

## SCHOOL BOARD

ARCHIE BLAIR - School Board 1934 - 1941

INTERVIEWED: January 22, 1975 T.36.1

1934 - First elected to School Board

- Mr. Murchison - Chairman of the School Board in 1934
- Other members: Art Lang, Mr. Linde, Mr. Ross & Mr. Bath
- Mr. Blair served a total of 8 years

## Metropolitan Health Board

- A major change introduced, entered into the plan with Vancouver
- Prior to this, there were only casual student health checks
- Funded by the Rockefeller Foundation, Provincial Government and Civic Government.

## School Population

- In about 1934 school population was 1600
- Increased to 2,000 in 1941
- Japanese expulsion from the district (due to World War II) brought the school population down again to approx. 1600

## Prior to 1934

- In 1933 the teachers' salaries reduced, some to 33%
- Many teachers never were reimbursed, regular increments thereafter

Junior High School - was introduced into district 1937

## Schools

- Tells of additions to schools
- Total of nine schools:
  - Lord Byng School
  - English School
  - Hamilton School (eastern part of Island)

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- East Richmond School
- Mitchell School
- General Currie School
- Bridgeport School
- Cambie School
- & a school on Sea Island, where the Japanese were taught seperately.
- Upgrading of the facilities:
  - at the English School and Hamilton School the outside toilets were "remedied" sometime during the eight year period.
- Prior to 1937 the net per capita cost per student was below \$25.00 per year.
- Maintenance:
  - the smaller schools had part-time janitors - \$15.00 per month
  - the larger schools had full-time janitors
- East Richmond School:
  - tells of a teacher rowing to school across the river, followed by a term or two in which she had a seperate room in the school.
- Explains Trustees remuneration to cover travel expenses.

A.L. DYBALL

## STUDENTS

ARCHIE BLAIR - Student 1903 - 1915      1313 No. 3 Road, Richmond

- The family home was located half-way between Gilbert Rd. & No. 3 Rd. along the dyke (south end)

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### English School

- Attended English School (present site of Crestwood School) at Shell Road & Steveston Highway for first term in 1903
  - first term refers to one school year
  - school site was given by Thomas Kidd
- Travelled to school by pony and cart --explains

### Steveston School

- Transferred to Steveston School in 1904 --explains
- Walked along dyke for two miles, explains dyke improvement in 1906 or 1907
- Attended from 1904 - 1910
- In 1905 recalls journies on way to school --explains

### Bridgeport High School

- His first teacher was Mr. McIlvanie, followed by Mr. McIntosh
- Entrance class 1910 - also first high school class taught in the same room
- Among the people in the high school class were John Buchanan, Wilfred and Archie Cook from Eburne, Ida Reese, Nellie Webster and Edith Lynas
- Left in 1915 - went overseas returning in 1919 and started U. B. C.

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