

Rural Schools Around Potlatch
And
North Latah County

Compiled by
Gary E. Strong



Potlatch Historical Society
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Gary E. Strong
Series Editor

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Photographs are in the Historical Collection of the Potlatch Historical Society.

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collection of the

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P.O. Box 5
Potlatch, ID 83855

Donations of school related materials are most welcome.

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Introduction

Homesteaders arrived in North Latah County in the mid-1880s and began to clear the land and establish their claims. As families established in clusters, they cut timber, cleared the land, and built their farms and homes. Families were large, and the need to educate the young was evident and rural schools were built. Teachers often lived with one of the families and the children attended when they were not needed for farm work or family responsibilities. The neighboring communities of Palouse and Garfield were more established as commercial centers, but smaller communities established general stores, blacksmith shops, and schools. There were few roads and travel was difficult. Larger communities of Onaway, Hampton, and Princeton flourished due to the discovery of gold in the HooDoos and small sawmills provided needed lumber for construction. Stage runs stopped in Onaway, Hampton and the mines near Gold Hill bringing some supplies and the mail.

By 1905, Potlatch Lumber Company began construction of its mill in, and the town was in full operation by mid-1906. "As important as religion was, the managers paid even more attention to schooling. Again, the Company built and maintained the school houses. In addition, the firm assumed all other educational costs, including teachers' salaries. The school board consisted of the town manager and two other company employees and saw to it that the teachers received considerably more pay than in neighboring towns—almost as much as those in Spokane. Highly qualified instructors were attracted to the place. The Company also handled disciplinary problems in a unique fashion. If a student misbehaved too often, the father was threatened with losing his job at the mill, which generally led to a remarkable turnabout in the student's behavior."

Keith Petersen. "Life in a Company Town: Potlatch, Idaho." *Latah Legacy*. Spring 1981, p. 8

H.L. Peterson arrived in Potlatch in 1925 to become superintendent of "one of the state's most unique and successful school systems for fourteen years. In an effort to entice working men, the Potlatch Lumber Company hired outstanding teachers, providing them with the best facilities. The private school, under Peterson's leadership, gained a reputation as one of the state's finest."

Educating in the American West. P. 66

"While residents attended school free, those living outside Potlatch paid tuition. Yet with the school's exemplary standing, many rural parents willingly incurred the extra expense."

Keith Petersen. *Company Town*, p. 123.

By the late 1940s, small rural schools began to fade away. Highways had been built in the 1930s, and transportation was easier. Perhaps the depression was of greater impact as families found it difficult to finance the rural schools.

The following listing of rural schools has been compiled from Lalia Phipps Boone's *A-Z in Latah County, a Place Name Directory*, 1983. Various issues of the *Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter* have included memories of these interesting schools and document so much about pioneer life in the area. Photographs are from the collection of the Potlatch Historical Society. Early information about the Potlatch school was drawn from the *Palouse Republic* excerpts recorded in Lee Gale's archive now housed at the Potlatch Historical Society.

The historical society has been actively gathering information, photographs, annuals, newsletters, and memorabilia about all the schools in the present Potlatch School District #285. The collection is open for all to enjoy.

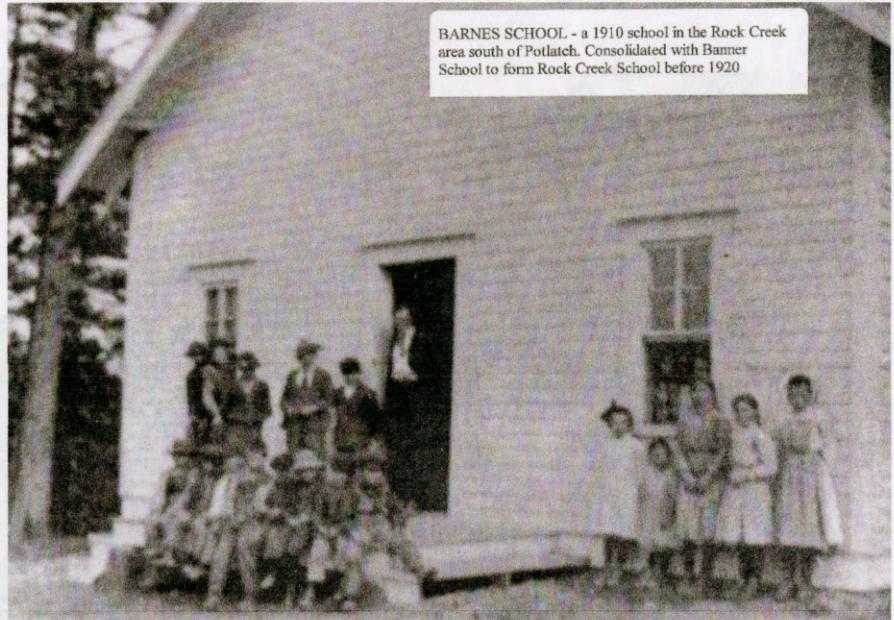
In 2000 an all school reunion was organized bringing together students from across the years who attended Potlatch school but also many who spent their grade school years in the rural schools of north Latah County. Each year class reunions are planned in conjunction with Potlatch Days in July. Photos of graduating classes from Potlatch High School are displayed in the halls of the Jr-Sr. High School.

This publication is intended to be a part of the 2020 All-School Reunion set for mid-July.

Rural Schools around Potlatch and North Latah County

Banner School, #100. T41N R4W sec 17. An early school 2 miles south of Potlatch; established about 1890 and consolidated with Barnes School before 1920 to form Rock Creek School; not listed in the Marshal's School Census of 1920; listed in the Latah County School Financial Records of 1924-30 as having consolidated with District 49 to District 10, East Cove School.

Barnes School, #49.
T41N R4W sec 29/30. A 1910 school in the Rock Creek area south of Potlatch; built on the property of Albert, Charles, and Inez Barnes, early landowners; consolidated with Banner School to form Rock Creek School before 1920.



Berry School, #18. T41N R5W se 6. An early school, named for the F.M. Berry family, early settlers. In 1890, Will M. Gribble was the teacher, with 89 pupils in attendance. Marshal's School Census lists 20 students, aged 6-20, in 1920-21. Teachers from 1924-30 were Neava Ann Drury (2 terms), Estella Benjamin and Dorothy Lee; transferred to Washington State in 1939.

Burden School, #33. T42N R5W sec 10. About 5 miles north of Potlatch. This was a log school built in 1880 and named for Levi Burden, who had eleven children and needed the school very much. The school term was divided into summer and winter terms. In 1903 a new site was given by James and Anna Kilgore north of the old building and served also as a site of Sunday church services and evening “literaries.” The new school burned in 1916 and was replaced by a handsome better-equipped school that serviced the community through 1939 when students transferred to Potlatch. The teachers from 1911-39 were Edith L. Webster, Stella Smith, Lillie M. Leistner, Myrtle Hammond, Margaret Chapman, Mary Kidwell, Mr. Whitman, Anne Becker, Alva M. Cartwright, Anne Andreanon, Beatrice Buchanan-Ramey, Mildred Davis, Roberta McBride, Artille Hollada, Maria Thayer, Fern Scott, Rose Murphy, Wilma Nolan, Dorothy Pucket and Oral Nearing. Teachers before 1911 were Burton L. French, Mattie Green, and Mr. Rule.



BURDEN SCHOOL - about 5 miles north of Potlatch. A log school built in 1880 was replaced in 1903 by a new school. This school burned in 1916, being replaced by a better-equipped school that serviced the community through 1939, when students transferred to Potlatch.

Cedar Creek School, #7. T42N R5W sec 7. An early school that burned in 1902 and was replaced with a larger school built on land purchased by A.C. and M.B. Case for \$1.00 in 1902 or 1903. Some of the teachers were Phoebe Smith, Luther Kern, Edith Webster Loren W. Kitch, Mr. Cord, Lucy Horton, Mrs. Precious Berger, L.C. Kern, Adele Bacharach, Florence Hester, and Cleo Rothwell. There were 27 students in 1915-16, 18 in 1916-17 and 27 in 1923-24. The School closed in the 1930s, after which students were bussed to Garfield, Washington. In 1948 Cedar Creek School and all others in T42N R5W were consolidated with Potlatch.

Chambers Flat School, #74. T41N R4W sec 1. Early school on the Palouse River 2 miles west of Harvard, across the road from present-day Morrissey Siding. Appears on a 1903 plat map of Latah County. Marshal’s Census of 1920-21 lists 20 students. Among the teachers after 1924 were Mabel Hare, Margaret Coons White, Mabelle Anderson, Anna Gleason, Mildred Nichols, Linnie Hupp Ingle, Edith Nelson, Marian Huff, and Hattie Swofford (1946) Names for Joe

Chambers, who homesteaded the flat where the school was located. Chambers' son Gary was a regular driver for the Rawhide Freight and stage line between Walla Walla and Laird Park before Moscow was a trading center. He regularly met the mule trains that plied the Hoodoo Trail from Laird Park to the mines.



CHAMBERS FLAT SCHOOL - Early school on the Palouse River, two miles west of Harvard. Appears on the 1903 plat map of Latah County.

Memories of Chamber's Flat School, by Ruth Olf's Heisler, Colfax, WA

These are my memories of Chamber's Flat School.

The schoolhouse was not too large. It had a storage area on the left side of the front porch. There was an ante room to hang your coats and boots. On the right was a place for our cups, a pail of water, and a wash bowl. As you entered the main room there were two doors on either side of the platform a large black board, and a platform with the teacher's desk. Above the blackboard was the American flag which had thirteen stripes and forty-eight stars. In the back to the left, was a very large wood burning stove which had a metal surround. We dried our socks, shoes and boots on the surround. We also used the stove to keep warm.

Behind the school was outdoor plumbing, just like home. Left was boys and right was girls. It had a door in front the usual seating and a Sears & Roebucks catalog.

To the left of the school was a medium-sized building that Mr. Butterfield kept filled with wood for the stove.

My first visit to the school was in May of 1934 with Gladys Pankey Bailey as my guide. This was my first visit prior to starting school in the fall. It seemed amazing and scary.

I started first grade with Helen Schott and Lula May Carstens. The older kids helped the little ones. I couldn't see very well, so they helped me a lot. I remember a number of the kids I went to school with including Dorthea Carstens, Virginia Fay Carstens, Ruthy Carstens, Kenneth Butterfield, Marlin Cochrane, Charles Cochrane, Ilene Cochrane, Elaine Cochrane, Herman Schott, Genevieve Schott, Pearl Krough, Joyce Krough, Lucille Long, Lyle Long, Lawrence Long, Alvin Wilson, Ernie Wilson, Myrtle Wilson, Robert Browning, Ardella Kinman, Don Vowels, Eddie Vowels, and Myrtle Vowels.

I remember Miss Lorena Heaton. She was my 2nd, 3rd, and 4th grade teacher. I also remember Miss LaDow, Miss West, and Mr. Sunkel. Mr. Sunkel taught me math which helped me survive in school later on. Mrs. Heaton-White remained friends with me for years.

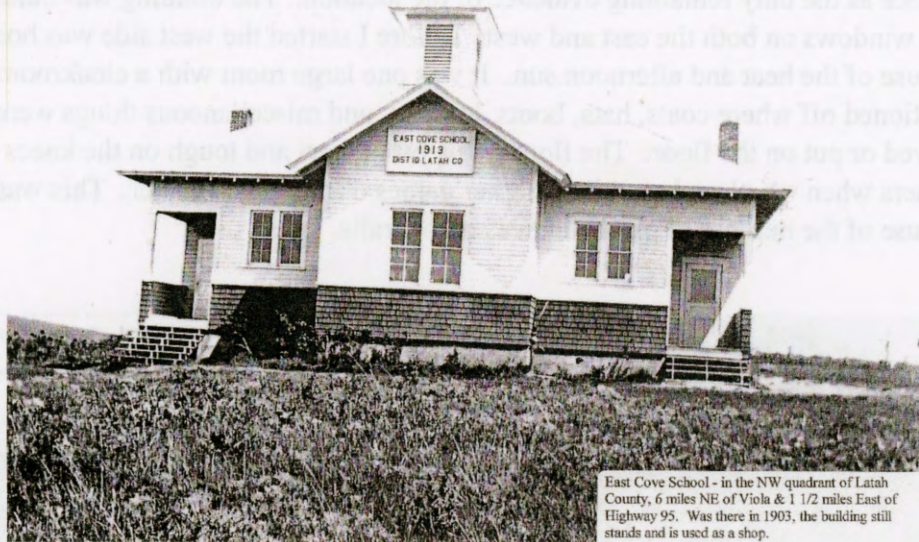
You knew you were at Chamber's Flat School because it had a board fence and a stoop. We spent many happy school days at Chamber's Flat.

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter. Spring/Summer 2006

East Cora School, #10. Early school is listed in the 1919 School Census Records, but no other listing available. Seems to be confused with East Cove.



East Cove School. T41N R5W sec 15. In the NW quadrant of Latah County, 6 mi NE of Viola and 1 ½ mi E of US 95. Appears on the WIM map of 1903 on the property of M.H. Nordby. Listed in Marshal's School Census of 1920-21 under Burden School report, as one of three schools (East Cove, East Cora, Burden) near Palouse River that have been combined with 60 pupils in 1920-21 and 70 in 1921-22. Teachers from 1925-30 were Agnes Johnson, Sylvia Johnson, Thelma Hansen, Anliffe McElroy, Susanne Giese, Olive Mulalley, Willa Lefavor, and Myrtle Larson. The east Cove School Building still stands and is used as a shop.



East Cove School - in the NW quadrant of Latah County, 6 miles NE of Viola & 1 1/2 miles East of Highway 95. Was there in 1903, the building still stands and is used as a shop.

Lower Crane Creek School, #37. Early school located near the confluence of Crane and Gold Creeks. The school had been in progress before 1890, for the *Moscow Mirror*, 28 February 1890, comments on the fine new building under construction. In 1921 there were 83 pupils, among those there were one Swedish and eight Swiss families represented. This was an eight-month two-teacher school 1924-30. The teachers were Doris Buchanan, Precious R. Berger, Mabel Hare, Helene Anderson, Minnie Pierson, Ione Rust, Meno Rust, and Lola Halsey.

Upper Crane Creek School, #62. Located 2 miles north of Onaway on Crane Creek. In 1921 there were 45 students. This was a nine-month one-teacher school. Teachers from 1924-30 were Orland Mayer, Precious Ross Berger Leola Adair Haynes and Virgil Baldwin.

Dailey School, #30. T41N R6W sec 6. Early school in the Northwest part of the county on part of the Lewis Roberts homestead, five miles northwest of Potlatch. Established before 1902 and continuing through 1938, after which students were bussed to Palouse, Washington. Named for K.M. and H. Dailey, whose children accounted for a large part of the student body, 1902-1910. There were eighteen students in 1920-21. Among the teachers were Ebba Swanson, Margaret Wood, Mina Rust, Claudie Collins, Luther C. Kerns, Anna Shanks, Alta Nichols, and Lillie McManama.

Recollections of Gordon Dailey who attended 1926 to 1934.

I have no recorded history of the formation of this rural school in Latah County, Idaho. The land was located on the homestead of Lewis Roberts. It was built at least as early as 1890 or before. My father Harry Dailey attended there and in the picture he appears to be about 12 years old making the picture taken in 1902. The land was section 30; Township 42 and Range 5 and the schools were numbered according to the section in which they were built. Great grandfather Robert K. Dailey had homesteaded in Township 42 in 1873 and proved up in 1876. He must have been instrumental in getting the school established

since the name is Dailey. I find no record of the building or drilling of the well. The well was located on the porch, which was on the north end of the building. The pump is still in place as the only remaining evidence of the location. The building was built originally with windows on both the east and west. Before I started the west side was boarded up because of the heat and afternoon sun. It was one large room with a cloakroom partitioned off where coats, hats, boots, lunches, and miscellaneous things were hung, shelved or put on the floor. The floor was a bit uneven and tough on the knees of our trousers when we played marbles or other games during bad weather. This was evident because of the number of patched knees on overalls.



DAILEY SCHOOL - Early school in the NW part of the county, 5 miles NW of Potlatch. Established before 1903 and continuing through 1938, when students were bused to Palouse, WA.

Prior to starting the first grade we were allowed to visit the school and observe what to expect when we started as first graders. I recall that before starting to school I could read the little "Primer" that had the Little Red Hen story and others. I mastered reading before writing, numbers, and lettering. There were variable sized desks and some were double for two students. All eight grades attended and some of the upper class students were good sized. The teacher's desk was in front and a long recitation bench faced the teacher where classes were held. It was possible to listen in on what was being recited and to be prepared as one advanced through the grades. A large wood burning jacketed heater stood in the southwest corner of the schoolroom also a door to the outside and steps to the wood shed. The teacher started the fire in the morning and kids would carry up wood during the day to keep it going. Some winters were very cold but I don't recall suffering from cold in the school room. Gas or kerosene lamps provided lighting. An outhouse for

the girls was on the west side closer to the building and one for the boys was some distance down to the east.

Imagine a twenty or twenty-one year old woman with two years of teacher training to handle a room full of country kids and teach first through the eighth grade—all the subjects from geography and grammar to arithmetic. Teachers were able to find board and room with families close by. Ed Curtis was just up the hill and Bill Thompson's was a mile away. Mrs. Stella Benjamin drove from Palouse and Mr. Luther Kerns rode his horse from his home over two miles away. A barn was situated in the NE corner of the grounds and several used it for their horses and ponies. My family was a mile from the school and usually walked to and from. Teacher Anna Shanks had a young school aged daughter and the school board arranged for a curtain to be hung across the west side of the room for an apartment with very meager furniture and a kerosene camp type stove for food preparation. She had no car. This was in the 1930s and a time when it was make do with what there was.

Recess was always a time to look forward to. We played baseball, either chose sides or workup. There were marbles, mumblety peg and snowball fights in season. Clod fights in the barn area with clods from an adjoining field was fun but dirty and seldom anyone got hurt. The school building was built on a gentle slope, with the north and close to the ground and south and probably four or five feet off of the ground. Entry to the "basement" area was to crawl under the porch and through an opening and into that large area with a dirt floor. It was a great play area but fairly dark. One project was to dig canals in the dry dirt and someone on the pump on the port would provide water to be diverted in numerous ways. The pumpers would do a good deal of work but it was fun.

There were plays for the holidays of Thanksgiving, Halloween, and Christmas. These were events to be attended by the parents and community. Somehow treats were provided at Christmas time and a tree was usually put up. Some years, gift exchanges were arranged. One year before Halloween we went to a local apple orchard and with a cider press we made ten to fifteen gallons of cider in a small wooden barrel. Everyone enjoyed all of the cider they wanted but in a few days it got a little sparkle in it when fermentation started. It was popular to the end.

My recollection of teachers and maybe not in order were: Miss Rust, Miss Collins, Mrs. Anna Shanks, Mr. Luther Kerns, Mrs. Stella Benjamin and Miss Ethel Bailey our eighth grade teacher.

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter. Summer 2002

Deep Creek School, #78. A local name for Elmore School.

East Cora School, #10. By 1920-21, East Cora School was combined with East Cove and Burden Schools and reported in Marshal's School Census under Burden School, #10.

Elmore School, #78. T43N R4W sec 31. Early 1900s to 1930s school located on the headwaters of East Fork Deep Creek, also called Deep Creek School. Named for John Elmore, who owned 160 acres just above the site. From 1910 to 1916 attendance averaged between forty and fifty

pupils. A 1910 souvenir lists Bertha Gibbs as the teacher with forty-nine pupils from the Adams, Bysegger, Edmonds, Hicks, Katzenberger, Kern, Klockontoger, Leister, McManama, Nolan, Parsons, Pounds, Shields, and Swatman families. Isaac Baker was the teacher in 1915-16. Marshal's School Census lists 30 pupils. And teachers from 1924-30 include Ezella Mahoney, Mabel Hare, Lettie Strong, and Jessie B. Allen; from 1942-45, Ethlynn Stevens and Opal Sisley (3 terms). Consolidated with Potlatch in 1946. Elmore United Methodist Church is very near the site of the school and is still in use.

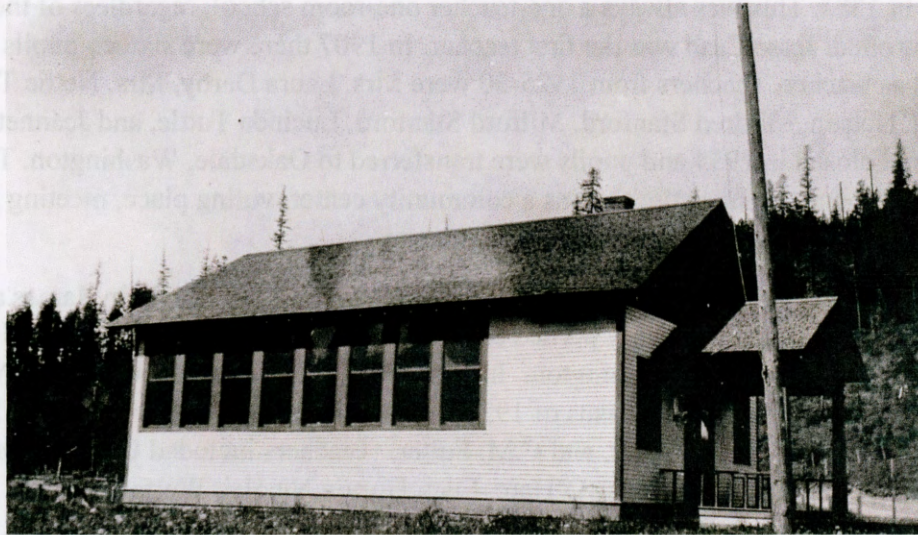


Elmore School, 1900s – 1948. Submitted by Janice Palmer

The Elmore School started in the early 1900s and was in use through the spring of 1948. It was located on the headwaters of East Deep Creek on the Sigfried Bysegger place, approximately 8 miles north of the Potlatch Junction. The school was named for John Elmore who owned one hundred sixty acres just above the site. Some of the teachers were Bertha Gibbs who taught forty-nine students in 1910 from the Adams, Bysegger, Edmonds, Hicks, Katzenberger, Klockontoger, Leistner, McManama, Nolan,



Parsons Pounds, Shields and Swatman families; Isaac Baker taught thirty students in 1915-16; teachers from 1924-30 included Ezella Mahoney, Mabel Haire, Lettie Strong, Julia Vogel, and Jessie B. Allen; from 1942-48, Ethynn Stevens, Lorena Heaton, Opal Sisley (three terms, Mrs. Holman, and Lena Bohn. Students taught by later teachers were the Cool, Parnell, Carscallen, Jones, Olmstead, Alberts, Shattuck, Slagle, Soncarty, Strong, and Widmer families. The teacher taught all eight grades in one room, averaging forty to fifty students in the early years, later years the enrollment was less due to smaller families. The school was governed by three board members and the County Superintendent, Nell P. LaFollete. She visited the school periodically, driving to Elmore from her office in Moscow, 25 miles away.



In the early years the teachers were required to be single and usually stayed with one of the families of the district. In later years, teachers were allowed to be married. The last two or three teachers at Elmore School, before consolidation were married, and usually rented a house in the school district during the school year. The school building was heated by a large wood stove, with the teacher, or some of the older boys had to keep burning all day. Some of the patrons of the district cut wood for the school.

Most of the students walked to school, some two or three miles. Sometimes in winter one of the parents would bring several kids to school in a horse drawn wagon. During good weather many rode their bicycles.

Many activities were held at the school including box and pie socials, auctions, and school programs. The building was usually full when one of these events was held.

Students at Elmore School usually played work-up baseball during recess and noon hour, weather permitting. Some of the other games they played were Ante-over, Mother May I, Kick the Can, Hide and Seek, to name a few. They also had swings, a slide, a basketball hoop and hand over hand or chinning bars.

In 1948 Elmore along with other small one-room schools in the area consolidated with Potlatch Schools, becoming Potlatch Consolidated School District No. 285. The Elmore School building was moved to Potlatch and used as one of the 6th grade buildings.

The Elmore community still has its own country church, the Elmore United Methodist Church. It sits along U.S. Highway 95 approximately ten miles from Potlatch on land donated by J.V. Katzenberger in the early 1900s.

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter, Summer 2002

Photos: 1906; 1907 with extension to the building; 1917.

Evergreen School, #6. T43N R5W sec. 17. Located on land donated by J.P. and Margaret Quarles in 1887. This was always a one-teacher one-room school, regardless of the number of pupils enrolled. Jesse Cash was the first teacher. In 1907 there were sixteen pupils with Edna Remond as teacher. Teachers from 1925-30 were Mrs. Laura Darby, Mrs. Nettie Trail, Mrs. Esther E. Nelson, Mildred Stanford, Milford Stanford, Lucinda Tuttle, and Jeannette Hoptonstal. The school closed in 1934 and pupils were transferred to Oksdale, Washington. This building was used throughout the entire time as a community center, voting place, meeting place for the telephone company, and for various entertainments.

Fairview School, #25. T43N R5W sec 25. Early school on land bought by James and Mary May in 1906 for \$50; replaced when it burned and moved four miles southwest. Closed in 1938, and students bused to Garfield, Washington. In 1908 there were fourteen pupils with Margaret Bottjer as teacher. Marshal's Census of 1920-21 lists children of Charley Howell, Jas. Kirkpatrick, C.S. Smith, C Ryser, and C.M. Futter. Teachers included Charles Featherstone, Mary Jensen, Lou Ella Ross, Miss O'Hare, Lucy Horton Nicolai, Welford Lomas, Miss Underdahl, and Thelma Driscoll. This school was an important community center, where there were parties, school entertainments, box suppers, fiddling, and dancing.

Flanagan School, #52. T41N R5W sec 27. Early school located on Flannigan (Flanagan) Creek. Marshal's School Census, 1920-21, lists eighteen students. Teachers from 1924-30 were L.S. DuBoise, Devota Rothfork, Alice V. Swanson, Alta Nichols, and Maxine H. Ragland; from 1942-46, Dortha Hollen, Effa V. Skelton, and Opal Sisley.

Freeze School, #29. John and Addie Freeze sold one acre of land to the school 5 December 1903 for \$35.00. The school closed in the late 1930s and was moved to a nearby farm for storage; it is still standing. Marshal's School Census of 1920-21 lists eighteen pupils with Addie Strong and Stella Smith as teachers. Among the teachers from 1924-38 were Lilly McManama Leistner (four terms) Susan Albers, Fay Darr, and Ruth Otter. The school transferred to Potlatch in 1938.

Harvard School, #48. The Harvard School opened in the first decade of the 1900s. Marshal's School Census of 1920-21 lists forty pupils. Among the teachers in this two-teacher school from 1925-46 were May Leeper, Florence Quiggle Anderson, Beatrice Kinman, Anna Maude Webb, Kate Gamble, Doris Buchanan, Edna Swansen, Erma Franklin, and May Pinnell.

Photo: 1911



Hatter Creek School. Early school on Hatter Creek about three miles south of Princeton; does not appear in Marshal's School Census of 1920, but is in Ogle's Standard Atlas of Latah County, 1914. Among the teachers were Mrs. Stallins, Mrs. Coda, Mr. and Mrs. Grinnells (sic) and Irma Franklin (1936-43).

Hatter Creek School, by Orvetta Tribble Minden

It was a one-room building approximately 24 x 36' with a cloak room. The logs were about 1' in diameter.

Local men, including my father, Hersheil Tribble, erected the building in 1928. It was built just off the creek road, which had been converted from an old railroad spur, used formerly for getting logged timber to the mill. There had been a logging camp just one mile south of the school.

The school, for a number of years, had only one teacher of all eight grades. The first teacher was Alonzo Douglas. The second was Virgil Baldwin, and the third was Stella Benjamin, who later taught at Potlatch.

A woodshed, built on the east, housed the winter's wood supply for a stove in the middle of the classroom. There was a dug well a short distance above the buildings where we got our drinking water, drawn by rope and pail, carried to the school and drank from a dipper used by all. Our bathrooms were out-houses, and we hadn't yet been introduced to 'Charmin.'

As the school was so close to the road and had a row of seats by the windows, Children's interests were often drawn outside the classroom, so the teacher covered window panes with a light decorated sticky-back paper, thus helping to keep their attention on the business inside.

Unlike today, teachers didn't get into trouble for spanking unruly children if the occasion arose, which it did a few times as there was one child in particular who delighted in aggravating the teacher and distracting the children with his antics.



Hatter Creek School - Early school on Hatter Creek about 3 miles south of Princeton. Appears in 1914 Atlas of Latah County.

In about 1936 the eighth graders were sent to the Princeton school to relieve the pressure on the teacher. After that year teachers who taught were Lucille Stallings, Jewell Bargett, Ted Grinolds, and his wife Vera (who taught grades 1 and 2), Eugene Cota and Erma (Franklin) Nygaard. For a period they bussed the upper grades to Princeton in a vehicle Phil Rajkovich had put seats in and converted to a make shift bus. Later the school reverted back to one teacher for all eight grades, Erma Nygaard being the last one to teach there during the school season of 1942-43.

In 1944, Frank and Marian Johnson purchased the building for \$125.00, converting it into a residence where they lived until 1952. They then tore it down, moved it to the Mountain Home area and salvaged the reusable materials to construct a home in that area.

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter, 2004 Spring Edition

Lamb School, #54. T42N R5W sec 33. On part of homestead of John Lamb, established in 1902. It was the center of social activities as well as learning. Appears in Ogle's Standard Atlas, 1914. Teachers from 192-30 were Lila Nolan, Lillie M. Leistner, Angeletta Sanders, Garland Headrick, and Hattie Swofford. Now part of Potlatch School, #94.



Marbell School. T40N R4W sec 5. Early school located on Bert Marbell's homestead; probably opened before 1900 and later consolidated with Mountain Gem School. Local informants say that Marbell consolidated with Banner school to form Rock Creek.

Meadow Creek School, #61. T42N R3W sec 13. *Moscow Mirror*, 19 April 1889, records the granting of a petition to establish a school district at the mouth of Meadow Creek; extending north three miles, then west one mile, and south four miles to the point of beginning; it was to be number District 61; B. Norris Blake and other residents of the area signed the petition. No further information has been available about this school; however John Jake Johnson built a one-room log schoolhouse about one-half mile south of Meadow Creek School after 1903 # 61 and called it Woodfell, though locally it was often called *Johnson School*.

Mountain Gem School #98. T40N R4W sec 6. Early school 5 mi S of Potlatch and 6 mi E of Viola does not appear in the Marshal's School Census of 190-21, but does appear in the 1938 Index, Metsker's Plat Book of Latah County. Among the teachers from 1924-46 were A.S. Hillman, Connie May Hickman, Theodore Anderson (3 terms), Laura Darby, J.C. Faulkner, Mabel McKinley (2 terms), and Sara Alexander. Transferred temporarily to Potlatch # 94, 1942-44, and permanently after 1946. The building was still standing in 1980.



Mountain Gem School
1/4 mile above Sherman
Harrison's Homestead

Mountain Home School, #1. T43N R5W sec 35. Built before 1888 when Latah County was separated from Nez Perce County; original school replaced in 1907 and remained open until 1946. The schoolhouse still stands in fair condition. Marshal's School Census of 190-21 lists twenty-six students; teachers from 1924-30 were Pauline Ruick, Don Allen, William Carpenter, Lepha Decker, J.A. Miller, H.A. Salisbury, Audry Gorton, Grace Swanson, Lettie F. Strong, Josephine Humphrey, and Wilma Nolan; 1942-43, Hattie Sofford and Cleo Lloyd. The school closed in 1944.



Photo: 1890s First School



MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 -
Latah County about 1916, Raymond Kellmer, Ruth
Kellmer, Louie Kellmer, David Kellmer, Harold
Kellmer, Pearl Kellmer, Flora Gosner, Dora Gosner,
Frances Emert, Florence Rodgers, Red Rodgers



MOUNTAIN HOME SCHOOL - second Mountain
home school

Onaway School, #101. T42N R4W sec 31. Appears in Ogle's Standard Atlas of Latah County, 1914, and in the Index to Metsker's Plat Book of Latah County, 1938, but not in Marshal's School Census of 1920-21. Originally on the property of Arthur Burck. This was a two-teacher seven-month school. Among the teachers from 1925-46 were Colene Harris, Zella Harris, Mrs. Angeleta Sanders, Claire Sanders, Precious Berger, Mrs. Calaire Semler, Mrs. Ida Dicus, Mrs. M. Swofford, Hilda May, Mrs. Molly Carmack, Mrs. Leola



ONAWAY SCHOOL - Appears in the 1914 Atlas of
Latah County. Consolidated with Perlatich in 1946.

Haines, Mrs. Lafe Grant, Mabel Leitch, Garleand Headrick, Doris Kinman (3 terms), Beryl M. Youmans (2 terms), Gloria Guernsey, and Elsa Higgins. Consolidated with Potlatch #94, 1946.

Pigeon Hollow School, #47. T43N R5W sec y. Early school built on the property of John and Martha Cummings, probably as early as 1886, when boundaries for the school district were set. Some of the teachers were Miss Johnson and Matt Johnson before 1902, when the school closed. It reopened in 1911 in a new building; had 33 pupils enrolled in 1914. It closed in 1928 with 3 pupils and reopened 1934-55, when it closed; pupils to Washington. Among the teachers were Thelma Parsons Simmons, Miss MacDonald, Miss Helfert, Sophia Delagons, and Mr. Slauch. The school still stands at the home of Douglas Bruce, Farmington, WN, and is used as storage.

Potlatch School, #94. T41N R5W sec 1. Established in 1905 by the Potlatch Lumber Company for the company town of Potlatch. By 1907 the company claimed that Potlatch "school facilities are only equaled by those of larger cities." Marshal's School Census of 1920-21 lists one hundred ten pupils. There were fifteen teachers in 1924-25: Dorothea Eckenberry, Ruth Hall, Verna Terry, Vera Ward, Georgia Reynolds, Dottie Murray, H.L. Peterson (Principal), Viola McCarter, Arvilla Heimsch, Faith Vino, Catherine Eikenbary, Mary Stivers, Hazel Seely, Helen Tommasson, Mrs. M.M. Morris, C.C. Brown, Dean S. Carder, George Taylor, and Florence Graves. In 1929 there were twenty teachers and in 1931, thirty-one. Potlatch superintendents from 1919-83 include R.S. Chambers, Bernard Hopwood, Carl M. Nelson, J. Lowell Scott, James Bieker, and Edward Davis. Today the school thrives with a broad curriculum, continues as a center for community activities, and is a source of pride to the community. 1982 enrollment, 584.

Glory Days for PHS, by Malcom Renfrew. PHS 1928.

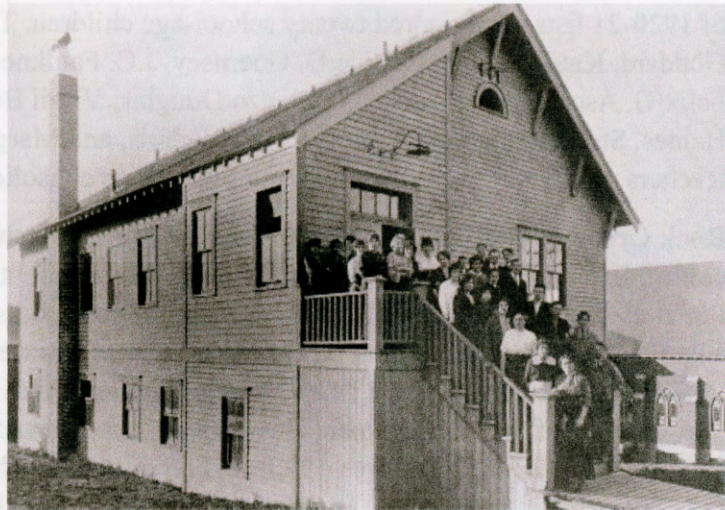
Current successes of the Potlatch High School team bring to mind the good record of an



earlier year, back in 1924-25, I think. That team, consisting of Pedey Alsterlund, Loyal Swedland, Phil McGreal, Jack Larkin, Morman Cole, Rex Jones, Red Rodgers, and Gordon Egan, won the district championship in Lewiston and represented the district in the State tournament held in Moscow that spring. (The University's Memorial Gymnasium was not yet available, and the games were scheduled in the gym later used by women's athletics that became known as the old women's gym).

Blaine Jones, then a high school senior, had borrowed a Ford Model T sedan and several students, including me, a freshman and Miss Dottie Murray, the high school principal, set out on a sunny afternoon to attend the opening games of the tournament that night.

Going to Moscow on a paved road then required a route through Palouse and Pullman. On our way it was our misfortune to have thirteen flat tires and no spare. Each time the repairing involved taking the tire off the rim, patching the tub with a miniature vulcanization and inflating the tire with a hand pump. This task was not done quickly. In Pullman there was an extra delay when we had to buy a new tire. By the time we reached Moscow, Potlatch had already lost its first game.



Phil McGreal, the team captain, was not tall enough for modern basketball. Perhaps he stood five feet four inches with his shoes on. But he was lightning quick, and he was high scorer for the team. Unfortunately, he suffered a knee injury in the Lewiston series, and he could not play in Moscow. Without him, we won only one game and did this with only four players in action near the end because of fouling problems. In our last game we gave Rupert, the winner of that state championship, a close match.

Credited with developing the above players was Coach Rich Fox, who with his brother Al Fox, had played on the university of Idaho team that became basketball champions of the Pacific Coast Conference. Rich left us for Pocatello, where he developed winning teams. Several years later he returned to the U of I as head coach for basketball.

With such a great heritage it is only natural that Potlatch now is winning basketball games.

*Potlatch Historical Society
Newsletter, March 2003*

Photos: Grade school, later the high school. Closed in 1969 and converted into an apartment house; original high school.

Princeton School, #40. T41N R4W sec.9 Established in the early 1802, a school picture of 1884 (U of I) shows forty-four pupils and two teachers. The *Moscow Mirror*, 25 April 1890, carries an account of the teacher's report; the



PRINCETON SCHOOL - Established in the early 1880's. The school consolidated with Potlatch in 1946.

teacher was a Mr. Henderson. Alfred Sharback was principal in 1918. Marshal's School Census of 1920-21 lists one hundred twenty school-age children. Teachers from 1924-46 include Edna Goddard, Kate Gamble, George D. Guernsey, J.C. Faulkner, Lillian Olson, Thomas B. Sayles, Felix G. Ascher, Myrtle Ascher, Alonzo Douglas, Virgil Baldwin, Jewell Bardgett, Leola Haines, Stella Benjamin, Anna Utt, Alta Nichols, and Margorie Ackerman. There were two teachers until 1929, then three until the school was consolidated with Potlatch in 1946.

Rock Creek School, #41. T41N R4W sec 29. An early school formed in 1914 by the consolidation of Banner and Barnes Schools; located about three and one-half miles south of Potlatch. The building stood in 1980 property of Patsy Larson. Teachers in 1914 were Alfred Charbuck and Marjorie Balch; other very early teachers were Miss Phipps, Tillie Charbuck, Florence Anschutz; teachers 1924-30 were Florence Anderson, Leola Adair, Mollie Carmack, Wanda Tenford, Astrid Newman, Devota Rothfork (Jolstad), Tilda May, Nola Wilson, and Johanna Dweyer; teachers from 1942-46, Freda Radermacher, Irma Mitchell, Kate O'Reilly, Eunice Getz, and Lena Born. Transferred to Potlatch #94, 1946.

Rock Creek School – 1939. By Patsy Larson

I was a sickly, shy, inquisitive child; the kind of who sits in a corner and melts into invisibleness, so that the adults forget to guard their speech. I heard talk of the neighbor



Rock Creek School

Front Row right to left:

Winnifred King, Della Jolstedd, Noreen Larson, Lula Colvin, William Bell, Bobby Anderson, Herbert Larson.

Back Row right to left:

Alice Lande, Dorothy Lande, Ligett Colvin, Charlotte Larson, Palmer Soholt, Harold Cox, Irvin May, Tom Fitch, Louis Weber, Max Button, John anderson

who left his wife to run away with another man's wife and how they were rumored to be together in Seattle. I heard my mother's friend who was pregnant at the age of forty-three lament "This is the only thing John ever gave me that I didn't need!" Listening to the fascinating stories the adults told each other was my favorite activity before starting Rock Creek School.

Being this type of child didn't bode well socially with other children who found this type of behavior boring, dull, and no fun. This made me more and more shy. When I was ten, we moved to Rock Creek. It was October, and school had been in session for a month. I was miserable. There were around thirty students. At my old school, we had nine. I spent my first day at Rock Creek sitting under the schoolhouse, refusing to come out. This proved novel to the other kids and maddening to my teacher who was a man and ran his classes like a boot camp—complete with paddle.

Enough of my maladjusted childhood. Rock Creek School was built in the 1920s. It was a three-room school with only two rooms in use for school as there were not enough students to use all three rooms. We played in the third room. One room was for first through fourth grades and was referred to as the little room. The little room was as big as the big room where fifth through eighth grades were taught. We had two outhouses, one for each sex, with two holes apiece. The outhouses were built by the CCC (Civilian Conservation Corps) and were quite nice. Our water supply was from a small cistern that was fed by surface water, dipped out, and put in a bucket. We all drank from the same dipper. To heat the school, we had a large wood heater at the back of the room, surrounded by a round metal guard. The floors were unfinished pine flooring. When the floor was swept, the teacher sprinkled some kind of treated, pink sawdust that apparently adhered to the dirt. It was the teacher's job to fill the wood box, sweep the floor, and get water. Most of the kids weren't particularly interested in learning anything, so it was a pretty tough job.

The desks were bolted onto 2x4s so they could be moved for sweeping or to rearrange the seating plan. The teacher's desk sat at the front of the room. There was a bench where each class squirmed and fidgeted through each subject. If you were not on the lesson bench, you were supposed to be studying?

We brought our lunches to school. Some of us had bought lunch boxes, and others had lard cans with lids and handles. We stored our lunches in a small room that opening onto both the little and big rooms. Occasionally, a hungry lunch thief who knew which moms made the best lunches would steal goodies.

I made friends with the thirty some kids at Rock Creek School. My health got better, and I had fun. I still melted into corners to listen to the grownups, but it was an inquiring mind who wanted to know and not debilitating shyness. Rock Creek School was a great school to grow up in!

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter. 2004 Fall Edition.

Viola School #9. Early school; established in 1882 and believed locally to have been named for Viola Teel, the first girl born in the village and daughter of William H. Teel, first postmaster of Viola. Marshal's School Census lists one hundred three pupils in 1920-21. Teachers from 1921-43 include J.P. Barrackman, W.W. Park, Laura Waterman, R.B. Ward, Ida Flower, William S. Fowler, Elizabeth Cummerford, Dorothea Hollen, Ethel DeWitt, Helma Shirn, Ira L. Shanks, Ester Higgins, Astrid A. Newman, Gladys Burke, Laura Waterman, and Emma Anderson. The school closed in 1944.

West Cove School, #77. T41N R5W sec 19. An early school southwest of Randal Butte at the south end of Viola Ridge. Appears on a 1903 plat map on the property of G.W. Rumens. Marshal's School Census lists thirty-nine pupils in 1921-22. Teachers from 1924-30 were Bobbie Parker, Mrs. Angeleta Sanders, Mrs. Lillian Underdahl, Carrie Mae Hickman, Mrs. R.D. Mack, and Lillian Soneville. This was a one-teacher nine-month school; closed in 1942.

West Cove School, by Ruth O'Reilly

We had between twenty and thirty students each year. We were located on a knoll one-fourth mile off Highway 95 at the foot of the North side of Viola Hill. That was known as Crooks Hill then.

I hesitate telling about the olden days. When my granddaughter heard me talking about "When I was a kid," she asked "was Columbus there?"

We had a one room, eight grades, all subjects, front wall blackboard and front bench for each class in session. Teachers were to be admired to hold a class and keep discipline in the rest of the room at the same time. Teachers really earned their meager pay. There were no helpers unless someone looking for favoritism volunteered. Washing the blackboard and dusting the erasers was a daily favor.



We had programs for Washington and Lincoln's birthdays, Halloween parties and Valentines parties. One year I got eleven cards from one boy. Of course Christmas programs were play, recitations, signing, or organ playing. No piano. Our parents were always invited to anything special.

We had no electricity or running water, no bathroom or lunchroom. We took lunch buckets and would often trade each other for whatever they had. One finger up was outside toilet, two fingers up was urgent! Drinking water was in a bucket on a bench and one dipper, wash basin was one or two changes a day and all used it and one towel.

We had no playground equipment other than two swings. The games played were pretty much like other schools—Ante Over, Run Sheep Run, jump rope, Fox and Wolf, and all sorts of races. Winter time we always had wet cloths and the teacher would hang them all around the pot-bellied stove at the back of the room to dry a little before going home. Most kids walked quite a distance. Some things got pretty smelly.

Seventh and Eighth grades had to take the State of Idaho Exams at the Viola school. Seventh grade was geography and physiology. The other exams were for eighth graders. The district was sent to Potlatch for high school until about 1926, then moved to Palouse because the tuition was changed.

Spit balls, hair pulling, snow ball fights, sleigh riding, holding hands, make up, curling irons, rag curlers, epidemics of chicken pox, measles, mumps, whooping cough, scarlet fever, were all expected sometime during those eight years. Those were the good ole years.

Potlatch Historical Society Newsletter, March 2003

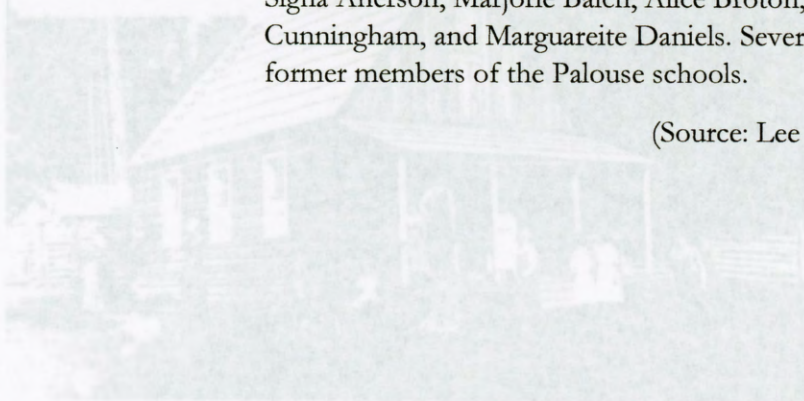
Woodfell School, #61. Early school built on Jake Johnson's land by Johnson, who was also the first teacher. In 1920-21 there were eight students. Teachers include Mrs. H.N. Routh, Anna Gleason, Linnie Hupp Ingle, Ada Wormell, and Bessie Cheyney; each year an eight-month school.



History of the Potlatch Schools

- March 7, 1906 Letter from Hon. W.E. Borah, Governor of Idaho to Mr. A.W. Laird requesting information on how to proceed with establishing a school in Potlatch.
- June 1906 Census show 95 children of school age and as many under school age. The population of Potlatch was 600.
- July 17, 1906 Letter was sent to Professor Tormey, Spokane, Washington, from A.E. Laird, requesting information for a principal for the Potlatch schools.
- August 31, 1906 Potlatch School District #94 was created. Board of Directors were: A.E. Laird, F.C. McGowan, Loring Comner. An 8-room school building will be finished by October 15, 1906. Principalship of School will be F.C. Reese.
- November 2, 1906 1st year of Potlatch schools – 177 students enrolled. Population of the City of Potlatch was 1,200.
- January 25, 1907 2nd year. Fall term begins 9-2-07.
- July 1908 3rd year – Principal was J. E. Lukens. Three years of high school was attempted.
- August 1909 & 1910 4th and 5th year – Principal F. E. Lukens. Reduced the high school to two years of quality work!
- 1910-1911 3rd year of high school was added.
- 1911-1912 7th year – 4th year of high school added with 2 graduating: Ruben Goodman and Loyd Terteling.
- Spring 1912 Potlatch School placed on the University Accredited Schools list.
- 1912-13 8th year – one graduating from high school: Fretha Swedland.
- 1913-14 9th year of Potlatch Schools – Graduating 8: Goldie Fansler, Joe Terteling, Signa Anerson, Marjorie Balch, Alice Broton, Alice Carr, Coretta Cunningham, and Marguareite Daniels. Several members of the class were former members of the Palouse schools.

(Source: Lee Gale Historical Collection Files)



From the *Palouse Republic*

(The paper) reports that the census of the new town (Potlatch), recently taken, shows 95 children of school age and as many more under school age. The population is about 600 with every evidence that it will reach 1,500 before the snow begins to fly. A school building is among the contemplated improvements in the near future. —*Palouse Republic*, June 8, 1906.

In order that the rapidly developing town of Potlatch will not be lacking in the manner of educational facilities for the children of the residences, School District #94 has been created and the County School Superintendent of Latah County has named as a Board of Directors, A.E. Laird, F.C. McGowan, and Loring V. Comner. An eight-room school building which will contain the best of equipment is now under process of construction and it will be completed in sufficient time for school to open October 15th. The Board held its first meeting Tuesday evening. Elected to the principleship [sic] of the school was Professor F.C. Reese, for a number of years a resident of Lewiston, Idaho, but more recently of the city schools at Clifton, Arizona. Professor Reese is a college man and has years of experience as an educator. The selection of teachers for the grades has not yet been made, but it is the purpose of the School Board to select the best possible and endeavor to have the schools the very best in Latah County. — *Palouse Republic*, August 31, 1906.

One hundred seventy-seven children enrolled at the first session of the Potlatch Schools in its temporary quarters last Monday. District # 94 school has five teachers:

- Principal, T.C. Reese, 8th and 9th grades with 7 students
- Miss Edith Purdy, 6th and 7th grades with 27 pupils
- Miss Emily Montgomery, 4th and 5th grades with 41 students
- Miss Ursula Owen, 2nd and 3rd grades with 50 pupils
- Miss Anna Morris, primary and 1st grades with 52 pupils

--*Palouse Republic*, November 2, 1906

Sunday School:

Rev. W.O. Forbes, Presbyterian missionary of Portland, organized the People's Sunday School, the first Sunday School in Potlatch, meeting in the new temporary school building with 130 present. The following were selected to be in charge of the program:

- Missionary, Rev. Forbes
- Superintendent, L.V. Comer
- Secretary, George e. Dyer
- Treasurer, L.A. LaPoint

- Superintendent of Primary Department, A.W. Laird
- Superintendent of Cradle Roll, Mrs. Davidson

They approved the purchase of a chapel organ.

Potlatch now has a population of 1,200.

--*Palouse Republic*, November 2, 1906



The fall term of the schools at Potlatch will open September 2nd, a full corps of teachers having been elected at the last meeting of the Trustees of the Potlatch District. The teachers, who will have charge this year include: Superintendent T.C. Reese, and Mrs. Emily Montgomery, Ursula Owen, and Anna Morris, who taught in the schools last year. Superintendent Reese will have charge of the first two years of high school work; Mrs. Montgomery will have the 5th and 6th grade work; Miss Owen, the 3rd and 4th, and Miss Morris the 2nd grade pupils. The new teachers who will be employed are Miss Blanche M. Ottis, and Miss Grace Wescopp. Miss Ottis will be the 7th and 8th grade teacher, and Miss Wescopp will have the primary class. Miss Ottis was graduated from the Mankato Normal School in Minnesota and granted a Life certificate. Miss Wescopp is a graduate of the advanced course at the Oshkosh Normal School, Eau Claire, Wisconsin, and had also been granted a Lifetime certificate.

The new schoolhouse is ready for occupancy, and the teacher will have the pleasure of teaching in one of the most modern equipped school buildings in North Idaho. The plans were drawn by a Spokane architect who gave full consideration to light and ventilation, and the building

will be heated in winter by steam from the sawmill plant, thus ensuring a uniformity of temperature that is more and more recognized as an essential of health, and consequent good work in school.

—*Palouse Republic*, August 9, 1907.

The Catholic Church at Potlatch, which has been under construction this summer, is nearing completion, and is expected now will be dedicated Sunday, September 8th. The church is being building by the Potlatch Lumber Company. The Catholics have a large congregation in town.

--*Palouse Republic*, August 9, 1907

The public Reading room at Potlatch was opened Monday night of this week in the basement of the Union Church. The institution is under the auspices of the Christian Endeavor and will be open each night. The current issues of the best magazine, together with daily and weekly newspapers, and a good assortment of books, are found on the tables. There are 400 men on the payroll in Potlatch at the present time, many of whom are single men. To these, especially, the Reading Room is a great boon. — *Palouse Republic*, February 21, 1908.

The town of Potlatch cannot in itself be a school district because the law requires six directors in each independent district who are freeholders in their own right. Potlatch cannot qualify because the town is owned by the lumber company and there are not six stockholders living in Potlatch.

—*Palouse Republic*, August 26, 1910.

Potlatch Classes Hold Banquet

Pleasant affair given by young people in lumber town. The young ladies and young men's Bible class in the union Church of Potlatch held their second annual banquet on Friday evening. An elaborate seven course meal was daintily served by eight junior members of the Sunday School. About 70 young people of the town were present and had a most profitable and enjoyable evening. R. A. Bach acted as toastmaster, and the manner in which he disposed of his share of the program was most creditable.

"Who's Who and Why" by L.P. Nelson, cashier of the Potlatch State Bank, was exceedingly humorous, and brought forth much laughter. Mr. Hall's toast to "Our Co-Workers" was cleverly given in rhyme, and the ladies, especially those of the young ladies class, were highly complimented. Miss Deyue responded to this in a most pleasant manner. She expressed the young ladies appreciation of being coworkers with the young men. Mr. Lukins, superintendent of the Potlatch schools, drew attention to his subject, "The Sameness of Things" by cleverly using the following parody:

"Breathes there a man with soul so dead, who never to himself hath said, as he pulled his carcass out of bed, I do this every morning."

Miss Reedar toasted "Pine Knots" with much dry humor. She characterized the "pin knot" as the best type of American citizen.

Rev. Scafe toasted "Reno" and rightfully condemned the divorce court. He implored the young people to take such initial steps as would guard against the necessity of a future appeal to Reno.

"Our Mothers, Wives & Sweethearts" were carefully toasted by Mr. Snowden, who compared the ladies with angels, thus winning for himself many feminine friends.

"Our Classes and Their Textbooks" were toasted by Miss Hall, the very successful and much appreciated teacher of the young men's class. She set forth the workings of the class and made an earnest solicitation for new members.

A.W. Laird, assistant general manager of the Potlatch Lumber company, responded to "Opportunities" which he characterized as a result of effort. He emphasized the many qualities essential to a young man's success.

Miss Harrison contributed a couple of readings, and Dr. Thompson and Max Treacy furnished music, which added greatly to the enjoyment of the evening.

Rapid Growth of the Potlatch School

Sunday school enrollment beats public school. Company is to build modern edifice. The Union Church of Potlatch has according to Sunday school authorities in Spokane and elsewhere, a unique record. The enrollment in Sunday School of the union church is greater than the public school enrollment in the town. Potlatch has a population of about 1,600, many single men and transients. The school enrollment last year was 361, while the enrollment in the Sunday school of the Union church was 436.

The Potlatch Lumber Company is now drawing plans for a new church building for the Union Church, it having outgrown its present quarters. The new building will have a seating capacity of about 800.

The Rev. C.R. Scafe, a graduate from Moody Institute in Chicago, has been pastor of the union Church since it started four years ago. The membership is made up of members from 17 denominations, working together harmoniously.

Only once in four years has it been necessary to bring the matter of church finances before the congregation, the money for the maintenance of the church being pledged willingly each year.

In addition to the local expenses a young man from the congregation, Alvin B. Carr, is being educated at Moody Institute and the Christian Endeavor society has just completed furnishing a room at the Institute.

The new church building will be erected at the expense of the Potlatch Lumber Company. There are but two church buildings in town, the Union Church and the Catholic. The Rev. Scafe owns a small printing plant, and it is probable that no other church in the Inland Empire advertises its services and its work among its own people as does the Church in the lumber town.

Fred Gleave, auditor for the Potlatch Lumber company, was in Palouse Thursday to make a drawing of the interior of the new Christian Church at this place, to be used in making the plans for the Potlatch Church.



Union Church, Potlatch, Idaho.

--Palouse Republic, May 26, 1911

Potlatch has a population of 1491. The exact population of the town of Potlatch, and of the voting precinct in which it is situation has just been ascertained. The town is not incorporated and as a consequence did not have its population reported separately from the voting precinct. The precinct, which includes four square miles to the north of Potlatch, has a population of 2,055, of which 1,491 are residents of the town of Potlatch. The town of Potlatch is supported entirely from the

operations of the Potlatch Lumber Company, the head of practically every family in the town holding a position of some kind in some department of the company's work.

--*Palouse Republic*, June 2, 1911

A Potlatch dispatch of May 5 says: Miss Grace M. Shepherd state superintendent of public instruction in Idaho, and Miss Ethel E. Redfield, country superintendent of Nez Perce county, visited the Potlatch Schools and mill yesterday. They were pleased with the condition of the schools, especially so with the practical work done in the home economics and manual training departments. Miss Shepherd was delighted with the department of printing. She said Potlatch has the only school, to her knowledge, in Idaho, with such a department. The visitors saw the school gardens and found 77 children taking part.

President Brannon of the university of Idaho and Dean Shattuck of the college of letters and sciences spent Saturday in Potlatch looking over the school premises, buildings, equipment and the sawmill. They were guests of A.W. Laird, general manager of the Potlatch Lumber Company. Men and teams are busy grading the school grounds and putting them into lawns.

--*Palouse Republic*, April 8, 1914

Brief History of the Potlatch Schools

This week marks the close of a successful term of the Potlatch School system. A class of eight are graduating. A special edition of the Union Church News, published at Potlatch, gives an interesting history of the school in the lumber town, since the town was started eight years ago.

The members of the graduating class are as follows: Goldie Fansler, Joe Terteling, Signa Anderson, Marjorie Balch, Alice Broton, Alice Carr, Coretta Cunningham, and Marguerite Daniels. Several members of the class were former students in the Palouse Schools.

From the time of founding Potlatch nine years ago until now the supplying of good schools to the children of the employees has been one of the first considerations of the Lumber Company. During the first year of the town's history, however, it was impossible to have a school in Potlatch. This was due to the fact that no school district had been organized. With the organization of school district No. 94, which includes only Potlatch, school was opened for the first time in November 1906.

During the first two terms of school Mr. T.C. Reese, now a teacher in Idaho County was principal. A difficult problem confronted him. The first year's school was held in a temporary school building, now used as a boarding house. He had the task of grading a school of 150 or more pupils, none of whom came from the same school. Nevertheless, during the first two years, some very good work

was done. Two years of high school work was carried on, although not many students were enrolled for that work.

The third year of the school's history, Mr. J.D. Huston, now principal at Cottonwood, Idaho, was in charge of the work. There were seven teachers during that year and among them were several who were very strong. Miss E. Montgomery did excellent work, as did also Miss Edna Vince, who is now Mrs. J. E. Garner of Potlatch. Three years of high school work was attempted during this year.

Since the beginning of the fourth year, September 1909, the schools have been in charge of F.E. Lukens. There are four other teachers who have been in the schools since that time. They are Miss Etta M. Kinsman, Miss Viola McCator, Miss Lillie Vassar, and Mrs. H.E. Hunt (nee Miss Bertha Reeder). During the fourth year the amount of high school work was reduced to two years and an effort was made to make the quality of the work better. The grading of the school had to be changed from a half year promotion basis to a yearly basis. This change was not completed the first year, but was done in two years.

The growth of the high school has been steady, although not rapid. During 1910-11 the third year was added and during the following year the fourth. In 1912 the first class, consisting of two members Ruben Goodman and Loyd Terteling, was graduated from a four year course. In the spring of 1912 the high school was placed in the University accredited list. In 1913 Fretha Swedland was graduated and his year a class of eight will finish the course.

Several teachers have stood out prominently during the development of the high school. Miss Margaret G. Walker and Mr. A.P. Beckner were both very strong and very popular with the students and it was largely due to them that the high school work was put on a sound basis during two trying years. Miss Mattie Lou Boardman, also is remembered for her good work in English.

With the addition of the department of Home Economics and Manual Training two years ago the Potlatch schools were placed abreast with the most progressive of schools. They started on a new era in which the work is to benefit the students in ways so that boys and girls may be fitted to do something when they finish their school work.

Miss Sandborn's work in the Home Economics department is worthy of strong commendation. An account of the history of the Potlatch schools would not be complete without mentioning the liberal spirit which the Lumber Company, and Mr. A.W. Laird, the General Manager, having shown in providing for the schools. Mr. Laird, as President of the School Board has continually had it as his aim to make the school better so that Potlatch might be a better place to live.

--Palouse Republic, June 5, 1914

The public schools opened this week, the enrollment larger than heretofore, there being about 300 enrolled. The following are the teachers: Superintendent, F.E. Lukens; high school principal, Belle Wynne; English and History, Alice M. Lancaster; domestic science, Ruth Keller; manual training, Ernest McFee; Eighth grade, Velma Brown; Sixth grade, Helen Mahler; Fifth grade, Nellie Weaver; fourth grade, Nellie Keane; third grade, Viola McCator; second grade, Lillie Vassar; first grade, Ruth

Hall. Miss Mahler is the teacher for music in all grades, in addition to the sixth grade and Suma Hall for seventh grade.

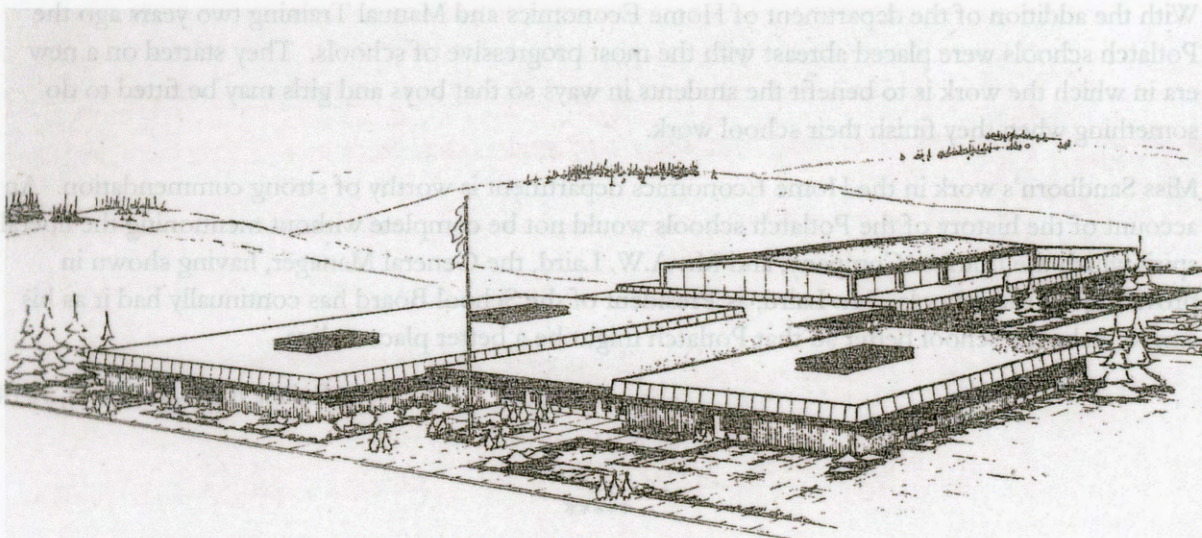
—*Palouse Republic*, September 18, 1914.

Potlatch School District No. 285

According to the Potlatch School District minutes of June 10, 1948: “The first regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Potlatch School District No. 285 was held on June 10, 1948 at 7:15 p.m. at the Potlatch High School, with all trustees present, namely: F.L. Stapleton, H.H. Hanson, Clarence Brabb, York Cochrane and Clifford Lundt.” The first Superintendent of the Potlatch Consolidated Schools was Bernard Hopwood and the first Clerk of the Board was H.H. Hanson with Walter Mallory as Assistant Clerk. The Board hired a full-time secretary for the Superintendent.

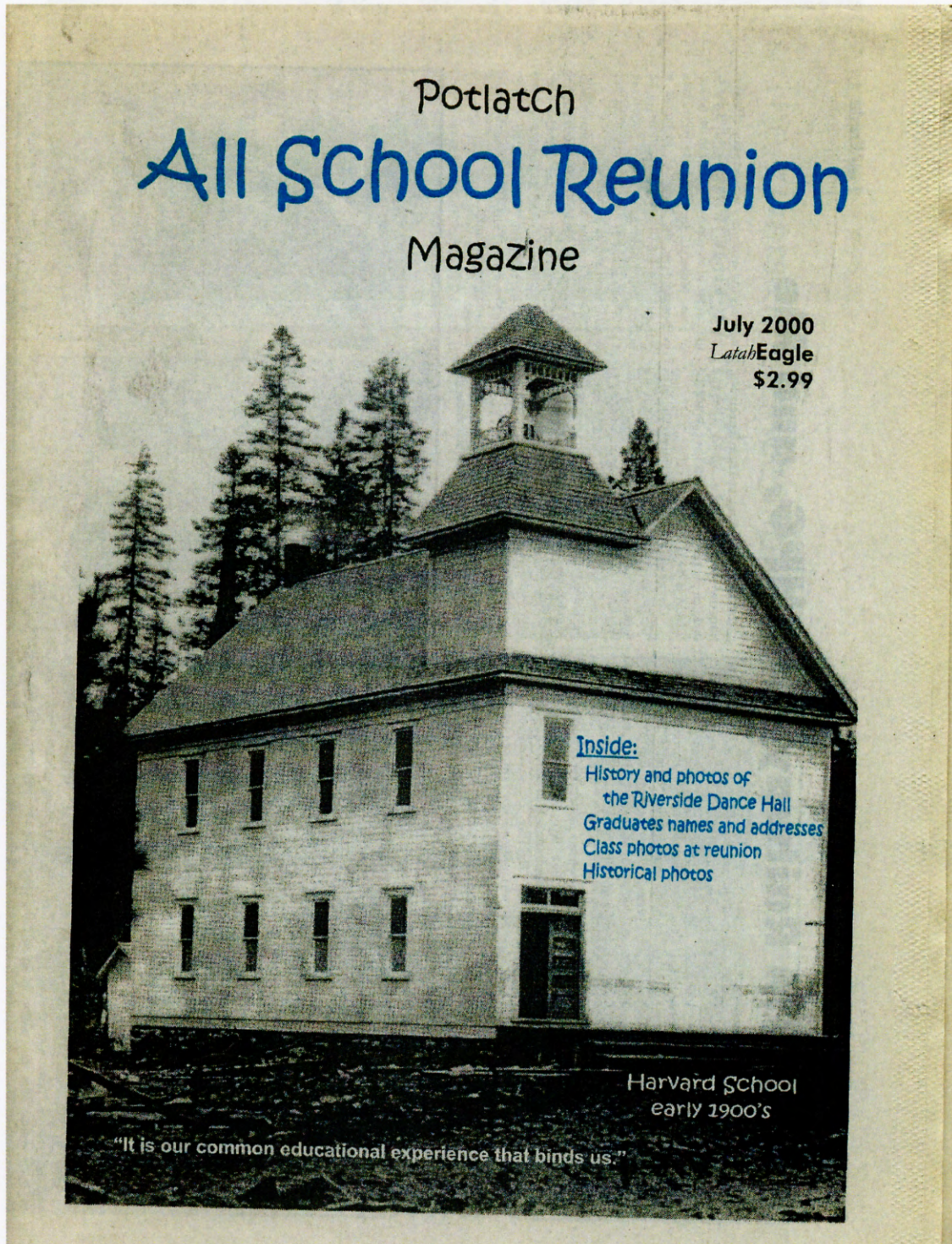
Most of the smaller schools in Potlatch School District consolidated at that time, September 1948. Princeton, Harvard and Idaho students going to Garfield and Palouse schools consolidated at later dates. The Princeton-Harvard students consolidated with Potlatch in 1949. Those Idaho students attending Garfield schools entered Potlatch schools in September 1950, except those north of Woody Grade. Idaho students attending Palouse schools were the last ones to consolidate with Potlatch, in 1955. Woodfell and Hatter Creek, probably closed earlier than 1948.

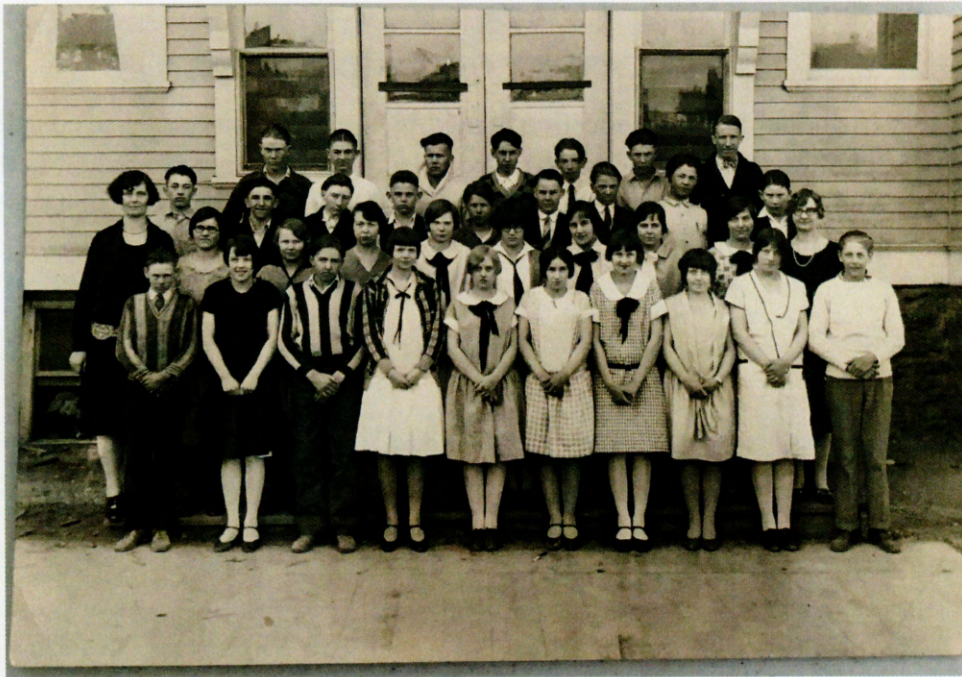
After consolidation in 1948, the main expense was to purchase buses for the various routes and in 1954, construction of a new elementary school.



A CABINET OF CURIOSITIES

The Potlatch Historical Society collection is built by the generosity of those contributing memorabilia, photographs, printed material, recollections, etc. This addendum to the Occasional Paper Number 3 contains examples from the collection which represent the type of material one will find.





SPARK
PLUG

Gale
O. F. J.
28

THE LION CUB

Vol. 1
No. 1 POTLATCH HIGH SCHOOL November Issue
1924

A SUCCESSFUL FOOTBALL SEASON

The success of our football season is due to the untiring efforts of our coach Charles Johnson, a former Potlatch High School star. He has worked hard for us, even though he received no recompense for his service. His efforts prove without a doubt his loyalty to his school. He outwitted the other teams by his strategy, making their heavy weight of no avail.

POTLATCH WINS OVER GENESEE 19-6

The game between Genesee and Potlatch was called at 2:30 P.M. Nov. 1st. Genesee won the toss and chose to receive. Egan kicked to the 5 yard line and Genesee returned it 10 yards. Genesee started a march down the field by plunging the line; as end runs proved to be useless. Potlatch tackle, Rohn, blocked a kick and Potlatch fell on the ball near her own 20 yard line. The Genesee boys were surprised by the work of Potlatch and her silent signals on the first three plays. McGreal skirted right end for 25 yards, followed by Larkin for 20 yards, and a pass, McGreal to Petrogallo, for 30 yards to Genesee's 4 yard line. Cole then made a line buck which re-

(Continued on page 5)

NEWS FROM EX-TEACHERS

Mr. and Mrs. Fox, are residing in Pocatello. Mrs. Fox was formerly Miss Sweeley. Mr. Fox is at the head of the athletic department of the Pocatello High School. Word has been received from him that his team has been thus far undefeated. We wish him further success in his teaching at Pocatello.

Miss Schillig is now attending the University of Iowa, where she will receive her Master Degree in Mathematics and Science.

Miss Bowers is attending the Michigan Agricultural College at Lansing.

Miss Bauer is teaching in the Leavenworth High School.

Miss Elsta Green is teaching English in Gooding College.

HIGH SCHOOL PARTY

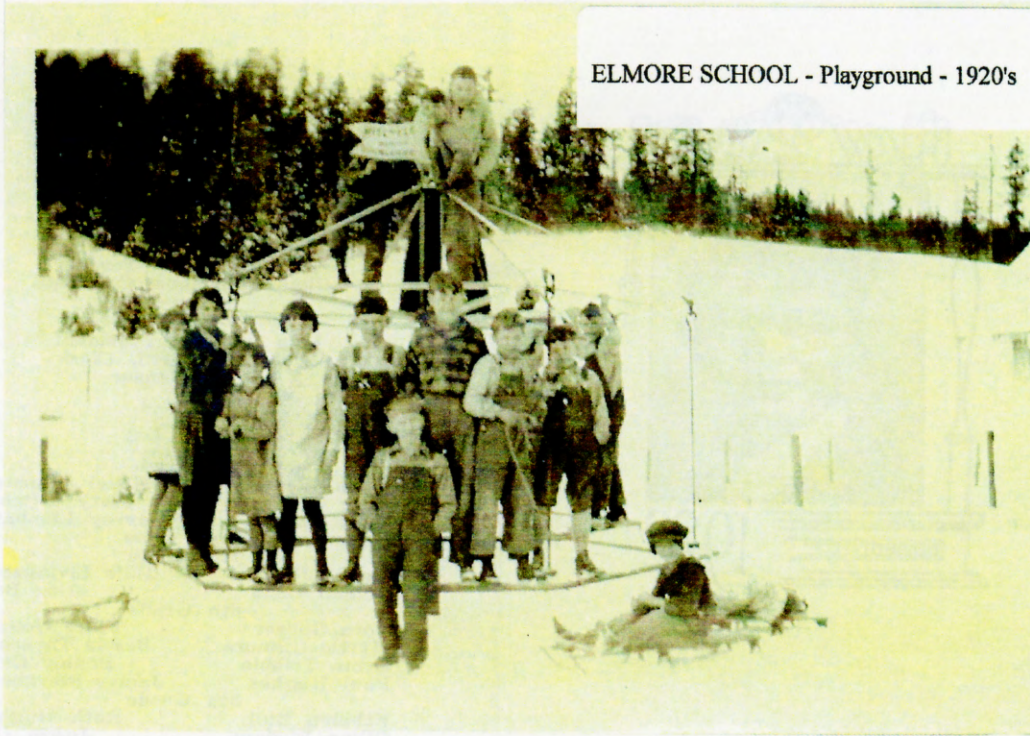
The Potlatch High School had its first party October the eleventh. It was given in honor of the Palouse football players and members of the Palouse High School who attended the game. A good representation of the Potlatch High School was there to entertain.

After an embarrassing moment, in which the students of both schools

(Continued on page 5)

SENIORS ENTERTAIN JUNIORS

ELMORE SCHOOL - Playground - 1920's



FREESE SCHOOL

DISTRICT NO. 29.

Township 42, Latah County, Idaho.

Term 1904.

COMPLIMENTS OF
SUSIE VOGEL,
TEACHER.

DIRECTORS

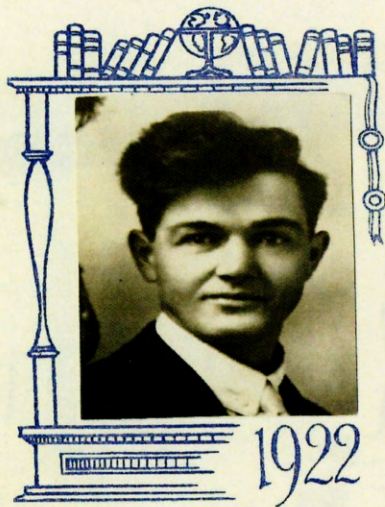
J. A. Starnier

D. E. Marsh

Pupils.

Jesse Marsh	Charley Woehr
Angie Marsh	Elsie Woehr
Lottie Marsh	Oscar Burden
Freddie Marsh	Owen Nelson
Anna Freeze	Orville Nelson
Grace Freeze	Rosie Nelson
Walter Freeze	Ula Nelson
Pearl Paige	Vernie Nelson
Myrtle Paige	Pearl Caldwell
Fronia Paige	Ruby Smith
Ernest Bircher	Alice Voss
Jesse Bircher	Elsie Voss
Frank Bircher	Pearl Wiltse

SEIBERT PRINTING CO., CANAL DOVER, OHIO.



PRINCETON SCHOOL.
Latah County, Idaho
District No. 40

T. J. Simmons, Teacher
Lillian Skattaboe, Co. Supt.

SCHOOL OFFICERS
Sam Lackner, President
Ulrich Lienhard, Clerk
O. M. Gonser

PUPILS

8th Grade
Edith Weaver Hazel Johnston
Villa Utt Mary Gilmore
Ruby Shook Harvey Lienhard
Loris Cone
7th Grade
Mary Lienhard Ellis Livingston
Delmer Cone Alex Bull
6th Grade
Dora Gonser Flora Gonser
Myrtle Gilmore Bessie Thrasher
Erma Tribble Bennie Cone
Paul Hughes James Stevenson
5th Grade
Ethelyn Bull Ruth Hughes
Olline Pledger Jessie Utt
Dottie Weaver Edith Tribble
Edward Lazelle Johnnie Pledger
Lee Cook Elmor Thayer
Burton Cone Virgil Crumley
Henry Lienhard Charles Rogers
Robert Stevenson



THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT OF
THE POTLATCH SCHOOLS
PRESENTS



SPRING CONCERT

BAND
GLEE CLUBS
ENSEMBLES

Juanita Anderson
Director

GYMNASIUM

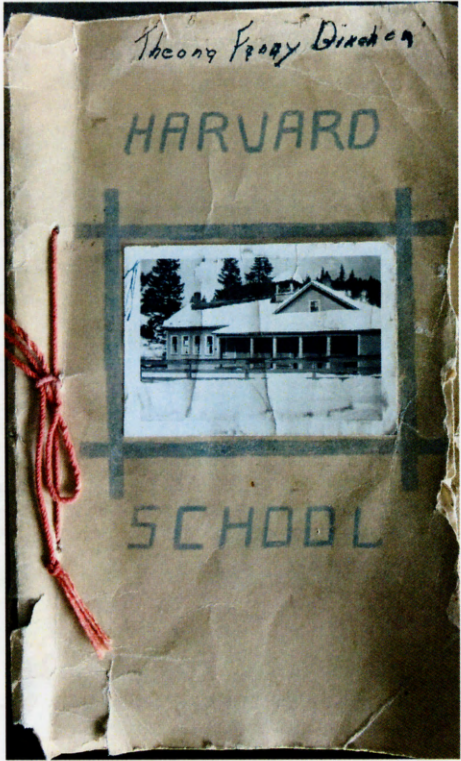
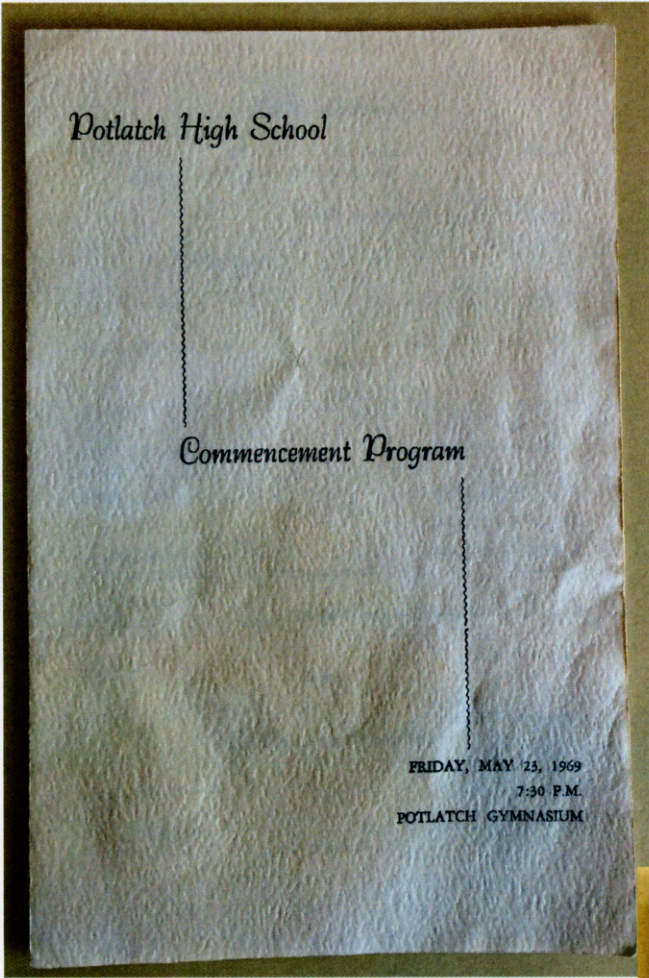
APRIL 13, 1943
3:00 p.m.

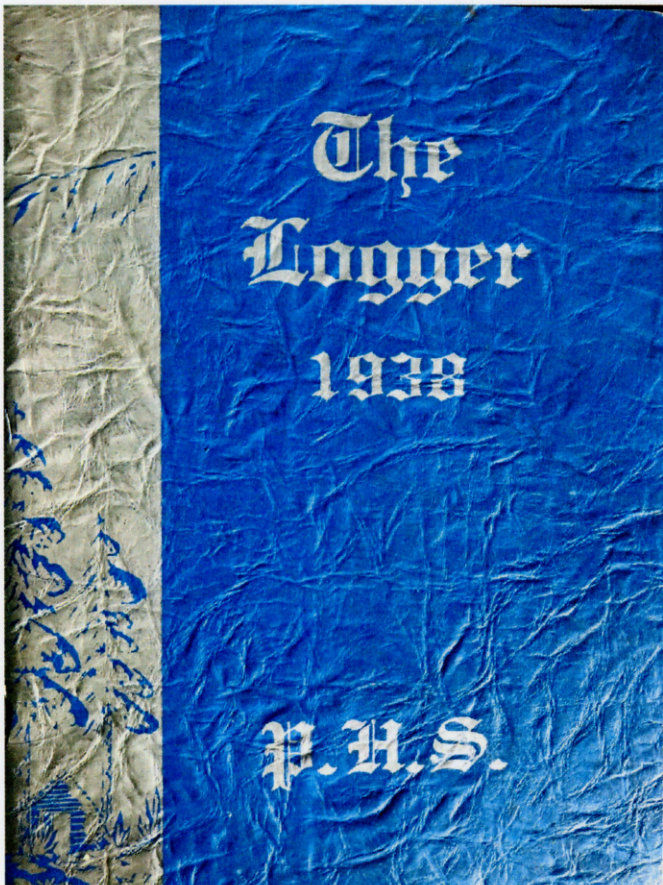


NAMES OF PUPILS

Julia Vogel	Lela Crumley
Ben Vogel	Orvil Crumley
Susie Vogel	Lula Crumley
Rosa Vassar	Rosa Browning
Luther Vassar	Lula Browning
George Vassar	Traves Browning
Ethel Beaman	Willie Browning
Lillie Beaman	Johnnie Browning
Charlie Beaman	Ruby Burden
Iva West	Gertie Burden
Riley West	Nellie Burden
Anty West	Ernest Burden
Cora Russell	Lela Layton
Alva Russell	Maud Layton
Iva Hopkins	Floyd Layton
Aubrey Hopkins	







**1981
A-3 DISTRICT II
GIRLS' BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT**

75¢



**January 27-28-29-31
February 2-4 & 5 (if necessary)**

**LCSC GYMNASIUM
Lewiston, Idaho**

The poster for the 1981 A-3 District II Girls' Basketball Tournament features a central illustration of two girls in basketball uniforms. One girl is jumping to shoot the ball into the hoop, while the other is jumping to block. The background is a dark, stylized shape. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

