1936 The Derksen Family at the Vedder River west of Ford Road
Now the Vedder River Campground***

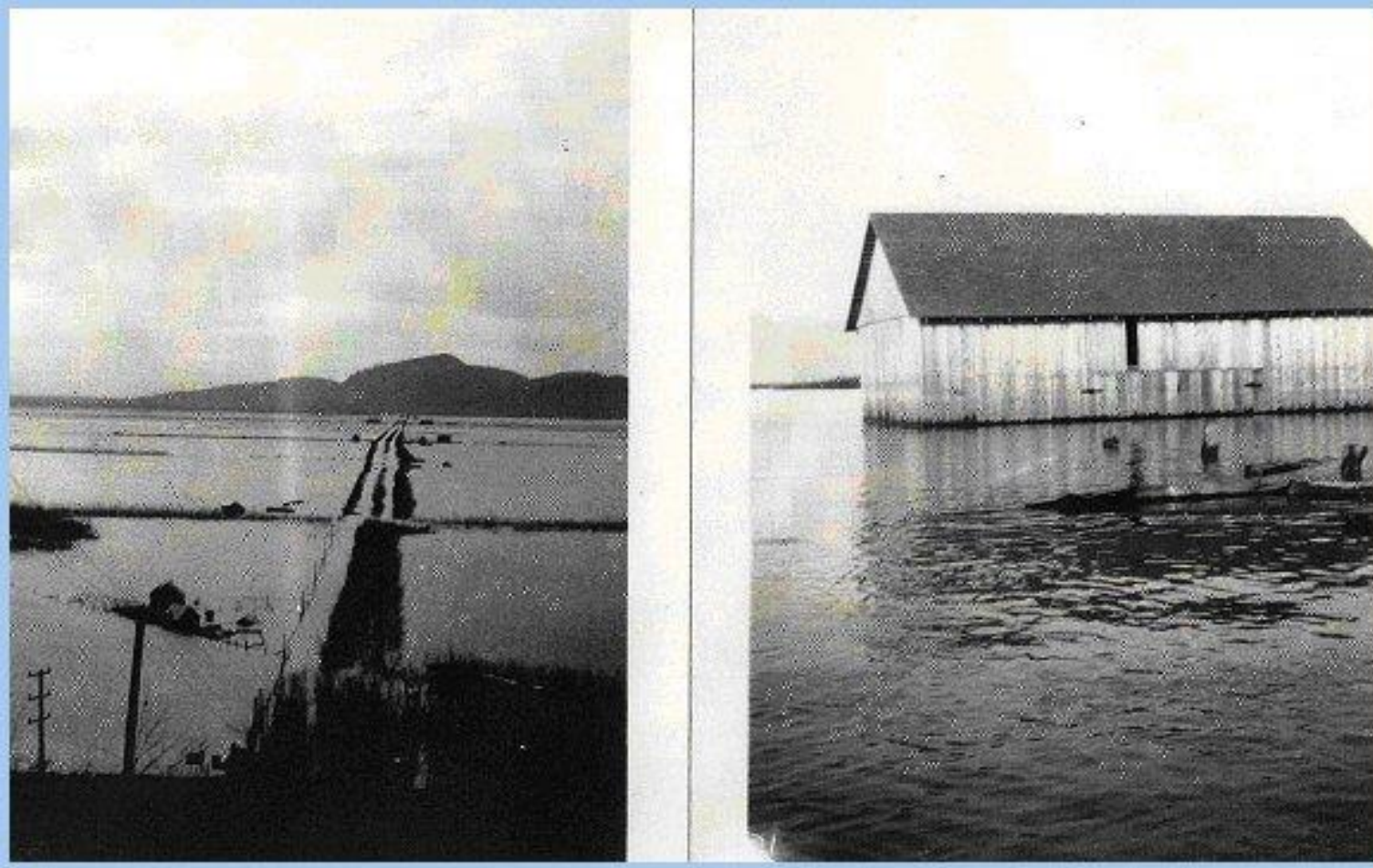


***Julius and Katharina Derksen family — 1936
Julius Jr., Katharina, Julius, Katie,
George Siemens, Sara, Jake***



***Katie Derksen and her chickens — 1937
Chicken Barn next to the Vedder River***

1936 Sumas Prairie Flood



Even after the Vedder Canal Dykes were built in 1924 and Sumas Lake was drained, Sumas Prairie was subject to flooding



George Ferguson Farm — Vedder Mountain in background

Trucks, men, shovels, bags. That tells the story all over the Chillicothe dyking area this week. Heavy men waded in rain and boiling sun to supply the gravel, fill the sandbags that helped keep the water out.

Chimney's battle against the Fraser River flood once more of endurance this morning as the community held the dike for the eighth day.

Only break in the long chain of levees occurred Tuesday at 1:50 p.m. on a stretch of inaccessible dyke west of Camrose where a small gap quickly developed into a 75-foot breach, inundating an area from the east bank of the Vedder and to the Chocoma road and except slowly south.

The remaining 100,000-acre area of the Fraser River flood plain is estimated to be 100,000 acres, including the area and the largest tracts—75 to 100 acres in the B.C.M.F.

drawn on plans for a second line of defense—should that be necessary. The B.C.M.F. will provide the equipment. They estimate levees will be 10 to 15 feet high and other materials are on the way. The area of the river and the levees where water is now

Yesterday, swells from the area indicated that many of the roads in the Greenfield area were again in traffic. This morning, water was reported well up the Menominee River three miles, owner of South Shore and Harbor Marine Inc., reported seven and eight thousand acres may be inundated by the time the water reaches its peak.

One hundred and fifty men from USMC, stationed in the occupation zone, were sent to the area to remove the heavy equipment in preparation for bulldozing in the area.

Good news was reported from Hualapai on 12 March, when the river stopped.

The Snake River occurred in an area where no snowblowing had been done. The snow was very heavy. Brush and trees prevented workers from getting in. A large hole in the ground, looking part of the time like a cliff, was the only place

that traffic could go in, so, indeed, the river was flowing in the ground from the top of the hill on both ends and to the Snake on all three sides of the city and night. (This was the only place where the river could be seen.)

Subtract a handful.

Trans-Canada highway traffic to the east is using the river and the road to the west.

News from the Churchill says that the road is closed to the Atlantic coast and is closing again for the winter. A Canadian

[illegible]

In other cases, work is going on at McDonald's road, where there has been considerable seepage; at Rosedale, at the Jesspersen farm; at Glendale and west of the VLA subdivision.

This is where the Sorasack route through Friday at 5 p.m. By heading back from both Sorasack and Little Mountain, crews bridged the gap early Sunday morning. In interval, water poured through the break, threatening airport and adjoining homes. Sunday surrounding country has high and uneven topography, and along children played near, which breaks in the road.

Van Gogh's dark, brooding oil of the night sky, with swirling clouds and a lone, leafless tree, is one of the finest works of the early 20th century. The painting is a study in light and shadow, with the dark, swirling clouds and the lone, leafless tree creating a sense of isolation and melancholy. The painting is a study in light and shadow, with the dark, swirling clouds and the lone, leafless tree creating a sense of isolation and melancholy.

[illegible]

Truckers are not alone in being hit throughout the valley. The agricultural sector is also being hit hard and blatted out every sort of fruit even in warm areas like the Central Valley. Apples, pears, cherries, peaches, apricots, plums, and other fruit are being hit hard. The damage is being done by the same virus that is hitting the citrus industry in the Central Valley. The damage is being done by the same virus that is hitting the citrus industry in the Central Valley. The damage is being done by the same virus that is hitting the citrus industry in the Central Valley.


Evacuees

At Lake Hopland

(Between noon and five o'clock, evacuees from the Glendale area being accommodated at three camps near Lake Hopland.) State officials report, based on information received by telephone,



er River Flood

An aerial photograph showing a vast, flat landscape that appears to be a flooded area. A winding road or path cuts through the water, leading towards a cluster of small, scattered buildings or structures. The surrounding area is mostly submerged, with some trees and vegetation visible in the distance. The overall scene suggests a significant flood event.

A black and white aerial photograph showing a wide river bend. On the left bank, there is a small cluster of buildings and trees. The right bank is mostly open land with some scattered trees. The river flows from the top left towards the bottom right.

An aerial photograph showing a flooded area. A road or path runs along the right side of the image, with a line of trees and vegetation on the left. The water is dark and covers a significant portion of the landscape.



All Night Struggle Of Semiault Won

[illegible][illegible]

Evacuees At Lake, Hop Yards

Between four and five hundred farmers from the Greenbriar area are being accommodated at Uncle Lake and West Bay yards, but Coast officials report, Smith and supplies are available for them.

The 1948 Fraser and Vedder River Floods

The severe flood in May and June of 1948 was the outcome of a number of circumstances.

Cool weather during the spring delayed the thawing of the snow in the mountains until late May.

Over the Victoria Day weekend, temperatures spiked, rapidly melting the mountains' snow pack, substantially raising the water levels of the Fraser and Vedder Rivers.

At the same time, the moon's position in relation to the earth and the sun caused unusually high tides, slowing the flow of the Fraser River, and backing up the Vedder River.

Between May 28 and June 3, dykes were breached, flooding large tracts of land in the region of the confluence of the Fraser and Vedder Rivers



1948 Flood: Browne Road & Vedder River:

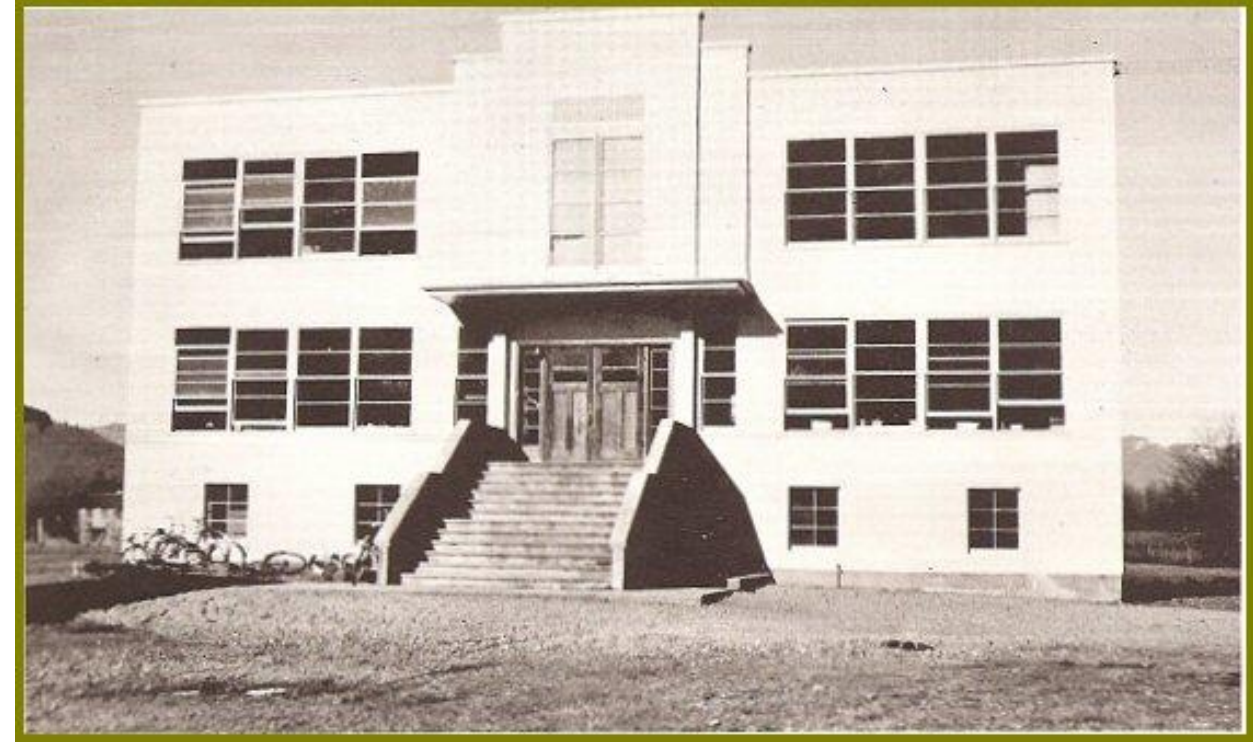
***Raymond Wiens & Elmer Wiens with
Katie and Luetta Wiens in the Ford car***

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools Bible Schools



Old Bible School Buildings

***Used for Sunday School and Wednesday evening programs
In the early 1950's it housed the SMC classes***



Elim Bible School — Completed In 1945

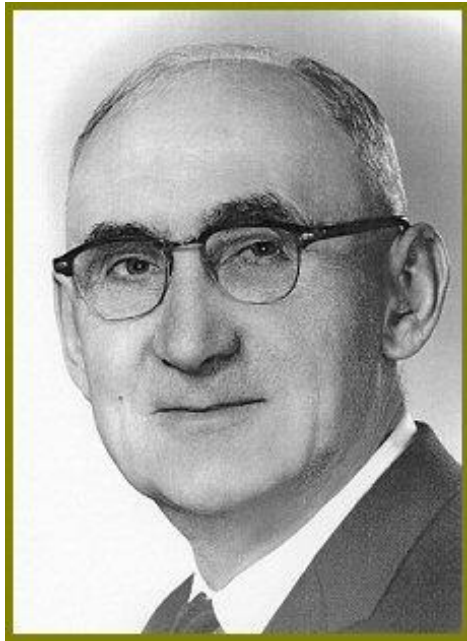
***Photograph: Agatha Klaassen (Yarrow 90)
Klassen, Agatha. E. Yarrow: A Portrait in
Mosaic. Clearbrook, BC: Klassen, 1976.***

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools Bible Schools

Yarrow's Elim Bible School Founders



Gerhard J. Derksen



Peter D. Loewen

Yarrow Bible School 1930-31



First Yarrow MB Church in the Background

Instructors Far Left: John A. Harder

Far Right: Peter D. Loewen

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Elim Bible School 1952-53



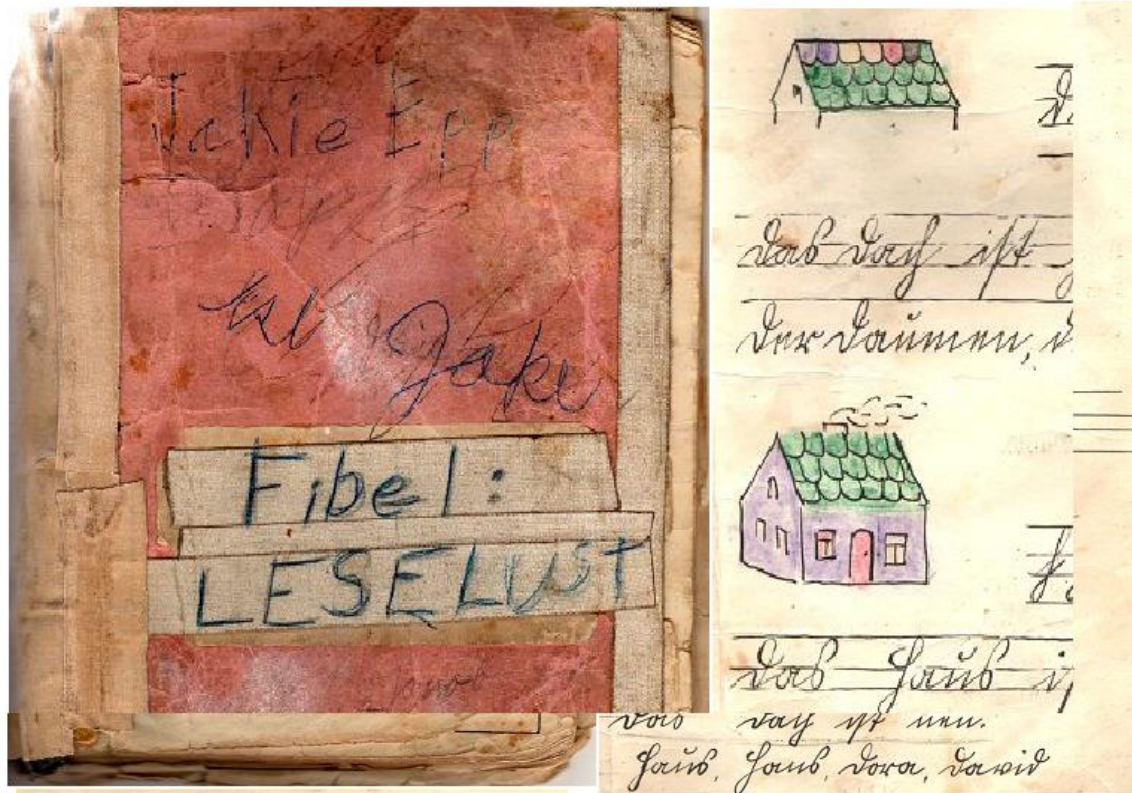
Henry Klein, H. Warkentin, Abe Neufeld, P.C. Tiltzky



Elim Bible School Students - 1952-53

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Saturday Morning German School



d D Dach
Das Dach ist hoch.
Der Daumen, die Dose
h H Haus
Das Haus ist neu.
Unser Haus hat ein Dach.
Das Dach ist hoch.
Unser Haus ist nicht neu.
Das Dach ist neu.
Haus, Hans, Dora, David.

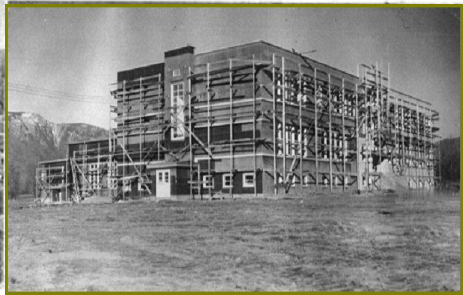
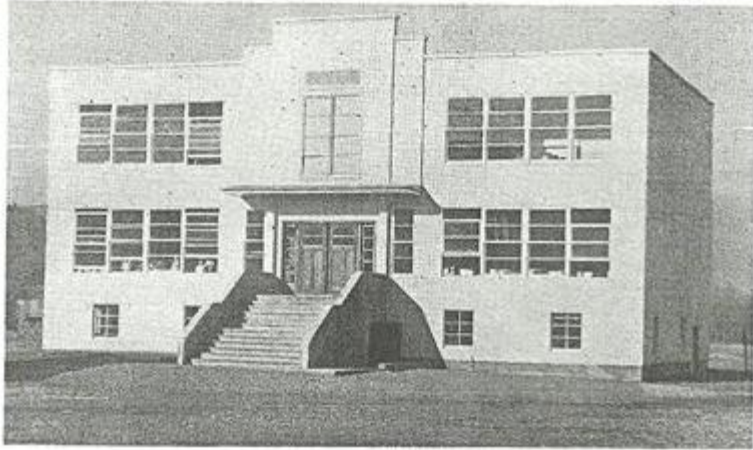
Aus dem Himmel ferne,
1 wo die Englein sind,
schaut doch Gott so gerne
her auf jedes Kind.
Höret seine Bitte,
2 treu bei Tag und Nacht,
nimmt bei jedem Schritte
väterlich in acht.
Gibt mit Vaterhänden
3 ihm sein täglich Brot,
hilft an allen Enden
ihm aus Angst und Not.
Sag's den Kindern allen
4 daß ein Vater ist,
dem sie wohlgefallen,
der sie nie vergißt.

Yarrow's Elders wanted the Mennonite children to retain their facility with the German Language.

In 1931 Saturday German School was offered to all children ages 6 to 14 at the Yarrow Elementary School. Rev. Petrus Martens was the first principal. Classes started at 9:30 am and finished at 3:30 pm. After the MB Church was built, classes were held in the the Church and later, in the Bible School buildings.

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Institute (SMCI)



1946-47 Top: Classes Held at the Bible School
Left: Ratzlaff Barn Gymnasium
Right: New School Under Construction



Peter Andres' Famous Basketball Team
Photographs Courtesy of Agatha Klassen

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Institute (SMCI)

Grade VII: As prescribed by the department.

Grade VIII: As prescribed by the department.

Grade IX: English III, Health III, Social Studies III, Science III, Mathematics III, Junior Chorus, German I, Latin I.

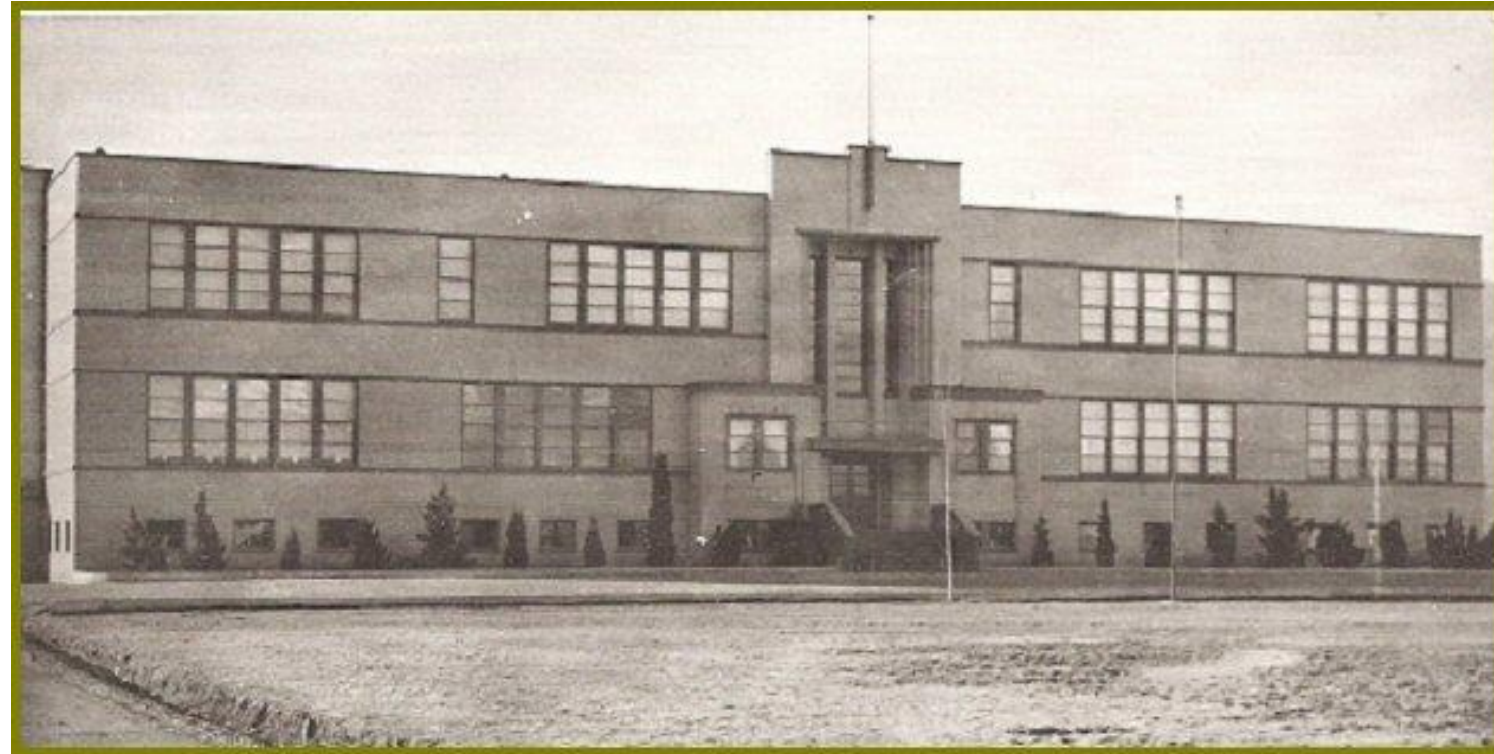
Grade X: English IV, Health IV, Science IV, Mathematics IV, Geography I or Agriculture I, Music, German II, Latin II.

Grade XI: English V, Health V, Science V, Social Studies IV, Geography II or Agriculture II, Music, Mathematics V, German III.

Grade XII: English VI, Health VI, Social Studies V, Mathematics VI, Chemistry A or Physics A or Biology A, German IV.

Grade XIII: English, History, Mathematics, German IV, Chemistry A or I, Physics A or I, Biology A or I.

High School Curriculum
Grades 7 to 13



1947 New SMCI School Ready for Classes
Yarrow Wilson North

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Institute (SMCI)



Chilliwack Progress October 29, 1947

New Private School Opens

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Institute — a \$150,000 private school at Yarrow — opened its doors for the first time last week to 320 pupils from all over the Chilliwack area.

Chief difference in the curriculum from public schools is:

- (1) forty minutes of Bible study is given to every pupil every school day;
- (2) German is taught as a foreign language instead of French

Chilliwack Progress March 5, 1947 — School Board Offers to Build Junior High in Area

District 33 School Trustees offer to build a junior high school in the Yarrow-Sumas area if the Sharon Mennonite Educational Institute is merged with the public school system.

“By mixing children of all nationalities throughout our public schools, we feel that the resulting environment will make good Canadians of all of them,” Trustee George Green said.

Rev. J.A. Harder, chairman of the Yarrow private school board: “The root of the whole problem and the reason why the Mennonite conception of education differs from yours, is religion.”

“It was the custom of our fathers to build churches and schools before homes and it was the question of the right to build these schools and churches that resulted in conflict in Russia” Rev. Harder declared.

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate (SMC)

SHARON MENNONITE COLLEGIATE



THE ORIGINAL



"BORROWED"



CONSTRUCTION



SNOW

UNDER

SUNSHINE



PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE

This book is the record of a year of work. It is history; the history of the successes, and maybe failures, of one of our Christian high schools. There is much cause for praise as we look into the past days and note the wonderful guidance of God.

There is a question we should ask ourselves however. Has the exalted duty of the Christian school been fully accomplished in the past school year? The following are some of the goals which we hope have been realized to a great extent, especially in our graduating class.

1. The building of a sincerely personal Christian "Weltanschauung".
2. The preparation for an honorable vocation suited to the individual abilities.
3. The understanding of the problems of today's world with a view of our responsibility to the world at large.
4. The accumulation of a workable body of knowledge of secular subjects to be applied in efficient Christian service.
5. The understanding of Christian principles which will be a guide in

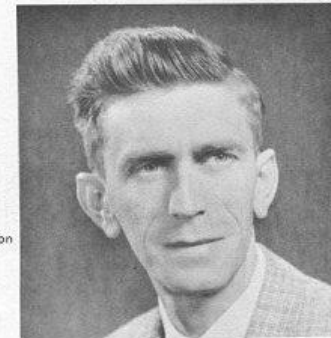
good and evil days.

Dear Graduating Class, we will be following your activities and will then be able to judge whether a school such as ours has the value we believe it to have.

MR. HUGO FRIESEN,

B. A.

Administration
Social Studies
Science
Physical Education



Hugo Friesen

Yarrow's Mennonite Schools

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate (SMC)

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Grad Class of 1960



***Vic Dahl, Alvin Neufeldt, Jake Dyck, Irwin Wiens, George Sukkau
Delores Derksen, Anne Rempel, Lena Froese, Helen Konrad***

Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Grad Class of 1963



***L-R: Edith Dahl, Louise Reimer, Gaye Thiessen, Evelyn Froese,
John Penner, Betty Dyck, Ed Dahl, Pat Andres, Melvin Martens,
Marge Regehr, Rose Loewen, Eleanore Friesen, Ruby Goertz***

Yarrow's Public School



Yarrow Elementary School 1950
View from Central Road Toward Vedder Mountain

Yarrow Elementary School

Principal Carl Wilson 1929 to 1950



*Mr. Carl Wilson was appointed teacher here,
And to him grades three to five became very dear.*

*Just like the raspberries that thrived and grew,
More children and class rooms were nothing new.
These students from others he could distinguish -
All were bi-lingual, but knew little English.*

.....

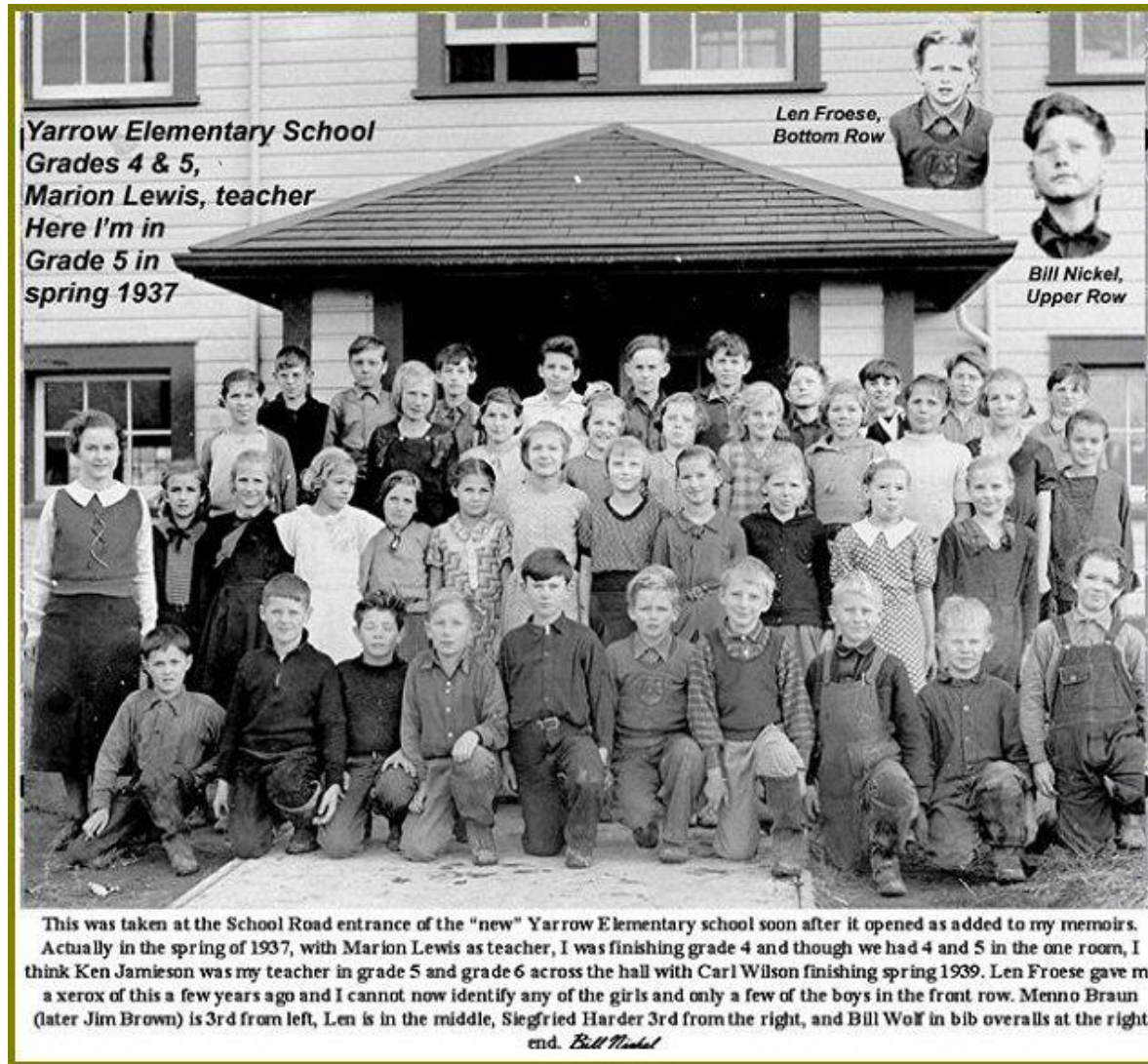
*We thought it a pleasure to come and relax,
And listen as Mr. Wilson gave us the facts.*

*He was always there, sunshine and rain,
We feel his efforts were not in vain.
Among his students are lawyers and teachers,
Bankers, doctors, dentists, farmers and preachers,
Store-keepers, clerks, missionaries and mothers;
To be sure, there are numerous others.*

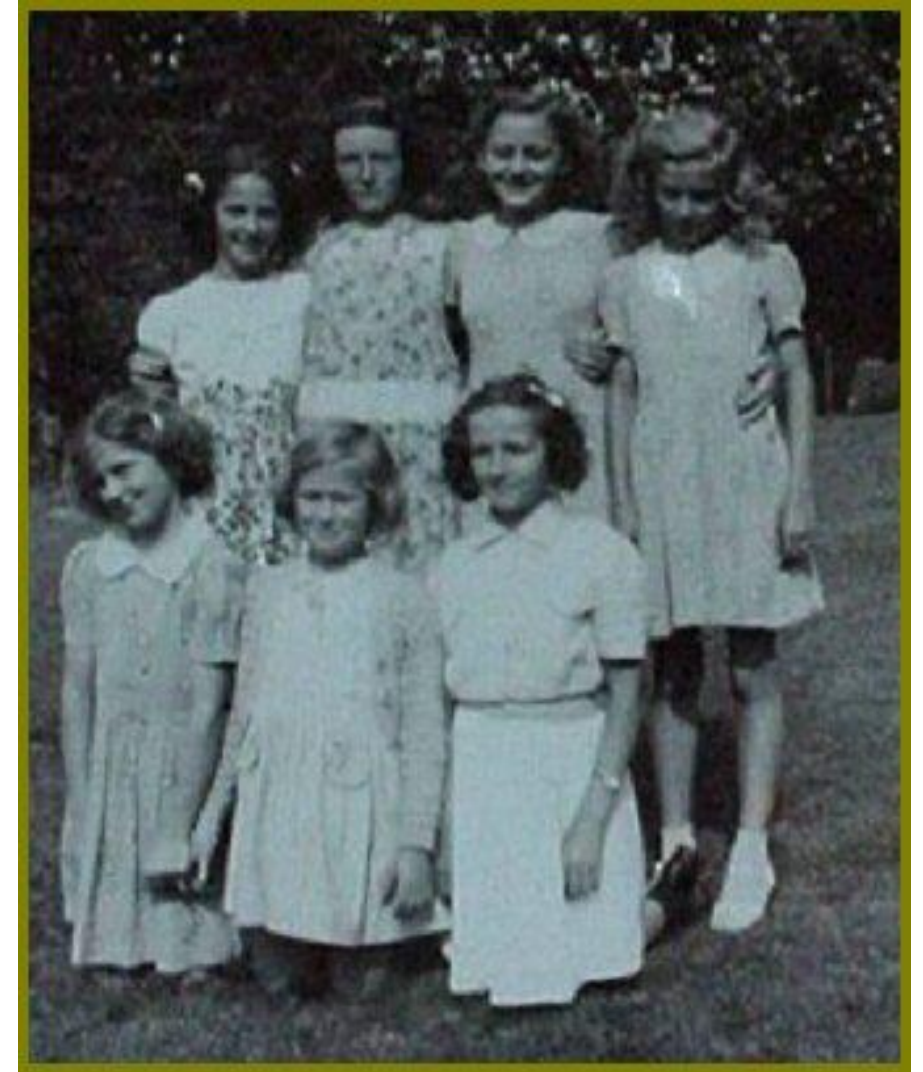
*We have fond memories of Yarrow's pioneer days,
And feel that Mr. Wilson deserves much of the praise.*

*May 3rd, 1975.
Kay Dyck Schellenberg*

Yarrow Elementary School Students



1937 Grades 4 & 5 Marion Lewis Teacher
Courtesy of Bill Nickel



**Back: Minnie Plett, Ethel Knox,
Leona Sawatsky, Agnes Braun
Front: Elsie Kliever, Beverly (cousin
Knox sisters), Edith Knox**

Yarrow Elementary School



Principal Carl Wilson and Teachers



May Queen Frieda Epp and her Princesses

New Sharon Mennonite Collegiate School Property For Sale

SMCI For Sale 1949



Chilliwack Progress January 26, 1949 — May Sell SMCI to District

- Greendale Flood, and crash of the Raspberry market.
- Sponsors of the SMCI are unable to continue their support .
- The Chilliwack School District offers to buy SMCI to create a junior high school in Yarrow.

Yarrow Elementary School

Elementary Schools Music Festival 1949



*'Night of stars and night of love,
flow gently down the water,
Heaven around, below and
above,
No more we'll see the shore.'*

*Lyrics as recalled
by Elvira Lenzmann*

Yarrow school choir sings "The Haymaker's Roundelay" under the direction of Frieda Nightingale at the Elementary Schools Music Festival held in Chilliwack.

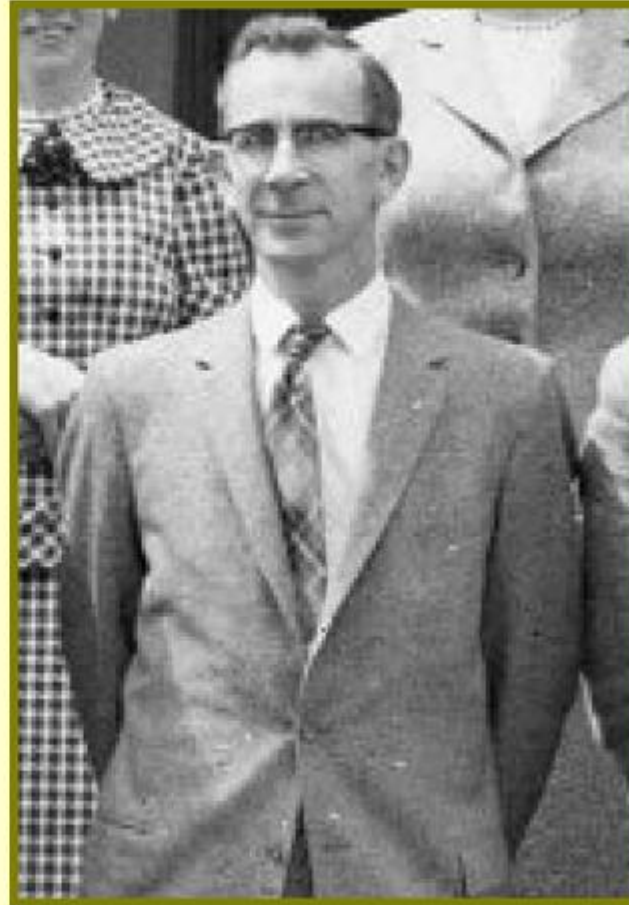
The Chilliwack Progress April 13, 1949

A New School Principal; A New School Era

Principal Walter Ferguson 1950-1966



Carl Wilson 1929-1950



Walter Ferguson 1950-1966

Yarrow Elementary School Students

Mary Derksen's Grade One Class 1951-52



Miss Derksen, Walter Klassen, Cary Esau, Melvin Martens, Earl Miller, Edwin Lenzmann,
Ron Penner, Victor Janzen, Otto Baerg, Herman Klassen
Eleanore Friesen, Rita Paetkau, Elizabeth Voth, Evelyn Froese, —, Angela Martens, Rubena Goertz,
Mary Arendt, Margaret Regehr, Patty Andres, —, Elvira Klassen, Carolyn Peters

Mrs Dyer's Grade One/Two Class 1951-52



Wilfred Derksen, Gordon Wiens, Harry Derksen, Victor Ratzlaff, Robert Reimer, Gordon Paetkau
Girlfriend, Rubena Goertz, Elsie Bergmann, Nettie Klassen, Johnny Penner
Rosella Nickel, Lily Pankratz, Rita Sawatsky, Betty Dyck, Evangeline Sawatsky, Nancy Epp
Randy Dyck, David Nightingale, Elmer Wiens, Robert Giesbrecht, Walter Wolfe

B.C. Police Start Taking RCMP Tests

Chilliwack officers of the B.C. Police have started to take their Royal Canadian Mounted Police medical examinations.

Several members of the local and municipal force already have undergone the tests, which are being held in Vancouver, and the remainder will be examined in the near future.

There will be no action on the proposal that the RCMP take over the policing of British Columbia until all the tests plus interviews of every B.C. policeman are completed, probably within the next six weeks.

Attorney-General Gordon Wismer made that statement in Vancouver Saturday after returning from Ottawa where negotiations about the transfer of police duties is being discussed.

Provincials Absorbed

No Local Fuss As RCMP Take Over

Thirty members of the B. C. Police in the Chilliwack district joined the Royal Canadian Mounted Police at midnight Monday and helped write "Finis" to the history of British North America's oldest territorial police force.

Their transfer of allegiance to the RCMP was effected without outward signs of discord such as characterized the change in some other B.C. municipalities, where councils are threatening to set up their own police forces.

Chilliwack officialdom, both city and township, took a "hands-off" approach, other than promising that they would see that terms of the present contract, which remains in effect to December 31, are lived up to.

Mayor T. T. McCammon told The Progress: "I think the RCMP will do a good job, but, in a way I am sorry to see the old provincial force go."

He is determined, he said, that "policing here will be carried on in the same way as before."

Reeve W. G. R. Simpson said that neither he nor township council have any objections to the change, other than the method by which it was accomplished.

"Probably, the government had some good reason for it, but we don't know what it was. We feel that, since it concerns us, we should have been kept informed about it."

Chilliwack district, directed by Sub-Inspector A. T. Lashmar, embraces the area on both sides of the river from Langley on the west to Yale on the east. Within the territory are 30 provincial force members, all of whom, as far as is known are being transferred to the federal force.

Members within the immediate Chilliwack area are: Sub-Inspector A. T. Lashmar, Senior Radio Operator J. D. Doebel and Corporal-Clerk I. R. Causton of district office.

Sgt. J. A. Knox and Constables T. W. Glaholm, H. E. Kliek, Rally Harding, A. G. Balcomb and Hugh Gaskell, city detachment.

Constables J. A. Fielders and F. L. Millar, municipal detachment.

Constable G. R. Taylor, Cultus Lake.

Constables Sam Ferguson and H. O. Tweedhope, Agassiz.

Corporal C. J. Waddell and Constables P. Q. Drysdale and B. R. Bertram, Hope.

Constable R. Walker, Sumas.

The provincial police force was founded in 1858 to cope with lawlessness in the Cariboo gold rush territory. At first it was planned to bring Irish Territorials over to B.C. to handle the policing work but when that didn't work out the force was recruited from men already in the province.

Citizens had handled most of the law enforcement on a "posse" basis where Vancouver Island was concerned and what they couldn't handle the Navy did.

The first police force as such was formed July 7, 1858, with Augustus F. Pemberton as commissioner under appointment of crown colony governor James Douglas.

The force consisted of a superintendent, chief constable, sergeant, and four or five constables, as well as a staff to maintain the jail. Prisoners were taken from all

parts of Vancouver Island to Victoria and later from the mainland.

The next step in formation of the provincial-wide force came several months later.

Sir E. Bulwer Lytton, the secretary of state for colonies in the British government, recommended that a police force be recruited from among local residents as against Governor Douglas' idea to use a company of Royal Engineers who were already in the territory. The force would police the mainland.

To assist in the formation of the force, Sir Bulwer sent out Chartres Brew, an Irishman by birth who had served with the Irish Constabulary and in the Crimean War.

He arrived here Nov. 8, 1858, and 11 days later became chief inspector of police after being sworn in by Governor Douglas at Fort Langley. At the same time the mainland became the crown colony of British Columbia.

After an inspection trip to the gold fields, Brew recommended that 150 members of the Irish Constabulary be brought out to form the force. However, for financial reasons, the suggestion was rejected and the force was formed from residents.

Discuss New Policing Contracts

New policing contracts—the first ever entered with the Royal Canadian Mounted Police—will be discussed by city and township councils in the near future.

Drafts of proposed contracts were presented to the two bodies at the weekend by Inspector Lee, of Ottawa. Both proposals provide for additional policing at costs almost equal to the current B.C. police contracts under which the federal force has been operating since taking over several weeks ago.

Reaction of neither council will be available until they have discussed the contracts, but neither Reeve Simpson nor Mayor McCammon were critical when interviewed by The Progress this morning.

If approved by the councils, the new contracts will become effective January 1, 1951.

"The RCMP proposal will cost about \$500 more than the current contract, but will give us the services of four policemen, instead of two," Reeve Simpson said. "The cost will be very close to \$10,000."

However, council must pay the cost of guarding prisoners while in the township jail and provide living quarters for single men on the force.

The B.C. police contract for 1950 requires the township to pay \$9,500 for the services of two men.

The proposal advanced to the city will cost "about the same" as the current contract, Mayor McCammon said. However, it will provide one more man, bringing the city force to four men.

The proposed figure, Mayor McCammon said, is about \$8,000. The current contract, providing three men, is \$8,593.

August 15, 1950

**The Federal RCMP
Take Over From
The BC Provincial
Police Force**

**To Provide
Chilliwack City and
Chilliwack District
Local Policing**

Loss Unknown In Yarrow Bank Robbery Attempt

The Chilliwack Progress
05 Dec 1951, Wed - Page 1

"Expert Job" Jams Strong Box Door

An attempted bank safe cracking, believed the first in the history of the Chilliwack district, was made last night at the Yarrow branch of the Bank of Commerce.

At press time the big vault door was still jammed and police could not say whether the attempt had been successful.

"No attempt will be made to open it until it has been checked for fingerprints," said Sub-Inspector H. E. Bloxom, officer commanding sub-division of the RCMP.

Experts at fingerprinting and safe opening are being dispatched from Vancouver.

The sub-inspector described the attempt on the vault as an expert job. It is presumed the safe crackers came from Vancouver.

Yeggs gained entrance to the bank by knocking a hole in the wall separating the bank from the next-door co-op store. The hole in the wall gave access to a lavatory in the bank. The vault is located in the main office.

Preliminary investigation is being conducted by constables of municipal

and city detachments under Const. John Forster.

Discovery in the break-in was made by bank manager W. D. Bate on arrival at the bank this morning.

Possible connection with other bank robberies in rural British Columbia was hinted by Sub-Inspector Bloxom.

"There has been what you might call a small-scale wave of bank robberies throughout the province during the past year," he said. "The most recent were in the Okanagan at Keremeos and West Summerland within the last six weeks," he said. Both were successful.

Entrance to the building was gained through a window, he said. Yeggs then chopped their way through two walls, gaining entrance to the bank through a lavatory.

The attempt on the main vault, located in the main office of the bank, was made using nitroglycerin. The charge twisted the massive vault door, jamming it in place.

Normal business is being continued in the bank. Money to conduct business was transferred this morning from the Chilliwack branch.

Time of the attempt on the vault is not known, police stated. Local residents report they did not see or hear anything suspicious in the bank during the night.

The Chilliwack Progress
18 Feb 1959, Wed - Page 1

Yarrow Store Raided

Thieves Take Safe Containing \$1700

Thieves carted off a safe containing approximately \$1400 in cash and \$300 in cheques from Funks General Store in Yarrow sometime Monday night.

Burglars jimmied the front door, went through to the office, ripped the safe out of the wall and wheeled it back through the store to the front door.

Then they apparently hoisted the safe into a waiting vehicle and drove away with it.

Owner C. C. Funk discovered the robbery when he went to the store Tuesday morning.

It was the second robbery at Funks in the last few years. Over \$1,000 was taken in the previous raid and the thieves used the same method of operation — ripped out the safe and carted it off.

The robbery occurred sometime after 10 p.m. Monday since Mr. Funk was working in the store until that time. Besides the \$1,700 in cash and cheques the safe contained notes and documents.

RCMP officers investigating said the thieves ripped a six foot piece of baseboard off the wall of the office in order to remove the safe.

No other damage was done and

no merchandise was taken from the store.

Mr. Funk said the burglars were apparently just after the money. The cash and cheques were receipts from Saturday's business.

There were no signs the robbers tried to open the safe while it was in the building. They apparently dragged it through the store to the front. Mr. Funk found skid like marks on the floor when he came in Tuesday morning.

Mr. Funk has been in the general store business in Yarrow since 1940.

Major Yarrow Robberies

1951 Attempted Bank Robbery

1959 Funk's General Store

Target: Money Stored in Safes

1949 Funk's Ltd. Grand Opening Downtown Yarrow

THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS, Wed., Nov. 9, 1949 11

Grand Opening

Thursday, November 17

FUNK'S LTD.

CENTRAL ROAD, YARROW

Hardware, Groceries, Drygoods, Feeds

5% Discount on Drygoods,
Groceries or Hardware
Purchased By Dec. 1

PRIZES

Every purchase made Thurs.,
Nov. 17, entitles you to a chance
on valuable merchandise.

PRIZES

Opening Day Store will remain Open
'till 8:30 p.m.

Congratulations and Best Wishes
from

YARROW LUMBER CO. LTD.

Phone 5799

All material for remodelling supplied by
Yarrow Lumber Co. Ltd.

Best Wishes from
G. H. SAWATSKY
Building Contractor

Phone 3856

Store designed and remodelled by G. H. Sawatsky

Congratulations from
J. H. HEPTING
Complete Insurance Service
Phone 5858

Sincere Congratulations
from
D. & D. HARDWARE
994 Central Road, Yarrow
Phone 4858

Compliments and Best Wishes
YARROW MOTORS

994 Central Road

Phone 22847

EPP BROS.

extend Best Wishes and
Congratulations

Electrical Contractors

1016 Central Road

Phone 4857

Every Success to Funk's
from
Froese's Food Market
989 Central Road Phone 5792

Best Wishes From
BRIGHT SPOT
Across from Post Office, Chilliwack
Phone 4271

Congratulations to
FUNK'S LTD.
MARTEN'S MOTORS

1002 Central Road

Phone 22843

Yarrow Lumber 1952



***Yarrow Lumber
Founded in 1937
by Brothers
Jacob & Herb Martens***

***JP Martens'
Yarrow Lumber
was Bought
in 1952 by
John Giesbrecht,
Len Froese, Ben Braun***

***Pioneer Building
Supplies***

***Photograph Courtesy
of Mel Martens***

Aberna's Stylerite Grand Opening 1952



*This is
Your Invitation
to be present at one*

GRAND OPENING

Aberna's, formerly Aberna Stylerite of Yarrow, are proud to announce the opening of their modern Dry Goods and Clothing Store on

THURSDAY - FRIDAY - SATURDAY, OCT. 2, 3 and 4

\$150⁰⁰

IN PRIZES

63 PRIZES IN ALL

First—Unique Table Lamp.

Second—1 Pair White Flannelette Sheets.

Third—Dainty White Washable White Nylon Tablecloth.

ALSO . . . 60 pairs of First Quality famous brand
LADIES NYLON HOSIERY

Every \$5.00 purchase entitles you to a ticket

Many Specials offered at
this time, for example . . .

LADIES' DRESSES Values to \$10.95.

Clearing at
One Price

7.98

GRAND DRAWING

Saturday Night at 9:00 p.m.

Exchange this advertisement for YOUR
LUCKY DRAW TICKET

Grand Opening Store Hours: 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

ABERNA'S

993 Central Road
Phone Yarrow 751

1954 Aberna's Stylerite Adds Grocery Store



Manager "ABE" EWERT

Aberna's Supermarket,
42221 Central Rd.,
Yarrow, B.C.

"Rigid standards maintained by FVMPA protect customers and dealers alike. Their dairy foods, produced locally, are always fresh. I can depend on them for good delivery and for quality foods all the time."

Yarrow Celebrates 25th Anniversary 1953

Chilliwack Progress May 27 1953 P11



This historic picture shows the group of pioneers which attended the first Mennonite church service to be held in Yarrow in April, 1928. The service was held at the home of the late John Jantzen and was the start of a religious program which, through the years, has found expression in every phase of Yarrow's community life. Sitting, left to right, are Nick Reimer Sr., George Hooge, John Jantzen and Jacob Kopp, all of whom are now dead. Those identified as standing are Jacob Dyck, now of Vanderhoof; Aron Jantzen, Coghlin, B.C.; George Epp; Dave Bempel, now of Sumas Prairie; Nick Reimer Jr.; J. C. Krause; John Braun; Isaac Sawatzky; Peter Giesbrecht; George Derksen, Abbotsford; John Jantzen Jr.; George Hooge, Sumas Prairie, and John Borgen.



Nurseryman Nikolai Reimer has made his Dyke road farm a rewarding venture, both financially and as a source of color and beauty. Starting as a postman, Mr. Reimer switched to growing plants and shrubs for market in the 30's. He now markets his products in many parts of Canada.

Wishing ...

ALL THE CITIZENS OF

YARROW

ANOTHER 25 YEARS
OF CONTINUOUS SUCCESS

Epp Hardware

Your Sunset Store
YARROW, B. C.

The Youngest Business
with the Oldest Line of
FEEDS & SEEDS in B.C.
offer their

BEST
WISHES

To Yarrow

on its

Silver

Anniversary

Farmers Feed
Equipment Supply
B & K FEEDS & SEEDS
Green Valley Fertilizers

Neighbor
to
Neighbor
Congratulations
25th ANNIVERSARY
of YARROW
from

Baerg's Auto
Body Shop
582 Sumas Prairie Rd.
GREENDALE



Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Krause

Marketing Early Problem

Co-op Leader Helped
Berry Industry Get Started

The problems of marketing have been a major concern to Yarrow's J. C. Krause ever since the land began to yield for the pioneers who ripped out the stumps a quarter of a century ago.

He lives comfortably now on the 10 acres which he bought from the late C. Eckert, but he can recall when there were not comforts and very few necessities.

"Looking back, I sometimes wonder how we did it," the tall, genial farmer and co-operative leader said. "If it had not been for the help given us by Mr. Eckert, it would have been even more difficult."

While building a house and readying the land for production, Mr. Krause found, like many others, that it was necessary to take outside jobs to carry on. Mr. Krause worked for eight years at The Canadian Hop Co. at Sumas Prairie and developed his holding at the same time.

LONG WORK DAY

"We used to walk four miles to the hop yard, do a day's work, walk back and then do our farming," he recalls. "It was a great day when one of us bought a horse and we took turns riding to work."

The initial problem confronting the pioneers after the land was cleared was what crops to grow on it. The settlers were encouraged to raise sugar beets, but this turned out to be an ill-fated venture, since the land was not suitable for them.

"We tried spinach, head lettuce, beans, peas and many other crops before it was found that raspberries and strawberries would thrive. Even after we started to

grow small fruit, we had plenty of trouble."

Main problem was to find a sustained market for small fruit. It was evident that some local measures had to be taken.

"I've always believed in organized marketing and it seemed to be our answer. A group of us decided to form a cooperative."

START CO-OP

The group consisted of Mr. Krause, Peter Giesbrecht, John Braun, William Schellenberg and Nick Harder. They organized not one co-operative, but two.

It was in 1937 that the Yarrow Co-operative association, a consumer co-op, and the Yarrow Growers Co-operative Union, a producer marketing organization came into being.

"We had no capital, but we had plenty of support and gradually we built up an organization. It did much to promote Yarrow's growth."

Mr. Krause acted as general manager until 1947.

The co-operative flourished until the slump year of 1949 and Mr. Krause feels that it would be functioning today if the growers had shown sufficient confidence to continue supporting it during that one bad year.

Before the slump and eventual liquidation, the co-op built a \$52,000 processing plant and cannery with \$30,000 worth of equipment.

**Jacob Krause reflects on the
Yarrow CO-OP Union started by
himself, Peter Giesbrecht,
John Braun, William Schellenberg,
and Nick Harder**

It was in 1937 that the Yarrow Co-operative association, a consumer co-op, and the Yarrow Growers Co-operative Union, a producer marketing organization came into being.

"We had no capital, but we had plenty of support and gradually we built up an organization. It did much to promote Yarrow's growth."

Mr. Krause acted as general manager until 1947.

The co-operative flourished until the slump year of 1949 and Mr. Krause feels that it would be functioning today if the growers had shown sufficient confidence to continue supporting it during that one bad year.

Yarrow Celebrates 25th Anniversary 1953

Chilliwack Progress May 27 1953 P11

BEST WISHES TO YARROW
ON ITS

25th ANNIVERSARY
from Yarrow Electric

Highest praise is due the pioneers of the district for their foresight in working together to attain what is now a flourishing community. We are proud to serve the district and proud to have been its first Electrician and Electrical Store.

H. G. SUKKAU

Electrical Contracting, Merchandise and Appliances.
Repairs to everything Electrical.

Central Road

Yarrow, B.C.

It's a pleasure to extend
Hearty Congratulations on the
25th Anniversary of the
Founding of Yarrow

Residents may well be proud of the growth the district has attained in such a short space of time. As one of the newer businesses . . . just 7 years here, we are endeavoring to serve the public in a community of which we are a part.

Wholesale and Retail
Manufacturers of

Berry Crates - Rough Lumber
Hardwood - Box Shooks
Crushed Fruit Containers

YARROW BOX
FACTORY

Central Road

Yarrow, B.C.

THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS, Wed., May 27, 1953 5

ABERNAS
"FAMILY OUTFITTERS"

extends Best Wishes to all on
the 25th Anniversary of Yarrow

We are proud to be a part of this growing community supplying Children's, Ladies and Men's Wear, Shoes, China and General Drygoods to our customers the year round.

993 Central Road

Yarrow, B.C.

CONGRATULATIONS . . .

from all of us at

YARROW LUMBER
YARD

on the

25th ANNIVERSARY
OF YARROW

We stock

"EVERYTHING TO BUILD ANYTHING"

FREE ESTIMATES

Phone Yarrow 361; Nights 682
YARROW, B.C.

Box 175

OUR SINCERE BEST WISHES

To the Yarrow Community
on the celebration of its

Silver Anniversary

from your

PHILCO and WESTINGHOUSE RADIOS and TV DEALER
PHILCO and WESTINGHOUSE REFRIGERATORS

D. & D. HARDWARE LTD.

Serving Yarrow Since 1947

Phone 411

Your Chevron Station
Congratulates the Citizens
of Yarrow

on Celebrating their 25th Anniversary

Complete Automotive and Auto Body Service
DUNLOP TIRES

CENTRAL MOTORS

JOHN GUENTHER JOHN WEDEL HENRY MARTENS
24 HOUR TOWING SERVICE Phone: Day 756, Night 473 or 352

Martens Motor Service

Congratulates

The Pioneers and Residents
of YARROW

on their

Silver Anniversary

Complete General Motors Sales and Service
Imperial Esso Products

Martens Motor Service

HERB and DAVE MARTENS, Props.
Serving Yarrow Since 1945

ENNS BROS. GROCERY

of Greendale

takes this opportunity to wish our neighbors of Yarrow

A HAPPY 25th ANNIVERSARY

We also are pleased to announce the installation of our Arctic Locker Plant to be in operation within 2 weeks. This most modern walk in, Warm Room Locker will be the first in the area. Plan to pay us a visit soon.

650 Samas Prairie Road

RR 1, Sardis

Phone Yarrow 421

Yarrow School Teachers Spring 1953



W. Ferguson, Frieda Nightingale, Erma Wiebe, Mrs Sharples, Joy Fowlie, Mary Derksen, Agnes Allert, Mr McTaggart

Yarrow Elementary Junior High School 1953



Yarrow Elementary Junior High School

In 1953, Yarrow children attending public school after grade six travelled by school bus to and from Chilliwack, a trip of thirty minutes, with side trips to Vedder Crossing, Greendale, and Sardis.



The Elementary School in downtown Yarrow was so overcrowded that children, who were born in November or December, started school one year late.

In 1952 the Chilliwack School Board purchased the Sharon Mennonite Collegiate Institute on North Wilson Road, establishing the Yarrow Elementary Junior High School with classes to be from grades one to nine.

The new school on ten acres was within walking or cycling distance of all regions of the village of Yarrow.

It had a gymnasium, shower facilities, stage, and spectators' gallery. The three-story structure had large, well-lit classrooms and contained music, art, industrial art, home economics, science, library, and nursing rooms.

The school's large basement provided indoor, separate play spaces for girls, boys, and first graders during inclement weather.

Yarrow Elementary Junior High School 1953



Official Opening

YARROW
ELEMENTARY JUNIOR
HIGH SCHOOL

YARROW, B.C.

December 4th, 1953
8 p.m.

Yarrow Elementary Junior High School

Programme

1. O CANADA.
2. ADDRESS OF WELCOME.
Chairman of the Board, Mr. A. D. Rundle.
3. INTRODUCTION OF SCHOOL TRUSTEES AND GUESTS.
4. OFFICIAL OPENING.
The Honourable R. W. Bonner, Minister of Education.
5. ACCEPTANCE OF BUILDING BY
Mr. A. D. Rundle, Chairman of the School Board,
Mr. W. K. Ferguson, Principal.
6. DEDICATION OF THE BUILDING.
Rev. H. Lenzmann.
7. MUSICAL SELECTION.
8. MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATION.
Hon. K. Kiernan, Minister of Agriculture.
Mr. H. L. Campbell, Superintendent of Education.
Reeve W. T. Richardson of Chilliwack Municipality.
Mayor of Chilliwack City, Mr. T. McCammon.
9. VOTE OF THANKS.
Trustee J. J. Wittenberg.

GOD SAVE THE QUEEN

INSPECTION OF THE BUILDING

Principal Walter Ferguson 1953-1966



At the 1994 Yarrow School reunion, Ferguson praised the dedication and competence of the teachers, support, and custodial staff he hired over his years as principal.

Ferguson also thanked the members of the Parent & Teacher Association, whose help and encouragement made the school's teachers' tasks manageable.

Mr Walter Ferguson, who had been the vice-principal of the Chilliwack Central Elementary School, succeeded Carl Wilson in 1950 at the Yarrow Elementary School when Wilson became the principal at the Chilliwack Central Elementary School.

Classes of the Yarrow Elementary Junior High School began in September of 1953.

Joining the teachers from the old school — Frieda Nightingale, Erma Wiebe, Agnes Allert, Mrs Sharples, and Harry MacTaggart — where Arthur Kurz, Dorothy McCutcheon, Lillian Bealle, Elizabeth Lavigne, and Eleanor Wicoll.

Yarrow School Teachers 1953-54



**Harry MacTaggart, Walter Ferguson, Arthur Kurz
Dorothy McCutcheon, Lillian Bealle, Erma Wiebe
Elizabeth Lavigne, Frieda Nightingale, Eleanor Wicoll, Agnes Allert**

Charter Grade Eight Class 1953-54



Walter Ferguson, Rudy Adrian, John Fast, Ed Barkowsky, Pete Isaac, _____, Jake Epp, Arthur Kurz
John Reimer, Eric Ewert, Rudy Lohrenz, Elmer Neuman, Henry Froese, Willy Barowski, John Kroeker
Elfrieda Nightingale, Susan Braun, _____, Jacquie Brown, Magdalene Koehn, Irwin Dyck, George Giesbrecht, Val Janzen
Anna Klassen, Veronica Barkowsky, Annie Klaassen, Alita Reimer, Martha Neufeld, Rose Dyck, Emily Guze, Erna Goertzen
Susie Spenst, Marion Epp, Lena Brauer, Anna Epp, Hilda Fast, Alice Miller, Elfrieda Reimer, Mary Janzen

Yarrow School Teachers 1954-55



**Jim Norberg, Arthur Kurz, Henry Epp, Walter Ferguson
Joy Fowlie, Sharon Ritchie, Helena Braun, Dorothy McCutcheon
Agnes Allert, Erma Wiebe, Joan Lein, Frieda Nightingale**

Yarrow School Teachers 1956-57



**Art Kurz, Student Teacher, Erma Wiebe, Walter Ferguson
Lila Blackwell, Dorothy Funk, Frieda Fast
Harold Kost, Bev Hailstone, Gary Ferguson, Mary Unger**

Yarrow School Teachers 1959-60



**Hulda Reimer, Erma Wiebe, Jo Unsworth, Mary Unger, Doris Reist
Mr Newby, Walter Ferguson, Ken White, Art Kurz**

Yarrow School Teachers 1961-62



**Reid Weight, Arthur Kurz, Walter Ferguson,
Victor Froese, Doug Newby
Marg White, Mary Unger, Norma McGregor**

Yarrow Junior High School Grade Nine Grads

1961



***Gordon Paetkau, Edward Doerfling, Stan Harder, Dave Nightingale, Robert Smail
Abe Klassen, Arthur Friesen, Walter Klassen, Neil Friesen, Albert Friesen
Verna Funk, Virginia Soper, Evelyn Paetkau, Doreen Funk, Mr. Ferguson
Shirley Jantzen, Anita Penner, Mary Jozsa, Katie Dettling, Kathy Fajscik***

1960



***Will Funk, Robert Reimer, "Fergie," Rudy Baerg, Elmer Wiens
Robert Unruh, Walter Teichgrab, Gordon Paetkau, Cary Esau,
Walter Wolfe, Earl Miller
Otto Baerg, Robert Giesbrecht, Margaret Kroeker, Mary Jozsa,
Walter Klassen
Verna Funk, Eleanore Friesen, Rita Paetkau, Mary Arendt, Rita
Sawatsky, Evangeline Sawatsky***

Yarrow's Thriving Businesses 1947

**CO-OP: Sales 1million;
4,000 Members**

Turnover of More Than a Million

Co-op Is Yarrow's Largest Enterprise

Largest commercial enterprise in Yarrow is the Yarrow Growers' Co-operative Union, which represents 4,000 farmers in the area and last year had a turnover of well over a million dollars.

Two co-operatives combined in 1943 to form the concern, which has shown the same amazing growth as the community in general.

The original group was known as Yarrow Co-operative Association and was formed in 1935 with a membership of 30. This co-op handled a retail store but no produce.

In 1937 the Yarrow Growers Co-operative was formed for the express purpose of marketing fruit.

Raspberries form the largest volume of business handled by the co-op. It was mostly for the handling and processing of this tremendous crop that a \$40,000 processing plant was built in 1945.

Increase of poultry farming in the area was noted in the same year with the addition of an egg-grading department, and last year a plant to kill and dress poultry

was established.

Another milestone in the expansion of the co-op will be marked by the opening of its department store sometime before May 1.

The \$50,000 two-storey structure, which dominates the centre of Yarrow's business section, will offer for sale groceries, meat, dry-goods, feed and furniture.

The building will also house the offices of the Bank of Commerce. The top floor will be occupied by Co-op offices.

Vedder Lumber Yard

See us first for

- Cement
- Bricks
- Gravel
- Shingles
- B-H Paints
- Roofing
- Lusterlite and Masonite
- Cotton Insulation
- Zonolite Insulation
- Gyproc Wool

Agency Barrett and Ace-Tex Roofing

"Complete Building Supply Service"

Phone 5798

1004 Central Road

J. G. Derksen, Proprietor

Bring Your Mechanical Troubles to

PACIFIC WELDING & BLACKSMITH SHOP

JOHN L. REIMER, Proprietor

1041 Central Road, Yarrow

For Better Building

see

GEO. H. SAWATSKY

Contractor

Central Shop, Yarrow, B. C.

YARROW GARAGE

Peter Block, Proprietor

Your headquarters for

**General Automotive
Repair Service**

**Standard RPM Oils and
Lubrication**

Battery and Tire Repairs

Expert Welding Service

Phone 2848



963 Central Road

VALLEY MEAT MARKET

Central Road West, Yarrow, B. C.

Meats - Groceries - Vegetables

• • •

Open 6 Days a Week

The Chilliwack Progress

January 25, 1947 P. 10

Yarrow's Thriving Businesses 1947

REIMER'S NURSERIES

Dyck Road

Nursery Supplies and Shrubs
of all kinds

Kultor King

True Successor to the Horse

See us for your KULTOR KING . . . the small tractor that does a big job. Use it to plow, disc, cultivate, harrow, seed, hoe, ted hay, mash clods, mark rows, furrow, rake hay, mow lawns, harvest, dig potatoes, cut weeds or haul.

It can also be used as a portable power plant!

CENTRAL MERCHANTS

Central Road

Yarrow

Kitchenware — Furniture — Paints
Builders' Hardware

GRAVEL-FUEL

Furniture Moving

Local and Long Distance Hauling

"No Job too Large—None too Small"

Experienced Men — Prompt Service

For information or rates call

MARTENS & NEUFELDT

Dyke Road, Yarrow

Phone 5794 — Residence phone 5797

COMPLETE SERVICE

BRING YOUR CAR OR TRUCK TO US FOR
PROMPT, EFFICIENT SERVICE.



- Motor and Electrical Tune-ups
- Body and Paint Shop
- Lubrication Specialists
- Goodyear Tires and Repairs

YARROW MOTORS

Phone 2847

994 Central Road



Yarrow's Complete Service Shop

- Motor Rebuilding
- Overhauling
- Electric and Gas Welding
- Lubrication, Tire, Battery Service
- Body, Fender and Paint Work

Martens Motor Service

Phone 2843 - Yarrow, B. C. - Central Road

Best wishes to Atkins Stages on their
new bus service from

FROESE'S Meat Market

QUALITY MEATS

FRUITS

VEGETABLES



Phone 5795

Yarrow, B. C.

Yarrow's Thriving Businesses 1946-48

The Chilliwack Progress
11 Feb 1948, Wed · Page 7

**ANNOUNCING THE OPENING OF THE
D & D HARDWARE**
Successors to the
Central Merchants, Yarrow, B. C.
on
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 14
Specializing in Quality Furniture, Linoleums, Bapco Paints, Radios, Bicycles and
General Hardware.

***Block and Dyck Started Central Merchants in 1946
Dyck and Dave Derksen New Owners in 1947***

The Chilliwack Progress
13 Feb 1946, Wed · Page 11

Yarrow Growers Plan \$40,000 Building

At a meeting of Yarrow Berry Growers and Co-operative association plans were discussed for a new block that will accommodate No. 1 and No. 2 stores in one building.

An estimate was given for a \$40,000 structure to be erected centrally on what was known as the A. D. Rempel property at Eckert and Central roads.

* * * * *

There are indications a building boom will take place in Yarrow this spring as new places of business are being erected along the village main street.

Block and Dyck have started construction of a 40 x 75 stucco-faced building for a new business firm which will be known as the Central Merchants. It is believed that a line of hardware, furniture and crockery will be handled by the new firm.

D. H. and Dick Epp are building a new block 30 x 30. They intend to carry a line of hardware along with their agency for a milking machine. The office for their trucking business will also be in the new building.

Froese Brothers and Meilicke are soon starting construction of a cold storage and locker plant.

Contract has been let to Bargen and Sons for a new residence for Dave Derksen.

Yarrow Growers CO-OP UNION



The "Shoe Department" of the Yarrow Co-op.



"Grocery Department" of the Yarrow Co-op.



The "Hardware Department" of the Yarrow Co-op. (Left) Mr. Henry Martens. (Right) Mr. Henry Enns.

***Klassen, Agatha E.
Yarrow: A Portrait
in Mosaic.
Clearbrook, BC:
Klassen, 1976.***

Yarrow's Raspberry Industry

The Chilliwack Progress

FIFTY-SEVENTH YEAR, Vol. No. 12

CHILLIWACK, B. C., WEDNESDAY, JULY 16, 1947

EIGHTEEN PAGES

\$2.50 PER YEAR

RECORD AREA RASPBERRY CROP HITS PEAK



... to be picked and sorted

George Reimer (in overalls) foreman at the big Yarrow plant, supervisor sorting of the raspas on one of the six conveyors in the building. J. C. Krause, president of the Fraser Valley Fruit Growers' Federation, is shown checking the flow of berries. The barrels, containing about 400 pounds of raspas, are filled with SO2 solution and sealed. The Yarrow plant's big storeroom will hold over 2000 barrels (see below).



... and sent as "barrels to Britain"

Trucks stand by outside to haul away part of the Yarrow co-op shipment of 5250 barrels of SO2 raspas destined for fruit-hungry Britain. The last 600 barrels needed to complete the Yarrow portion of the U.K. shipment were sent yesterday. The berries are taken to New Westminster where they are stored pending availability of a ship.

—Photocrafts Pictures

Five Cents For Jam Berries

'Rasp' Growers Get First Crate Payments Tomorrow

Tomorrow is pay day for raspberry growers at Yarrow. Sun Ripe Fruit Company, newly organized independent organization at Yarrow told The Progress today that full payment for crates shipped will be made tomorrow, with an initial payment of five cents per pound for jam berries received up to July 23.

Yarrow Growers' Co-operative Union at Yarrow expect to make initial payments of five cents per pound for 1949 strawberries "in the near future," P. Giesbrecht, manager of the Union stated Tuesday. Strawberry receipts will be distributed as soon as final receipts are in from the buyers, he said.

No date has been announced by Yarrow Growers' Co-operative Union for payment of this year's jam berries. Payments for crated berries shipped this season will be made the first week in August, officials state.

Last shipment of fresh fruit rolled out of Yarrow July 16 from the Union's Packing plant on Eckert road. Better than one car was shipped to hungry prairie markets, 300 crates going to Mission to help fill a car there.

Total pack of berries received at the Union's plant last week amounted to 312 tons and expectations are that the 1949 pack will not exceed 500 tons—a far cry from the 2300 tons packed in 1948. Rainy weather may even reduce this tonnage, officials say.

Sun Ripe Fruit shipments for last week amounted to about 100 tons, both fresh and jam berries included. No crates were shipped due to inclement weather.



Yarrow Growers Co-operative Association Liquidation 1949

Annual Meeting Saturday

Yarrow Berry Co-op Gets New Manager, Directors

Two new directors were elected at the annual meeting of the Yarrow Growers' Co-op Union Saturday. H. Hildebrandt, D. J. Quapp, P. P. Unger, C. Wolfe, and Wm. Schellenberg were re-elected. Frank Peters and John Block were elected to replace Henry Unger and John Wiens.

Resignation of C. H. Penner, former co-op manager, was accepted. P. P. Giesbrecht, Yarrow Co-op manager will act as general manager until the position is filled by a board appointment.

Financial report showed a marked decline from the previous year, owing to the decrease in volume of sales. Growers expressed concern over 1949 operations. No advice could be given other than the reductions of acreage and planting of saleable crops.

The meeting went on record not to dispose of any of its properties at this time. new board was asked to do its best to bring the organization back on a sound footing.

Yarrow Growers Co-op Union report that no new developments on the 1949 berry sales have taken place. It is expected that payments to cover packing and handling expenses will be received by the organization soon. The initial payment to growers of 3½ cents a pound was borrowed money.

Students at SMCI entertained a large audience February 24 with a musical program.

Yarrow Voluntary Fire Brigade attended a lecture and film at Chilliwack city hall. It is expected the fire department of the Yarrow Waterworks District will complete its reorganization shortly.

In 1943, the Yarrow Growers Association, formed in 1936 to market member farmers' produce, amalgamated with the Yarrow Growers Co-operative Association, formed in 1937 to sell consumer goods to members.

The Yarrow Co-op operated successfully during the years of WWII, selling most of its processed berries to the Canadian Government for shipment to Great Britain.

Along with its large processing plant at the end of Eckert Road, the Co-op ran a two-story department store at the corner of Eckert and Central Roads, with shoe, clothing, "yard cloth," hardware, and grocery departments. This modern building also contained a coffee shop and the Co-op's offices.

William Schellenberg was the President; Jacob Krause was the General Manager; and Peter Friesen was the Bookkeeper (Klassen 75-78).

When the Canadian Government stopped buying berries to ship to Great Britain, the Co-op could not market its members' berries, leading to the liquidation of the Yarrow Growers' Co-operative Association in 1949.

Yarrow Growers' Co-operative Until 1950



Small fruit production and packaging play an enormous role in the early economic development and history of Yarrow.

"In 1947, Yarrow alone produced close to 6,000 tons of berries. Five tons per acre was the average yield in raspberries and eight tons was not unusual."

The decline in the market however culminated in the crash of 1948.

Prior to the slump "the co-op built a \$52,000 processing plant and cannery with \$30,000 worth of equipment."

At liquidation, members were given "29 cents per dollar on their shares. The retail store was sold and the co-op which had paid up all its assets was dissolved."

Following the collapse of the co-op, "the warehouse was rented to Cheam Packing Company then sold to Pacific Coast Packers for a sum just under \$50,000. All the equipment and machinery was sold with the warehouse."

Kelly Harms, Community Archivist, Chilliwack Museum and Archives

Raspberry Industry Recovers – Large USA demand

Sun Ripe Fruit Packers 1951

Chilliwack Progress Jul 29 1953

**Sun Ripe Fruit Packers, Dyke Road, Yarrow
June 1951.**



... open for business

The new two-storey Sun-Ripe Fruit Packers plant on the Dyke road in Yarrow is ready to handle its share of the district's 1951 small fruit crop. Floor space on each storey is approximately 3,000 square feet.
(Del Monte Studio Photo.)

Photograph Courtesy of Mel Martens

Mould Difficulties Over

Big Raspberry Crop Hits Peak

Sunripe Fruit Packers Ltd.

Raspberry and Strawberry Growers Wanted

If you have not already contracted your acreage, please phone or write us and we will be pleased to call on you.

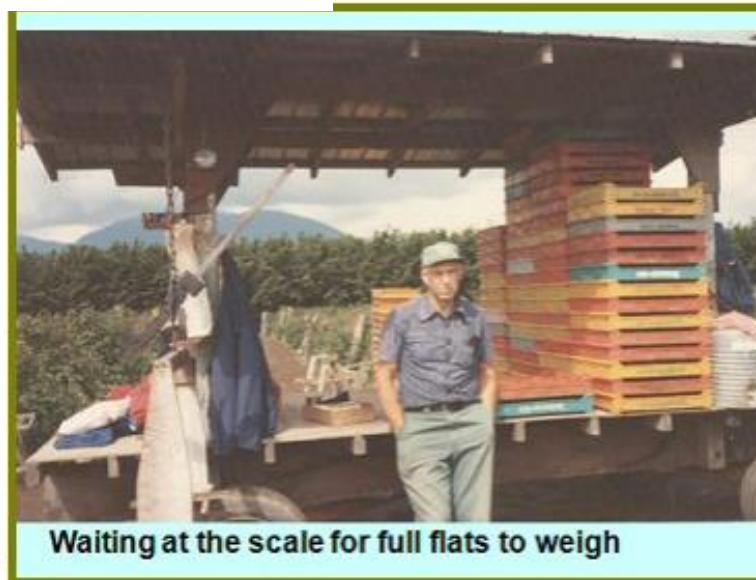
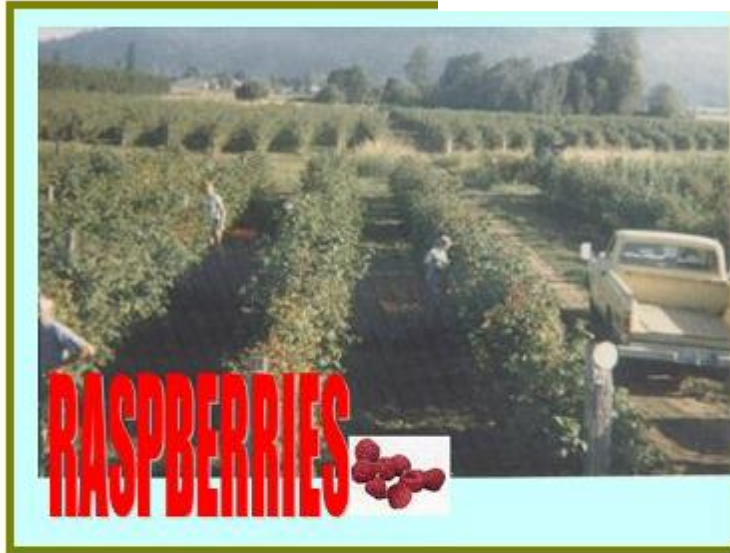
PHONE Yarrow 621 or 476

Sunripe Fruit Packers Ltd.

Box 119

Yarrow, B. C.

The Raspberry Patch by Esther Harder



Waiting at the scale for full flats to weigh

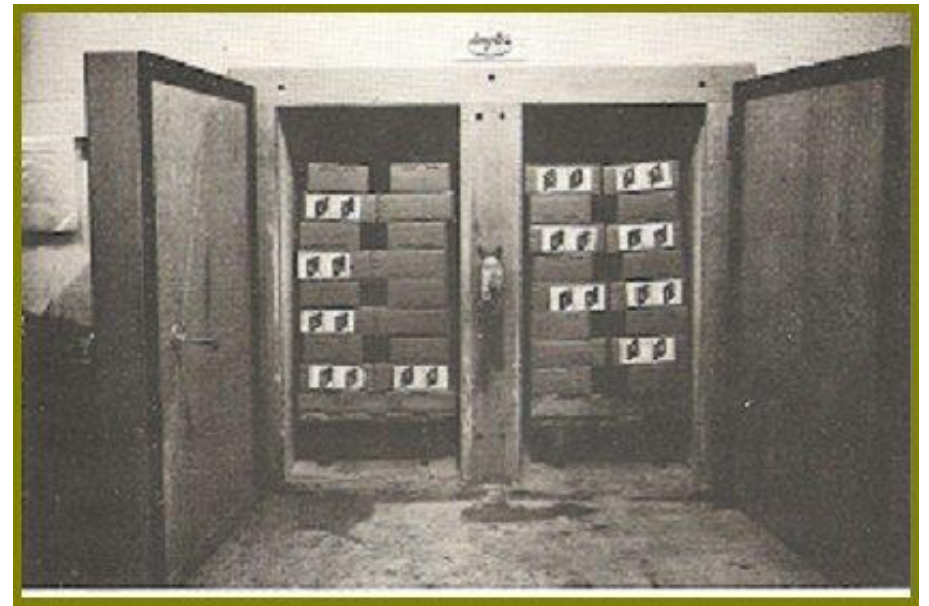
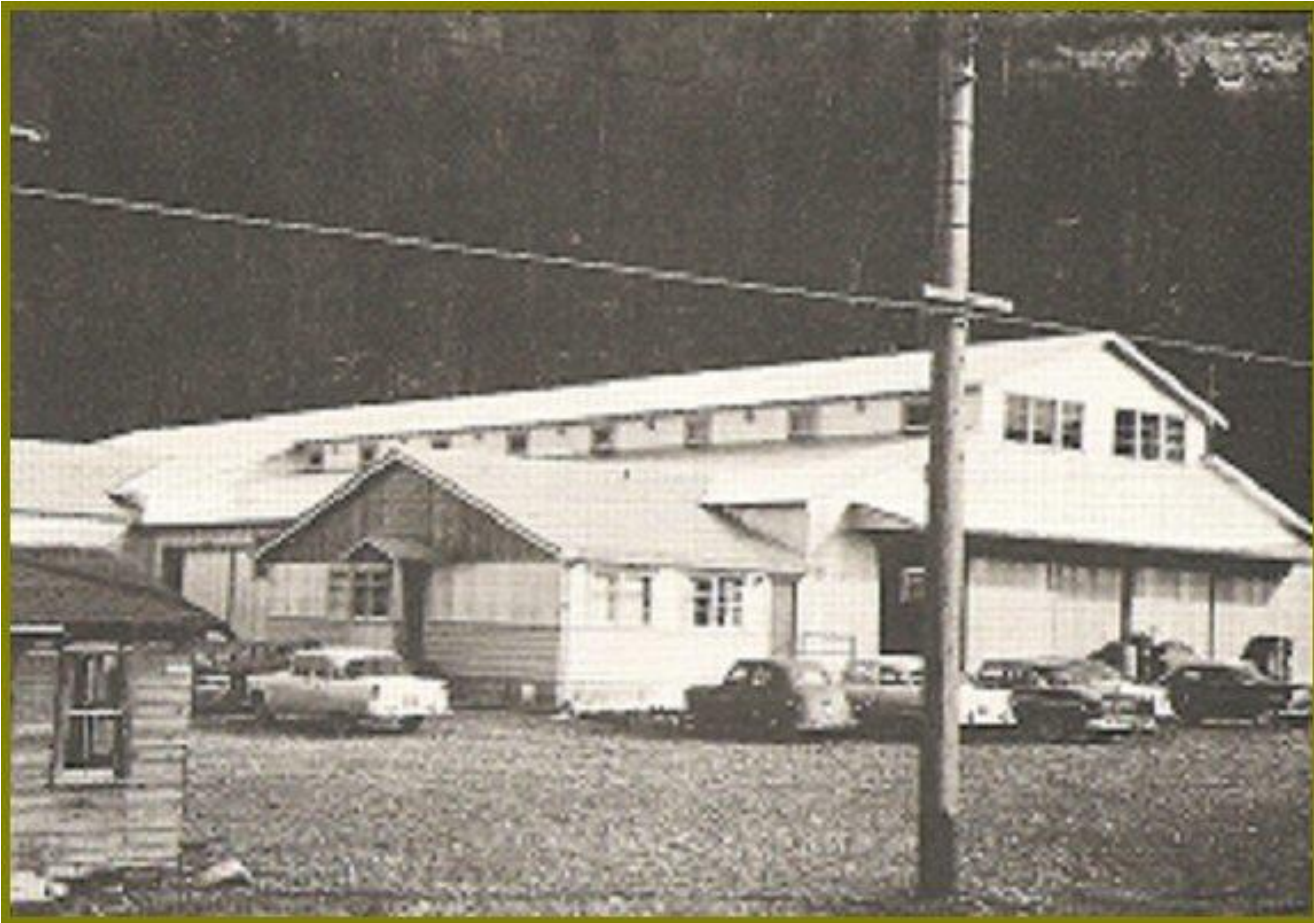


Taking the berries to the road to be picked up.

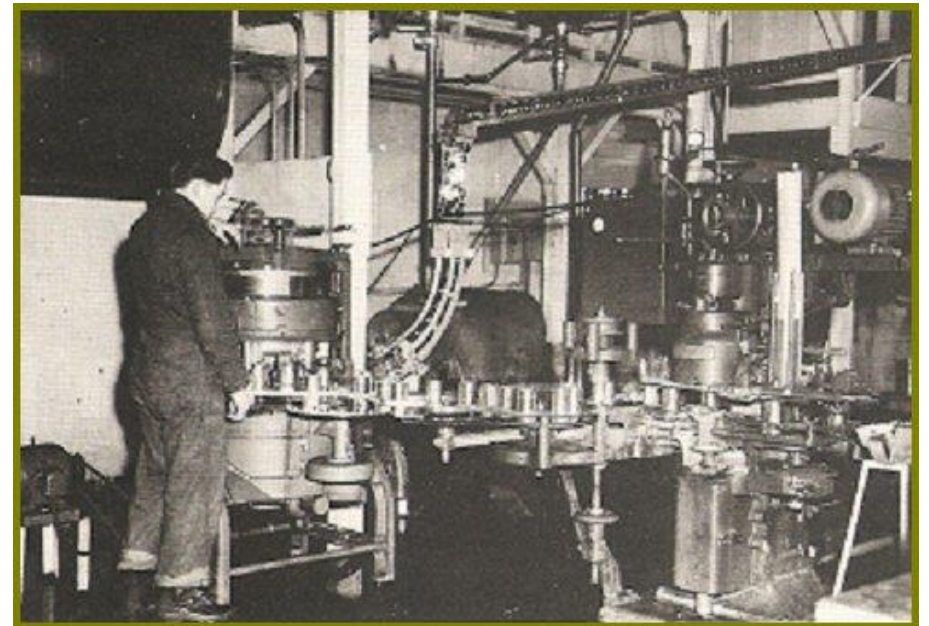


Looks like a good crop this year.

***Cascade Foods Ltd.
Yarrow Branch, Eckert Road***



'Quick Freeze' Freezer



Filling Cans

Disastrous Fire Hits Yarrow Cascades Plant



Photography Courtesy of Victor Froese



Chilliwack Progress Wed, Feb. 25 1959

Yarrow Plant Up In Flames, Heavy Loss

Vast quantities of canned fruit and vegetables, as well as processing plant parts and rose bushes were burned in a spectacular fire Friday night which levelled most of the Pacific Packers Ltd., building, Eckert Road, Yarrow.

Only the office wing could be saved by volunteer firemen from Municipal No. 1 and Yarrow brigades, who fought the flames for several hours.

Preliminary estimates of loss place the damage in the neighborhood of \$250,000.

Approximately \$100,000 worth of canned peaches,

corn, and other fruit belonging to York Farms Ltd., were burned in the fire.

Also stored in the building were parts stripped from 12 viners belonging to Yarrow Freezers Ltd. Estimated value is around \$42,000.

Reimer's Nursery had large quantities of rose bushes stored in the building, together with wax vats used to coat the bushes. However, it was possible to remove about two truckloads of roses.

The building was empty of employees when the fire call came. The alarm was turned in by Mrs. Esther Engbrecht of 42175 Ratcliff Road, nearby the plant.

She reported flames coming through the roof in the middle on the building.

Said Municipal Fire Chief Bob Butchart: "On our arrival the building was a mass of flames."

Firemen were hindered in their fire-fighting efforts by the presence of a 60,000 volt line passing alongside the building. Power poles carrying the line were ablaze.

A nearby wooden B.C. Hydro railway bridge caught fire and a section of track was affected by heat. The line was later repaired.

Parts of Abbotsford, Matsqui, Sumas and Chilliwack

were blacked out for several hours while B.C. Hydro crews repaired the damaged power lines.

Firemen from the main municipal brigade were at the scene for about 4½ hours, while Yarrow firemen were on the job even longer.

There was no immediate indication of the cause of the blaze.

Health unit director Dr. A. S. Arneil warned residents against collecting fire-damaged cans of produce. Once the seam of the can bursts, through heat he said, bacteria can get in and serious illness can result from consumption of the contents.



Pacific Coast Packers Eckert Road March 31 1965



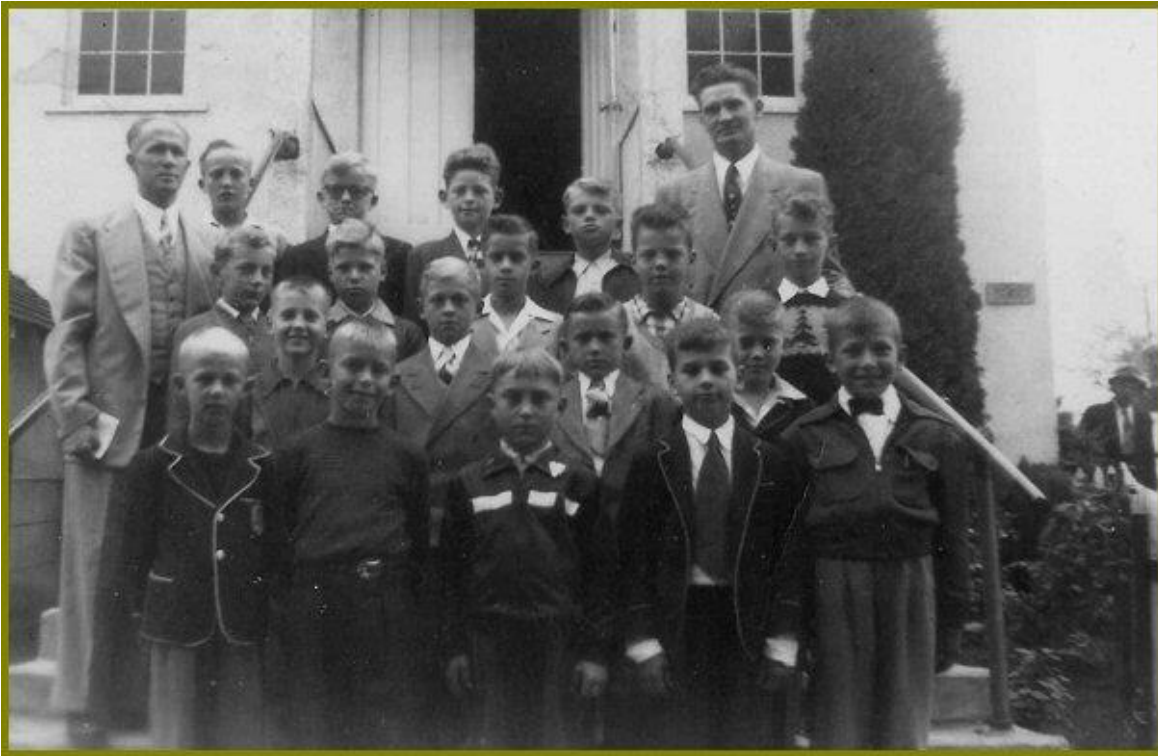
Photograph Courtesy of Victor Froese

Yarrow Mennonite Brethren Church



MB Church Sunday Schools

***Primary Sunday School Boys' Class 1951-54.
Teachers: D. Klassen and H. Enns***



***Victor Kopp, Abie Klassen, David Nickel, Ernest Neufeld, Mr Henry Enns
Mr David Klassen, David Dyck, Edwin Epp, Allan Martens, Rudy Baerg, Danny Loewen
Walter Teichgrab, Gordon Paetkau, Elmer Wiens, Robert Giesbrecht
David Klassen, Willy Langemann, Don Fehr, Victor Janzen, Edwin Lenzmann***

***Primary Sunday School Girls' Class
Teachers: Annie Derksen and Helen Harder***



***Ruby Klaassen, Tina Unruh, Hildegard Rempel, Martha Fast, Mary Emma Lenzmann,
Hilda Reimer, Bertha Harder, Erica Kaethler, Minnie Plett, Kathy Enns, Erna Janzen***

***Klassen, Agatha. E. Yarrow: A Portrait in Mosaic. Clearbrook, BC:
Klassen, 1976.***

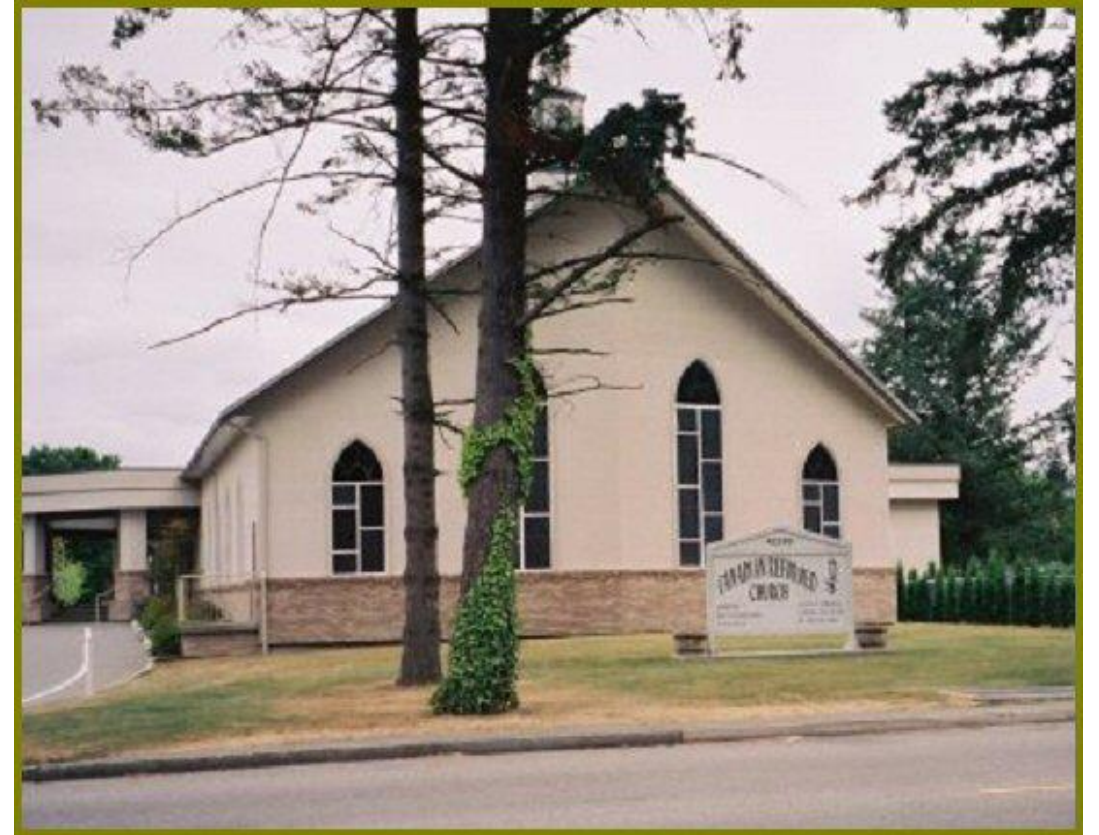
United Mennonite Church Eckert Road



Yarrow Alliance Church



Yarrow Reformed Church



World War II: Yarrow's Soldiers



Douglas Rexford



Abe Wittenberg



Henry Ratzlaff



Rudy Goetz



Henry Wiens



Julius Derksen

Dyck, Harold J. and Marlene A. Sawatsky.
“Yarrow’s Soldiers.” *Yarrow, British Columbia: Mennonite Promise: Village of Unsettled Yearnings.* Ed. Leonard Neufeldt. Victoria, BC: Touchwood, 2002. 95-105

Table 1
Military Service and Municipal Location of Yarrow’s Enlistees

Municipal Location	Army	Air Force	Other	Totals
Mennonites				
Yarrow	48	2	2	52
Sardis	2	0	0	2
Sumas	4	0	0	4
Non-Mennonites				
Majuba Hills – Vedder Flats	7	1	0	8

Table 2
Yarrow Mennonite Military Enlistment by Year, 1939-1945

	Oct 1939- Sept 1940	Oct 1940- Sept 1941	Oct 1941- Sept 1942	Oct 1942- Sept 1943	Oct 1943- Sept 1944	Oct 1944- April 1945
Medical Corps	0	0	1	2	10	1
Infantry	1 (6)	1 (1)	6 (1)	10	5	3
Total	1	1	7	12	15	4

* Estimates for non-Mennonite enlistments are given in parentheses.

World War II: Yarrow's Soldiers

Yarrow Military Enlistment

Peter Bargaen	Nicholas Harder	Henry Ratzlaff
Jack Block	Alex Hendricks	Henry A. Reimer
Gordon Cameron	Helmuth Hendricks	Douglas Rexford
Julius Derksen	Julius Hendricks	Tom Rexford
Harry Dyck	John Hepting	Frank Sawatsky
Abe Enns	Cornelius C. Isaac	Charles Sabo
John W. Enns	Peter C. Isaak	Peter Schellenberg
Henry Epp	Frank Kehler	John Siemens
Jake Epp	John Kehler	Dan Thiessen
Jacob Epp	Jacob Klassen	Nicholas A. Thiessen
Peter Falk	John Letkeman	Jake Toews
Bernhard G. Fast	Peter Letkeman	Henry Wall
Henry Fast	Abe Loewen	Jake Wiebe
Peter D. Friesen	Dave Nachtigal	Peter Wiebe
Frank Froese	Jack Nachtigal	Henry Wiens
Henry Froese	George Nowell	John Wiens
Henry Giesbrecht	Geraldine Nowell	Peter I. Wiens
Jake H. Giesbrecht	Norville Nowell	Victor Wiens
Rudy Goetz	Reuben Nowell	Jacob Willms
Herb Guenther	Peter Paetkau	Abe Wittenberg
Jacob Hamm	Frank Penner	Jake Wittenberg
John Harder	Peter G. Peters	John Wittenberg

Vedder River Steelhead Derby

Yarrow's King Fisher Derby Winners

**Carl Wilson Feb 1941
Elmer Wiens Jan 1973**

Carl Wilson Wins First Place in Vedder Derby

"KINGFISH CARL," that's what they're calling him. Yes, sir. Carl Wilson, the piscatorial pedagogue. It's Derby Day on the Vedder, see, and the husky Yarrow school teacher, along with forty-five others get off with the bang of the gun just after 7 o'clock Sunday. Carl, he goes three miles up the river, see. He picks his spot and he whips the old bamboo rod around on his first cast. He settles down for a long wait.

But there isn't much waiting. Shortly after 8 o'clock a pretty fair steelhead grabs at the roe. Wilson hauls it in, ambles back to the Crossing to weigh in. The scales call it 12 pounds 9 ounces.

Everybody waits to see if anyone will beat it. Jack Wake, fishing out of the same hole as Wilson, catches a 7 pound 15 1/2 ounce fish. Russel Thornton, fishing five miles upstream near Ed. Bell's place, makes a catch. With fifty minutes to go he starts on a tear for the Crossing. He lugs the fish to the weigh scales about five minutes inside the deadline, almost collapses from exhaustion after the run.

Wilson won the \$125 cash prize and the Ferguson & Funnell cup for the championship. Jack Wake got everything a fisherman could ask for plus a \$15 cash prize. He also won a pair of fisherman's gum boots for catching the largest fish in the final qualifying round. Thornton's third place entry got him a mess of fishing equipment and \$10. S. Kosumi, local Japanese, copped six useful awards with his 7 pound 9 ounce steelhead. Len McCutcheon, who caught two steelhead and a trout during the five derby hours, got everything from a fog light to a magazine subscription.

For bringing in the smallest fish weighed during the day, E. W. Clarke was awarded a fishing basket and a landing net. His catch was 5 pounds 10 ounces.

Mrs. Bert Nelmes won the W. Simpson cup for annual competition among women anglers, in addition to a wrist watch and a casserole.

For the largest steelhead taken in an open contest, Bob White, whose fish tipped the scales at 17 pounds 1 ounce, received a reel and spoons. He also received \$5 for the largest steelhead caught by an angler under 17 years of age. Henry Creasey won the draw for inspectors and hereby received a casting reel.

A crowd estimated at 750 witnessed awarding of prizes at noon. W. E. A. Thornton, president of the Chilliwack Fish and Game Protective association, presented the trophies. Among the distinguished officials attending the event were Frank Butler and James Cunningham, members of the fish and game commission of British Columbia, and Jim Poole, angling authority, Vancouver.

hereby received a casting reel.

A crowd estimated at 750 witnessed awarding of prizes at noon. W. E. A. Thornton, president of the Chilliwack Fish and Game Protective association, presented the trophies. Among the distinguished officials attending the event were Frank Butler and James Cunningham, members of the fish and game commission of British Columbia, and Jim Poole, angling authority, Vancouver.



SOLD FOR MORE THAN \$15 per pound, the Kingfish of the Vedder River Annual Steelhead Derby was, and is, owned by every one of these men following about 30 minutes of bidding in an auction Sunday. Kingfisher for 1972-73, Vancouver's Elmer Wiens, is holding the 20.5 pound buck. He bought it from a consortium of four Fish and Game Club members Bob Armstrong (second from left), Frank Lewis, Jim McMillan and Curt Kuiper (three men on right). They paid \$35 for it after the fish had been re-donated by Jim Barritt (extreme left) who paid \$80. First buyer of the fish was photographer Al Jespersion who took the bidding as high as \$180 before he gave it back for another auction.

For 202 men in 36th derby

Clear, cold Vedder yields only 16 fish

Elmer Wiens is a young man who has been fishing in Vedder Steelhead Derby for just a few years.

Sunday, he took the title of Kingfisher after landing a 20.5 pound buck late in the derby. His was the heaviest fish of the day, beating out the man in second spot by more than three pounds.

Mr. Wiens' fish was a large one considering the amount and size of the fish brought in during the 36th annual derby, postponed to Sunday from Boxing Day, when river conditions were considered by officials of the Chilliwack Fish and Game Club as "un-fishable."

Sunday, the river was low and clear. The sky was clear, the temperature was 16 degrees.

Out of 202 fishermen registered for first fish landed in the derby, only 15 men caught fish. Only one limit was made.

Last year's Kingfisher, Tony Sevik, came close to a repeat on Sunday. His fish was the fourth heaviest of the day, a 14.9 pound doe. It was enough to earn him top honors as the winner of the Fish and Game club's own closed competition. Even at that, however, the 14.9 pound steelhead was one-tenth of a pound heavier than the fish which won him the Kingfish title on Boxing Day, 1971.

Second heaviest fish of the day was caught by a New Westminister man, Wayne Lillos. He landed a 17-pound buck.

Well known fisherman, Bryce Keys from Agassiz, a past Kingfisher, took the third spot in the open competition with a 16.5 pound buck.

There was an interesting race for first fish landed in the derby. Two Chilliwack men, Irwin Edgar and Ken

Edmundson, arrived at the gate of the club premises exactly at 7:30 a.m.

Edmundson beat Edgar through the gate with his car, but had difficulty opening his car trunk. It was frozen. Edgar won the foot-race to the club-house by one minute.

Both fish were almost identical in weight. Mr. Edgar's buck weighed 7.55 pounds, Mr. Edmundson's doe was 7.5 pounds.

Another New Westminister man, Ed Noel, took the first, and only two-fish limit of the day with a pair of does weighing 7.5 and 11.5 pounds, respectively.

Chilliwack's Kinmen Club were the real winners of the derby. They will receive \$325.50 in a direct donation from the Fish and Game Club following the fish auction after the derby.

Officials of the club were

fearful that the Kinmen might receive a lot less than the 1971 auction, which totalled \$952.50 and was considered a record.

However, the Kingfish was bought and redonated a total of three times. Highest price paid by one person was \$180 by Al Jespersion who re-donated the fish back for auction. Jim Barritt of Chilliwack then paid \$80 for the same fish . . . and gave it back again. A consortium of three club members, Bob Armstrong, Frank Lewis and Jim McMillan then paid \$35 for the Kingfish and, again, donated it back for more auction.

Final buyer was the man who originally caught the fish. Elmer Wiens paid \$15 for his steelhead.

At \$310, the fish eventually cost more than \$15 per pound.

With the exception of two fish, every one of the 16 displayed on the winner's board, sold for more than \$20.

Even a bicycle caught by an anonymous fisherman sold for more than \$20.

Kinmen Club president, Daryl Bell, said at the derby on Sunday, he was "very pleased" and grateful for the amount raised.

Derby committee chairman, Percy Hyde, told The Progress Sunday the river was "exceptionally clear" and reasonably low which made fishing conditions slightly more difficult than normal.

Club president, Dave Lamson, stated that there is no thought of changing the day of the derby from Boxing Day. He stated that the derby has only been cancelled three times in its 36 year history, due to "exceptional" circumstances.



HEFTY SILVER CUP, the perennial trophy for the Chilliwack Fish and Game Club's annual steelhead derby, was passed from last year's Kingfisher, Tony Sevik of Chilliwack (left), to this year's winner, Vancouver's Elmer Wiens. Elmer landed a 20.5 pound buck to win the open competition. Tony came close to a repeat this year, winning the closed competition. His 15-pound doe was the heaviest taken by a club member.

**VAI
AUTOHO**
The Porsche
for the Fr

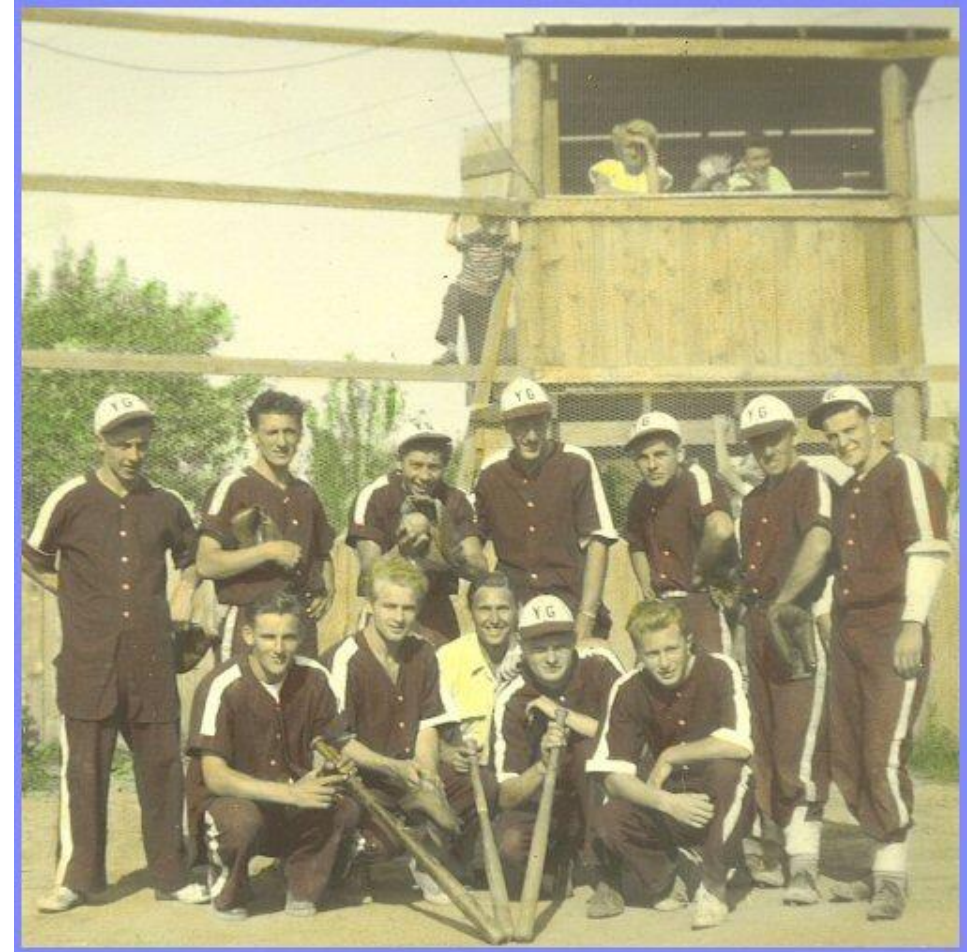
Our representative can
wack at 792-8328 or A

Yarrow's Famous Softball Teams

Knox Ball Diamond Wilson Road South



Vedder Mountain in Background



Provincial Intermediate Softball Champions - 1948

Enns Star of Torrid Series

Yarrow Growers B.C. Champs Sweep Intermediate Finals

Yarrow Growers became B.C. intermediate softball champions at Yarrow's YAA park over the weekend as they trimmed last year's winners, Powell River, two games to one.

An estimated 1500 rooters at each tilt saw George "Fuzzy" Enns, rapid moundsman of the co-op squad, lead the Growers to a 12-10 victory in the first game Saturday; team-mate Len Froese dropped the second 4-2 Sunday afternoon but "Fuzzy" came back to cop the crown with a 5-2 win in the evening.

Yarrow got the series underway Saturday with a scoring spurge in the opening frame. Growers went through their entire batting order plus four to collect nine singles and an equal number of counters. A triple by Ernie "Nester" Reimer and a safety by Alex Fast were good for another tally in the second before Powell River could get the feel of the strange field.

While Yarrow was pondering what seemed to be a walkover, a walk to Dealte and a ringing double by Ciprick in the third drew first blood for the visitors.

Powell River came back in the fifth with another tally on a single by Adamson, an error on Len Froese and a second double by Ciprick.

Growers cut loose in their half of the fifth when Pete Ratzlaff caught chucker Devlin's fastball for a two-run homer.

With Johnny Martens relieving Enns in the seventh, the visitors uncorked four runs on a walk, two errors, a single and a double. Struggling back in the eighth the up-coast squad collected two more runs on three singles. Powell River's last two-run effort in the ninth on a single then a triple by Adamson fell short of stopping the co-ops.

SECOND GAME

While Army was taking their first game of a series with Melbourne Hotel Sunday, on the other side of the Vedder co-ops were losing to a revitalized Powell River squad.

With the ledgers all even in the third, hard-hitting Ciprick collected a double off Len Froese to put the visitors ahead 2-1. In the

sixth, catcher Bob Barkley ran the score up to 3-1 for Powell River. Pete Ratzlaff found chucker Devlin to put Yarrow back in the picture, racking up one for the co-ops but the paper-townners were there to stay as they closed off the scoring with their fourth run in the eighth frame.

Powell River opened the scoring in the evening tilt with Ciprick again appearing in the scoring picture as Besutti doubled. With two frames left to play, Yarrow got back in the struggle on hits by Pete Wall and "Fuzzy" Enns. Single by Brown and a double by Pete Ratzlaff given up by hurler Devlin put the Growers one up in the eighth.

Up-coasters made a fighting finish when Besutti scored on a single, two stolen bases and an overthrow in the eighth.

Co-ops broke the tie when relief hurler Dealti gave up winning singles to Ernie Reimer and Ben Dick. Pete Wall sewing up the series on a walk and an overthrow at home.

Yarrow's Famous Softball Teams

1948 Yarrow Growers Intermediate Left

1949 Yarrow Athletics Senior B Right

Will Take on All Comers

Thiessen Top Slugger For Yarrow Athletics

Yarrow Senior B softball club, undisputed Fraser Valley champions after winning the local loop, a following eight-game tournament and the Lower Mainland championship, now challenge any Senior B club in the province. Johnny "Mexie" Giesbrecht, one of the Yarrow club's managers, made this statement to The Progress.

In the season now ending Yarrow has kept 14 players with very little change in lineup—a definite strongpoint in the team's favor.

The champs have this record for the books: 22 games played, lost two; in the semi-finals, played three and lost one; in the finals (best of five), tied one and lost one and a team batting average of .318.

Heaviest blow of the season came when the team lost 13-3 to Cloverdale Navy at the Cultus Lake Jaycee Regatta but they repaired the loss by defeating the Cloverdale team in Lower Mainland finals.

Athletics' top batter is 205 pound 25-year-old Al Thiessen, Cultus Lake lifeguard who emerged with a batting average of .448. Al concluded a Physical Education course at UBC last year and while there managed the Thunderbirds hockey team. This season he will take teacher-training. While he was at school his wife, Kay and two and a half-year-old son, lived in Vancouver while Kay taught school at Little Mountain. His three years with the team were spent as pitcher for two years and an almost errorless center field this season.

Henry "Tiny" Harder, an ex-faller in logging operations on Vedder Mountain rang up a batting average of .428. His nickname belies the last few games of his initial year with the team watching play from the bench.

Another first year man, left fielder Pete Ratzlaff copped a batting average of .382. Pete worries for a week if he fumbles a ball, which is seldom. The 20-year-old wears size 13 shoes which may account for his low number of errors.

"Old Man" of the team is Henry "Seegan" Neufeldt. Derivation of the nickname is uncertain although Seegan means goat in German. . . . For six years he played catcher but this year first base. Seegan never misses a game, is 22, married and the father of two. His two-year-old spends each game on the Yarrow bench. Batting .373 he has four home runs to his credit this season.

Ernie "Nester" Reimer received his nickname from the team's humorist, Neufeldt. His first year with the team, the 18-year-old base stealer has been playing rightfield and third base. Three home runs this year have punctuated his batting average of .370.

LIVE-WIRE SHORTSTOP

Alex Fast is the live-wire shortstop of the outfit. Surpassing even Nester in base stealing, he gets extremely annoyed if no balls come his way. Alex is 21 and lives in Atcheltz. Softball is not his only sport. He also goes for basketball football and a little golf on the side.

It has often been said that with Alex and Pitcher Johnny Adrian there is no need for the rest of the team. Alex has batted .320 and two homers this year.

UBC graduate Johnny Adrian is a tireless pitcher who bats .295. A good percentage of Yarrow's success can be attributed to Johnny's hurling, he lost only two games this year. He eats like a horse, likes at least one steak between games if more than one comes in a row.

Pete "Happy" Wall (also answers to "Polly"; no one knows why) catcher, got his tag from his



continuously beaming countenance. Happy is one of the league top catchers with very few errors. His untiring record behind the plate, coupled with his average of .292, and one homer make him a valuable man. He works in Murray lumber yard by day with coach Johnny Giesbrecht.

AMAZING FUNK

Henry Funk is the amazing one. He stands at the plate as if he is going to watch them all go by, then leans forward to lash the ball unmercifully. Hank is another of the "old men" of the team, having been with them five years. He was shortstop till two years ago, then switched to second base where he remained until the present.

He works Funk's Limited and has been married for a year and a half.

Len Froese, 22, barber, is relief pitcher, pinch hitter, and general handyman. Piano player and roller skater Len pitched for the Intermediates last year. His activities this year have been somewhat limited owing to a knee operation. His batting record is .222.

Jake Neufeldt's swarthy complexion and short kinky hair have earned the name "Nigger." Twenty-four, married and with a year-old daughter, Nigger has been with the outfit four years, playing third base. He is the team humorist and morale booster. Batting four homers this year, his average is .320.

Relief pitcher George "Fuzzy" Enns has been with the team one year. He finished grade 12 this year at CHS. Batting average is .200.

Relief pitcher George "Fuzzy" Enns has been with the team one year. He finished grade 12 this year at CHS. Batting average is .200.

Alex "Felix" Rempel trails the batters with .166, but he still has one homer to his credit. He's a relief fielder and is with the gang for the first year. Felix is married to "Seegan's" sister.

Twenty-four-year-old George "Silver" Berg is another relief fielder. He has been with the team two years and is an electrician by trade has a batting average of .153.

Last but not least come the coaches, the real backbone of any team and this one in particular.

ATHLETIC COACHES

Johnny "Mexie" Giesbrecht received his tag because he was born in Mexico, came here when he was three. Johnny played Senior B until two years ago, pitching and center fielding. Twenty-three-year-old Johnny spends the hunting season traipsing around the country with Seegan, roller skates, is a member of Chilliwack Light Horse Breeders Association, and won the singnig competition at the July first Gymkhana two years ago.

Second coach is Erwin "Yokel" Froese. Erwin finished Senior Matric this year and intends to work

for a year before going to Varsity. A good roller skater, last year he pitched for the intermediates and helped Johnny coach the team.

Both Yarrow's coaches know their team and the rule book front to back and are not lost at any game.

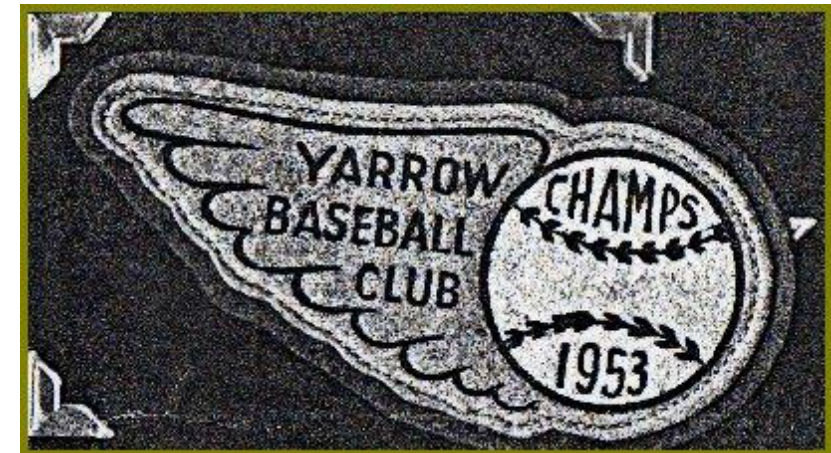
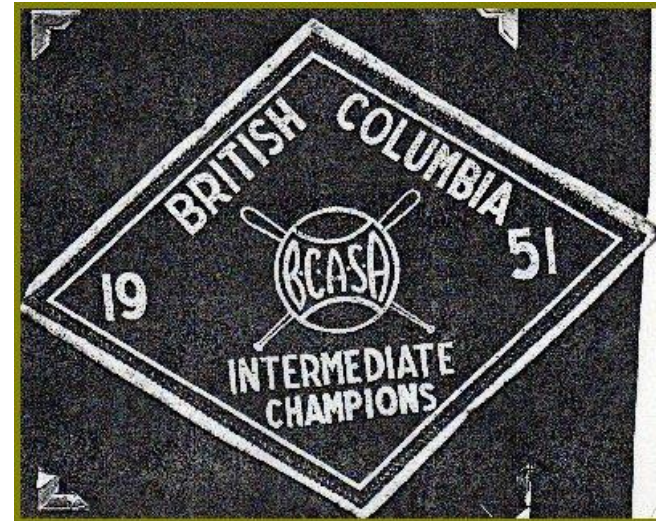
The team has proved its worth in this year's play and intends to do it all over again next season.

Yarrow's Famous Softball Teams

Provincial Intermediate Softball Champions - 1951



***Eddy Froese, John Dahl, Pete "6" Ratzlaff, Jake Wiebe,
Hank Ratzlaff, Pete "7" Ratzlaff, Ernie Bergmann, Spike Klassen,
Rusty Bergmann, Hank "Crow" Martens, Irwin "Sally" Harder,
Elmer "Slim" Neufeldt, Fred Adrian, Allan Wilkie
Photograph: Hank "The Barber" Giesbrecht***

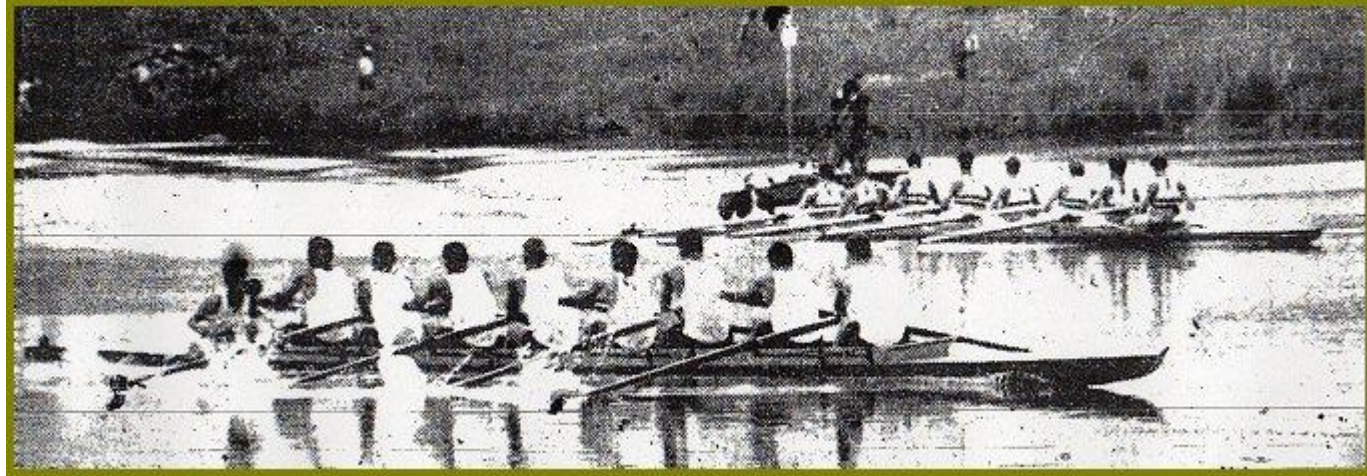


1954 British Empire and Commonwealth Games The Vedder Canal Hosts the Rowing Events



***Canadians Bobby Williams in single sculls,
& Donald Guest & Lawrence Stephan in
double sculls win bronze medals.***

***The Vancouver Province, Thursday, August 5, 1954
UBC ROWERS SINK MIGHTY ENGLAND***



***Ken Drummond, Doug McDonald, Captain
Tom Toynbee, Mike Harris, Laurie West
(partly hidden), Glen Smith, Herman
Zloklovits, Phil Kueber, Bob Wilson
Coach Frank Read, Centre, Coxswain Ray
Sierpina squatting in front***

Yarrow's Famous Baseball Team: Ocean Sprays

Home Games: Yarrow Junior High Ball Diamond



***Batting Practice before the Game
Photograph Courtesy of Mary Froese***

***Ocean Spray Team, 1955 - At the
Ocean Spray Plant, Eckert Road***



***Jack Derksen, Bob Epp, Ed Barkowski, Barney Thiessen,
Dave Giesbrecht, Henry "Tiny" Harder, Vic Kornelson,
Elmer Klassen, Jake Wiebe
Ernie Harder, Waldo Neufeld, Ernie Ratzlaff, Len Froese,
Ed Froese, Art Funk, Rudy Riemer
Ed Derksen, Harold "Cactus" Froese
Photograph Courtesy of Mary Froese***

Yarrow's Famous Baseball Team: Ocean Sprays 1959

Ocean Sprays Win Sunday Tourney

Ratzlaff Boys Shine

Junior "A" league leading Yarrow Ocean Sprays smashed in two wins to take the round-robin baseball tournament and the Dominion Day Cup at Monarchs' field Sunday.

Yarrow clipped Langley 2-1 in the second game of the round-robin, then went on to take Odd Fellows 4-0 in the final meeting of the series.

League spokesman Ed Froese said that the record turnout of some 400 persons was greatly due to publicity given the league by the Chilliwack Progress.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME

Lanky Ocean Spray chucker Pete Ratzlaff went the distance for Yarrow, pitching a two-hit game.

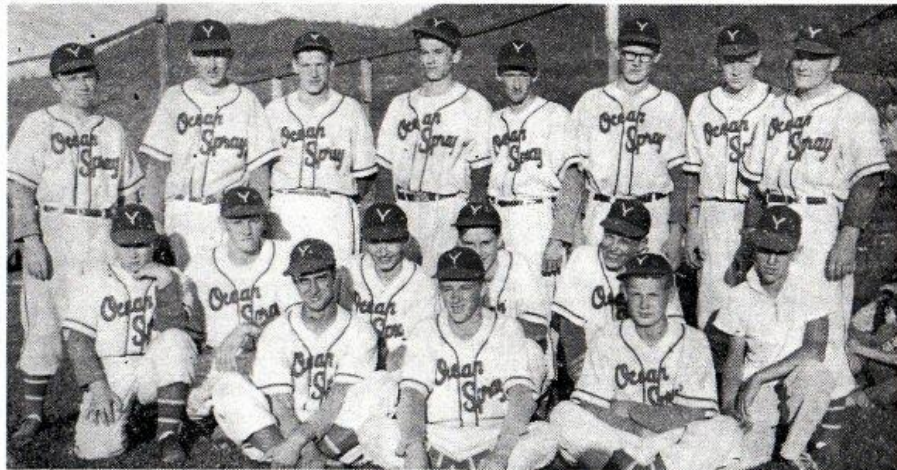
Yarrow picked up one run in the bottom of the first to take the lead. They added two more in the fourth and a single in the sixth for the total of four.

After Army's Joe O'Neil sped past the payoff plate on a sacrifice by Keith Patterson, Oddfellows pulled Greig in favor of Ronny Columbus.

Billy Laurin's power on the mound managed to keep Army out of trouble until the sixth when Dick Walsh moved in from third on Alfred Zilke's single to deep right field.

SECOND PRELIMINARY

The Ratzlaff boys were the steam behind the Yarrow machine Sunday.



TOP JUNIOR "A" SQUAD, Yarrow Ocean Sprays won out over other league teams in a mammoth round-robin tournament Sunday. Back row (left to right)—Ed Froese, coach; Jack Wiebe, first; Irwin Klassen, catcher; Vic Kornelson, catcher; Pete Ratzlaff, pitcher; Elmer Klassen, outfield; Irwin Dyck, pitcher; Len Froese, coach; Middle row—Harold Froese, bat boy; Barney Theissen, third; Ernie Harder, outfield; Waldo Neufeldt, outfield; Jackie Derksen, second base; Ed Derksen, scorer. Front row—Roland Neufeldt, outfield; Ernie Ratzlaff, short; Dennis Klassen, catcher. Missing—Rudy Reimer, pitcher.—Staff Photo.

Ernie Ratzlaff, brother of night winner Pete Ratzlaff, held the mound for the Sprays in the afternoon contest against Langley.

He allowed only one hit turning in one of the best performances in Junior "A" history.

Sprays opened scoring in the second, as Barney Theissen moved in on a sacrifice by Waldo

Neufeldt. Sprays added another in the fifth, before Langley broke up Ratzlaff's hopes of a no-hit no-run match by sending in Norm Flowerdew in the bottom of the last inning.

IOOF's Ronny Columbus, also hurried the afternoon contest, was charged with the loss. He gave up only three hits during the entire six innings.

All four teams in the league

took part in the elimination play prior to the final game. In the first preliminary, Odd Fellows met Army and in the second afternoon contest Ocean Sprays tangled with Langley.

Both afternoon games ended in a 2-1 count.

FIRST GAME

In the preliminary, Odd

Fellows went through two chukkers to land the win, and the final run didn't come until the bottom of the last inning.

Army started with Bill Laurin while IOOF sent Dennis Grigg on the mound.

Odd Fellows squeezed first blood in the tightly-knit match, pegging a run in the bottom of the first.

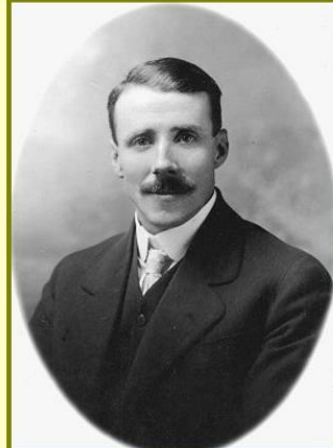


Back Row: Bill Gilchrist, Jake Wiebe, Don Smith, Dennis Klaassen, Barney Thiessen, Jack Derksen, Dennis Richardson
Front Row: Ed Froese, Wayne Wilkie, Ci Coleman, Pete Ratzlaff, Ernie Harder, Ernie Ratzlaff, Harold Froese
Photograph On Right Courtesy of Ernie Harder

Some of Yarrow's Entrepreneurs



Joseph Knox



Chauncey Eckert



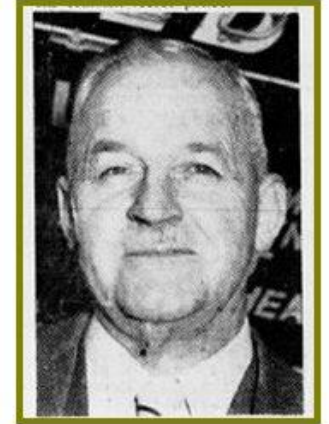
Bill Siddall



Johann Derksen



***John
Martens***



C C Funk



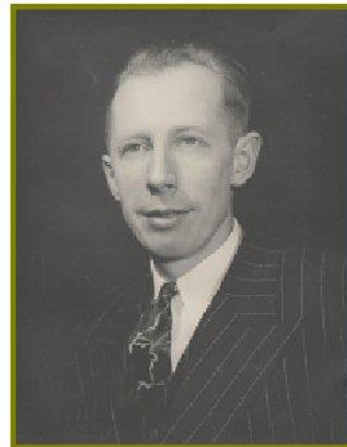
Henry Goossen



Nickolai Reimer



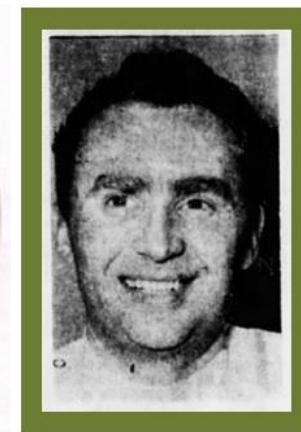
John Guenther



***Jake Martens
"Lumber Jack"***



***Jacob G.
Derksen***



***Henry
Giesbrecht***



***Johnny
Giesbrecht***

Yarrow Volunteer Fire Department 1959



Photograph Courtesy of Dennis Martens.

Yarrow's Athletic Association Banquet 1948/49



Photograph Courtesy of Arthur Siddal

Yarrow Post Office

Siddalls General Store, Post Office, Library Depot



***Library Van at Siddall's General Store
Photograph Courtesy of Ray Parker***

1948 New Yarrow Post Office



***Bill Siddall at the new Yarrow Post Office
Transporting the Mail
Photograph Courtesy of Ray Parker***

Yarrow Scenes: Old is New Again

Wittenberg's Jewellery



Columbia Press (Neufeld's Print Shop)



Hank Giesbrecht's Barber Shop



Cafe (Betty Menges' Cafe)



Yarrow Scenes: Old is New Again

Funk's Supermarket & Betty Menges' Cafe



Central Merchants & D&D Hardware



Yarrow Lumber & Pioneer Building Supplies



Freight Train at Wilson Road



Julia Wiittenberg Retires as Yarrow's Librarian: 1947 - 1974

2A THE CHILLIWACK PROGRESS, Wednesday, September 4, 1974



BOOKISH RETIREMENT — Mrs. J. J. (Julia) Wittenberg (right) will have little retirement spare time if she reads all the books Mrs. Pat Heighton is handing her. Mrs. Wittenberg retired as Yarrow branch librarian last week after 27 years of service. She began operation with two shelves of books. Mrs. Heighton, the new librarian, expects to accompany the library in its move to the proposed recreation centre.

Yarrow librarian retires from job

Mrs. Julia Wittenberg, community librarian of the Yarrow Branch Library, retired Saturday after 27 years service to the community.

Mrs. Wittenberg has been Yarrow's only community librarian to date. She operated the first branch library in Yarrow which started in 1947 and served the public from a corner in Wittenberg's Confectionery.

In 1960 the branch moved its operations to the Yarrow Cafe and then, seeking more space, in 1962 moved to its present location on Central Road.

Mrs. Wittenberg has served the Fraser Valley Regional Library under three directors, including the late Peter Grossman, Ronald Ley (now retired), and current director, Howard Overend. Retirement comes just several months prior to the anticipated opening of a new branch in the proposed Yarrow Community Centre.

Mrs. Wittenberg was honored at a dinner Saturday evening when Fraser Valley Regional Director Howard Overend presented her with an engraved silver tray to commemorate her long years of valuable service to

the community and library system.

Mrs. Wittenberg is being replaced by Mrs. Patricia Heighton who takes over branch duties September 3.

Yarrow (1959): People, Economics, and Future by Ernie Harder

One of Five Articles by Ernie Harder Published in the Chilliwack Progress

Small Business Declines In Yarrow

By Ernie Harder

Business isn't booming in Yarrow. Circumstances which have taken industry and retail trade from the community explain the recent decline. The changing face of the berry industry, to be dealt with in next week's article, is one reason for the economic transformation which the area has experienced in the last decade.

No longer is small fruit the lifeblood of the community. Today payroll supplies the majority of Yarrow residents with income.

The area, which experienced rapid development after first settlers cultivated sugar beets and harvested hopfields for a living, first became a self-contained community almost 20 years later when the Canadian Bank of Commerce opened there. A consumer co-op, formed in 1937, did much to promote Yarrow's growth. But the area's business concerns, which rely mainly on local residents for support, reluctantly admit that business reached its peak in the early fifties. The decline has been particularly noticeable in the last two years, state leading businessmen.

C.C. Funk, food market owner in his twentieth year of operation in Yarrow, was one of the first to feel the effects of the loss of close to \$ 100,000 yearly payroll which Cascade Foods Ltd channeled into the hands of local employees before fire destroyed the plant last year. Company officials have still not decided whether or not the plant will be rebuilt and work continued on the same scale.

Another fire, which put Yarrow IGA out of business last year, has also done harm. The two food markets operating in Yarrow offer the modern shopping conveniences of any supermarket, but Mr. Funk—who owns both of them—is at a loss to explain why his business instead of taking up the trade formerly handled by the IGA, has even shown a decline during some months. He estimates about five per cent of Yarrow residents do all their shopping outside the community. Since June, all sales in the Funk's stores have been strictly on a cash basis.

Drygoods store owner, Corney Giesbrecht estimates that only about ten per cent of the people in the area shop for wearing apparel in his store. He says business was better when he enjoyed some local competition a few years ago.

"People want to shop around for their clothes—they want more choice."

One businessman stated that within the last two years it has been noticeably more difficult to collect credit accounts.

Central Road businesses include a barbershop, three hardware and appliance stores, one restaurant, one jeweler, two service stations with body and machine shops, two feed outlets, one drygoods store, a blacksmith, an insurance agency, a shoemaker, a lumberyard, an upholstery shop and a small printery and box factory.

"Small businesses in the community will find it continually more difficult to operate profitably," commented well-known businessman J.H. Martens. "Convenience of shopping centres within 20 minutes driving distance is one of the main reasons."

Many people are employed in seasonal labor in Yarrow. There are quite a few loggers in the area, and civil servants employed at Camp Chilliwack. Several carloads of young people, especially girls, leave each morning for jobs in Chilliwack.

Though most of the families are in the low income bracket, leading citizen and insurance agent, Dave Klassen, commented, "It's mazing where all the money comes from."

Operation of Diamond Construction Company Ltd, out of Yarrow, with a fleet of 45 trucks nearly all year 'round has meant a yearly payroll of over \$ 100,000—much of which stays in Yarrow. Paving of the Vedder Mountain road five years ago was a great boon to the Yarrow district. Houses which previously rented for \$ 10 a month jumped to \$ 35. Many soldiers from the RC SMC have rented houses and a few of these families have bought homes.

But there is little demand for land in Yarrow. An acre of berries which at one time sold for \$ 2,000 can now be bought for a little more than \$ 700. One and a half acre plots, with fairly modern two-bedroom houses on them, have sold for around \$ 7,000 - \$ 8,000.

With quite a concentration of older folk, pension cheques have been a benefit to the community as a whole. Majority of the pensioners own their own homes. A privately owned old folk's home is also operated in Yarrow. There have been two new subdivisions developed in Yarrow within the last two years but it took two years to fill the 13 lots on one of them and not a single lot was bought by "outsiders".

Yarrow Cemetery

***PRESERVING HISTORY: A GRAVE CONCERN
by Penny Lett
Volunteer labor transforms overgrown
Yarrow cemetery into a place of pride***

***Susie Derksen, Mary Froese, and Erma Wiebe
Organizing Committee***



Susie Derksen and Mary Froese walk through the newly restored cemetery.

Tribute to their ancestors

**"Cherish your family
for they are your treasure —
a storehouse of riches,
wealthy beyond measure."
- Anon**

The unfiltered summer sun highlights names like Wiebe, Thiesen, Warkentin, Epp and Reimer. "The absolute brightness makes Yarrow Graveyard at the end of Hare Road seem almost cheerful.

And it is a nice place.

Now.

"This was all overgrown blackberry bushes," says Susie Derksen. "And over here was a swamp. And back there the trees had to be taken down because they were dropping stuff on the graves."

Mrs. Derksen along with Mary Froese and Erma Wiebe worked more than two years to raise the funds required to repair and clean up the cemetery that is their heritage.

The 82-year-old widow walks proudly between the neatly-spaced rows of her home-town's dead. From time to time to ease an ailing hip, she leans on Mrs. Froese, her life-long friend and committee mate. "My mother and father are just over here," Mrs.

Derksen says pausing briefly by their headstones. "And my husband is back there."

Mrs. Froese also has relatives, two-generations, interred there.

The two seniors appear almost untouched by the intense heat as they walk the length and breadth of the cemetery telling of how it was, and pointing out how it is.

"I've been here since 1928 and I know many of these oldtimers," Mrs. Derksen says waving a much-worked hand across the scene. "Nineteen twenty nine is the earliest grave. There were several died that year. Maria Peters, wife of Dave Peters died at age 29 that year. Heart condition. And she left three little girls. I used to babysit for them."

As an adjunct to the Yarrow Mennonite Brethren Church's 70th anniversary this year, the trio of women, along with the official cemetery committee, worked tirelessly to upgrade the more than 1,000 plots. Five hundred were completely redone. Caved-in cement covers were removed, soil - yards of it - was added to level the ground, headstones were cleaned or replaced.

It all took money. And the women raised it. At least \$50,000.

They wrote letters. They contacted descendants. They organized. And they nagged.

The start seemed slow, but soon pride for the present and respect for the past infected many. Enthusiasm and participation grew.

"Initially there had been a lot of talk, but no action," says Mrs. Derksen. "We raised about \$50,000. That alone shows people really do care. And we've already had so many people say 'thank you.'"

Now when relatives close or far come to the quiet, tucked-away spot they are greeted by an appealing park-like setting. A raised garden surrounds a new cemetery sign. Benches are strategically placed to encourage a moment of contemplation and quiet reflection.

What had been a depressing almost embarrassing place is now almost uplifting.

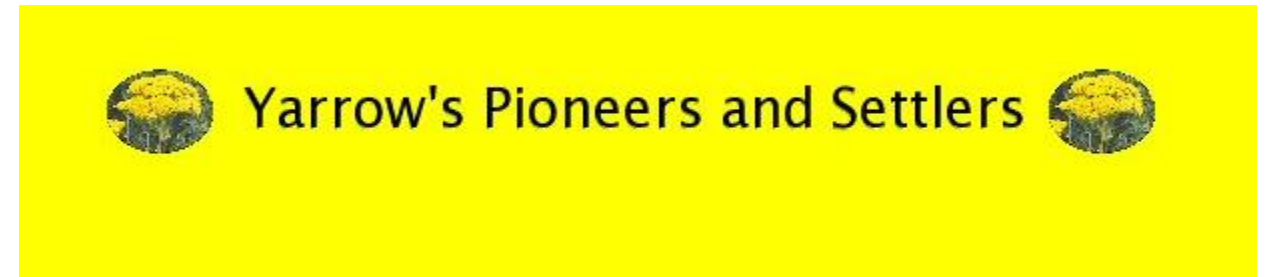
"Doing this has given us all a great feeling of connection to the past," says Mrs. Derksen. "I feel grateful we could do it and I didn't have to die thinking I'd have to go to that place that was."

The duo complete their tour pause a moment, then head slowly through the crisp white metal gate.

"The old gate that was here I wouldn't have had in a cow pasture," Mrs. Derksen vows as it swings closed behind her. "We helped keep history from being lost. It just should have been done 20 years ago."

Mrs. Froese laughs and nods appreciatively.





www.YARROWBC.ca



**Edited by
Esther Epp Harder (late),
Edwin Lenzmann, and Elmer Wiens**