



La Revue de Salem

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"Dans l'bon vieux temps ça s'passait d'même . . ."



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Journal of the
Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.
Salem, Massachusetts

Cover Photo: *L'Académie St-Joseph*, 1928. (Article begins on page 13.)

News

The Soucy Insurance Agency of Salem celebrated the centennial of its founding in 2007. Articles appeared in the Salem Gazette (26 October 2007) and in the Salem News (6 November 2007). The company has produced a beautifully illustrated brochure which notes that it also celebrates "a proud French Canadian-American heritage." *Félicitations!*

Salem Police Chief Robert St-Pierre and his wife visited Paris in late 2007. They visited George Whitman at his bookstore on the Left Bank. Whitman, now in his 90s, left Salem in 1946 and settled in Paris. Five years later, he opened the now famous Shakespeare & Co.

Our late member Victor Lord (#74) has bequeathed his personal computer to the Franco-American Institute of Salem. Vic will long be remembered for his valuable advice, and for his generous gift to our society. *Merci, Vic!*

A fund-raiser for St-Joseph's School, "The Polar Express", was hugely successful! The November 25th event drew 2,400 people, and was estimated to have raised some \$35,000 for Salem's only Catholic school. *Un grand succès!*

Our member Dr Roger Lacerte (#14) was featured in The Hippo, a Manchester, NH newspaper, on 29 November 2007. He has been proprietor of the popular French bookstore, *La Librairie Populaire*, for 30 years, and was named

Lowell's "Franco-American of the Year" in 2007. *Bravo!*

At the annual Christmas Party of the *Club Richelieu Salem*, president Orille L'Heureux (#36) presented donations to St-Joseph's Food Pantry and to the Plummer Home for Boys. *Deux beaux cadeaux!* (For information on joining, contact Club Richelieu Salem, Inc., P.O.Box 455, Salem, MA 01970-0455)

Phyllis LeBlanc, president of Harbor Sweets, was interviewed for an article in the Salem News on 17 December 2007. The Salem candy shop expected to produce more than 100,000 boxes of chocolates in December alone! *C'est si bon!*

Salem's Ray Marchand was featured in the Salem News on 21 December 2007. He has been Santa Claus for hospitals and charitable organizations for over 30 years, giving joy to children of all ages. *Bon travail, Papa Noël!*

On New Year's Eve, the city of Québec opened a year-long celebration commemorating the 400th anniversary of its founding by Samuel de Champlain on 3 July 1608. *Bonne fête!*

Thanks to the overwhelming generosity of our members, we have completed the purchase of the seven available reels of microfilm of *Le Courrier de Salem*, containing the years 1908 through 1921. An index of articles and a repertoire of births, marriages and deaths is presently being compiled. *Tant d'histoire nous attend!* (continued on page 8)

Editorial

Nos Traditions

A truly spectacular celebration is underway in Québec where the city is observing the 400th anniversary of its founding! During the coming summer months, a number of Franco-American centres in New England will host their own annual festivals. And throughout the year, various groups will organize *soirées* for their members and friends. What brings these people together is a common interest in a rich heritage of traditions and culture. What would these celebrations be without our traditional foods and drink, music and dancing, or storytelling and reminiscing? These festivities make our traditions come alive!

John Bertram Peterson (1871-1944), a native of Salem, Massachusetts, became bishop of Manchester, New Hampshire in 1932. There, some seventy-five years ago, he addressed a group of Franco-Americans with the following words:

Si vous ne donnez pas le trésor de vos traditions et de vos coutumes à votre pays vous ne lui donnez rien. ("If you do not give the treasure of your traditions and your customs to your country, you give it nothing.")

Lévesque, Albert. *Les Franco-Américains peints par eux mêmes*. Montréal: Ed. Albert Lévesque, 1936, p. 99.

On another occasion, the Salem-born bishop exhorted the Franco-Americans with greater insistence:

Le précieux patrimoine de vos ancêtres, gardez-le en entier et jalousement... ("Preserve the precious heritage of your ancestors tenaciously and in its entirety")

Rumilly, Robert. *Histoire des Franco-Américains*. Montréal: Robert Rumilly, 1958, p. 490.

Our traditions and customs are indeed treasures to be celebrated! Each ethnic group brings its own unique culture to its adopted country and, with pride and determination, families and communities strive to hold together by maintaining their age-old traditions. Unfortunately, this rich heritage becomes more and more obscure with each successive generation.

Perhaps it is time that we revisit these customs which made our ancestors who they were – and who we are! That is why we begin, in this issue, a series on our French-Canadian traditions. They are colorful elements of our past which are all too often omitted from official histories.

Traditions

No. 1: "Le temps des sucres"

D.-Michel Michaud, #1

Maple sugaring is one of the oldest traditions of Québec. Native peoples taught the early Québec settlers how to extract a sweet, clear liquid from maple trees. These settlers soon developed a method of boiling the liquid and reducing it to a concentrated syrup. Mixed with ginger and alcohol, it was first used as a cough remedy as early as 1685. A maple cordial called *ponce* was reportedly enjoyed as early as 1691. And by 1724, the earliest recipes using maple syrup in cooking are found.

Le temps des sucres (the sugar season) is one of Québec's first signs of spring. It arrives when night temperatures continue to fall below freezing, but sunny days bring the melting of snow and the flowing of sap. This period generally falls between the end of March and the end of April, thus the adage: "*Pâques commence les sucres ou bien les finit*" – "Easter (22 March – 25 April) begins or ends the sugar season". It is a transitional time between the darkness of winter and the brightness of spring. Nature comes alive and yields its first harvest.

Because the *sucrerie* (maple grove) is often located at some distance from the village center, maple producers often remain at the *cabane à sucre* (sugar-house) for the entire month's time. If they do not own a grove, they are often allowed the use of one in exchange for a percentage of the season's yield.

Workers don their *raquettes* (snowshoes) and begin their work. Paths are cleared and are given names, much like street names. Trees are tapped and buckets hung. A horsedrawn *traîneau* (sled) carries a 25-gallon barrel known as *le quart* through the pathways. Workers empty the contents of the buckets into the large barrel which is then transported to the *cabane à sucre*.

Early in the season, maple trees produce a light, sweet liquid known as *l'eau d'érable* (maple water); toward the end of the season, the liquid is thicker and darker, and is known as *l'eau de sève* (sap water). Even this late-season liquid



is not wasted: boiled to half, filtered, and fermented for one month, the result is a sweet vinegar used in marinating onions, beets, and other vegetables.

Once at the *cabane*, the liquid is transferred from the barrel into a kettle which is positioned over a fire. Boiling and stirring continues for about four hours during which time evaporation occurs and the natural sugars begin to caramelize. Thirty to forty gallons of liquid are reduced to one gallon of maple syrup. When finished, the syrup is cooled, filtered, and bottled. The kettle is filled with snow which is brought to a boil for sterilization, and the process is begun again. Sometimes the fire is kept alive day and night. A productive year is remembered as *l'année de sucre*.

Maple sugar, or *le sucre du pays*, is made by boiling the syrup longer, until sugar crystals appear. The kettle is then taken from the fire, and stirring continues. The thick mass is poured into wooden molds and allowed to set. Later, these sugar "bricks" are unmolded and wrapped in cloth. When needed, the sugar is grated. A traditional bread-spread known as *beurre de sucre* (sugar butter) is made by mixing finely grated maple sugar with softened butter. Woodcarvers frequently created fanciful molds during the long winter months. These took the form of a maple leaf, hearts, houses, churches, sugar cabins, people or animals.

Everyone looks forward to the traditional *parties de sucre* (sugar parties). Usually held on Sundays, the first is reserved for the family, while subsequent parties are organized for friends, neighbors, or the entire parish. These parties frequently include sleighrides, walks in the woods, winter games, storytelling, singing, and much food and drink. The day is called *la fête des sucres* (the sugar holiday).

Food is never lacking. *Crêpes* or *pépères* are cooked at home and are brought to the *cabane* where they are dropped into boiling syrup. Eggs are also poached in syrup, and *pain perdu* (French toast) is served with syrup. Traditional meals include *la soupe aux pois* (pea soup) made with smoked ham, bread, a slice of *tourtière* (pork pie), and *les fèves au lard* (baked beans) – made with maple syrup instead of molasses, of course. *La viande boucanée de cabane* is a special treat. Meats are hung from the ceiling of the cabin for the entire month. As the syrup boils and evaporates, sugar deposits form on the ceiling of the *cabane*, and the meats absorb the smokey sweetness of the maple vapor. Other meat dishes include salt pork which is boiled in syrup, or baked ham served with syrup. Potatoes and vegetables complete the meal.

For dessert, maple syrup is used in puddings, on doughnuts, or on ice cream. A *trempelette* is made by soaking bread in cream and sprinkling it with maple sugar. Of course, there is also the *tarte au sucre* (sugar pie).

Children enjoy making their own delicacy, *la tire d'érable* (maple taffy). Syrup is boiled until thick, and then is spread over snow to congeal. A flat wooden spoon called a *palette*

is then used to pick up the candy. Women enjoy *thé de sève* (maple tea), while men sometimes prefer theirs mixed with gin. Other beverages include *bagosse* (a wheat and grape reduction, distilled and mixed with thin syrup), or *caribou* (two parts red wine to one part whiskey, mixed with thin syrup).

Maple products are used in Québec homes throughout the year. In the past, some were traded for goods or services, while others were brought to the *Magasin Général* for sale. (In 1900, maple sugar sold for about .08¢ per pound, while maple syrup sold for about .50¢ per gallon.) Some of the finely molded maple sugar was reserved for gift-giving to friends and neighbors (*le morceau du voisin*)

Today there are songs, poems, and legends about maple sugaring in Québec, and the maple leaf is the National symbol which appears on Canada's flag. Happily, small *sucreries* still exist where traditional methods can be seen and a *partie de sucre* can be enjoyed.



Pascal Guichard and Louis Carrier came to Salem from Québec shortly after 1900. Together, they promoted many *parties de sucre* in Salem during the early years of the twentieth century. While a resident of Salem, Guichard purchased a farm in nearby Danvers on 4 September 1909. Carrier, a Salem barber, arranged to develop the maple grove on Guichard's farm, and organized excursions from Salem to the *sucrerie*.

M. Louis Carrier et quelques uns de ses amis sont allés à Danvers, mardi, pour y faire "les sucres". Ils ont rapporté des échantillons d'eau d'érable, qu'ils ont fait goûter à leurs amis. Cette eau était excellente. (Courrier de Salem, 16 mars 1911)

Another excursion was held on 23 April 1911 when eighty people attended. The festivities were held in the Guichard home, since Carrier's *cabane à sucre* would not be built until the following year. The *parties de sucre* generally lasted from noon to 6PM, and among the foods served were eggs, omelettes, crêpes, and doughnuts cooked in maple syrup. At the gathering on Sunday 10 March 1912 it was said that "*Le plaisir fut immense*".

Our parishes also organized their own *parties de sucre* locally, with proceeds benefiting the church. Père J.-A. Peltier, pastor of Ste-Anne's, announced a *Grand Partie de Sucre* to be held at Loring Villa on Sunday 22 May 1910. There were athletic competitions, prizes, amusements, and, of course, *la tire*. *Le Courrier de Salem* of 12 May 1910 noted that "*Elle rapellera le charme et le pittoresque des parties de sucre au Canada.*" Another was held in the basement of Ste-Anne's Church on Sunday 4 April 1915. For this "*partie de sucre et de tire*", the hall was transformed into a *cabane*, and entertainment included a comic play, dramatic recitations, and singing accompanied by violins. The event was held at 3PM for children, and again at 7PM for adults.

St-Joseph's hosted a large *partie de sucre* in the Salle Veuillot on Sunday 27 April 1913 at which over 400 people attended. As many as 30 people came from as far as Ipswich. In addition to the music and recitations, an auction was held, maple sugar was distributed, and prizes were given to the ten lucky people who found winning numbers hidden in the papers which wrapped their sugar pieces. Napoléon Lévesque was Master of Ceremonies for the event.

Despite the fire which ravaged the city in 1914, St-Joseph's was able to organize its largest *partie de sucre* yet on Sunday 28 May 1916. The event was sponsored by *les Dames de la Ste-Famille* as a benefit for the school, and was held in the parish hall at 3PM for children and at 7:30PM for adults. One committee member alone sold 223 tickets for the event! Père Binette and Representative Pepin, both of Salem, addressed the audience. The play "*Quatre navets*" was performed, "*Le concert du rossignol*" was sung by a 20-voice chorus, recitations were given, and singing was accompanied by violins and piano. Maple sugar was distributed to all ("*du vrai venant de St-Pie de Bagot*"), and cake and ice cream was served. Tickets were .10¢ for children, and .35¢ for adults. *Le Courrier de Salem* of 25 May 1916 had invited all to attend with the following clever verse:

*Sucrez-vous le bec,
Mes enfants, avec
Du sucre d'érable:
C'est si agréable!*

Older residents of Salem fondly recalled the tradition of maple sugaring in Québec, as is evidenced by the following notice from *Le Courrier de Salem* of 12 April 1917:

De la neige lundi matin dernier: "C'est du sucre", s'écriaient les anciens au souvenir de la joie éprouvée autrefois, au printemps, lorsque des neiges tardives venaient augmenter la récolte du sucre d'érable.

Many of Salem's French-Canadian shopkeepers advertised pure maple syrup, often claiming to have the best in town. The advertisement by Elzéar Tremblay from *Le Courrier de Salem* of 21 July 1921 is one example of the fierce competition which existed among retailers.

—TRES SPECIAL—

SIROP D'ERABLE

Garanti Pur à 75¢ Qt.

Je suis seul en ville à tenir cette qualité.

J'ai aussi en magasin tout ce qu'une famille peut désirer en fait de provisions, à des prix modérés.

Donnez votre commande et nous nous empresserons de la livrer.

Venez en foule au magasin sanitaire.

Coin des rues Palmer et Harrison

ELZEAR TREMBLAY

Propriétaire

As recently as fifty years ago, on 27 March 1958, the Salem Evening News acknowledged that about 75 percent of Canada's maple products come from the Magog area of Québec, and that "their trees produce the finest maple products in the world." But the days of Salem's *parties de sucre* had already become just a memory of "*le bon vieux temps*".

Les dictons des sucres

"Quand le temps est nuageux, c'est signe d'une grosse coulée."

"S'il gèle la nuit, les érables couleront beaucoup le lendemain."

"Tant qu'il y a de la neige au pied des arbres, les sucres durent."

"Quand l'eau d'érable coule très sucrée, c'est signe d'un petit printemps."

"Quand les érables coulent trop vite, elles ne couleront pas longtemps."

Our traditions: a heritage worth remembering!



(News - continued from page 2)

Salem's newest restaurant, Sixty2 on Wharf, was scheduled to open earlier this year. According to the Salem News of 17 January 2008, the 80 seat restaurant at Pickering Wharf will specialize in classic French cuisine.

Our member Sr Irène Martineau S.A.S.V. (#76), formerly St Irène-du-Sacré-Coeur, is celebrating her 50th anniversary this year! Sr Irène entered the convent in September of 1955, and took her first profession of vows on 25 March 1958. *Ad Multos Annos!*

Meetings of the F.A.I.S. for 2008 will be held on 4 May and on 5 October at 4:00 PM. See back page for details. *Bienvenue à tous!*

Donations received

Computer: Estate of Victor Lord (#74)

Books (11 volumes):

Nelson Dionne (#2)

Books (3 volumes):

Michel Michaud (#1)

Gift in memory of Victor Lord (#74):

Lucy Lord

Gift in memory of Theresa Corbin (#33):

Mary Levasseur (#23)

Gift: John Kobuszewski (#3)

Gift: Constance Servizio (#66)

Gift: Rev. James Gaudreau (#15)

Gift: Ronald McCulley (#67)

Gift: Paul Auger (#106)

Gift: Ronald Jalbert (#113)

Gift: J.-Armand Bergeron (#28)

Gift: Georgette-L. Kielbasa (#130)

Journal (I) of J.-Arthur Lavallée

Submitted by Collette-A. Lavallée, #4

Editor's Note: J.Arthur Lavallée, the son of J.-Placide Lavallée and Célanire Boulanger of St-Anselme, PQ, was born in Salem on 3 July 1896. While serving as a soldier in World War I (Company H, 104th Regiment), he kept three journals in which he recorded his experiences. On 13 September 1918, Lavallée gave his life on the battlefields of France. The following excerpts, translated from the original French, are taken from his first journal, dated 1916.

- June 19 Militia called out at 3.30 AM. I had to report at the Armory at 5 o'clock AM. Got a pass to go home [from] 5PM to 8PM.
- June 20 Held in Armory. I was on guard at the rear door on Brown St.
- June 21 We moved by troop train from Salem to Boston at 9.15 Marched across city of Boston...reached camp at 4PM at Framingham...it was pouring...we didn't eat that night.
- June 25 Rain all day. Father came at Framingham to see me. Was mustered into the Federal Service.
- June 27 Left camp Whitney at 6AM. Entrained at Framingham at 8.00.
- June 28 Woke up at NY.
- June 29 Went through Ohio & Indiana to Chicago.
- June 30 [Took] Chicago and Alton RR south across Missouri.
- July 1 Changed at Kansas City to Santa Fe RR...through Colorado during night. I was thinking of the old home sweet home.
- July 2 Stopped at Las Vegas [and in] New Mexico.
- July 3 Reach El Paso at 5AM. Reached camp at 8AM. We detrain to headquarters. Every man was issued 100 rounds of ammunition.
- July 6 Rained hard in the forenoon...A little delayed 4th of July celebration across the border.
- July 17 The snipers were at work but none of us got hurt.
- July 23 We were having a time at the officers mess hall when somebody said [that] the camp is [being] fired upon. All the lights went out. Co H was ready to cross the border in 4 minutes.
- July 24 Broke camp...[There are no journal entries from July 25th through September 27th.]
- Sept. 28 We were supposed to go home but we were disappointed...
- October 3 [Hiked from] Latima, Texas to Anthony, N.M. 17 miles. Four men died on the way [as did] 5 mules.
- October 4 One man died from the hike the day before. Our feet were swollen to beat the band.
- October 8 We left Las Cruces at 7AM for El Paso...50 miles to hike in only 3 days...We had beans that tasted like soap, and we had some sand storm.
- October 9 [A]nother storm. We got all wet. I was on a water detail and loading up the darn wagon, and it was cold.

- October 22 I was on guard on the outposts as a sentry, but this is our last duty on the Mexican border. Amen.
- October 27 All packed and all tents are down.
- October 29 We boarded the train for home at 5 o'clock...I did not believe that I was going home...Some soldiers told us that we would be back [here] in a month or so.
- October 31 At last we left Texas...Now we are in the state of Louisiana.
- November 1 I met a woman smoking a pipe...went to church [at] St. Patrick...met an old veteran from Mass. [and] arrived at Mobile [Alabama] this afternoon.
- November 2 [We passed] the Tennessee line at 12 o'clock [and were] allowed to go where we wanted to... We went through Louisville, Kentucky...
- November 3 We arrived at Cincinnati...We were playing cards...Moreau and I...
- November 4 This morning it was very cold and raining. We played checkers and cards... We arrived at Buffalo Junction [N.Y.] at 10 of 12.
- November 5 There is over 2 inches of snow [but] before we reach the tunnel it was raining. We arrived at Greenfield at 11 o'clock...We had an hour to ourselves to walk around town...we arrive in Boston at 15 of 8. Corp. Lacombe and I skip to Salem and we report back in train at 11 o'clock [PM].
- November 6 [W]e parade in Boston and at 10 of 2 we boarded the train of Dear Old Salem. We arrive in the Salem depot at 4 o'clock. I never saw such a happy bunch of people in the depot yet...we parade in Salem. Then [to] the Armory. We were dismissed and [sent] home. We went for a good square meal.

The journal closes with the names and addresses of fourteen relatives and friends with whom he corresponded. Arthur returned to his parents' home at 38 Salem Street where he celebrated his 21st birthday on 3 July 1917. The next journal begins on 25 July 1917 when he is again called for active duty. Excerpts from this second journal will appear in our next issue.



News of ...Years Ago

135 years ago... Salem's first French parish, St-Joseph's, is founded on 17 May 1873 with Père Georges Talbot, pastor.

100 years ago ... Members of Ste-Anne's parish, under the direction of the pastor, Père Peltier, give a performance of the seven-act play "*Le Prêtre*" at the Empire Theatre. Musical performances are given between acts, and Mayor Hurley addresses the audience. "The attendance was large [and] the performance was a success." (Salem Evening News, 2 March 1908)

95 years ago ... "A very successful and enjoyable social affair was that conducted by the Canadian Social Club last evening... About 150 couples were in attendance and the party lasted till late in the evening, so pleasant a time did all enjoy." (Salem Evening News, 9 January 1913)

90 years ago ... Omer-P. Thériault, the first Franco-American to serve as president of the Salem City Council, is honored by 265 of his friends. He was "showered with congratulations", and was presented with a gold watch. Rep. Chauncey Pepin was Master of Ceremonies for the affair, which was held in the new National Hall on Lafayette street. (Salem Evening News, 6 February 1918)

80 years ago ... The first graduation exercises of *l'Académie St-Joseph* take place on 17 June 1928 when fourteen boys and girls receive their diplomas.

80 years ago ... Raymond Perron and Wilfrid LaBelle become the first Boy Scouts in the City of Salem to attain the rank of Eagle Scout, one of the highest honors a scout can obtain. (Salem Evening News, 8 March 1928)

75 years ago ... Eustache Morin and Edouard-A. Lacroix enter the race for Mayor of Salem, both having filed papers with the City Clerk's office. Morin has served as councilor of Ward Three, and Lacroix is practicing law with offices at 104A Lafayette street. (Salem Evening News, 8 November 1933)

75 years ago ... Salem native Edward-D.-T. Pousland (1891-1965), a Doctor of the University of Paris, publishes his volume entitled "*Etude Sémantique de l'Anglicisme dans le Parler Franco-Américain de Salem*" (Carlisle, MA, 1933).

70 years ago ... George-Edward Fillion is awarded a Bachelor of Arts degree "Magna cum laude" from Harvard University, class of 1938. The Salem native, a nephew of Mgr Henri-J. Fillion, had been Valedictorian of Salem High School, class of 1934. (Salem Evening News, 7 September 1938)

60 years ago ... "Tough Tony" Ducharme returns to Salem's North Street Arena, outscoring his opponent after ten 'riotous' rounds. Ducharme, a lightweight from Montréal, exercised his "superior speed" and "lightning moves" to win the match, sending his opponent "sprawling on the canvas." (Salem Evening News, 8 December 1948)

55 years ago ... The Naumkeag Steam Cotton Mill Company, also known as the Pequot Mills, closes its doors in November of 1953.

50 years ago ... Mlle Albertine Vanasse and Atty. Andrew Foisy present the sum of \$15,000 to the president of Assumption College, Worcester, for a scholarship fund for Salem students. The Trust is from the estate of Paul-N. Chaput, founder of *Le Courrier de Salem*, who died in 1945. (Salem Evening News, 6 November 1958)

50 years ago ... Three sisters of Ste-Chrétienne travel to the Cree Indian Reservation at Fox Lake, Alberta, Canada. There, in late 1957, they assist Père Jean-Paul Vantroys, o.m.i. in founding the Catholic Mission of Ste-Thérèse-de-l'Enfant-Jésus. One of the foundresses, Sr Marie-Joséphine (Cécile LaRue) of Salem, would remain in the Canadian Northwest for 21 years.

45 years ago ... Ste-Anne's Park is dedicated on Veterans' Day, 11 November 1963. Located at the angle of Jefferson avenue and Lawrence street, the park is on the site of the former Ste-Anne's ("Derby") School.

40 years ago ... Two natives of Salem are honored in France in 1968. Père Alfred-R. Julien is named *Chevalier dans l'ordre national du mérite*, and Mère Marie-Ubalde (née Anita Beauregard) is elected Provincial of the newly-created American Province of the Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne in Metz, France.

35 years ago ... Jean-A. Lévesque becomes the first Franco-American Mayor in the history of Salem on 5 April 1973. "That name should have a pretty good ring to this city's huge Franco-American community which has sent politicians to Salem for generations but never had a mayor it could call its own." (Salem Evening News, 6 April 1973)

25 years ago ... Salem celebrates its first annual French Festival, *La Journée des Canadiens*, on 24 September 1983. Mayor Lévesque and dignitaries from Québec speak at the opening exercises. *L'équipe du Bon Vieux Temps* provides entertainment, along with singers, dancers, story tellers, and others.

*Coming in our next issue:
News and events of 100 years ago
from the pages of
Le Courrier de Salem.*

The Class of '28

Commencement exercises for the first graduating class of *l'Académie St-Joseph* (High School) took place eighty years ago. Five hundred relatives and friends of the graduates filled the parish hall on Harbor Street on Sunday evening 17 June 1928 for this historic event.

The ceremonies began at 8 PM with music by the orchestra and singing by the chorus. André Ouellette (who would later become bishop of Mont-Laurier) delivered an "impressive" Salutory Address. Bouquets were presented, and a piano solo was rendered. Students then presented a comedy play, "*Chez l'avoué*". Following the presentation of diplomas, Eva Bérubé delivered the Valedictorian Address. The ceremonies came to a close with all singing the hymn, "*À Marie*".

The pastor, Père Pierre-Hercule Grenier (1857-1946), was photographed with the first boys to graduate from *l'Académie St-Joseph* (see cover illustration). Left to right: Hermas Leblanc (1912-1996), André Ouellette (1913-2001), Père Grenier, Rosario Bossé (1912-1992), and Clarence Roy (1912-1973).

The complete graduating class of 1928 is as follows:

Beaulieu, Albertine	Lévesque, Edna
Bercier, Gertrude	Lévesque, Lillian
Bérubé, Eva	Michaud, Blanche
Bossé, Rosario	Noiseux, Délina
Bouchard, Irène	Ouellette, André
D'Amour, Elizabeth	Roy, Clarence
Leblanc, Hermas	Simard, Ethel

□ □ □

Alfred Audet's Garden Party

Alfred Audet (1875-1960), a native of St-Gervais (Bellechasse), settled in Salem in 1893. He soon gained prominence as a contractor, and was active in civic and social circles. Sixty years ago, on 5 June 1948, Audet organized a most interesting garden party for some 75 guests. The lengthy list of attendees reads much like a *Who's Who* of Salem's Franco-Americans of the day. The following article appeared in the Salem Evening News two days later:

The weather was the worst, but the hospitality was the best at the estate of Alfred Audet, [18] Loring Avenue, Saturday afternoon as he played host to a large group of Franco-Americans who are 70 years of age or older.

The occasion fell on the date when, 55 years before, Mr. Audet came to Salem from Canada. His cronies, not bothered by such a minor matter as the drenching rain, thoroughly enjoyed an afternoon in the barn with its spacious second story game room.

Joviality reigned and there were many happy minutes as the elder gentry spanned the years back to their boyhood in Canada. There were some especially young guests. Télésphore Demers is an example. He is 86 and probably the oldest guest at the party.

Mrs. Audet [Eugénie Léveillé] lent a helping hand, preparing some excellent delicacies which disappeared almost as fast as she could produce them. A special guest at the festive occasion was Rev. Arthur-O. Mercier, pastor of the St. Joseph's Church. The rafters shook as the gathering lustily cheered him and Mr. Audet.

Late in the afternoon, the sun accommodatingly burst forth and the guests enjoyed a tour of the lovely, spacious gardens. Mr. Audet, park commissioner for 10 years, had hoped that the party could have been held in the garden but the weather interfered.

Mr. Audet, outstanding as a contractor, business man and inventor, is held in high esteem in Salem, as was evidenced by the complimentary remarks heard on every hand. It was quite a task to ferret out the names of all the Franco-Americans in Salem who are over 70 years of age, and he hopes that no one was overlooked.

Among the guests were: Delphis Rioux, Maxime Poitras, Alfred Beaudet, Antoine Denis, Omer Michaud, Magloire Côté, Ulric-A. Michaud, Jules-A. Gourdeau, Joseph Thériault, Joseph Lavoie, Joseph-E. Bouffard, Pierre Denis, Edouard St-Pierre, Alfred Bouchard, Ovide Bouchard, Victor-J. Sansouci, Georges Leclerc, Victor Corbin, Alfred Deschênes, Alfred Thériault, Thomas Fraser, Alexis Lussier, Henri Girard, Arsène Bossé, André Thériault, A. Duplessis, Joseph Michaud, François Castonguay, Joseph-L. Blanchette, Elzéar Thériault, Phidime Simard, Delphis Morency, Napoléon Ouellette, John Perron, Philias-A. Peltier, Godfroi Ouellette, Paul LeBel, Arthur-B. Tardif, F.-Xavier LeBrun, Ludger Michaud, Arthur Guérin, Gédéon-F. Pelletier, David Boucher, Gélas Pelletier, Télésphore Demers, Alphonse Dubé, Wilfrid Léger, Epiphane Tremblay, Jérémie Blais, Adélar Audet, Pascal Morneau, Alfred Bérubé, Régis Corriveau, Hubert Tremblay, Amédée Ouellette, Louis-A. Ouellette, Jean-B. St-Pierre, Moïse Lavoie, Alfred Thériault, M.-Philip Morency, Omer Soucy, Joseph-L. Bourgault, Amos Bernard, Joseph-H. Dion, Joseph-C. Lévesque, Joseph-N. Ennis, Anthime Provost, Joseph-M. Leblanc, Louis Levasseur, Ernest Pinault, and Philip LeBel.

Questions & Answers

Q-1 What happened to *La Revue de Salem*? How come everything is in English?

A-1 *C'est étonnant que cette question nous arrive en anglais!* Each issue of our journal contains some French, just as it has since the beginning. Unfortunately, many of our members are not fluent in French. It is necessary for *la survivance* of our organization that our journal be primarily in a language which is understandable by all members. (*Oui, même par les jeunes franco-américains d'aujourd'hui!*) But rest assured that our beautiful French language will not disappear from the pages of *La Revue de Salem*.

Q-2 My ancestor came to Salem from Salmon Falls, NH. Can you locate this place?

A-2 The parish of St. Mary's in Salmon Falls, NH began as a mission of Great Falls in 1856. Later, a number of French-Canadians settled there, and some of these eventually found their way to Salem. The place is now known as Rollinsford, and is located in Strafford County, NH.

Q-3 A scale model of St-Joseph's Church was built in the 1950s and was on display for many years at the entrance of the church. Who built it, and where is it today?

A-3 We, too, would like to know! Can any of our readers help?

Q-4 When we were in St-Joseph's grammar school, from 1938 to 1946, we recited *Le Salut au drapeau*. I recall only the first line: "*Honneur à Toi, Noble Drapeau...*"

A-4 The Provincial flag of Québec is the blue-and-white *fleurdelisé*, which was adopted on 21 January 1948. Prior to this, from 1903 to 1948, the *Carillon-Sacré-Coeur* was the unofficial Provincial flag. This was similar to the *fleurdelisé*, but displayed an emblem of the Sacred Heart in the center. *Le Salut*, which was recited in many of our Franco-American schools, is as follows:

*Honneur à Toi
Noble Drapeau Carillon-Sacré-Coeur;
redis-nous la foi
et la vaillance de nos ancêtres;
et, sur ce sol d'adoption,
sois toujours le ralliement
de la race canadienne-française.*



Members are encouraged to send questions, or replies to questions, for this column, either by letter or by e-mail.

Membership List

The following are the next twenty-five members of the Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc. We will continue this list of members in subsequent issues of *La Revue de Salem*. Thereafter, we will list new members and address corrections as they become available.

- #101. CHARTIER, Dr Armand-B., 19 Gabriel Farm Dr., Acushnet, MA 02743-1330
- #102. HERMAN, Donna-L., 214 Jefferson Avenue, Salem, MA 01970-2846
- #103. JODOIN, Donald-H., 22 Windsong Circle, Bedford, NH 03110-4464
- #104. AUGER, Gilles-E., 7 Avon Street, Sanford, ME 04073-3201
- #105. MAHONEY, Mary-D., 17 Conant Street, Franklin House 312, Beverly, MA 01915-1761
- #106. AUGER, Paul-K., 1 Brookside Drive, Bridgewater, MA 02324-4304
- #107. MORNEAU, Dorothy, 72 Endicott Street, Salem, MA 01970-3052
- #108. WALKER, Robert-W., 41 Federal Street, Apt #4, Salem, MA 01970-3436
- #109. SALVAS, Paul-A., 84 Marks Road, East Weymouth, MA 02189-2652
- #110. JALBERT, Mr & Mrs Hector-A., 104 Lochness Lane, Fort Worth, TX 76126-3212
- #111. DeDONATO, Ms. Claudette-M., 338 Jefferson Avenue, Salem, MA 01970-4440
- #112. PELLETIER, Miss Alma, 3 Horton Street, Salem, MA 01970-2809
- #113. JALBERT, Ronald-L., 61 Canterbury Drive, Parkersburg, WV 26104-8051
- #114. TASSINARI, Jeanne-D., 72 Valley Street, Salem, MA 01970-1953
- #115. BEAULIEU, Lucien-R. & Jeannette, 8 Samoset Rd., W. Peabody, MA 01960-3565
- #116. LÉVESQUE, Roland & Lorraine, 17 Conant Street, W5, Beverly, MA 01915-1716
- #117. BEAULIEU, Jean & Tanya, 934 Two Moons Way, Ivins, UT, 84738-6356
- #118. ROY, George, 47 Second Street, Park Ridge, NJ 07656-1853
- #119. PRAETSCH, Simone-T., 13 Hemlock Road, Rockland, MA 02370-2844
- #120. L'HEUREUX, Jean & Claudette, 16 Bell Hill Drive, Laconia, NH 03246-2619
- #121. MADORE, Paul, 4 Tanglewood Lane, Salem, MA 01970-1774
- #122. STENBURG, Claire, 500 Northshore Road, Apt 9B, Peabody, MA 01960-4032
- #123. HAMMERBECK, Claire, 9071 E. Vassar Avenue, Denver, CO 80231-7640
- #124. JACQUES, Tom & Beverly, 17 School Street, Middleton, MA 01949-1304
- #125. GUY, Richard, 13 Pioneer Terrace, Apt. G, Salem, MA 01970-5521

Change of Address

- # 9. O'BRIEN, Rosemary-H., 55 Shore Drive, Apt K, Peabody, MA 01960-3024

Faites connaître le F.A.I.S.: Invitez vos amis à s'inscrire!

Promote the F.A.I.S.: Invite your friends to join!

Genealogies

Côté

- I Jean Côté & Anne Martin
Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 17 Nov 1635
- II Jean Côté & Geneviève Verdon (Vincent & Geneviève Peltier)
Québec, 25 Feb 1686
- III Joseph Côté & Thérèse Huot (Mathurin & Marie Letartre)
L'Ange-Gardien, 13 Apr 1711
- IV Joseph Côté & Marie-Anne Jobidon-dite-Bidon (Louis & Anne Toupin)
Château-Richer, 30 May 1740
- V Charles Côté & Marguerite Goulet (Prisque & Marguerite Drolet)
St-Augustin (Portneuf), 27 Jan 1783
- VI Antoine Côté & Marguerite Despart (Jean-Félix & Marie-Jeanne Barbe)
St-Hilaire (Rouville), 27 Jan 1823
- VII Onésime Côté & Céline Beaudry (François-Xavier & Eusèbe Hébert)
St-Damase, 11 Feb 1861
- VIII Amédée Côté & Georgianna Voyer (Jean-Baptiste & Rose Tremblay)
Salem, MA, 19 Feb 1895

□ □ □

Tremblay

- Philibert Tremblay & Jehanne Coignet
of St-Malo-de-Randonnai, Orne (Montagne), France
- I Pierre Tremblay & Ozanne Achon (Jean & Hélène Regnaud)
Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 2 Oct 1657
- II Pierre Tremblay & Marie-Madeleine Roussin (Nicolas & Madeleine Paradis)
L'Ange-Gardien, 15 Nov 1685
- III Jean Tremblay & Catherine DeLavoye (René & Marguerite Bouchard)
Baie-St-Paul, 21 Apr 1726
- IV Étienne-Gaspard Tremblay & Marie Tremblay (Basile & Françoise Terrien)
Les Éboulements, 8 Jan 1787
- V Thomas Tremblay & Marie Gonthier (Louis & Marie-Procule Bouchard)
Les Éboulements, 18 Aug 1812
- VI Faustin-Antoine Tremblay & Céline Savard (Roger & Joseph Fortin)
Les Éboulements, 14 Feb 1854
- VII Charles-Philippe Tremblay & Mary-Jane Michaud (Isaïe & Odile Soucy)
Salem, MA, 12 Feb 1912

Décès

Belleau

À Salem, le 9 octobre 2007, est décédé Ernest-R. Belleau, à l'âge de 92 ans. Né à Salem, il était le fils de Ernest Belleau et de Lydia Bérubé, et l'époux de feu Catherine Desmond. Il était propriétaire de *Belleau Metal Works*. Il a construit des maisons sur la rue Belleau, rue Bérubé, et plusieurs autres, et a fondé Lac Belleau à East Wakefield, NH. M. Belleau était ambassadeur à Québec pour l'état de New Hampshire, et membre du Club Richelieu Salem.

Corbin

À Danvers, le 12 octobre 2007, est décédée Thérèse-C. (Fréchette) Corbin, à l'âge de 86 ans. Née à Salem, elle était la fille de Alphonse Fréchette et de Marie-Ange Paquette, et l'épouse de feu Victor-A. Corbin. Mme Corbin était membre du F.A.I.S. (#33), la soeur de Madeleine Fréchette (#32), et la tante de Mary-J. Levasseur (#23).

Darisse

À Salem, le 18 novembre 2007, est décédé Joseph-M. Darisse, à l'âge de 91 ans. Né à St-André-de-Kamouraska, PQ, il était le fils de Aurélius Darisse et de Exite Boucher, et l'époux de Jeannette Motard. M. Darisse était membre du F.A.I.S. (#86), et le père de onze enfants, dont Sr-Claudette SASV, Thérèse Walters (#48), et Paul Darisse (#87).

Dion

À Salem, le 28 novembre 2007, est décédée Gertrude-E. (Morin) Dion, à l'âge de 91 ans. Née à Salem, elle était la fille de Edmond Morin et de Berthe Deschênes, et l'épouse de feu Adhémar Dion. Elle était autrefois propriétaire de *Carol Ann's Donut Shop* et de *Scott's Lamplighter Restaurant* de Salem.

Dion

À Swampscott, le 30 novembre 2007, est décédé Ronald-R. Dion, à l'âge de 61 ans. Né à Salem, il était le fils de Anita Soucy et de feu Victor Dion, et l'époux de Patti Underhill. M. Dion était avocat, membre du conseil d'administration de *Emmanuel College*, président de la *Greater Boston Real Estate Board*, et un gouverneur du *Boston Stock Exchange*.

Jeffery

À Salem, le 3 octobre 2007, est décédée Marie-A. (Hallé) Jeffery, à l'âge de 96 ans. Née au Québec, elle était la fille de Onésime Hallé et de Valentine LaPierre, et l'épouse de feu Raymond-J. Jeffery. Elle était propriétaire de la *Jeffery Brothers Furniture Company* de Salem.

Lavoie

À Marlboro, le 9 janvier 2008, est décédée Sr Jeannette Lavoie SASV (Sr René-Marie). Née à Salem, elle était la fille de René Lavoie et de Elvira Lévesque. Elle était supérieure de la province de 1973 à 1979.

Muller

À Swampscott, le 11 novembre 2007, est décédée Cécile (LeBlanc) Muller, à l'âge de 100 ans. Née à Salem, elle était la fille de Louis LeBlanc et de Malvina Mailhoit, et l'épouse de feu Léonard Muller. Elle était membre de la première classe de l'Académie Ste-Chrétienne.

Pelletier

À Marlboro, le 2 janvier 2008, est décédée Sr M.-Rose-Alma Pelletier, SSCh., (Sr Agathe-de-la-Croix). Née à Salem, elle était la fille de Thomas Pelletier et de Diana Laplante. Elle entra au couvent en 1929 et, jusqu'à sa retraite en 1988, enseigna aux écoles de Rumford et Mexico, ME, et de Amesbury et Salem, MA.

C'est le mois de Marie.

Andantino.
mf

Refrain

C'est le mois de Ma- ri- e, C'est le mois le plus
rall.
beau; A la Vier- ge ché- ri- e Di- sons un chant nou-
veau. Or- nons le san-ctu- ai- re De nos plus bel- les
fleurs; Offrons à no- tre Mè- re Et nos chantset nos cœurs.

2

De la saison nouvelle:
On vante les attraits:
Marie est bien plus belle,
Plus brillants sont ses traits.

3

Au vallon solitaire,
Le lis, par sa blancheur,
De cette Vierge Mère
Nous redit la candeur.

4

L'aimable violette,
Cherchant l'obscurité,
De la Vierge reflète
La douce humilité.

5

La rose épanouie
Aux premiers feux du jour
Nous rappelle, ô Marie,
Ton maternel amour.

6

Vierge, que ta main sème
Et fasse croître en nous
Les vertus dont l'emblème
A ses yeux est si doux.

7

Fais que dans la patrie
Nous chantions à jamais
Sainte Vierge Marie,
Ta gloire et tes bienfaits.

La Revue de Salem

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Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.

Organized on 1 May 2005 and incorporated on 16 February 2006, the Franco-American Institute of Salem is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history, genealogy, and culture of the Franco-American community of greater Salem, Massachusetts.

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Membership, which includes a subscription to *La Revue de Salem*, is available for \$12.50 per year. Address all correspondence to F.A.I.S., 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA 01902-3305. Telephone: 1-781-592-1425.

Email: francosalem@yahoo.com

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Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

□ □ □

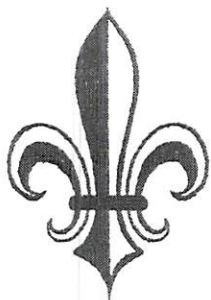
Officers 2008-2009

D.-Michel Michaud, President
Nelson-L. Dionne, Vice-President
John M. Kobuszewski, Treasurer
Rosemary O'Brien, Secretary

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Meetings

Meetings of the officers of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2008 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 4 May and 5 October at 4:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.



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"Dans l'bon vieux temps ça s'passait d'même . . ."



Journal of the
Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.
Salem, Massachusetts

Cover Photo: *L'Académie Sainte-Chrétienne* ("Loring Villa") as it appeared in 1918 when it served as Salem's "Emergency Hospital". (Article begins on page 23).

News

•The former Atwood & Morrill company, now Weir Valves & Controls USA, has moved to Ipswich after 108 years in Salem. Employees Robert Provencher and Arthur Talbot said of the workforce: "It was all family; it was all French...Most of them had accents". *Une grande perte pour notre ville!*

•We have recently purchased part of a large collection of Salem City Directories, the remainder of which is on reserve until funds become available. These basic resources are an important addition to our library. To all who are donating to our library fund, *Merci!*

•Heavy rains caused major flooding in Fort Kent, Maine on 9 March 2008. About 1,000 people were evacuated, according to Police Chief Kenneth Michaud. Other nearby Franco-American centres, such as Van Buren, were also affected by the disaster. *Une vraie tragédie!*

•Père Lawrence-J. Rondeau was honored on Sunday 27 April 2008 on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee. Père Rondeau served as curate of Ste-Anne's from 1967 to 1969, and as pastor of St-Joseph's from 1983 until its closing in 2004. *Ad Multos Annos!*

•Marc Bérubé, a seven-year veteran of the Salem Police Department, has been promoted to Sergeant. *Félicitations!*

•*Le Club Richelieu* is enjoying an active season: *La Fête des Mères* (21 May), *Old Orchard Beach* (6-8 June), *Un pique-nique* (20 June), *Le Parti d'Homard* (19 July), and *Un Dîner* (22 August). *Fêtez l'été!*

•Roger Simoneau was recently elected Commander of the Salem Veterans Council for a two-year term. Ten veteran organizations of Salem are represented in the council. *Félicitations!*

•The Salem Catholic Schools Association is planning a grand reunion for former students of St-Joseph's school and of the ten former Catholic schools of Salem. The "Harvest Homecoming" will be held on the weekend of November 8th and 9th. *Venez!*

•Consider recruiting a friend or two for membership in the Franco-American Institute of Salem! *On vous attend!*

Donations received

Books (24 volumes):

Henri-O. Théberge (#11)

Books (6 volumes), photo, supplies:

Nelson-L. Dionne (#2)

Books (5 volumes):

Francis-G. Pelletier (#13)

Books (4 volumes):

D.-Michel Michaud (#1)

Journals (18 volumes):

A.C.G.S. (#100)

Book: Georgette-L. Kielbasa (#130)

Gift: Virginia-A. Kavanaugh (#45)

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•*Our August issue is completely filled with interesting material for your summer reading! Due to space limitations, our editorial page has been omitted, but will return in the December issue. Bonne lecture!*

The Epidemic of 1918

John-M. Kobuszewski, #3

Ninety years ago, during the summer of 1918, the press advised the public to brace itself for the arrival of what was expected to be a devastating epidemic. The Franco-American population of Salem had rebuilt the *petit Canada* destroyed in the Great Fire only four years earlier, and were now receiving reports of casualties from the battlefields of the Great War. Those soldiers who were returning home were said to have brought a disease with them to the United States. The Spanish Influenza, or *la grippe* as it was called, would deal yet another blow to the Salem community, and would take with it more lives than the fire and the war combined. Little has been written about this tragedy which, unlike the fire and the war, people wished to erase from their collective memory.

The Salem Board of Health noted that "...influenza first appeared in this city during July and...in August there were whole families stricken with the disease. Influenza followed by pneumonia was prevalent in the city. Entire families were so stricken that there was no one able to even give a drink to the others. These conditions created a demand for nursing care which could not be met at the time. Conditions rapidly grew worse, ever increasing numbers of cases were discovered, deaths were increasing and the people were fast becoming panic stricken."

Influenza was first detected by head cold symptoms which struck quickly, and this was followed by high fevers which often resulted in fatal pneumonia. Some who were well in the morning, were dead by evening. For others, weakness lasted for weeks.

The Salem Evening News of September 17th noted that there were "some" cases of influenza in the city, but cautioned that "the epidemic is spreading rapidly". Within two days, it was estimated that there were "at least 1,000 cases here". By week's end, the mayor was bedridden with the flu and had received news of the death of a city employee.

The last week of September saw an increase of cases, many of which were severe. "Every physician in the city is busy day and night. Walking into the homes, they found every person there sick in bed and no one able to answer the bell call." Ice men refused to deliver ice into some of the houses where sickness was evident.

The Board of Health issued a warning urging all persons to "keep warm and at the same time live in the purest possible air; eat plenty of nourishing foods, keep out of crowds, and call a physician as soon as evidences of the disease appear." The public schools were ordered closed for the week, and other schools did so voluntarily. Theatres and museums also agreed to close their

doors. The Naumkeag Mills reported an absence of 25% of their workers due to illness, while the Telephone Company reported a 30% decrease in staff. The week ended with an estimate of nearly 1,900 cases of influenza and 39 deaths. Protestant churches did not hold services on Sunday, while in the Catholic churches the Masses were kept "as short as possible". Schools would again remain closed during the first week in October.

As many as 2,200 residents of Salem were now suffering with the dread disease, and the number of deaths was increasing. The Board of Health issued an order that all funerals were to be private and simple. News arrived from Beverly that Père Lucien Bédard, pastor of St-Alphonse, was bedridden with the illness.

The Catholic sisters of Salem worked tirelessly to alleviate the situation. They visited the sick in their homes, brought food and prepared meals, cleaned the house, did laundry, gave medication, offered consolation, and cared for children. But the situation grew more alarming when it was determined that the hospital was taxed to capacity, and that the doctors and nurses were suffering from exhaustion.

The good sisters of Ste-Chretienne having learned that sleeping quarters would be required for the nurses, generously and freely offered...the use of their new convent school dormitories which are beautifully situated on Loring Avenue. The Committee...inspected the buildings and found them especially well adapted for hospital purposes, being equipped with beds, toilet rooms, kitchen, dining room; in fact all that was needed to make it an ideal hospital was an operating room. When the sisters learned the view point of the committee as to the desirability of the building for hospital purposes, they not only offered it for such use but tendered their personal services to do whatever work the committee desired. (Salem Board of Health report)

Upon the recommendation of the committee, the mayor established Salem's Emergency Hospital at Loring Villa. The hospital opened on Wednesday, October 2nd at 2 o'clock. The ward could accommodate fifty patients, and could be "enlarged in short notice" for a considerable number more.

The first week of October ended with more closures. The State Emergency Health Committee urged that all churches close the following Sunday. On October 6th, Mass was not publicly celebrated in Salem for the first time, due to this "public affliction". Schools were ordered closed again for the following week, as were Soda Fountains, Pool Rooms, and other public establishments.

The situation improved during the second week of October, due to drastic isolation and aggressive health care. The number of reported cases of influenza was now dropping from thousands to hundreds. The number of hospitalized patients was down to 31 at Loring Villa (including Père Antonio Vigeant of St-Joseph's), and 23 at Salem Hospital.

Sunday Masses were celebrated on October 13th, but with "much smaller" congregations. "The list of deceased for whom prayers were asked was the longest in the history of the Salem churches. In each church this week...requiem masses will be celebrated, the number exceeding all records of past years." However, the situation was "much improved", and it was said that the "epidemic is dying out". Yet, the statistics released were devastating. Nearly 4,000 cases had been reported in Salem to date.

The sisters of Ste-Chrétienne (including those stationed at St-Joseph's and at Ste-Anne's) had joined forces to make Loring Villa what was called "one of the best emergency hospitals in the state" during this two-week crisis. The Salem Evening News of Friday, October 18th, noted that "The emergency hospital at Loring Villa, so generously offered at the crucial moment by the Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne...will be closed tomorrow afternoon or Sunday, when all the patients not able to be removed to their homes will be taken to the Salem Hospital..." The Superior of the sisters was Mère Marie-Octavie (1859-1919), a native of Saverne, France. Under her guidance, the sisters worked day and night to care for 80 patients, of whom all but 12 survived. In gratitude for their service, the city provided water to Loring Villa without charge for as long as the sisters remained.

The Salem Board of Health would later publish its report indicating that the death toll due to Influenza and Pneumonia had claimed 299 lives. Among some of the more poignant cases are the following:

- Père J.-Elphège Cloutier had spent the first four years of his priesthood caring for the French-Canadians of Danvers. He died in Salem on 30 September at the age of 29.
- René-Simon Lafrance, 17, died on 30 September; his brother, Malcolm-Roméo, 18, died two days later.
- Hélène (Michaud) Paradis, 55, was buried on October 3rd; her son, Ludger Paradis, died the following day at the age of 28.
- Mme Eugène Pelletier, a young bride of 18 years of age, came to Salem from Waterville, Maine. She died at Loring Villa on October 8th, having resided in Salem for 7 days.
- Albert Archambault was married to Délia Delisle on Sunday, October 7th. He died the following Sunday, at the age of 19.
- Eugène Bérubé, 26, died on October 25th. His wife, Eva Surprenant, 23, died the following day. A double funeral was held on November 4th.

On Friday, October 18th, the Salem Evening News reported the end of the epidemic. "Churches and theatres will open Sunday and schools, bowling alleys and pool rooms will follow suit on Monday, when it is expected that an entertainment-hungry public will make up large attendances at all the amusement places." Only three weeks later, on November 11th, the survivors would celebrate the Armistice ending the First World War.

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The gratitude of Salem people should be given wholeheartedly to [the Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne], who, realizing the danger of the disease, yet had no thought of self, not only gladly gave over their new building, but gave themselves as well for the service of others. There was not the questioning of whether or not there was any danger to themselves; theirs was to answer the call of duty like soldiers when an almost unknown enemy was striking down the people of Salem.

The emergency hospital is admirably planned. On the right of the entrance is a small waiting room for visitors and opposite the executive office, where may be found a stenographer who does the clerical work and answers the telephone. In this room is the well-stocked medicine closet with everything necessary for the fighting of influenza, grip and pneumonia.

Down the corridor are the rooms with the patients, two or three to a room, every room airy and well-lighted, while outside of every two doors is a table with a wash basin and sanitary towels for the use of those who may visit or wait on the patients within the rooms. At the end of the hall is the small diet kitchen where the hot drinks are prepared and the patients' trays set up.

On the floor above is a similar arrangement of rooms for patients, some of which have windows opening onto a splendid view of Salem Harbor, in the distance the Beverly shore looming up. On both floors are bathrooms, while on the first floor an admirably fitted linen room, stocked with all kinds of bed linen and comforters, brought to the hospital by the Red Cross emergency workers, provides for the patients.

In the airy basement is a large assembly room where the nursing and working force of the hospital take their meals and the larger kitchen where the meals are prepared by Miss Smith with the help of the sisters. Here for the first time, one sees the force without their gauze masks, for those on the floors where there are sick wear the masks from the time they go on duty until it is time to quit.

[Mère Marie-Octavie] is called the guiding spirit, and from the hour the building was offered to the city, she has been on call, working early and late with the others sisters to prepare the building, interpreting for those...who do not understand English, making the nurses feel at home in a strange city, and visiting the sick and everywhere lending assistance that all within the doors may be comfortable and as contented as possible.

-The Salem Evening News, Tuesday, 8 October 1918

Le Courrier de Salem

**Events of a century ago in Salem's Franco-American newspaper
August-December 1908**

Societies

- Amédée Coté attends the international convention of *les Artisans* in Montréal as delegate from Salem.
- Ubalde de Grandpré, an officer of *la Brigade des Volontaires*, attends their reunion in Boston.
- Representatives from Salem's *Cercle Veillot* travel to Worcester to attend the congress of the ACJFA (*Association Catholique de la Jeunesse franco-américaine*).
- The *Club Républicain franco-américain* of New England elects Pierre Michaud of Salem as its third vice-president.
- The *Société Saint-Vincent-de-Paul* is organized in St-Joseph's parish on August 30th.

Medicine

- Dr Alfred-T. Leboeuf of Worcester settles in Salem in October, and succeeds the retiring Dr Armand Mignault. Dr Mignault dies the following month on November 13th at the age of 54. He had practiced in Salem since 1896.
- Dr Camille Coté of St-Aimé, PQ also settles in Salem and opens an office at 134 Lafayette street.

The Press

- *Le Courrier de Salem* has doubled in size. Shareholders are receiving 7% interest. Paul-N. Chaput is manager and treasurer; Ephrem Barthelémy, editor; Élias Voyer, secretary; and Joseph Dubé, Joseph-F. Hudon, L.-P. LeBlanc, Hormidas Marcaurelle, and Dr Émile Poirier are directors. *L'Union* of Woonsocket notes that "*C'est un vaillant de la presse franco-américaine.*"
- Ephrem Barthelémy, a native of France and editor of *Le Courrier de Salem*, purchases a home on Wheatland street.
- Jean-B. Rouillard, who played a large rôle in journalism in Canada and the United States, and who published a newspaper in Salem in 1894, dies at Fall River.
- Bishop O'Connell takes control of The Pilot, making it the official newspaper of the diocese. It is said that the Canadians of Salem are too "patriotic" to subscribe to such an "Irish" newspaper.

Politics

- Alfred Audet, Victor Corbin, and Élias Voyer all run for office. Voyer is elected councilor for Ward Five.

- Salem's Mayor John-F. Hurley attends the 300th anniversary celebrations in Québec City. He returns with two large framed pictures which he donates to *la Société St-Jean-Baptiste* and to *l'Association St-Joseph*. As a gift to the city, he donates the 7-volume genealogical dictionary of Mgr Tanguay to the Salem Public Library.

Families

- Mme Gédéon Morency gives birth to her second set of twins, while Mme Aristobule Tremblay gives birth to her third set of twins. Each is now mother of 14 children.
- Jean-Baptiste Demers will be leaving Salem. He and his family will travel to Rimouski, PQ where they will reside.

Business

- It is reported that 182 children who are under the legal age requirement are now working in Salem factories.
- Joseph Dubé and Camille Chouinard have returned from Missouri, where M. Dubé is a principal shareholder in the Joplin Mines.
- A meeting of the New England Investment Company is held in the St-Jean-Baptiste Hall.
- Oscar Bélanger opens a grocery and meat store at 43 Lafayette street.
- Leclerc & Cimon open the Lafayette Laundry at 273 Jefferson avenue.
- Paul-N. Chaput sells his Naumkeag Cash Grocery, located at the corner of Harbor and Congress streets, to Arthur Gauthier, and sells another store to Philippe Bélanger.
- Willie Leroux opens a bakery at 38 Lawrence street.
- The large Lafayette Cash Market, located at the corner of Harbor and Lafayette streets, opens on September 26th.
- Mlle Aurélie Ouellette is called an astute business woman. She is the owner of a successful business at the corner of Harbor and Congress streets, and has recently purchased two 2-family houses at 35 and 37 Harbor streets.
- J.-Aldéric Deschamps is now manager of the popular grocery store, *Le Bon Marché*.
- The shoe store of Leblanc & Thibault, located at 54 Palmer street, is being enlarged by one-half.
- Joseph Peter, the tailor, has recently purchased the building at 71 Harbor street, containing two stores and two apartments. M. Peter was born in Belfort, France, and has been residing in Salem since 1897.

Church

- Forty-Hour devotions are held at St-Joseph's, but the church is too small to accommodate all who wish to attend. Priests arrive from all surrounding Franco-American parishes, including Lynn, Waltham, Shirley, Amesbury, Cochituate, Brockton, Marlboro, Newburyport, Lowell, Woonsocket, Central Falls, Centreville and Trois-Rivières, PQ.
- Père Georges-A. Rainville, pastor of St-Joseph's, is named General Chaplain of *l'Union St-Jean-Baptiste d'Amérique*.

- Père Théophile Lafontaine of Notre-Dame in Montréal celebrates Mass at St-Joseph's on Sunday September 27th. Père Rainville, the pastor, then leaves for Montréal where he meets Mgr J.-S. Brunault, bishop of Nicolet. The two travel to Manitoba where they participate in the dedication of the new cathedral of St-Boniface on October 4th. Bishop Brunault accompanies Père Rainville to Salem before returning to Nicolet.
- Bishop O'Connell mandates that each parish send a delegation to Boston for a parade commemorating the centennial of the diocese. St-Joseph's parish refuses at first, calling the treatment of the French-Canadians "*assez humiliante*". An agreement is later reached, and the parish attends.

School

- St-Joseph's School reports an attendance of 1,300 students.
- Six young Franco-American women enter the convent this fall, including Hélène Tardif and Diana Martin.

Music

- Professor J.-N.-A. Beaudry, Music Director of St-Joseph's, offers lessons in piano and voice at .50¢ per hour.
- Professor Eugénie Ménard, organist of Ste-Anne's, offers piano lessons, and is a dealer in pianos.
- Mme Emma-A. Jannery offers piano lessons, and sells pianos at 118 Lafayette street.
- Mlle Florence Ménard is accepting violin students at her home at 20 Wilson street.

Entertainment

- Over 1,000 parishioners of Ste-Anne's enjoy a Labor Day picnic on the spacious grounds of Loring Villa.
- A *Grande Soirée d'Amusements* is held in the St-Jean-Baptiste Hall on September 5th. Tickets are .15¢ per person.
- Sixty members of *le Club Social Canadien* attend a picnic in Middleton on September 9th.
- The Canadian wrestling champion, Eugène Tremblay, performs at the North Street Arena on September 18th.
- Whist parties are becoming extremely popular, and are held on a regular basis in both St-Joseph's and Ste-Anne's parishes.
- The Grand Annual Festival, known as the *Kermesse*, is held at the National Guard Armory, and runs for two weeks beginning on November 14th.
- The Empire Theatre is reserved for a concert on the feast of Ste-Cécile, November 22nd. The evening will include music by a chorus and orchestra, two plays, "*L'Avocat Patelin*" and "*La Vierge Noire*", and military exercises by *les Zouaves*. Ticket prices range from .15¢ to \$1.00.

Prices

- *Le Courrier de Salem* remains at .01¢ per copy.
- The people of Salem are asked to donate .10¢ each for the cruiser "Salem". The Franco-Americans raise \$125.30 in donations.
- Paul-N. Chaput, realtor, offers a package deal: three good homes for \$3,300.
- The following prices appear in advertisements:

Roast Beef	.09¢ lb.
Ham	.15¢ lb.
Lettuce	.03¢ per head
Cucumbers	.05¢ for three
Sugar	.06¢ lb.
Ice Cream Soda	.05¢
Drinking Glasses	.02¢
Soap	.25¢ for 10 bars
Lamps	.65¢
Punch Bowl	.68¢
Flatware	\$7.38 for 112 pieces
Window Shades	.25¢
Lace Curtains	.50¢
Haircut	.15¢
Men's suits	\$6.75 to \$15.75
Men's shirts	.42¢ to .84¢
Men's ties	.19¢ to .39¢
Men's shoes	\$1.00 to \$2.75
Women's Stockings	.12½¢
Women's Oxfords	.95¢
Women's Dresses	\$1.98 to \$8.95
Women's Coats	\$3.98 to \$10.00

- *Le Courrier de Salem* noted, with humor, the rising prices in its issue of September 17, 1908:

"Les temps sont si durs actuellement au petit Canada que beaucoup d'hommes se coupent la moustache afin de fumer leurs cigares plus courts."

(Times are now so hard in the *petit Canada* that many men are cutting off their mustache so that they can smoke their cigars shorter.)

Journal (II) of J.-Arthur Lavallée

Submitted by Collette-A. Lavallée, #4

Editor's Note: This, the second of three journals of J.-Arthur Lavallée (1896-1918), begins in July of 1917 and ends in March of 1918.

- Jul 25 Co. H of the 8th was called out for duty... We stayed at the Armory [and] left Salem the 28th of July...for Lynnfield.
- Aug 19 I met Miss Rose Tardiff [of Salem]. She asked me if I wanted to write to her.
- Aug 20 We entrain for Westfield. We stayed in the cars that night.
- Sep 6 We left Westfield at 4 bound for Montréal.
- Oct 6 We left Montréal Sunday 6 o'clock in the famous S.S. Scotion bound [for] Halifax. We pass by Québec, and it's some city. We saw that famous bridge. We all thought that we couldn't go beneath the bridge, but we did.
- Oct 9 We arrived in Halifax harbor about 8 o'clock.
- Oct 14 We left Halifax at 3.45 in the afternoon.
- Oct 20 Down into the steerage...1.30 in the morning...without any lights...with the rats...during the night, we all got up with our life belt...
- Oct 23 We landed at Liverpool...
- Oct 24 ...at 10.30 [AM] we entrain bound for Southampton, England. We arrive at 9 PM and it was raining to beat hell. We stayed at the rest camp...
- Oct 28 [At] 12 o'clock we left Southampton for the dock. We stayed around the dock until 5 o'clock. Here we embark into the fastest ship around here.
- Oct 29 ...coffee this morning. In France. Waiting orders to leave the ship and to entrain. France car *Nom de Dieu*. We left [Le] Havre at 10 o'clock at night...bound for [where] we did not know... We had 1 meal in 41 hours.
- Nov 1 At last we arrive at Harreville-les-Chanteurs... we went to church... I received a letter from Salem, Mass dated Oct 4th, and 2 postal cards, 1 from Mr Deschene [and] 1 from Mr Valère. Believe me, it's a great joy to read news from Home.
- Nov 2 We were issued a Steel Helmet... at night Corp. LaCombe and I had a glass of beer for the first time in France.
- Nov 8 I was ordered to report to the 104th [Regiment Headquarters] at 7 PM, and here I was picked as an interpreter at the Railroad Station.
- Nov 11 Sunday. We saw General Pershing and his staff at 3.45 in the afternoon.
- Nov 14 Pay day at 10 o'clock. In line at 3.45. I got paid. At night, 1 bottle of Champagne. I had some feed that night...
- Nov 17 Saturday night. Fights. An accident at the R.R. Station, etc. I stayed up all night...
- Nov 27 We found the ground covered with snow [when] we woke up, and rain followed.

- Nov 29 Thanksgiving Day. Some time! Here is the day's menu. Breakfast: steak, bread, potato, and coffee. Dinner: Roast beef, bread, potato, coffee... Supper: small turkey, sweet potato, cranberry sauce, and 2 big doughnuts... at 9:30, here comes the sport: 1-mile dash, ½-mile race, and 100-yard race. And between the acts the band played our favorite song. At 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon, a football game. Co. H played the Machine gun Co... We laughed our heads off [at] the Pig Race. Co. H boys won the pig, which was the first prize. The pig that never got a chance. ...Co. H played a very good strong hand in today's sports. Amen. But there's no place like home after all.
- Dec 3 A little snow storm, about 2 inches on the ground. Very cold that day. Bought a swell fiddle, but without strings and bridge.
- Dec 7 I received a letter from Rose [Tardiff], and she sent me a little Sacred Heart w/xxx, and I was very glad to have such a good thing from Castle Hill [Salem].
- Dec 10 I fixed up my violin, and believe me we had a swell time...
- Dec 14 I met a Frenchman at the station, and he could read and speak English as good as I could.
- Dec 17 Talk about snow. It has been snowing all day long, and the following morning it was very cold.
- Dec 22 We got paid off on a Saturday...
- Dec 27 Gee, what a time [on Christmas Eve]. We stayed out all night drinking beer and cognac. The next morning, Christmas, I went to church as usual. But, I was a little funny, you know. I drank. MarMar is a liquor that will put you just as drunk as a man can be. Gee whiz, what a time.
- Jan 1 New Year [1918] ...we had a bottle of cognac and we certainly laughed. Dancing and raising hell. At night, though, we are sitting by the fireplace and thinking of home sweet home. The priest certainly said the truth and...I hope it comes true.
- Jan 15 I lost my job...
- Jan 16 The Co. H [came] back at 11 o'clock that night...
- Jan 22 I went in the trenches for the first time.
- Jan 27 I was an orderly for my Lt. B. for the first time. [Received] 5 letters.
- Feb 3 At 2 o'clock in the afternoon, I went to church.
- Feb 6 We left Harreville at 3 o'clock in the morning. We hiked only 9 miles in the dark. We entrained, and we went to Soissons.
- Feb 7 We left Soissons to ... Chauny. 8 kilometres...
- Feb 8 We left [Chauny] at 2.30 in the morning. We relieve the French soldiers. The first time that I've seen a shell burst... We are going to stay here 5 days, and then move again.

- Feb 13 We moved to [Athies]. Some cave. We stay there 4/5 days. The second day, I went on a reconnaissance party, and I met a [German] prisoner... In the afternoon, I went with the French captain...
- Feb 18 ...slept in a real [feather] bed. We expect to move tomorrow. Amen.
- Feb 19 We arrived at Chauvigny at 10 o'clock, and believe me, I was very hungry. I ate my raw bacon. The Prussian and French soldiers made an attack from 1 o'clock until 5 at night. Gee, it was great to hear our big guns giving presents to the [Germans]. We left the cave at 6.30 in the morning and we hiked about 13 [kilometers]. We slept in the barracks but, at 5 minutes of 12, we had to get up. The [Germans] were coming for an air raid.
- Feb 21 I received a box from Salem [Women's Auxiliary] Club. I was more than glad to get some real tobacco. We stayed at Chauvigny only 10 days.
- Feb 24 ...Sunday I went to church, and gee it was some sight. It had been shelled and burned by the [Germans]. This place here reminds me of the Salem fire.
- Feb 28 We left our camp at 3 in the afternoon... We hiked till 6 o'clock, and there we waited for our supper. All we had was a piece of dry bread. Then we left the street at 10 o'clock bound for the trenches. We arrived at 11.45. Gee I was tired. Here, we are in the reserve...for 5 days.
- Mar 2 When we woke up, the ground was covered with snow and mud [was] up to our knees, and...cold. Home must be a paradise compared to this place.
- Mar 6 We left...at 7 o'clock at night and, believe me, we had quite a scare. Shells were bursting on both sides of the roads. We arrived [at] the front line at 8.30.
- Mar 8 We noticed [a German] being chased by [a Frenchman]. He got him, after [having] escaped. It was some sight.
- Mar 9 Time changes 1 hour...until October 1st; then we have to set our watches an hour [back].
- Mar 10 I bought a nice fountain pen... We expect to move tomorrow night. Amen.

The journal closes with the names and addresses of five relatives and friends with whom he corresponded, as well as several French phrases. The final journal begins with the events of March 23rd. Excerpts from this third journal will appear in our next issue.



Traditions

No. 2: "L'Enterrement de la vie de garçon"

D.-Michel Michaud, #1

The forthcoming marriage of a young man is always cause for celebration, as the transition from single to married life is indeed a significant milestone. In many cultures, friends gather to organize a social function for the future bridegroom. The traditional bachelor party, in French-Canada, was highly imaginative and uniquely entertaining.

Due to the obligations of marriage, a young man would no longer be able to associate with his old friends in quite the same way. Oftentimes, marriage meant moving away from one's family and neighborhood. Further, many organizations separated these two groups by either admitting only single men or only married men. Thus, a bachelor party was considered a very real "farewell" among longtime childhood friends.

In Québec, these parties became known as *l'enterrement de la vie de garçon*, the symbolic "burial of one's boyhood". Taking the theme of a funeral rite, the occasion marked the end of an era. There was, of course, no true sadness at the social event itself! It was merely a cleverly planned evening of good-natured entertainment, centered around an elaborate parody, a mock "funeral", where one's single life was "laid to rest".

The evening of the surprise party was planned as far in advance as possible. Several days before the wedding, the future groom was "captured" by a few friends and was transported to a home, a barn, or a hall where the festivities were to take place. There, in the presence of his friends, he was made to lie down "*sur les planches*" ("on the planks"), as this is how the deceased were laid out for wakes in the French-Canadian tradition. The guest of honor was surrounded by candles and flowers, and a bell was tolled. Invited guests, of course, were dressed in black mourning clothes as a sign of "respect".

At the appointed time, a Master of Ceremonies would introduce a gentleman to deliver the solemn "eulogy", which always ended with good wishes and blessings upon the future union. (The sometimes elaborate parchment was later presented to the future groom, who would frame it and hang it in his new home as a treasured keepsake.) Other speakers followed, all exercising much self-control as they attempted to deliver their "solemn" words, lamenting the "tragic loss" of such a young life. Often, the "corpse" had to hold his breath to avoid bursting out with laughter as the crowd roared. After the singing of a funeral hymn, the guests symbolically "buried" their

friend – not with soil, but with gifts of coins. When the ceremonies were completed, the guest of honor was allowed to rise. Wedding gifts were then presented, and there was music, singing, entertainment, and refreshments.

ENTERREMENT DE LA VIE DE GARÇON DU DR HORACE POIRIER

Mercredi soir fut une veillée qui comptera et qui demeurera à jamais mémorable dans les annales du club Social. Ce soir-là, le club enterrait en effet, dans toutes les formes et dans toutes les cérémonies la vie de garçon de M. le Dr Horace Poirier.

Une adresse de circonstance fut lue par M. J. E. Chainoy, oculiste. Ensuite M. Hermen T. Tremblay, président du club, présenta M. Pierre Michaud comme maître de cérémonie. Ce dernier s'acquitta on ne peut mieux de ses fonctions.

L'orchestre Pépin fournit la musique durant toute la veillée.

MM. Savoie Liebach, Bole et Curtis, interprétèrent de très belles chansons.

Il y eut discours par tous les membres franco-américains de Salem et par plusieurs autres personnages de marque.

Un réveillon fut servi sous la direction de M. Onésime Godbout.

Les salles étaient littéralement comblées, tant il y avait des amis qui avaient eu à cœur de présenter leurs condoléances chaleureuses à feu la vie de garçon de M. le Dr Horace Poirier.

La séparation s'opéra très tard et avec regret. Longtemps, les invités se rappelleront de cette agréable fête.

M. le Dr Horace Poirier, se mariera lundi prochain. D'avance nous lui souhaitons une heureuse lune de miel.

Enterré Vivant à Salem

Vendredi soir, M. T. J. Bernard était fêté par les membres du cercle Napoléon et plusieurs autres amis qui enterrèrent avec pompe et solennité la vie de garçon dudit M. Bernard. Car celui-ci allait sous peu entrer dans le "Conjugo". Depuis la chose est faite même. M. Bernard a en effet conduit hier matin, mercredi une

Traditional French-Canadian bachelor parties remained popular in Salem during the early years of the twentieth century, as is evidenced in the pages of *Le Courrier de Salem*. Among the obituary notices published on 15 September 1910, a bold headline reads: "*Enterré Vivant à Salem*" ("Buried Alive in Salem"). The members of the *Cercle Napoléon* had held a bachelor party for 28-year-old Trefflé-J. Bernard, with a eulogy entitled "*Quasi-mort*" ("Almost dead"). Other addresses were given, there was singing and instrumental music, there were various entertainments, and refreshments were served throughout the "evening of the funeral".

Another even more elaborate bachelor party was held two years later when the *Club Social* "buried" 34-year-old Dr Horace Poirier. According to *Le Courrier de Salem* of 10 October 1912, the hall was overflowing due to the large number of friends who wished to "express their condolences". Herménégilde Tremblay, a Salem undertaker, happened to be the president of the *Club Social* at the time, and it was he who introduced the speakers. These included "all the Franco-American doctors of Salem", as well as several other "persons of note". Music for the *veillée* was provided by Pépin's orchestra and by a male quartet. A *réveillon* was then served by restaurant owner Onésime Godbout. The *soirée* is said to have ended "very late", and "with regret".

The term *enterrement* continued to be used throughout the first half of the century in Salem, and remains in use in Québec to this day. But all displays of mourning customs have now disappeared from bachelor parties, and this tradition of good-natured entertainment has passed into history.

Our traditions: a heritage worth remembering!

Questions & Answers

Q-5 What can you tell me about the French in Salem before the arrival of Pierre Caisse in 1856?

A-5 Essentially, there was never a time in the history of Salem when there was not a French presence! Champlain mapped the coast of Massachusetts in 1604, passing by the Salem shoreline. Charles de la Tour came from Canada in 1643 to request aid. Père Gabriel Druillettes, S.J. and his companions were guests here on 9 January 1651. For a quarter-century, beginning in 1660, Salem saw the arrival of a number of Huguenots (French Protestants). These included the families of Touzel, LeBrun, Valpy, and many others. François Narbonne built a home on Essex Street which still exists, and Philippe Langlois (Philip English) is well-known to Salem historians. Some 150 Acadians were brought here following the deportation of 1755, and in 1775 the Custom House was located in what was known as the "French Building" due to its early residents. General Lafayette was warmly received here on 29 October 1784. A number of French Catholics were present at the first Mass in Salem in 1790, and they were visited regularly by Père de Cheverus (later bishop) and Père Matignon. The carpenters who built the first St. Mary's Church in 1821 were Jean Simon and Firmin Ottignon. On 31 August 1824, General Lafayette returned for a second visit to Salem. Captain John Bertram, a native of the Île-de-Ré, built his home here, on Essex Street in 1855; this is now known as the Salem Public Library.

These people, and many others, are prominent in Salem's history. However, those who settled here were quickly assimilated into mainstream society, and made no attempt to band together as a community. They established no French churches, schools, or societies. This is why our interest is focused on the French-Canadian settlers who followed the arrival of Pierre Caisse in 1856. These people created a *petit Canada*, with its language, customs, and institutions. Salem's French history prior to 1856 is largely concerned with individual lives, while its later history is one of a prominent community.

Q-6 Ste-Anne's Boy Scout Troop #83 (formerly #3) is approaching its 75th anniversary, having received its charter in May of 1937. Its Explorer Post #3 existed from 1951 to 1953. Would any of our members have photographs, lists of scouts or scoutmasters, or any material, particularly concerning the early years?

A-6 We're certain that some of our members will want to share what they have! Readers, please contact us and we will forward the information.



Members are encouraged to send questions, or replies to questions, for this column, either by letter or by e-mail.

Genealogies

Bergeron

- Pierre Bergeron & Catherine Marchand
c.1642, St-Saturin-du-Bois, La Rochelle, (Aunis), France
- I André Bergeron & Marguerite Demers (Jean & Jeanne Voidy)
C. Gilles Rageot (Lauzon), 9 Jul 1673
- II Jean Bergeron & Marie-Madeleine Ferland (François & Jeanne-Françoise Milois)
St-Pierre, Île-d'Orléans, 27 Jul 1711
- III Jean-Baptiste Bergeron & Catherine-Marguerite Jérémie-Douville (Joseph & Marie-Anne Rousseau) St-Antoine-de-Tilly, 30 Nov 1736
- IV Charles Bergeron & Louise Bourget (Claude & Louise Lessard)
Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 1 Jul 1771
- V Basile Bergeron & Josephte Benoît (Jean & Josephte Guignard)
Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 5 May 1807
- VI Basile Bergeron & Julie L'Abbé (René & Julie Drolet)
Notre-Dame-de-Québec, 18 Jun 1833
- VII Joseph-Gaudiose Bergeron & Ursule GrosLouis (Jean-Baptiste & Marie-Anne Desroches)
St-Ambroise-de-la-Jeune-Lorette (Loretteville), 11 Nov 1879
- VIII Joseph Bergeron & Anna Nadeau (Trefflé & Lucie Landry)
Salem, MA, 23 Jun 1901

Gauthier

- Jean Gonthier & Marie Laye
of St-Severin, Paris, France
- I Bernard Gonthier & Marguerite Paquet (Emery & Vincente Rat-dite-Beaumont)
Québec, 20 Jan 1676
- II Louis Gonthier-dit-St-Michel & Geneviève Gagné (Ignace & Barbe Dodier)
Baie-St-Paul, 13 Apr 1706
- III Jean Gonthier-dit-St-Michel & Marie-Josephite Gagnon (Joseph & Madeleine Tremblay)
Les Éboulements, 11 Nov 1737
- IV Joseph-Louis Gonthier-dit-St-Michel & Geneviève Bouchard (Joseph & Dorothée Savard) Île-aux-Coudres, 2 Aug 1773
- V François Gauthier & Geneviève Tremblay (Salomon & Geneviève Bouchard)
Les Éboulements, 26 Nov 1811
- VI Abraham Gauthier & Léocadie LeClair (Alexandre & Madeleine Gauthier)
La Malbaie, 8 Nov 1836
- VII Augustin Gauthier & Arthémise Perron (Jean & Christine Bouchard)
La Malbaie, 13 Feb 1855
- VIII Joseph Gauthier & Marie Banville (Alexandre & Euphémie Dubé)
Salem, MA, 20 Apr 1896

Décès

*Aux familles éprouvées par le décès d'un member cher,
l'Institut franco-américain de Salem offers ses plus sincères condoléances.*

Allain, Joseph-C., 58 ans, le 17 mai 2008
Beaudry, Mariette-L., 95 ans, le 17 février 2008
Beaulieu, Laurette (Laplane), 82 ans, le 2 février 2008
Beaupré, Lorraine, 76 ans, le 29 février 2008
Belleau, Edna-J. (Lévesque), 97 ans, le 25 avril 2008
Bérubé, Gertrude-L. (Julien), 89 ans, le 2 février 2008
Castonguay, Gloria-I., 74 ans, le 6 avril 2008
Chouinard, Barbara-C. (Viel), 67 ans, le 2 avril 2008
Chouinard, Jeannette-Y. (Beaulieu), 76 ans, le 21 mars 2008
†Claise, Robert-J., (F.A.I.S. #54), le 12 avril 2008
Cyr, A.-Ralph, 90 ans, le 8 mai 2008
Deschamps, Paul-H., 83 ans, le 11 avril 2008
Dion, Rose-A. (Leroux), 83 ans, le 8 mai 2008
Emmett, Gertrude-A. (Jodoin), 76 ans, le 3 mai 2008
Gagnon, Eva (Maillet), 99 ans, le 13 avril 2008
Grenier, Roger-R., 74 ans, le 22 mars 2008
Jalbert, Edmond-A., 83 ans, le 28 mai 2008
Lamontagne, Thérèse-G. (Beaulieu), 93 ans, le 2 mars 2008
LeBlanc, Amélia (Gromko), 93 ans, le 18 mai 2008
LeBlanc, Ronald-A., 55 ans, le 23 mai 2008
LeBrun, Jean-W., 97 ans, le 21 mars 2008
Leighton, Julia-M. (Dubé), 78 ans, le 27 avril 2008
Martineau, Richard-J., 62 ans, le 28 février 2008
†McCarran, Cécile-T. (Desjardins), 88 ans, (F.A.I.S. #126), le 7 avril 2008
Michaud, Margaret-G. (Saraceno), 78 ans, le 23 février 2008
Michaud, Patricia (Meaney), 66 ans, le 27 mars 2008
Michaud, Robert, 65 ans, le 4 mars 2008
Moran, Evélina-M. (Tremblay), 100 ans, le 20 février 2008
Pelletier, Thérèse-L. (Fecteau), 76 ans, le 26 avril 2008
Poitras, Charles-J., 74 ans, le 21 mai 2008
Taché, Lucienne-M. (Dionne), 99 ans, le 16 février 2008
Toleos, Elizabeth-A. (Bégin), 82 ans, le 24 avril 2008
Watkins, Carmen-J. (Charest), 82 ans, le 25 mai 2008

Nous nous souviendrons d'eux

Souvenir de 1948

Nos félicitations à la classe de 1948 de l'Académie St-Joseph, Salem, qui fête 60 ans en 2008!

Voici un extrait du livre-souvenir «Ensemble» (l'annuaire des gradués), de 1948.

LA BONNE CHANSON

fredonné par les élèves de l'Académie

«Y'en a pas comme vous».....les gradués de '48
«Le doux parler ancestral».....dans la cour de l'École
«Montez toujours».....les escaliers
«D'où viens-tu-bergère?».....de l'Académie St-Joseph
«Tout doucement».....nous arrivons en retard
«Ferme tes jolis yeux».....durant les prières
«Veillée rustique».....nos veillées sociales
«J'ai tant dansé».....que j'ai mal aux pieds
«Au fond des campagnes».....Castle Hill
«Les quêteux».....les trésoriers de classe
«L'éternelle voix».....la cloche
«Ils ne l'auront jamais».....100% en Composition
«Désillusion».....le miroir
«Sur la route de Berthier».....il y a toujours des accidents
«Il faut croire au bonheur».....même quand ça va mal
«Le moulin de la jeunesse».....chante toujours
«La soupe aux pois».....le vendredi midi au Cafétéria
«En glissant».....éviter de tomber
«Quand il neige sur mon pays».....il n'y a pas d'école
«Au revoir».....à la prochaine Amicale
«L'écho».....des beaux jours
«En roulant ma boule».....balle au panier
«Ça ira mieux demain».....peut-être!
«La vieille église».....attend la fin du monde
«C'est la jeunesse».....qu'il nous faut
«Malbrough s'en va en guerre».....pour les mérites
«Le rêve qui passe».....tous les lundis matins
«Restons Français».....ou gare à nous!
«Mon merle».....a perdu son «home-work»
«Connais-tu le pays?».....le Canada
«Déjà».....la graduation
«Heure pieuse».....du premier vendredi du mois
«Souvenirs de jeunesse».....nos années d'école
«Le chant de l'adieu».....partir c'est mourir un peu

La Revue de Salem

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Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.

Organized on 1 May 2005 and incorporated on 16 February 2006, the Franco-American Institute of Salem is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history, genealogy, and culture of the Franco-American community of greater Salem, Massachusetts.

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Membership, which includes a subscription to *La Revue de Salem*, is available for \$12.50 per year. Address all correspondence to F.A.I.S., 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA 01902-3305. Telephone: 1-781-592-1425.

Email: francosalem@yahoo.com

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Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

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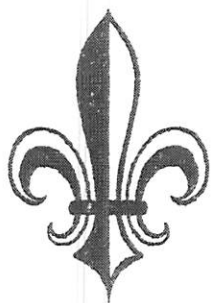
Officers 2008-2009

D.-Michel Michaud, President
Nelson-L. Dionne, Vice-President
John M. Kobuszewski, Treasurer
Rosemary O'Brien, Secretary

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Meetings

Meetings of the officers of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2008 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 4 May and 5 October at 4:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.



La Revue de Salem

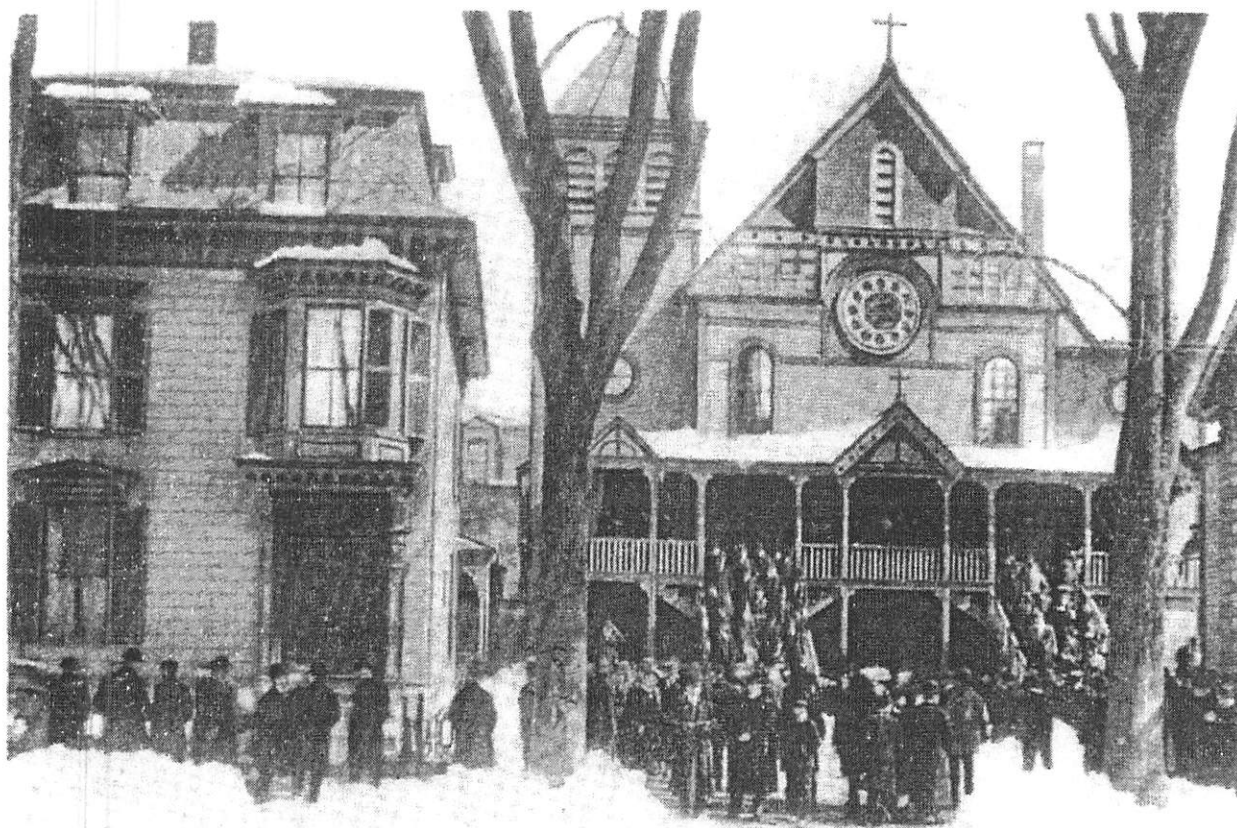
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décembre 2008

"Dans l'bon vieux temps ça s'passait d'même . . ."



Journal of the
Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.
Salem, Massachusetts

Cover Photo: Old St-Joseph's church in winter, about 1890. The Lafayette street property was purchased in 1881. (Article begins on page 46.)

News

In honor of the late J.-Alexandre Michaud (#16), a bus was restored and dedicated as part of a permanent exhibit at the Museum of Bus Transportation in Hershey, Pennsylvania. *Un honneur!* • Massachusetts' first credit union, St-Jean's, of Lynn, opened a new office at 370 Highland Avenue in Salem this past June. *Bienvenue!* • Albert-V. Côté has donated a complete set of *Le Journal de Lowell* (1975-1995) to the F.A.I.S. Library. M. Côté was editor of the monthly newspaper which was the last to be published, entirely in French, in New England. *Un grand merci!* • This year marks the 135th anniversary of the founding of St-Joseph's parish. In this issue is a brief biography of its first pastor, and an account of a successful fair which led to the purchase of the Lafayette street property. • Salem native Marie-Rose (Demeule) Pumfrey celebrated her 100th birthday on 5 August 2008. *Félicitations!* • The Salem High School Class of 1941 celebrated its 67th annual reunion on 14 August 2008 at the Grosvenor Park Nursing Center where Roland Pinault (#7) has been residing since December 2007. Roland has been called "the soul of the class". *Une belle fête!* • Sheila (L'Heureux) Thérberge (#11) served on the 12-member committee which planned the 60-year reunion of the Salem High School Class of 1948. *Bonne fête!* • On Tuesday 23 September 2008, the students of St-Joseph's school raised \$6,000 in pledges for playground equipment and a proposed basketball court. The goal for the 170-student school is \$30,000. • Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne celebrating anniversaries this year are Srs. Arline Blais, Béatrice Ebacher, and Mina Goulet, 75 years; Srs. Violet Arsenault and Irène Ledoux, 65 years; and Sr. Marie-Thérèse Ebacher, 60 years; Sisters of the Assumption celebrating anniversaries this year are St. Anita LeBlanc, 60 years; and Sr. Irène Martineau (#76), 50 years. *Ad Multos Annos!* • Our members Gaston and Lucille (L'Heureux) Bouchard (#38) are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary. *Félicitations!* • On 17 September 2008 *Gouverneur* Roger Lacerte (#14) presided over the installation of Armand Devoe (#35) as president of the *Club Richelieu Salem*, succeeding Orille L'Heureux (#36). *Une belle cérémonie!* On 3 December 2008 the club will celebrate its annual *parti de Noël*. *Joyeux Noël à tous nos amis!* • We are happy to announce that we have entered into an exchange program with the American-French Genealogical Society! The journal of the AFGS, *Je Me Souviens*, will be in our library, and our journal, *La Revue de Salem*, will be in the library of the AFGS in Woonsocket, RI. *Bienvenue aux membres de cette société distinguée!* • Père Laurier-J. Martineau (#65) will celebrate the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood on 2 February 2009. *Ad Multos Annos!* • "Salem: Then & Now" (Arcadia Publishing) will be available at bookstores in early spring 2009. It is co-authored by our vice-president, Nelson-L. Dionne (#2), and Jerome-M. Curley. • Meetings of the F.A.I.S. for 2009

will be held on 3 May and on 4 October at 4:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend! • Renewals for 2009 are due on January 1st. We ask that all members use the renewal form which is enclosed with the present issue. Also, please take a moment to participate in our annual membership drive! Details are on the back of the form. • **Donations received** include: newspapers (234 issues) from Albert-V. Côté; journals (47 issues) from A.C.G.S. (#100); photographs (17) from J.-Armand Bergeron (#28); books (4 volumes) from Nelson-L. Dionne (#2); gifts from John-M. Kobuszewski (#3), Roland & May Pinault (#7), and Sandra Heaphy (#144).

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Editorial

Déjà 10 ans!

When the first issue of *La Revue de Salem* appeared in December of 1999, it was intended as a gift to a handful of people who took pride in their Franco-American heritage. Little by little, people heard about *La Revue*, and wanted to receive their own copy. As the number of subscribers rose, publication was increased to two issues per year in 2002, and to three issues per year in 2003. Clearly, the Franco-Americans of Salem wanted to record and preserve their history.

Our growth has been tremendous, and it is with great joy that we celebrate our 10th year of publication with this issue! Our members are now spread across 16 states and 2 provinces – from Québec to Texas, and from Massachusetts to California – but we are united by our common Franco-American heritage here in Salem.

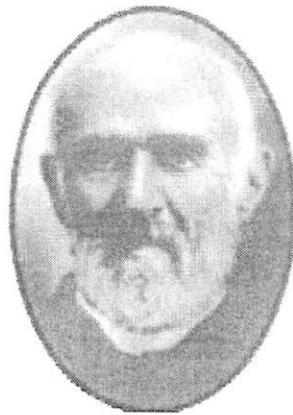
We are grateful to each and every member of our organization for the encouragement and support we have received, and we look forward to many more years of prosperity for *La Revue de Salem*!

*Joyeux Noël,
Bonne Année,
et le Paradis
à la fin
de vos jours!*

Biography

Salem's First French-Canadian Pastor

D.-Michel Michaud, #1



It was 135 years ago this year, on 16 May 1873, that Salem's French-Canadian population celebrated the arrival of its first pastor, Père Georges Talbot. He celebrated the first Solemn Mass of the newly-created parish of St-Joseph on Sunday May 18th at 9:00 AM in the chapel located in the basement of the Immaculate Conception church.

Georges Talbot, the son of Louis-Isaac Talbot and Marie-Reine Beaudoin, was born at St-Grégoire-de-Nicolet, PQ, on Sunday 30 March 1823, and was baptized there on the same day. He was educated in Nicolet, and was ordained in Québec on 26 September 1858 at the relatively late age of 35. The newly-ordained priest was first assigned as curate in Chicoutimi (1858-1859), then at St-Joseph-de-Lévis (1859-1860). His first assignment as pastor came in 1861 when he was sent to St-Antonin (Rivière-du-Loup). There he remained for 11 years, during which time he began construction of the church which stands today. In 1872 he was named pastor of St-Étienne-de-Lauzon and, one year later, he would leave that parish to become the first pastor of St-Joseph, Salem.

The 50 year-old priest resided in the Immaculate Conception rectory on Union Street, and continued to offer daily Mass for his parishioners in the chapel. "Every Sunday the people

contributed generously, hoping to soon own a church edifice of their own.”¹ Père Talbot worked quickly and soon decided “to secure land for a church in South Salem, beyond Leach Street, but his people were very much opposed to the location...”² (Curiously, this remote location was approximately where St-Joseph’s would create the Mission of Ste-Thérèse some 70 years later!) No action was taken on the purchase of the property, and Père Talbot left Salem at the end of June, just seven weeks after his arrival, to accept an assignment in the diocese of Ottawa, Canada.

The first pastor of Salem’s French-Canadians had remained for an unusually brief period, undoubtedly due to the controversy over the location of the church. During his absence, the parish had purchased a church building on Herbert Street which, to the delight of the parishioners, was in the shadow of the Immaculate Conception church and in close proximity to the Naumkeag Mills. With this matter resolved, the people of Salem welcomed the return of Père Talbot in mid-January 1875, and accepted his reappointment as pastor in March. He would remain here for three more years, until his final departure on 5 January 1878.

Returning to Québec, Père Talbot was then made pastor of Notre-Dame-des-Bois, a newly-created parish in Chesham (Compton County). He remained there nearly eight months, from 5 March 1878 until 28 October 1878. After an assignment to St-Gilles (Lotbinière), he again returned to the United States to accept the pastorship of Sacré-Coeur in North Lydon, Maine (now known as Caribou North) from 1881 to 1884.

After serving in parishes on both sides of the border, this missionary priest retired to the Maison St-Antoine in St-Hyacinthe, PQ. He died there on Easter Sunday morning, 7 April 1901, in his 78th year. His body was brought to Trois-Rivières on Tuesday. On the following day, funeral services were held in the chapel of the seminary, and he was buried in St-Louis Cemetery.

*Le Rév. George Talbot, ancien prêtre du diocèse de Québec, et depuis quelque temps pensionnaire à la maison St-Antoine, des Soeurs de l’Hôtel-Dieu, est décédé dimanche matin, à l’âge de 78 ans. Ses funérailles auront lieu au Séminaire des Trois-Rivières. Sa dépouille mortelle laissera St-Hyacinthe aujourd’hui même pour les Trois-Rivières.*³

¹ Sullivan, James S. “The Catholic Church of New England”, 1895, p. 464.

² Walsh, Louis S. “Origin of the Catholic Church in Salem”, 1890, p. 83

³ Le Courrier de St-Hyacinthe, mardi 9 avril 1901.

The French Fair of 1881

Nelson-L. Dionne, #2

Salem's French-Canadian population had established St-Joseph's parish in 1873, and had purchased an old church building on Herbert Street later that same year. By 1881, however, their population had increased six-fold, and this small building situated on an obscure side-street was no longer adequate. The pastor, Père F.-X.-L. Vézina, knew that a major event would need to take place in order to raise substantial funds for the needs of the rapidly growing parish.

Determined to organize a successful event, Père Vézina sought the support of two influential forces: the city government, and the press. Mayor Samuel Calley, with the approval of the aldermen, consented to allow the use of Town Hall for a parish fair, and further agreed to deliver the opening address. With his participation, it was a simple matter to convince the News to provide ample press coverage.

In its initial announcement of the "French Fair" on 28 April 1881, the News elaborated at length:

It may not be generally known that there are now in this city two thousand French Catholics. They mostly all came from towns below Quebec, Canada, as far down as Matane and Cap Chat, on the south side of the Lower St. Lawrence. A few coming from that famous summer resort – the river Saguenay, on the north side of the St. Lawrence. There were some sixty families eight or nine years ago, and there are now three hundred and fifty families. They have worshipped in the Herbert street church; but the present building being inadequate to the wants of the population, they intend putting up a new building. For this purpose they have resolved upon holding a fair, which will open on the 6th of June next, to run for two weeks. This fair will be held in Town hall, which has been very generously put at the disposal of the French fair committee, by His Honor, Mayor S. Calley, and aldermen of the city government.

One week prior to the opening of the fair, an anonymous informant indicated to the News that: "The French Catholics are doing well, having raised \$40,000 towards the erection of a new church on Ward street." This was both false and malicious. By greatly exaggerating the parish funds, the public would surely withdraw its support. Further, the suggestion that the church would relocate to yet another obscure site was degrading. One week later, in two separate items, the News retracted the statement and angrily admonished the ill-willed informant, saying that "the man who started the item that the French church raised \$40,000 says it is only \$500. He ought to make up the deficiency, and save the whole of the Salem press from being obliged to correct the error...and moreover the site of the new church has not been decided upon as yet, far

from having been bought.” The press had skillfully deflected this attempt to foil the event, and thereafter provided regular and accurate news coverage of the French Fair.

On Tuesday June 7th the News reported that: “The French fair was opened last evening by his Honor, Samuel Calley, and Dr. F. E. Hines, with addresses. The Salem Cadet band discoursed music at intervals during the evening. The hall was packed to its fullest capacity.”

By Friday it was noted that the fair was not yet showing financial success, although the hall was “crowded every night”. The News urged that “Every one should visit the fair...and help make it a success.”

Tickets were sold for chances on thirty prizes, which were on display throughout the fair. Items included gold watches and coins, marble top tables, and a wide variety of articles both useful and decorative. Drawings were held during the three final evenings of the fair. On Wednesday June 22nd, the News urged the public to “Go to the French fair this evening and see if you or any of your friends have drawn a prize”. In its Friday edition, the News published a complete list of prizes with the names and addresses of winners. More than 1200 tickets had been sold. Of the 30 prize winners, 17 were not French, indicating that the fair was well attended by non-parishioners who were willing to show their support.

A final report was published on June 27th. The fair had taken in \$3221.03, but had expended \$1150.49. The net profit of \$2070.54 (the equivalent of nearly \$36,000 today) was indeed a significant amount for what was to be the first of many fund-raising events.

Within two months, on 26 August 1881, Père Vézina was able to purchase the prominent Lafayette Street site where St-Joseph’s church now stands. With the help of the city government, the press, and the citizens of Salem, the French-Canadians had successfully gained a measure of public recognition.

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Les dictons de janvier

“Jour de l’An beau, mois d’août très chaud.”

“Un mois de janvier sans gelée, n’annonce jamais une bonne année.”

“Si le soir des Rois, beaucoup d’étoiles tu vois, sécheresse en été tu auras.”

Journal (III) of J.-Arthur Lavallée

Submitted by Collette-A. Lavallée, #4

Editor's Note: These excerpts are from the final of three World War I journals of J.-Arthur Lavallée (1896-1918) of Salem. The entries cover four months, from 23 March through 28 July 1918.

- March 23 We left the front line [and] hiked...then we entrain the following morning. We travel about 36 hours. Then we started on a grand hike.
- March 24 Palm Sunday. While in church an order came in to move at 1 o'clock. The next place we struck was Vassy. We certainly had a swell time. We got wine for nothing... Here it's supposed to be our rest camp, but an order came in...to move.
- March 29 Good Friday. I went to church. We had corn for breakfast and bacon for dinner and beans for supper. We got paid off. I didn't get drunk, but almost.
- March 31 Easter. Réveille was at 3.30 [and] breakfast was at 4 o'clock. We had beans. We arrived at Neuville at 7 o'clock at night. We went to bed without a bite to eat.
- April 1 ...had a bite Monday noon... We left Neuville at 7 o'clock at night [and] arrived at 9.00 o'clock [at] Vigneaux.
- April 4 We had orders to pack up...at 4 o'clock in the morning.

[In a letter to his parents dated 7 April 1918, Arthur writes:]

...I am also well. We have just passed a very sad Easter day. We did not go to mass, neither to the church, for the whole day. I hope the next year will be happier. I have been riding on a truck the whole day, acting as interpreter for my first lieutenant... We receive The [Salem] News and Courrier de Salem and it gives us great pleasure to read the news and see that Salem is doing its share for the soldiers. ...I believe everything will be over soon. ...take courage, we will be in Salem sooner than you think.

- April 10 ...we hike into a shell[ed] town...St-Aignan...
- April 12 I wouldn't give a penny for my life during the bombardment.
- April 13 At noon we had the order to go into the support line without anything in our belly. In the morning we had syrup and bread with coffee and our next meal was at 20 minutes past 11 at night. And the bombardment was still going on...with orders we went to bed. At 10 minutes of 12 we had to go to the line again... Some of our men lost their lives...on dead mules and dead horses and through shell hole water up to our knees and in pitch dark...we didn't move [out] till 6 o'clock in the morning... I met the Salem boys.

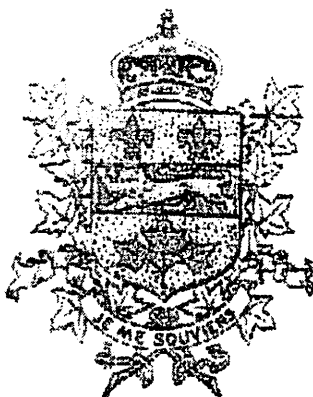
- April 20 We hike to Bois Gruerie...
- April 23 We had orders to pack up and go back to Vertus.
- May 2 We left Vertus at 9 o'clock and we hiked to the woods.
- May 10 We had orders to pack up. We went to Givry. We had to stand [watch] all night. And at 12 o'clock we had coffee. We had to go through no man's land.
- June 7 We had a barrage [which] cost 1 million \$.
- June 12 We had to stand [watch] at 2 o'clock in the morning.
- June 25 ...we took a train bound for Pargny.
- June 27 At 11.30 at night...they drop bombs...
- June 29 We had orders to move. We left Pargny at 9 o'clock.
- June 30 We entrain...at 1 o'clock Sunday morning... We travel all day... At 5 o'clock in the afternoon we saw Paris... We detrain at La Ferté about 9 o'clock Sunday night...
- July 1 ...we hike to Orly...14 kilo... The boys were a little tired. We could hear the guns.
- July 3 Here's my [22nd] birthday.
- July 4 Here at Orly the people were ready to celebrate the 4th of July.
- July 7 An order came to pack up and take position at 12 at night.
- July 9 Just as we were going out of the trenches they began to shell the town in which we were. Believe me I was frightened... We pull out that night [and] again they shell the road...
- July 10 We went to the front line. There we lost a few men.
- July 18 At 6 o'clock orders came to get ready to go over the top... [They were] shelling our places to beat hell. It was fierce.
- July 28 Relief. We hike to...

The journal ends abruptly, with no further entries. J.-Arthur Lavallée was killed in action during one of the worst battles of World War I at St-Mihiel, France, on 13 September 1918, at the age of 22.

Il était un vrai soldat, toujours prêt à aider aux autres dans la vie militaire comme dans la vie civile. (He was a true soldier, always ready to help others in military life as in civil life.)
Le Courrier de Salem, le 24 octobre 1918.



“Je me souviens”



Québec's motto *Je me souviens* ("I remember") celebrates its 125th anniversary this year! The phrase is a reminder that the people of Québec have preserved their identity by remaining faithful to the language and traditions of their French ancestors. Franco-American organizations frequently adopt this same motto, and for these very reasons.¹

The story of the motto begins 140 years ago on 26 May 1868 when Queen Victoria granted a coat of arms to the province of Québec. But the arms, as illustrated above, then displayed no motto whatsoever. Fifteen years later, on 9 February 1883, the plans for the new *Palais Législatif de Québec* were authorized. The architect, Eugène-Étienne Taché, had taken it upon himself to inscribe the motto *Je me souviens* below the coat of arms which was to grace the façade of the building. Thus, the motto became official 125 years ago by executive approval of Québec's provincial government.

More than a half-century later, a slight change was made to the coat of arms: in the upper portion, the two blue *fleur-de-lis* on a gold field were replaced by three gold *fleur-de-lis* on a blue field. This was authorized by an order-in-council on 9 December 1939.

Though already widely used throughout the province, the motto gained its widest exposure thirty years ago when, in 1978, the phrase on Québec's license plates was changed from *La belle province* ("The beautiful province") to *Je me souviens*. Today, the motto is proudly displayed throughout Québec.

For Franco-Americans who take pride in their heritage, no motto could better express their ancestral ties, their Franco-identity, their sense of *survivance*, than the simple phrase *Je me souviens!*

¹ "Je me souviens" is the title of the quarterly journal of the American-French Genealogical Society of Woonsocket, RI, founded in 1978.

Le Courrier de Salem

**Events of a century ago in Salem's Franco-American newspaper
January-April 1909**

Societies

- Joseph Gagné is elected president of *la Société des Artisans*.
- *La Garde Nationale* and *la Garde Militaire des 20ième Chasseurs* of Salem take part in the celebrations at Lowell on Saturday January 23rd.
- The Hon. Félix Gatineau, President-General of *l'Union St-Jean-Baptiste*, visits Salem on January 29th and spends time at the offices of *Le Courrier*.
- A whist party is held at St-Joseph's to benefit *la Société St-Vincent-de-Paul*.
- *L'Union St-Joseph* hosts a *Partie d'amis* at St-Joseph's on February 20th.
- *La Société St-Jean-Baptiste* announces the death of a seventh member this year: Pierre St-Yves of North Leominster, formerly of Salem.
- Dr Leboeuf donates a \$5 gold piece to the *Cercle Veuillot*; it is won by Arthur Tremblay for having sold the most tickets to a society event.

Politics

- Arthur Bernier has been naturalized as a United States citizen.
- Professor J.-N.-A. Beaudry is appointed census taker for the Castle Hill district for the 19th year.
- Atty Jean-B.-D. Jacques is appointed assessor for Ward Five.

Families

- *Le Courrier* criticizes civil authorities who anglicize French names: "*Nous lisons toujours, mais à regret, des noms canadiens qui sont traduits devant les magistrats...*"
- French residents of the Castle Hill district are known as *les castillinois*.
- Jean-B. Ledoux of Roxton Pond, PQ, who was a Salem resident until 24 years ago, has returned to visit his brother.
- Anicet Gauthier and his family, of 9 Dodge Street Court, have left Salem and will reside at St-Irenée, Charlevoix.

Business

- The New England Investment Company is taking hold in Salem. Atty Jean-B.-D. Jacques is hired as legal advisor, and Stanislas Fournier and Napoléon Lévesque are promoters. Joseph de Champlain gives a conference on January 24th, and a *Grande Assemblée* is held on March 5th.
- A group of Franco-American investors of Salem, with \$10,000 in capital and Joseph Lefèbvre as president, form the Imperial Shoe Manufacturing Co.

- Auguste Grossinger of Castle Hill, a Paris-trained chef, opens a French restaurant at 22 New Derby Street. René Brière, former chef at l'Hôtel-du-Louvre in Paris, reopens the French Restaurant located in the Lafayette Hotel on Washington Street.
- Wilfred and Arthur Larivée open a candy shop at 33 Perkins Street, where they also serve lunch. Joseph Lavoie, formerly with Louis Carrier, opens a new barber shop at 53 Congress Street. And Aurélie Ouellette opens a women's clothing store at 37 Harbor Street.
- Frank Dupré is selling his variety store at 61 Congress Street, and Arthur Tremblay has sold his bakery at 38 Pingree Street to Alfred Tremblay. Carpenters *Dupré et Paré* have moved to 16 Endicott Street. Joseph Fugère is building a new store on Palmer Street, slated to open on May 1st.
- Adélarde Lévesque is constructing a large four-story block at the corner of Palmer and Prince Streets.
- The pharmacies of Dr Roulier on Palmer Street and of P.-L.-M. Gaudette on Congress Street are robbed during the night of March 27th.

Church

- Père Martial Manseau, pastor of St-Joachim, PQ, preaches at St-Joseph's on January 24th. Père Hamet opens the annual retreat by the Franciscans on April 11th.
- Arthur Thibault, a seminarian at Brighton, is vacationing at home in Salem.
- St-Joseph's Choir is holding rehearsals for Easter on Wednesday and Friday evenings and on Sunday afternoons.
- Père Rosario Richard of St-Joseph's has left for Victoriaville, PQ, to attend the funeral of his brother-in-law, Dr Laurendeau, who died suddenly.
- Père Rainville buys the Haskell estate alongside the rectory; Octave Ouellette, sacristan, becomes a temporary tenant. The rectory is sold to Joseph Ledoux for \$1500, and will be moved to Washington Street when the new rectory is built. A brick building on St-Joseph's property is being razed, which will eliminate Harbor Square.

Music

- Students of *l'École St-Joseph* present two operettas: "*Une pluie de fleurs*" and "*Quinolette*".
- Mlle Marie-Louise Blaquière is commended for her fine solo during the Easter Mass at Ste-Anne's Church.

Entertainment

- Ste-Anne's hosts a *soirée et séance* at the Empire Theatre on January 7th. St-Joseph's hosts a *soirée dramatique et musicale* in its hall on January 26th in honor of the pastor's birthday.
- A *soirée d'amusements* is held in the St-Jean-Baptiste Hall on January 23rd; tickets are .25¢ for men, and .15¢ for ladies.

- A whist party is held at Ste-Anne's on *Mi-Carême* and raises \$100 for the parish. At another *Mi-Carême* party in the Cercle Veillot Hall on March 18th, it is noted that: "*Beaucoup de jeunes gens s'y amusèrent en famille et à coeur joie.*"
- *Le Théâtre National Français de Montréal*, under the direction of Paul Cazeneuve, comes to Salem. Albert-E. Roberge of Salem is agent of the troupe. Performances are at the Empire Theatre where Daniel-F. Landry is manager. Among the works performed are "*Napoléon*", "*Faust*", "*La femme du peuple*", and "*Les trois mousquetaires*".

Advertisements

- *Théâtre Comique – Les dernières et les meilleures vues animées, provenant des meilleurs producteurs Français et Américains. Chansons...*
- *Mercredi le 10 mars – Cazeneuve à l'Empire: "Les Trois Mousquetaires". 22 artistes. .25, .35, .50, .75, et \$1.00.*
- *Nap. Ouellette, restaurant, 199 rue Washington...Ouvert de 5 hrs. du matin à 1 hr de la nuit...*
- *F. Beaulieu, Maison de Pension. Heures des repas: Déjeuner, 6 à 8½ hrs. Dîner, de 11½ à 1½ hr. Souper, de 5½ à 7 h. Le repas 18 cts. 15 rue Harbor.*
- *David-J. Thibault Co. Coin Congress-Palmer. Ouverture de "Saloon" samedi prochain [1er mai]. Nous sommes prêts à recevoir nos compatriots. Le Meilleur Stock.*
- *André-A. Bellefontaine, 45 Harbor, ice boxes \$6.75.*

Grande Vente de Noël

A l'occasion des Grandes Fêtes de Noël et du Jour de l'An, nous faisons une Vente Spéciale dans les Chapeaux, Articles de Modes et de Fantaisie, Bijouteries, Marchandises Sèches, etc..

Toutes personnes achetant pour le montant d'une piastre et plus durant cette vente recevra gratuitement un magnifique calendrier pour la Nouvelle année. Nous invitons donc toutes nos pratiques à ne pas manquer cette occasion et à se présenter des les premiers jours car le nombre des calendriers est limité.

L'espace nous manque pour énumérer tous les bons marchés que vous pouvez faire ici, mais lisez la circulaire que nous distribuons cette semaine dans les familles et vous serez convaincu que la meilleure place pour vos achats de Noël est toujours au magasin fashionable et populaire de

Mlle E. Brassard & Cie.,

70-72 Rue Harbor, Salem.

Notre magasin sera ouvert tous les soirs la semaine prochaine, Noël excepté.

Traditions

No. 3: “Nos légendes de Noël”

D.-Michel Michaud, #1

Storytellers or *raconteurs* reveled in the opportunity to entertain guests, especially during the Christmas season. Children were fascinated by a *pépère* who could embellish a story which was handed down from generation to generation. Some legends are ancient, having originated in France during the seventeenth century or earlier, while others evolved from the folklore of Québec. Most have a moral and are instructive in some way. Some of our ancestors were indeed superstitious and accepted these legends as factual, while others regarded them merely as entertainment. In either case, the annual retelling of these Christmas miracles has long been a tradition in French-Canadian families.

Three of the most popular Christmas legends of Québec take place during the celebration of the midnight Mass. The first is based on the observance of All Souls' Day, the second on Christmas, and the third on the Epiphany. In each case, the moral is the same: missing Mass leads to doom.

- According to one legend, when the midnight Mass begins, the dead rise from their graves in the nearby churchyard, and kneel together around the cross. The former pastor also rises and, vested in a white surplice and gilt stole, offers Mass for them while they respond to the prayers. After Mass, the souls are allowed to visit their last residence in the village before returning to their graves. If any of the living leaves the midnight Mass in the church, he or she will see the Mass of the Dead, but will surely join them within the year.
- In another legend, barnyard animals are said to kneel in adoration at midnight, and are given the gift of speech. In some accounts, they relate to one another the message of the Nativity story; in others, they merely complain of dry hay or oats and of being pent up during the night. No one knows for certain, since to miss Mass in order to listen in, one will only hear of his or her own final days.
- In yet another legend, the mountains are said to crack open a bit at midnight. Under the stars and in the moonlight, one can catch a glimpse of the gold, jewels, and other riches buried within. Misers who avoid the midnight Mass are allowed to view the treasures momentarily, but will not live to attain them.

In the many accounts of family gatherings in Salem, it is common to find a *raconteur* who entertains the group by spinning colorful tales, holding his audience spellbound. The three Christmas legends described here are among the most well known, and were certainly retold here in Salem

by our ancestors. Even today, there are families whose children say: “*Pépère*, tell us a story!” And at Christmas, *pépère* may pass along one of these legends which have been in the hearts of French-Canadians for generations.

Our traditions: a heritage worth remembering!

□ □ □

Book review

“L’héritière de Salem”

L’héritière de Salem. Caroline Barré. Sainte-Pie (Québec): Les Éditions JKA, March 2008, 474 pages. In French. ISBN: 978-2-923672-00-7, \$24.95.

Caroline Barré has written an intriguing work of fiction, an epic novel, which takes place in the city of Salem, Massachusetts. She is an articulate writer whose fluid style displays colorful imagery. The author does not allow her reader’s attention to wane from the first page to the last, and continuously introduces fresh creative scenarios as the events unfold.

The story opens on the eve of Christmas 2004 when Megan learns that she was adopted at birth, and that she is the descendant of a family that was accused of witchcraft in 1692. She travels from Drummondville (Québec) to Salem for the reading of a will. There she learns that she must live in her late grandmother’s home for one year in order to claim her inheritance.

Barré has created a novel which does not deal with witchcraft, but with its stigma which has been erroneously applied to generations of a family through ignorance and prejudice. The central character is a strong contemporary woman who struggles with these very real issues.

This is an elegantly written work of literature from Québec. Anyone with ties to Salem – and who is able to read French! – will enjoy this engrossing novel.

L’héritière de Salem is available on special order from many fine bookstores, or by writing to the publisher at www.leseditionsjka.com. (We look forward to the sequel, which the author has already begun writing!)

Questions & Answers

Q-7 Where is the World War II Veterans' Plaque that was in old Ste-Anne's Church?

A-7 The large solid bronze plaque with raised letters was dedicated at Vespers on Sunday 28 November 1948. On it were the names of 309 veterans of the parish, including six who gave their lives. Much of the plaque was salvaged following the fire of 3 February 1982, though broken and severely damaged. It was deemed beyond repair, and the cost of replicating the memorial prohibitive. Fortunately, the list of names has been preserved.

Q-8 Wasn't there also a *Salut au drapeau*, in French, for the American flag?

A-8 Yes! The Pledge of Allegiance (*l'engagement de fidélité*) is as follows:

*J'engage ma fidélité au drapeau
des États-Unis d'Amérique
et à la République qu'il représente:
une nation, sous Dieu, indivisible,
avec liberté et justice pour tous.*

Q-9 I am looking for anyone who has information on the family of Léon and Phélonise (Bouchard) Auger. I believe they moved to Salem about 1902 and lived at 31 Roslyn Street in 1920. They had nine children.

A-9 We know of five children, all deceased: Normand married Lucienne Ledoux, Paul-L.

married Christine Mulligan, Alice married Everett Evans, Léona married Edmond Michaud, and Viola married Joseph St-Laurent. Anyone with information is asked to contact Paul-K. Auger (#106), 1 Brookside Drive, Bridgewater, MA 02324-4304.

Q-10 Are there any places in Québec with the name of Salem?

A-10 Only one, and it is not a city or a town, but a lake! *Lac Salem* is located within the village of St-Roch-de-Mékinac, in Champlain county, about 35 miles north of the city of Trois-Rivières. Its parish, also known as St-Roch-de-Mékinac, serves some 300 residents of the *lac Salem* area. (The native word *mékinac* means tortoise, and is the name of a nearby mountain.)



Members are encouraged to send questions, or replies to questions, for this column, either by letter or by email.

Genealogies

Labrecque

- Jacques Labrecque & Jeanne Baron
Of St-Jacques-de-Dieppe (Normandie) France
- I Pierre Labrecque & Jeanne Chotard (Jacques & Suzanne Gabaret)
Château-Richer, 2 Jan 1663
- II Mathurin Labrecque & Marie-Marthe Lemieux (Gabriel & Marthe Beauregard)
Lauzon, 5 Nov 1693
- III Joseph Labrecque & Marie Roy (Guillaume & Geneviève Lafrenaye)
Beaumont, 17 Jun 1734
- IV Étienne Labrecque & Geneviève Fournier (Augustin & Marie Boutillet)
St-Michel, 9 Aug 1773
- V Joseph Labrecque & Madeleine Nadeau (Louis & Madeleine Paquet)
St-Gervais-de-Bellechasse, 23 Sep 1811
- VI Nérée Labrecque & Françoise Tanguay (Jean-Baptiste & Marie Baquet)
St-Gervais-de-Bellechasse, 4 Aug 1846
- VII Maxime Labrecque & Eugénie Labrie (Sifroid & Philomène Pineau)
Salem, MA, 21 Feb 1881

Lapointe

- Innocent Audet-dit-Lapointe & Vincente Reine
St-Pierre, Maulais, Poitiers (Poitou), France
- I Nicolas Audet-dit-Lapointe & Madeleine Després (François & Madeleine Legrand)
Ste-Famille, Île-d'Orléans, 15 Sep 1670
- II Joseph Audet-dit-Lapointe & Jeanne Pouliot (Charles & Françoise Meunier)
St-Laurent, Île-d'Orléans, 5 Nov 1703
- III Joseph Audet-dit-Lapointe & Marie-Anne Therrien (Barthélemy & Marguerite Fontaine)
St-Jean, Île-d'Orléans, 22 Feb 1740
- IV Barthélemy Audet-dit-Lapointe & Madeleine Tremblay (André & Catherine Bouchard)
C. Crepin, 5 Oct 1765
- V Joseph Audet-dit-Lapointe & Félicité Bouchard (Claude & Geneviève Degagné)
Île-aux-Coudres, 7 Nov 1791
- VI François Audet-dit-Lapointe & Olive Dumont (Pierre & Joseph Chassé)
St-André-de-Kamouraska, 26 Oct 1829
- VII Eusèbe Lapointe & Josephine Boucher (Joseph & Olympe Lévêque)
St-André-de-Kamouraska, 23 Feb 1857
- VIII Arsène Lapointe & Marie Michaud (Napoléon & Odile Leclerc)
Salem, MA, 5 Sep 1897

Décès

*Aux familles éprouvées par le décès d'un membre cher,
l'Institut franco-américain de Salem offre ses plus sincères condoléances.*

Edgar-J. ARSENAULT, 80 ans, 14 juillet 2008 • Jeannette-M. (Arsenault) BEAUPRÉ, 90 ans, 17 septembre 2008 • Robert BEAUPRÉ, 75 ans, 15 juillet 2008 • Frank BEAUREGARD, 88 ans, 30 septembre 2008 • Kenneth-N. BEAUSOLEIL, 62 ans, 7 septembre 2008 • Jeannette-Y. (Richards) BÉRUBÉ, 73 ans, 29 mai 2008 • Raymond-E. BLANCHETTE, 66 ans, 9 septembre 2008 • Emma (Boucher) BRUSSO, 92 ans, 2 septembre 2008 • Christine-E. (Samolchuck) CARON, 80 ans, 4 juin 2008 • Laurette-M. (Painchaud) CARUSO, 88 ans, 6 août 2008 • Antoinette-E. (Jaillet) COTÉ, 82 ans, 19 août 2008 • Rita (Bédard) D'ENTREMONT, 87 ans, 25 juillet 2008 • Lucienne-M. (Girard) DIXON, 97 ans, 19 juillet 2008 • Frank-O. DOUCETTE, 87 ans, 17 juillet 2008 • Joanne-T. (Nolet) EMMETT, 71 ans, 10 juin 2008 • Lucien-J. GAGNÉ, 89 ans, 4 juillet 2008 • Robert-R. GAGNON, 79 ans, 17 septembre 2008 • Thérèse-S. (Constantino) GAGNON, 74 ans, 18 septembre 2008 • Julia-T. (Czuchra) GAGNON, 90 ans, 18 septembre 2008 • Roland-C. GAUTHIER, 66 ans, 12 septembre 2008 • Réna-F. (Mallette) GUÉRRETTE, 83 ans, 30 août 2008 • Doris (Tardiff) HODGKINS, 15 juillet 2008 • Rita (Roy) JODOIN, 17 mai 2008 • Ida-Marie (D'Amour) JOHNSON, 104 ans, 11 septembre 2008 • Adrienne-Y. (Lévesque) KRANSBERG, 98 ans, 24 août 2008 • Helen-B. (Demeule) KULESZA, 95 ans, 13 août 2008 • Edward-W. LaFRENIÈRE, 51 ans, 3 juillet 2008 • Claudia-M. (Michalowski) LaPOINTE, 71 ans, 7 août 2008 • Elaine-F. (Dumas) LAWTON, 71 ans, 22 août 2008 • **Lucie-J. (Morin) LEMELIN, (F.A.I.S. #21),** 78 ans, 1 septembre 2008 • William LESSARD, 86 ans, 25 septembre 2008 • Robert-N. LEVASSEUR, 84 ans, 3 août 2008 • Roger-W. L'ITALIEN, 88 ans, 27 juillet 2008 • Thérèse-L. (Boisvert) McAULEY, 80 ans, 13 juillet 2008 • **Dorothy-B. (Michaud) MICHAUD, (F.A.I.S. #16),** 88 ans, 24 août 2008 • Roland-E. MORIN, 64 ans, 2 août 2008 • **Russell-J. NOVELLO, (F.A.I.S. #83),** 79 ans, 23 septembre 2008 • Jeanne-C. (Raymond) O'NEIL, 97 ans, 2 juillet 2008 • James-L. PELLETIER, 60 ans, 26 juillet 2008 • Roland-A. PELLETIER, 73 ans, 23 septembre 2008 • Gérard-W. PLOURDE, 77 ans, 10 juin 2008 • Carol-Ann POITRAS, 66 ans, 19 septembre 2008 • Eléonor-B. (Deschêne) RAYNES, 82 ans, 11 août 2008 • Thérèse-E. (Blanchette) REYNOLDS, 65 ans, 20 juillet 2008 • Judith-A. (Fontaine) ROGERS, 48 ans, 31 août 2008 • Blaine-M. RUELLE, 28 ans, 5 juillet 2008 • Simone-A. (Belleau) STROUT, 86 ans, 22 juillet 2008 • Melda (Lévesque) TALBOT, 98 ans, 11 septembre 2008 • David-P. TARDIFF, 48 ans, 12 août 2008 • Francis-A. TARDIFF, 96 ans, 4 août 2008 • Doris-H. (Gélineau) TIERNEY, 81 ans, 22 septembre 2008 • Mary-Anne-I. (Dion) WHALEN-SPINALE, 79 ans, 14 août 2008.

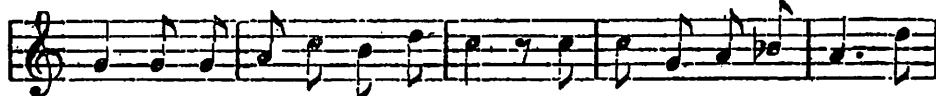
Nous nous souviendrons d'eux

Dans cet étable.

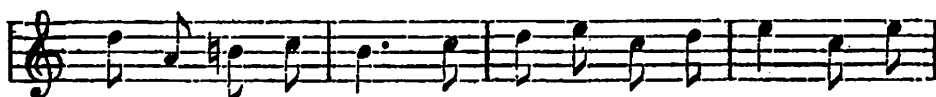
Andantino.



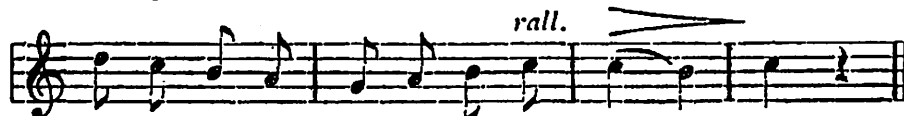
Dans cette é- ta- ble, Que Jé- sus est charmant! Qu'il est ai-



ma- ble, Dans son a- bais-se- ment! Que d'at-traits à la fois! Tous



les pa- lais des rois N'ont rien de com- pa- ra- ble Aux



beau- tés que je vois Dans cette é- ta- ble.

2

Que sa puissance
Paraît bien en ce jour,
Malgré l'enfance
Où le réduit l'amour!
Le monde racheté,
Et tout l'enfer dompté,
Font voir qu'à sa naissance
Rien n'est si redouté
Que sa puissance.

3

Touchant mystère!
Jésus, souffrant pour nous,
D'un Dieu sévère
Apaise le courroux.
Du testament nouveau
Il est le doux agneau;
Il doit sauver la terre,
Portant notre fardeau:
Touchant mystère!

4

S'il est sensible,
Ce n'est qu'à nos malheurs,
Le froid pénible
Ne cause point ses pleurs.
Mon cœur à tant d'attraits,
A de si doux bienfaits,
A ce charme invincible
Doit céder désormais,
S'il est sensible.

5

Ah! je vous aime,
Vous vous cachez en vain,
Beauté suprême,
Jésus, Enfant divin!
Vous êtes à mes yeux
Le puissant Roi des cieux,
Le Fils de Dieu lui-même
Descendu dans ces lieux:
Ah! je vous aime!

FLÉCHIER.

La Revue de Salem

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Franco-American Institute of Salem, Inc.

Organized on 1 May 2005 and incorporated on 16 February 2006, the Franco-American Institute of Salem is dedicated to preserving and promoting the history, genealogy, and culture of the Franco-American community of greater Salem, Massachusetts.

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Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

□ □ □

Officers 2008-2009

D.-Michel Michaud, President
Nelson-L. Dionne, Vice-President
John M. Kobuszewski, Treasurer
Rosemary-H. O'Brien, Secretary

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Meetings

Meetings of the officers of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2009 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 3 May and 4 October at 4:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.