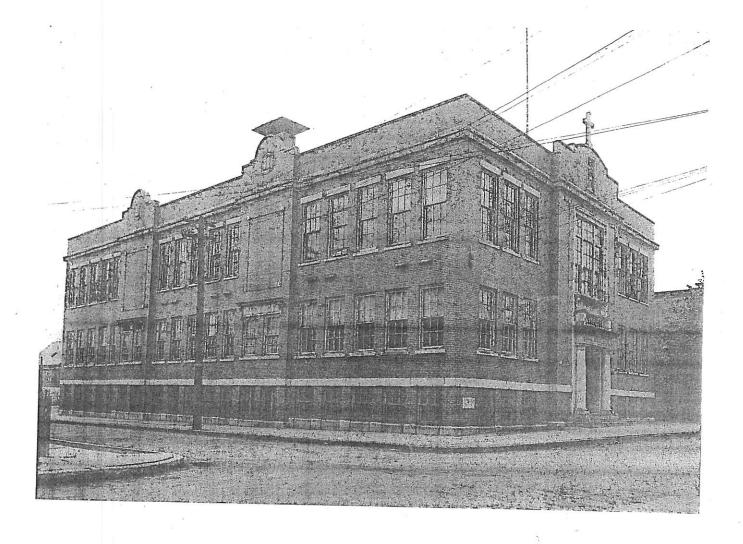


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"Dans l'bon vieux temps ça s'passait d'même . . . "



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

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Cover Photo: L'Académie St-Joseph, located at the corner of Harbor and Salem Streets, served the people of Salem from 1925 to 1980. (Article begins on page 4.)

### News

The village of Saint-Louis-du-Ha! Ha! In Québec appears in the 2018 edition of the Guinness Book of World Records. It is the only place with two exclamation points in its name! Une curiosité • Landry & Arcari of Salem, founded in 1938, received the Massachusetts Retailer of the Year Award at Bentley University on November 16th. Félicitations! • Salem native Chrissy Lebel, owner of Lebel Signs in Lynn, was featured in the Salem News on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. Her recreations of "ghost signs" are works of art! Bravo! • Salem native Devin Thériault was honored for having come to the rescue of a choking boy in Danvers on January 15th. Un vrai sauveur • Our sincere sympathies to our former secretary Rosemary (Jacques) O'Brien (#9) on the passing of her brother Thomas (#124) on January 18th at the age of 78. Nos condoléances. • Delande Lighting at 22 New Derby street announced its closing on January 31st after 100 years in Salem. The family-owned business will continue to operate its electrical supply division in Peabody. Une perte pour notre ville! • Salem City Clerk Cheryl LaPointe retired on March 30th after 29 years in City Hall and 14 years as clerk. Bonne retraite! • Roger and Virginia L'Heureux (#37) are celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on April 26th! Nos felicitations! • Be sure to read our editorial page for a listing of upcoming events in the Franco-American community! Fêtons ensemble! • Our member Lauren Poussard (#270) is designing a new web site for the F.A.I.S. Watch our August issue for details. On a hâte de voir ça! • Our 10th annual summer social, l'Été en fête, will be held on Sunday afternoon, August 26th. Save the date! Soyez de la fête!

Donations received include: Books (10), diaries (2), pamphlets, postcards, photos and CD from Anne Kobuszewski (#43); book and office supplies from Janet Briggs Lettich (#190); books (25) from D.-Michel Michaud (#1); book from Sheila Théberge (#11); and gifts from Rosemary O'Brien (#9), Ronald McCulley (#67), Alfred Bédard (#97), and Paul Salvas (#109). Un grand merci à tous!

An Invitation! Our exhibit at this year's summer social will be entitled "Le jour du mariage". We invite our members to submit photos of couples taken on their wedding day, 50 years ago or more, either in Salem or in Canada. Be sure to include their names as well as the date and place of the wedding. If you prefer, a clear photo of the original can be sent by email to francosalem@yahoo.com\_Soyez de la fête!

# Chaque mois une réunion

The arrival of spring marks the return of many annual events in the Franco-American community!

Graduates of Salem's *l'Académie St-Joseph* gather for its semi-annual reunion dinner in **April**. Friends of the Canadian Klondike Club of Salem are invited to an annual reunion in its former hall on Lafayette street in **May**. A variety of events are open to the public during Lowell's Franco-American Festival Week in **June**. All are welcome to Ste-Anne's church in Salem to celebrate a French Mass in honor of its patronal feast in **July**. Members of the Franco-American Institute of Salem will enjoy a summer social, *l'Été en fête*, on **August** 26<sup>th</sup>. Many fine lecturers will speak on our ancestry at the Fall Conference of the American-Canadian Genealogical Society in Manchester, NH in **September**. And a variety of events take place during the week when "Lowell Celebrates Kerouac" returns in **October**.

These are but a few of the celebrations on the 2018 calendar! Their success is due not only to the hard work and dedication of the organizers, but to the many who support and attend these celebrations of our Franco-American culture. Contact us for more information on these and other events.

Salut, printemps!

This year marks the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our annual summer social, *l'Été en fête*, and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our journal, *La Revue de Salem*!

Ça se fête!



# L'Académie St-Joseph Part I

This year marks the 90<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first graduating class of St-Joseph's High School. A brief history along with a lengthy list of alumni will be of interest to many of our readers.

Père Pierre-Hercule Grenier (1857-1946), a native of Montréal, was a curate at St-Joseph's when its first elementary school was dedicated in 1893. More than a quarter-century later, on 14 July, 1920, he returned as pastor. What he found was "a much diminished parish, still not fully recovered from the devastating fire [of 1914] and its aftermath." Students were still crowded into "temporary" quarters above the basement church. Père Grenier had ambitious plans and vowed to work quickly. He would construct two new buildings and establish a high school program all within five years.

It was only six months after his arrival that he approved the plans for a new school at the corner of Harbor and Salem streets. These were drawn by Salem architect J.-Arthur Marchand (1890-1966), and Jules-A. Gourdeau (1873-1961) of Salem was selected as general contractor. Constructed at a cost of \$142,000, the school opened in the fall of 1921 for students in grades 5 through 8. This building, later to serve as the high school (see cover photo), was fully described in the press:

The structure [is] of brick, with limestone trimmings and flat roof of the tar and gravel variety, the frontage on Harbor street being 66 feet and the length on Salem street 118 feet. There [is] a neat portico entrance to the school from the front. There are three exits from the basement, while on the first and second floors there are exits at the front and rear.

The school is finely laid out, on the first floor there being a main corridor of good width which runs through the centre part of the building, [with] marbleoid flooring in the corridors and stair treads. There are three classrooms with wardrobes on either side, each of which will seat about 50 pupils, with the sister superior's office in the centre on the left side of the corridor and another for the teaching sisters opposite on the right. The rooms are some 25 by 30 feet in size, of good stud, with beech flooring, the finish [woodwork] being of hard pine. The walls are tinted cream color. Each room has an electrically operated clock, worked from a master clock, and requires no attention.

On the second floor is to be found a fine auditorium of sizeable dimensions, with steel ceiling and birch floor, seating 700 to 800 persons, for entertainment purposes or assemblies. It is finished in mahogany, with the walls tinted gray. The stage, toward the rear of

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# Officer Amédée Coté

One of the most prominent figures among Salem's Franco-American community at the turn of the century was Amédée Coté. An active member of many organizations, he served on the Salem police force for a quarter of a century.

Amédée Coté was born at St-Pie-de-Bagot, PQ, on 31 March 1866, the son of Onésime Coté and Célina Beaudry. He came to Salem in 1884 and worked as a grocery clerk before becoming an insurance agent. A talented actor, he organized a dramatic troupe known as *Le Club Fréchette* and was elected its first president in 1894. On 19 February 1895 he married Georgianna Voyer, the daughter of Jean-Baptiste Voyer and Rose Tremblay. Born in Bic, PQ, she had resided in Salem since 1871. The couple made their home at 134 Lafayette street, directly opposite St-Joseph's church.

In 1903, after having served on the reserve force for 18 months, Coté was appointed a police officer on the regular force by Mayor Joseph F. Peterson. He was assigned to patrol the Point neighborhood on the night shift, a duty he fulfilled throughout his career. He was a member of the Salem Police Relief Association, and represented the Salem officers at many conventions of the Massachusetts Police Association.

A member of the *Société St-Jean-Baptiste*, Coté served as correcponding secretary, incorporator, and collector before his election as president in 1904. He was a shareholder in *Le Courrier de Salem*, as well as auditor and general manager of the company. Coté



AMEDEE COTE

was a member of the *Cercle Lacordaire*, a temperance organization founded in 1912. An active member of St-Joseph's parish, he was elected president of its *Ligue du Sacré-Coeur* in 1913. And as a member of *les Artisans*, Coté was a delegate to its annual conventions in Lowell, Fall River, Springfield, Providence, and Montréal.

Like so many others, Coté lost his home and possessions in the Great Salem Fire of 25 June 1914. The property was taken by the City of Salem to create what is now Lafayette Park. After a brief stay at 49 Hancock street, the couple moved to 276 Washington street overlooking the park and the church.

A longtime member of *l'Union-St-Jean-Baptiste-d'Amérique*, *Conseil Laurier No.* 72, Coté was treasurer of its Master Build-

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ers' Association when it constructed its hall on Salem street in 1923.

Although M. et Mme Coté had no children, they were surprised to find that some two dozen of their relatives and friends had organized a 25<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary party in their honor at their home on Sunday evening, 15 February 1920. The *soirée* included the presentation of gifts and flowers, card playing, singing and music. Refreshments

were served and the festivities continued late into the evening.

In 1926 Amédée Coté had been confined to his home for nine days with pneumonia. He died on March 19<sup>th</sup> in the early hours of the morning, only 12 days short of his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday. Besides his wife, he left three brothers and three sisters. The 25-year veteran of the Salem Police Department was buried from St-Joseph's church and was laid to rest in St. Mary's Cemetery. Mme Coté died on 19 May 1945 at the age of 85.

# Remembering the Great War

War was declared in Europe on 28 July 1914 and United States involvement began on 6 April 1917. What is now known as the First World War was at its height a century ago. Among the many from Salem who participated in the various branches of the military, the Franco-Americans were often the **FIRST** to serve.

Pierre-Georges Nève (1884-1916) was born in France and settled in Salem in 1902. Shortly after his home at 42 Ward street was destroyed in the 1914 fire, he left his wife and five children to join the French Army. He was killed at Verdun on 20 March 1916, "the **FIRST** death of a Salem resident since the war broke out."

François Morin (1896-1969) was born in Québec and his family settled in Salem the following year. He was "the FIRST Salem man drafted" after the United States entered the war in 1917.

Gertrude Bastien, a native of Worcester, settled in Salem and enrolled in the Salem Hospital Training School from which she graduated in 1916. A Registered Nurse, she enrolled in the Army Nursing Corps in 1918 and was called "Salem's FIRST war nurse."

Ovila-J. Bouffard (1894-1918) was born in Milford, NH and came to Salem at a young age. The eldest of four sons of a widowed mother, he entered the U. S. Army and was killed in action at Château-Thierry on 15 March 1918. He was "the **FIRST** Salem soldier to die for his country."

Desneiges (Ouellette) Sénéchal (1865-1939) was called "the ONLY mother in New England who had five sons serving overseas during the war. They were all in service for two years and

were decorated for bravery and valor." Ludger (1889-1960) and Eugène (1890-1948) served in the Navy, and Hormidas (1893-1963), Napoléon (1894-1955) and Arthur (1899-1958) served in the Army.

One of the most imposing of patriotic displays in Salem took place a century ago, on Sunday afternoon 28 April 1918. The headlines of the following day read: "Crowd of 10,000 at Double Flag Raising".

A procession of 1,000 members of various societies emerged from St. Joseph's church at 3:30 PM, accompanied by the French National Guards Band. Two enormous silk flags, each measuring eight by twelve feet were carried – the American flag, and a Service flag with 300 stars representing the parishioners serving in the armed forces. After the opening remarks by the pastor, Père Georges-A. Rainville, came the singing of "La Marseillaise" assisted by a 200-voice choir. Père Granger, O.P., gave a "magnificent" keynote address, followed by the blessing of the flags and the singing of the "Star Spangled Banner" and the hymn "Veille, veille sur nos soldats". Mayor Denis-J. Sullivan hoisted the flags "while a fresh wind was blowing from the east." Sgt. Ephrem Barthélemy of the French Army and former editor of Le Courrier de Salem, and Judge Alden Perley White of Salem were next to speak. After the singing of "O Canada", Judge Joseph Lussier of Holyoke gave an "impassioned speech", and Mayor Sullivan delivered an "eloquent address". Père J.-D. Binette then offered a thanksgiving, and Napoléon Lévesque called for three cheers for the heroes of the war.

A collection was taken up for the Liberty Bond drive by Paul Chaput, Alfred Audet, Amédée Coté, Rep. Chauncy Pépin, Dr Alfred LeBoeuf, Joseph Hudon, Alfred Deschênes, Joseph Dubé, Attorney Joseph-F. Pelletier and others. More than \$12,500 was collected in one day.

A similar ceremony, on a smaller scale, was held at Ste-Anne's church on Sunday afternoon June 30<sup>th</sup>. The pastor, Père J.-Alfred Peltier, blessed the American flag, and a Service flag with sixty stars. Among the speakers were Mayor Sullivan, Rep. Chauncey Pépin, and Attorney Clément Desaulniers. Music was provided by the French National Guards Band. Among the guests of honor were Père Georges-A. Rainville, Dr Camille Coté, Judge Alden Perley White, and City Council President Omer-P. Thériault.

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The war came to an end on 11 November 1918. Little more than a year later, on New Year's Day 1920, Salem's most imposing World War I memorial was dedicated in the vestibule of St-Joseph's church. Members of the various societies along with the French National Guards Band

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escorted some 600 uniformed veterans of the parish in a parade on Lafayette street where the American and Service flags were raised and saluted. A Military Mass was then offered in the church by Père J.-D. Binette, and the homily was given by Père Constant Doyon, O.P., of St-Hyacinthe, PQ, a chaplain in the French-Canadian Army. The dedication followed.

The memorial in honor of the 627 veterans of the parish was indeed imposing. Rising to a height of 10 feet six inches and spanning across a width of 26 feet, it was erected at a cost of \$4,500. A lengthy description was published in the Salem Evening News on 30 December 1919, saying in part:

The memorial is one of the finest examples of marble workers' art that Salem or any community can boast. So far as is known, it is the only roll of honor of such pretentiousness in the country and is unlike any other because of its elaborateness.

Of white marble generally, the seven tablets on which the names of the service men are to be found, are flanked on either side by fluted white topped columns of green Vermont marble, with the same material framing the upper portion of the memorial. The whole rests on a background of white marble. At the base a slab of white marble two feet wide extends outward, this setting some few inches above the ground and resting on a base of green marble.

The main part of the memorial comprises seven tablets, each some three feet wide, in the center one of which, in golden graven letters, are the names of the 12 young men who lost their lives in the service. Over all is to be noticed in large golden letters, "Honneur a nos braves," or "Honor to our braves," with the dates 1917 and 1919 at either side. Over the names of the deceased war heroes in relief is the form of an angel with right hand elevated, holding aloft a laurel branch. Overhead is a scroll in which appears in golden letters, "L'histoire consacrera ces noms," or "History will consecrate their names."

Underneath the angel appear the words, "In memoriam" and the names of the deceased heroes, in two columns of six each: Bouffard, Ovila; Bourgault, Paul; Charette, Ulric; David, Arthur L.; Joly, Fred; Lavallee, Arthur; Leger, Hector; Levesque, Remi; Marc-Aurele, Noel; Morency, Omer; Neve, Pierre G.; Tardif, Elias. Directly under the names, in large golden letters, is "R.I.P." Below this are the names of the battles in which the American boys fought, as follows: Chateau-Thierry, Pont-a-Mousson, Toul, Saint Mihiel, Argonne, La Forest, Cambrai, Soissons and Chemin-des-Dames. The concluding words of this tablet, also done in good sized gilded graven letters are the words, "Nous y etions," the English equivalent of which is "We were there."

An interesting feature of the memorial is the upper portion within the enclosed triangle of green marble. In the centre is an American eagle with outspread wings holding in his claws the American flag on the left centre and on the right is the flag of France. A cross rises above the head of the eagle. To the left of the American flag in spray are laurel leaves, while to the right of the French flag are maple leaves, the insignia of the Canadian forces.

In the fall of 1948, three decades after World War I had come to an end, St-Joseph's church was razed in preparation for the building of a new church. It was deemed too costly to save the "imposing" memorial, and it too was demolished. A new monument, "La Victoire du deuil" (Mourning Victory), was erected in Lafayette Park to honor the 2105 men and women of St-Joseph's parish who had served in both World Wars I and II.

### **Banners of Our Societies**

For many years, well into the second half of the twentieth century, a large banner signified the presence of a particular group in an official capacity. It was carried in parades and processions, it was displayed at meetings and other gatherings, and it served to represent the group at weddings and funerals of its members. It was an effective way of identifying an organization, and was an object of pride for its members.

Banners were often works of art, made of rich and colorful fabrics, hand embroidered, and embellished with costly gold trimmings. They bore the name and place of the organization as well as a large portrait or symbol, often with the date of the founding of the society or its motto. Generally in the form of a shield, banners were hung vertically from a staff. At conventions and other gatherings, groupings of colorful banners were an impressive sight.

Perhaps the earliest reference to a banner for a French society in Salem was on 30 May 1892 when a "new silk banner" for l'Union St-Joseph was "christened". The inscription read simply, "Union St-Joseph / fondée le 29 juillet 1889 / L'Union fait la force". (St. Joseph's Union / founded July 29, 1889 / In unity there is strength). The 100 members of the organization, along with the Lafayette Band, assembled at Town Hall where a parade was formed. At St-Joseph's church, "the banner was duly consecrated by the priests", and the parade then returned to Derby Square where a celebration dinner was served in Town Hall.

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An "elegant silk banner" was blessed in St-Joseph's church on the afternoon of 27 November 1902. It was inscribed "Société Saint-Antoine, Salem, Mass.", and bore a representation of St. Anthony holding the Infant Jesus. Following the ceremony, the members along with some 100 guests dined in the convent refectory before attending an evening of entertainment in St-Joseph's Hall.

At the wedding of Georges Labrie and Odina Parent in St-Joseph's church on 6 August 1906, "the banner of the League of the Sacred Heart, of which the groom is a member, and of the Children of Mary, of which the bride is a member, were displayed at the altar rail."

Les Petits Zouaves, founded in St-Joseph's parish in 1906, adopted a "white silk flag embroidered with the emblem of the Sacred Heart" which had been created for them by les Soeurs de Ste-Chrétienne.

It should be noted that the Carillon-Sacré-Coeur was the unofficial provincial flag of Québec from 1903 to 1948, and its public use in place of a "proper" banner was often controversial. An enormous parade was scheduled to be held in Boston on 1 November 1908 to commemorate the centennial of the diocese, and each parish was urged to send a delegation. When parishioners of St-Joseph's were denied permission to carry le Carillon, there was outrage! "Les conditions dans lesquelles doit se faire cette procession est assez humiliante pour les Franco-Américains...qui jamais ne renieront leurs habitudes ancestrales [et qui] ont cru bon de s'abstenir de toute participation à ces fêtes." (The conditions under which this parade must take place is rather degrading for the Franco-Americans...who will never deny their ancestral practices [and who] have deemed it well to abstain from any participation in these celebrations.) After a month-long battle, and only five days before the parade was to take place, it was announced that "St. Joseph's church will be represented and will carry the Sacred Heart society flag." Some 400 members of the society marched in this parade.

The cornerstone of St-Joseph's church was blessed on 30 July 1911 "after a procession of the several French-speaking societies." It was "decorated with the Stars and Stripes, the tri-color of France, and the banner of the League of the Sacred Heart."

On 27 June 1926 an "elaborate parade" was among the events which took place to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Ste-Anne's parish. The "banner of the Franco-American Federation, flanked on each side by American flags and the Tricolors" escorted the various societies from St-Joseph's Hall to Ste-Anne's church.

Banners were often carried to church for funerals of members of the society. As late as the 1940s, one could read that "Une delegation de Dames de la Sainte-Famille assistait aux funé-

railles. Les rubans de la bannière étaient portés par Mmes..." (A delegation of the Ladies of the Holy Family attended the funeral. The ribbons of the banner were carried by Mrs. ...).

Banners, once the symbol of an organization and the pride of its members, deteriorated with time and fell into disuse. As membership declined, these were often discarded and never replaced. Despite their constant presence at society gatherings, few of these works of art remain.

### The Banner of Ste-Anne

It is quite rare to have both a photograph of an early banner as well as a detailed history of its provenance. Forty years ago, on 14 June 1978, Marguerite Guertin of Covina, CA wrote her recollections of the banner made by her parents in Salem some 65 years earlier.

Marguerite-Régina Guertin was born in Spencer, MA on 7 March 1900, the daughter of Joseph-Hormidas Guertin (1873-1949) and Marie-Anne Lafleur (1877-1940). The family moved to Salem and resided at 64 Lawrence street from 1907 to the end of 1912. Marguerite entered the Sisters of St-Joseph of Orange, CA in 1927, and died in Los Angeles on 19 February 1994.

When she visited Salem in August of 1981, the banner of Ste-Anne had already long since disappeared. Undoubtedly, the weight of the metallic trimmings and the reaction of the oils had caused the delicate fabric to deteriorate many years earlier. We are fortunate to have a copy of the photograph taken over a century ago as well as the original manuscript, excerpts of which are reproduced here for the first time.



The Story of the Banner of Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré Castle Hill, Salem, Mass.

by Marguerite-M. Guertin

When my family lived in Castle Hill we belonged to the parish of Ste-Anne, and my Mother used to belong to the Sodality, "Les Dames de Ste-Anne". They wore a large medal of Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré, attached to a deep purple satin ribbon 1½ inches wide and about 4 inches long. Mother had a great devotion to Ste-Anne.

In the year 1911 or 1912, she had to go to the hospital for a major operation. She made two promises to Ste-Anne: if the operation was successful, she would make a pilgrimage to the Shrine of Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré [and] would make a beautiful large banner for the Sodality. They [then] only had a small, simple one which they used in processions and meetings.

Her surgery was a success. So, a few months after, when she was well enough, she went to Canada. On her return she spoke to my Dad and said she needed his help, explaining what she had in mind.

She bought a heavy satin. The front of the banner would be white, and the back a royal purple, trimmed with gold braid and gold fringe, and would be 3 feet wide by 5 feet long.

Now, Mother told Dad that in the center would be a picture of Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré, and she wanted him to paint it in oils on canvas. She had brought back a few small holy cards from Canada and said, "You can use this to help you."

His work was mostly done in the evenings and on weekends. He designed, around the picture, pink roses [and] curlicues in greens and browns, all edged in gold.

Mother hand-sewed all the braid and fringe. They bought a special wooden pole because the banner was heavy. We were all so proud. I remember when we walked to the rectory to show and present it to our pastor, Father Peltier, who was enamored with it. He blessed it, and blessed Mother and Dad.

It was used for the first time on Communion Sunday of Les Dames de Ste-Anne who were so proud of their lovely banner displayed in the sanctuary.

### [continued from page 4]

the building, is 15 feet deep and 29 feet wide. The proscenium arch is of imitation marble. To the rear of the stage are two dressing rooms and the rear exit. Also, two smaller rooms which may be used for class rooms.

The basement has a cement floor, with the various rooms separated by brick firewalls – the boys' and girls' sanitaries, janitor's room, the heating apparatus, coal bunker space, etc. The building is heated by the vapor system, is electrically lighted and has an up-to-date fire alarm signal system. A private phone system connects rooms and the building with other church property.

The introduction of a high school program required a larger teaching staff than could be provided by les Soeurs de Ste-Chrétienne. These Sisters left the parish on 7 July 1925 and were succeeded on August 20<sup>th</sup> by les Soeurs de l'Assomption de la Ste-Vierge. The Superior and 18 Sisters were assisted by six lay teachers for the 1,165 students who were enrolled on September 9<sup>th</sup>. It was on that date that l'Académie St-Joseph was founded by Sr Hélène-du-Crucifix (Alice Dessureau), assisted by Sr Marie-du-Refuge (Eva Talbot). In this first year, a commercial course for girls was offered in one of the classrooms of the Harbor street school.

A larger school building at the corner of Lafayette and Dow streets was completed the following year. Designed to accommodate all the elementary school grades, the Harbor street building was now available to accommodate an expanded high school program. Sr Jeanne-d'Orléans (Corinne Chicoine) and Sr Marie-des-Oliviers (Mary Cartier) began the classical course for boys in September of 1926.

The first commencement exercises of the Academy were held on Sunday 17 June 1928. It was noted that:

A special feature this year will be the graduation of girls and young men from the academic course conducted at the school and introduced at the St. Joseph's school three years ago. This is the first graduating class and an appropriate program has been prepared to mark this important event. [See *La Revue de Salem*, V.10, page 13]

Ninety students graduated from the Academy during its first five years. Among the first graduates in 1928 was Lillian-A. Lévesque (1910-1972), the first to be elected class president; she later became the wife of Wilfred-A. Pelletier (1904-1982). Also in this class was André Ouellette (1913-2001) who later served as Bishop of Mont-Laurier, Québec.

[to be continued]

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## Les anciens élèves de l'Académie

Class of 1928

Beaulieu, Albertine Bercier, Gertrude

Bérubé, Éva Bossé, Rosario

Bouchard, Irène

D'Amour, Élisabeth

Leblanc, Hermas

Lévesque, Edna

Lévesque, Lillian

Michaud, Blanche

Noiseux, Delima

Ouellette, André

Roy, Clarence

Simard, Ethel

Class of 1929

Arsenault, Bella

Bélanger, Béatrice

Bélanger, Gracia Bérubé, Lucien

Cyr, Violette

Gagnon, Albertine

Gagnon, Régine

Gauthier, Éli-Paul

Girard, Lucien

Goddu, Lionel

Ledoux, Yvette

Letourneau, Raymond

O'Connell, Margaret

O'Connell, Mortimer

Parent, Robert

St-Laurent, Yvonne

Thériault, Gérard

Toussaint, Rose-Delima

Class of 1930

Beausoleil, Léonard

Boisvert, Thomas

Bossé, Lydia

Chouinard, Armand

Ennis, Nina

Fournier, Lucien

Fraser, Clément

Fraser, Lionel

Gagnon, Germaine

Gagnon, Marie-Antoinette

Gagnon, Roger

Morin, Antoinette

Morin, Violette

Paquette, Roland

Poussard, Léo

Richard, Emma

Thériault, Cécile

Tremblay, Cécilia

Tremblay, Georges-Henri

**Class of 1931** 

Banville, Juliette

Barrette, Henri

Beaupré, Omer

Benjamin, Raymond

Cloutier, Edmond

Deschênes, Annette

Gagnon, Lucien

Gallant, Yvonne

Genest, Roger

Grenier, Placide

Laroche, Georges

Letourneau, Marie-Jeanne

Longval, Edouard

Marquis, Juliette

Michaud, Irène

Moreau, Marie-Luce

Ouellette, Marie-Stella

Plante, Léo

Tremblay, René

Turcotte, Juliette

Class of 1932

Beaupré, Marie-Anna

Bélanger, Jeannette

Benjamin, Georges-Henri

Bergeron, Jeannette

Bernier, Raymond

Bérubé, Réjane

Bérubé, Roland

Caron, Ida

David, Irène

Deschênes, Normand

Jodoin, Laurette

Lavoie, Rita

L'Heureux, Raoul

Maillet, Hermance

Martineau, Yvonne

Potvin, Raymond

Théberge, Juliette

Tremblay, Cécile

Trudel, Jacques

## Le Courrier de Salem

# Events of a century ago in Salem's Franco-American Newspaper May – August 1918

### **Societies**

- The state convention of *Les Artisans* will open on June 24<sup>th</sup> at Audet's hall, 96 Lafayette street. There will be a patriotic play and a musicale.
- Attorney Joseph-F. Pelletier of Salem was elected President of Le Club franco-américain in Boston on June 5<sup>th</sup>.

### The Press

- Attorney Joseph Lussier, owner of the newspaper La Justice of Holyoke, is visiting Salem.
- Émile-E. Marquis, owner of the newspaper Le Progrès of Nashua, is visiting relatives in Salem.

### **Politics**

 A bill was recently passed in Washington which requires passports for those returning from Canada, making travel "more and more difficult".

## Families and People

- Mile Josephine Roy has returned to St-Arsène after spending a year in Salem.
- Salem attorney Clément Desaulniers was appointed by the Superior Court to represent soldiers and marines in service to the country.
- Adélard St-Hilaire of Salem has enrolled in the Canadian Army at Montréal.
- Corporal Alban-J. Richard of Salem was awarded the *Croix de Guerre* by the French government.
- Frère Omer Laplante C.Ss.R. is visiting his father Alphonse in Salem.
- Mme Joseph Gagnon, née Élise Lambert, of Manchester, NH is visiting Salem for the first time since leaving 22 years ago.
- Narcisse and Arthémise (Desjardins) D'Amour celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary at St-Joseph's church on August 12<sup>th</sup>.
- Hector Dion of Salem street received a visit from his brother Attorney and Mme Aimé Dion of Québec. Joining them was Attorney Chapleau, legal advisor to the city of Québec.
- Mlle Euphémie Plourde and Mlle Alma Talbot have been recognized as the best weavers in the Naumkeag Mills. They have been sent to New York to give demonstrations at the National Cotton Manufacturers Association convention.

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### **Businesses**

- Mlle Rose-Delima Brochu, proprietor of *La Librairie française* on Lafayette street, offers a large selection of statues, scapulars, holy water fonts, religious pictures, flags, medals, books, sheet music, postcards, etc.
- Adélard Lévesque is now the sole proprietor of the North Shore Market on Central street.
- Joseph Dubé, Salem's largest baker, has purchased a Republic truck capable of carrying 2½ tons of flour. He now has 11 trucks and 6 cars for deliveries.

### Church

- Père Rainville of St-Joseph's is attending ceremonies in Nicolet, PQ where the Vicar-General, Rév. J.-E. Bourret, has been named *monseigneur*.
- Père J.-A. Peltier of Ste-Anne's is in Joliette, PQ where he will deliver homilies at the first Masses of his newly-ordained cousins.
- Georges Lavoie, 19, has gone to Limoilou, PQ where he will take the habit of the Pères Capucins on September 8<sup>th</sup>.
- La Saint-Jean will be celebrated on Sunday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The priests of St-Joseph's will celebrate the Mass, and the pastor of Ste-Anne's will preach. A French play and soirée musicale will be offered on Monday.

### **Entertainment**

- Poet-musician Albert Larrieu (1872-1925) and others from Paris will perform at the Federal Theatre on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- "Le Jour de l'An" will be performed at the Empire Theatre on the afternoons of May 26<sup>th</sup> and June 23<sup>rd</sup> to benefit Ste-Anne's parish.
- Charles Prince of Central Falls, RI will perform at St-Joseph's parish hall on the evening of May 26<sup>th</sup>.

### **Prices**

• Joseph-E. Gagnon of 19 Arthur street offers cabbage plants at .10¢ per dozen.

# Membership List

261.	MARTIN, Leah Richard	<del>2</del> 66.	LAVOIE, Lynn-M.
	Salem, MA 01970		Salem, MA 01970
262.	GALLANT, Léonard-A.	267.	LeBRUN, Danny
	Danvers, MA 01923		Peabody, MA 01960
263.	MACKEY, Thomas	268.	CODERRE, Nancy
	Danvers, MA 01923		Bushnell, FL 33513
264.	DARISSE, Danielle	269.	TARDIFF, Richard
	Los Angeles, CA 90025		W. Peabody, MA 01960
265.	PERRON, Shelly	270.	POUSSARD, Lauren
	Avon, CT 06001		Danvers, MA 01923

# Genealogies

### **Ouellette II**

François Ouellet and Isabelle Barré of St-Jacques-du-Hautpas, Paris, France

- I René Ouellet & Anne Rivet (of St-Gervais, Normandie, France) Québec, 8 Mar 1666
- II Mathurin Ouellet & Angélique Lebel (Nicolas & Thérèse Mignault) Rivière-Ouelle, 8 Jan 1691
- III Augustin Ouellet & Anne Autin (François & Marie Boucher)C. Janneau (Kamouraska), 7 Feb 1719
- IV Jean Ouellet & M.-Josèphte Tardif (Charles & Geneviève Roy)Kamouraska, 24 Jul 1747
- V Joseph-Marie Ouellet & Geneviève Labourier (Jacques & Josèphte Miville)
   Kamouraska, 8 Feb 1779
- VI J.-B.-Narcisse Ouellet & Charlotte Thiboutot (Pierre & Victoria Petit) Kamouraska, 10 Jun 1828
- VII Alexandre Ouellet & Adée Soucy (Jean-Baptiste & Julie Morneau) St-Pascal, Kamouraska, 11 Jul 1859
- VIII Desneiges Ouellet & Jean-Baptiste Sénéchal (Pierre-Damase & Pélagie Martel) Salem, MA, 28 Jan 1884

### Sénéchal

Michel Sénéchal and Michelle Pibouin of Chalandrey-des-Briards, Normandie, France

- Julien Sénéchal & Charlotte Pauzé (François & Anne Coté)
   St-Thomas, Montmagny, 21 Jan 1754
- II Joseph Sénéchal & Marie-Rose Tremblay (Jean & Marie-Louise Tremblay)
  Ile-aux-Coudres, 27 Jul 1783
- Pierre-René Sénéchal & Pélagie Morin (Alexis & Marie-Anne Bélanger)
   St-Jean-Port-Joli, 10 Jun 1812
- IV Pierre-Damase Sénéchal & Pélagie Martel (Jean-Baptiste & Marie Anctil)
   St-Roch-des-Aulnaies, 12 Aug 1845
- V Jean-Baptiste Sénéchal & Desneiges Ouellet (Alexandre & Adée Soucy)
   Salem, MA, 28 Jan 1884

### Décès

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

Gérard-R. ALLAIN, 75 ans, 22 novembre 2017 • Violet ARSENAULT (Sr Ste-Catherine-de-Sienne, S.S.Ch.), 92 ans, 2 Décembre 2017 • Lucien-J. BEAULIEU, 72 ans, 28 octobre 2017 • Patricia-R. (Patenaude) BLENKHORN, 82 ans, 16 octobre 2017 • Ann-Marie-L. (Thériault) CAMPANELLA, 68 ans, 21 janvier 2018 • Patrick-J. CARETTE, 88 ans, 15 décembre 2017 • Lucille-A. (Tierney) CASTONGUAY, 87 ans, 31 octobre 2017 • Ruth Harriet (Carr) CHALI-FOUR, 92 ans, 5 octobre 2017 • Susan (Morin) COUGHLIN, 65 ans, 14 octobre 2017 • Benjamin-E. COUILLARD, 60 ans, 1 janvier 2018 • Cheryl-A. DESCHËNE, 60 ans, 24 septembre 2017 • Rita-M. (Ouellette) DOWNING, 92 ans, 25 janvier 2018 • Daryel-Rosario DUHAIME, 61 ans, 18 novembre 2017 • Doris (Fortin) FARRELL, 86 ans, 14 novembre 2017 • Jeanne FORTIN (Sr Ste-Marie-Alfred, S.S.Ch.), 11 novembre 2017 • Edna-M. (Hébert) GALLANT, 86 ans. 9 novembre 2017 • James-Arthur GALLANT, 88 ans, 27 décembre 2017 • René-A. GIRARD, 87 ans, 7 octobre 2017 • Joseph-Robert HÉBERT, 85 ans, 25 octobre 2017 • Rita-A. (Charron) IWANICKI, 93 ans, 13 janvier 2018 • Thomas JACQUES (#124), 18 janvier 2018 • Emma JOHNSON (Sr Ste-Thérèse-Hélène, S.S.Ch.), 86 ans, 3 décembre 2017 • Thérèsa-C. (Raymond) LAJOIE, 90 ans, 25 décembre 2017 • Normand-H. LAMBERT, 78 ans, 22 novembre 2017 • Henry-E. LAVOIE, 91 ans, 15 décembre 2017 • Donald-Raymond LEMIRE, 89 ans, 2 octobre 2017 • Richard-J. LÉVESQUE (#187), 86 ans, 4 décembre 2017 • Angeline-M. (Gallant) MADDEN, 86 ans, 30 décembre 2017 • Victoria-Anne (Catoggio) MADORE, 90 ans, 16 janvier 2018 • Charlotte-Ann (Dennedy) MASSÉ, 86 ans, 21 décembre 2017 • Jeanne-E. (Proulx) McBRIEN, 85 ans, 20 janvier 2018 • Rita-Jeanne (Fontaine) McGRATTAN, 94 ans, 30 janvier 2018 • Patricia-M. (Fournier) McHUGH, 64 ans, 19 janvier 2018 • Carol-G. (Nadeau) McLAUGHLIN, 66 ans, 30 novembre 2017 • Mary T. (Ansaloni) MICHAUD, 90 ans, 5 décembre 2017 • Barbara Mary (Dinsmore) PELLETIER, 88 ans, 11 octobre 2017 • Ruth Ann (Newman) PELLETIER, 95 ans, 4 janvier 2018 • Jean-J. (Charest) POIRIER, 82 ans, 24 novembre 2017 • Diane-Louise (Lausier) POSKUS, 66 ans, 10 décembre 2017 • Norman-A. RICHARDS, 62 ans, 2 octobre 2017 • Doris-M. (Morin) SMITH, 85 ans, 18 décembre 2017 • Francis-R. SOUCY, 86 ans, 23 janvier 2018 • Raymond-J. SOUCY, 85 ans, 14 novembre 2017 • Edmond-Joseph THÉRIAULT, 82 ans, 25 octobre 2017 • Florence A. (Zuccaro) THÉRIAULT, 89 ans, 31 octobre 2017 • Barbara J. (McNiff) TREMBLAY, 88 ans, 7 décembre 2017 • Gabrielle-Lucille (Jalbert) TREMBLAY, 93 ans, 8 novembre 2017 •

# Nous nous souviendrons d'eux

## L'ÉTENDARD DE MARIE

## 270. Sous ta bannière.



Vierge, toujours, jusqu'au Calvaire, D'un pur éclat brillait ta foi; Pendant l'exil de cette terre, Nous voulons croire comme toi.

9

L'ordre de Dieu, Vierge héroïque, En tout guida ta volonté; Sachons soumettre, où Dieu l'indique, Notre orgueilleuse liberté. Le Dieu puissant, maître du monde, Jésus, ô Vierge, est dans tes bras; Suivre ta trace humble et féconde, C'est de Jésus suivre les pas.

5

Sous l'étendard de ta puissance Tous nous voulons vivre et mourir; Que tes vrais fils aient confiance, Pour eux l'enfer ne peut s'ouvrir.

# 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.

Membership, which includes a subscription to La Rèvue de Salem, is available for \$15.00 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

Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

### Officers 2018-2019

D.-Michel Michaud, President Nelson-L. Dionne, Vice President John M. Kobuszewski, Treasurer Janet Lettich, Secretary

### **Directors**

Dorothy Morneau (exp. 2018) Atty. Élisabeth-M. LeBrun (exp. 2019) Judith Pinault Ware (exp. 2020)

### Meetings

Board Meetings of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2018 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 20 May and 30 September at 3:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.

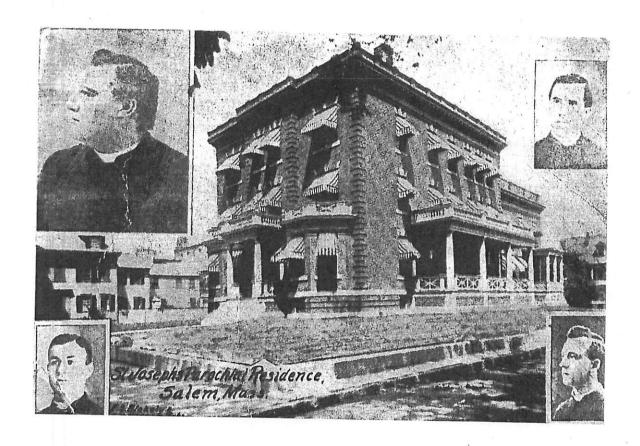


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"Dans l'bon vieux temps ça s'passait d'même . . . "



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

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Cover Photo: The new rectory of St-Joseph's parish as it appeared in the summer of 1910. (Article begins on page 24.)

### News

Roger Léger was honored at the Veterans' Hospital in Bedford on March 15th in recognition of his dedication to the hospice program "No Veteran Dies Alone". Un grand merci! • The Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne have closed their Regional Office in Wrentham, which is now located at their Residence in Marlboro. There they are joined by Sisters from two other communities, les Soeurs de l'Assomption (S.A.S.V.) and les Religieuses du Bon-Pasteur (R.G.S.) Bienvenue! • Paul Maher held a lecture and book signing at the Lowell Visitors' Center on March 11th. His work is on the Franco-American writer Jack Kérouac. Bravo! • Members of l'Académie St-Joseph Alumni and their guests attended a semi-annual reunion dinner on April 10th. Une belle reunion! • Jon Parisien was honored by the Salem City Council on April 12th for his heroic rescue of residents during a blaze on Boston Street on Good Friday. Nous sommes fiers! • Jimmy Guy was among the 115 runners for the Martin Richard Foundation at the Boston Marathon on April 16th. Applaudissements! • Sr Agnès-Marie Valois died on April 19th in a monastery in Normandy, France at the age of 103. A nurse at the Dieppe hospital during the raid of 19 August 1942, she was known as the "White Angel". There, nearly 5,000 Canadian soldiers took part and 913 lost their lives. Nous nous souviendrons d'elle. • A Mass was celebrated in French at St. Andrew's church in Billerica on April 21st. Merci à tous! • The second annual reunion of the Canadian Klondike Club was held on May 15th with Québec delegate Laurence Gagnon as an honored guest. Une belle soirée, malgré l'orage! • Among the Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne celebrating anniversaries this year are: Sr Irène Ledoux, 75 years; Sr Marie-Thérèse Ébacher, 70 years; and Srs Cécile Berthiaume, Jeannette Desorcy, and Louisa Perreault, 65 years. Among the Sisters of the Assumption are: Sr Evelyn Brault, 65 years; Sr Irène Martineau (#76), 60 years; and Sr Mary-Ella Provencher, 50 years. Ad Multos Annos! • Our secretary Janet Briggs Lettich (#190) was honored at the State House on June 20th as an "Unsung Heroine" for her contributions to those affected by the 2006 explosion in Danversport. Félicitations! • The F.A.I.S. was again a proud sponsor of Lowell's Franco-American Week which took place in June. Une semaine magnifique! • The Franco-American Institute of Salem will hold its 10th annual summer social. l'Été en fête, on Sunday August 26th. Sovez de la fête!

**Donations received** include: Books (2) from Nelson Dionne (#2); photos (2) and pamphlets (2) from Irène Fazio (#236); postcard from John Kobuszewski (#3); gift from Ronald McCulley (#67); repertoires (20), journals (2), and ephemera from D.-Michel Michaud (#1); and photo from Lauren Poussard (#270). *Un grand merci à tous!* 

# À vos cellulaires

Our tenth annual summer social features an exhibit entitled "Le jour du mariage" – twenty-eight wedding portraits taken between 1878 and 1968. These will be preserved in our archives where they will be of value to family researchers and historians.

Our member have found it a simple matter to take a picture of an original photograph using a cell phone! These pictures, sent to us by email, were then printed on photographic paper. These stunning images are now preserved in archival pages and are catalogued in our collections.

Most of our members have other photographs which deserve to be thus preserved. These include photos of our societies and organizations, of our homes and businesses, of people at work or at play, of a family's Christmas dinner, and of many other subjects. Unfortunately, these one-of-a-kind photos often become damaged over time while others will be lost forever.

We ask each of our members to take a few moments to share with us some of the photographs in their collections. This costs nothing to do and will result in a collection which is priceless. The history of the Franco-Americans of Salem can be told in words, but the images in this collection will bring those words to life.

Our members have been very generous in the past, and we look forward to the participation of each of our embers in this request for photographs. A few moments of your time today will be appreciated by generations to come. Do not miss this opportunity to see that your family is represented in the photograph archive collection of the Franco-American Institute of Salem.

À vos cellulaires!



# Presbytère St-Joseph (1910-1914)

Three buildings on Lafayette Street have served as a residence for the priests of St-Joseph's for 118 years. The second of these, the only one to be located at the corner of Dow Street, was occupied for less than four years before its destruction in the Great Salem Fire.

On 10 April 1886 Père Joseph-O. Gadoury purchased the Elwell estate, a wood-frame building at the corner of Harbor Street, to be used as a rectory. More than two decades later Père Georges-Alphonse Rainville purchased the three-story brick building at the corner of Dow Street, which had been the home of Salem mayor John F. Hurley. Workers began to demolish the building on 11 March 1909, and bids were solicited for the construction of the second rectory. It was announced on July 15<sup>th</sup> that a contract had just been signed by Salem contractor Alphonse Joly (1875-1944). There, a three-story, 26-room rectory of brick would be built at a cost of \$18,893.00 (the equivalent of over \$500,000.00 today). Descriptions of the new residence began to appear in the press in the spring of 1910.

The house is, without doubt, one of the handsomest and finest, both in exterior and interior appearance in the city and will be a great addition to this residential section. The exterior is of Philadelphia pressed brick with specially prepared trimmings of a light shade. It is three stories in height, with an ell in the rear and of the solid, substantial type of architecture suggestive of the Colonial, peculiarly appropriate to Salem. The main entrance in front is magnificent. The veranda facing Dow street is also worthy of note. The edifice contains seventy windows, two bay windows, and five entry doors. The windows are furnished with awnings. The cornices are made of copper and are quite remarkable. The roof is flat. From there one can enjoy an ideal panoramic view of the ocean, the city of Salem and its environs.

Inside the house, the same careful attention has been given as on the outside. In the basement are the laundry room with electric washing machine, hot-water boiler by which the house is heated, a room for canned goods with three large armoires, storage closets, large coal bin, toilet, etc. The entire basement is cement. Sixteen small windows allow light into the basement.

On the first floor, entering the main door, one steps into the main hallway which runs through the building from bottom to top. The finish in the hallway is of oak, carefully selected and highly polished and finished. One of the most notable features is the old-fashioned stairways with continuous balustrade which starts from a newel post at the bottom and curves upwards to the top floor in a practically continuous rail without corner posts on the other floors. Another particularly striking feature is the doors. These are of selected oak on the first floor and hallways, of the single panel type. The rooms on the second floor are finished in red birch and the doors, to conform with the two finishes, are made of oak on the hall side and birch on the room side. All of the doors in the main building are surmounted by a transom. The chandeliers are also very striking in design. Lighting is by electricity and gas in all of the rooms.

At the right of the main hall upon entering the first floor is the pastor's study [which] contains a magnificent fireplace, back of which is the parlor and dining room. The octagonal dining room has three cabinets with glass windows for dishes. In the ell in the rear are the kitchen, pantry, etc., equipped with the very latest improvements in refrigerators, culinary appliances, etc. From the Dow street entrance is a magnificent vestibule furnished with windows imitating church windows, although clear. Behind the kitchen is a sewing room.

On the left of the main hall is the smoking room or private parlor, embellished with a beautiful fireplace, back of which are three offices for the pastor and his curates. In one room is a massive steel vault. The side entrance leads to two other rooms for receiving the public. In this vestibule is a system of bells which allow one to call the particular priest one desires. Off the left, at the end of the hall, is a toilet room. The floor is mosaic; the wainscoting is of polished white tile.

On the second floor are three suites for the curates, each consisting of a study with beautiful library case and bed room; the pastor's room with bath connected, a room for the bishop and in the rear over the kitchen ell are the rooms for the domestics. The priests' bed rooms are equipped with telephones and the private telephones of the rectory. There are three bath rooms on this floor, all finished in tiling and mosaic floors, and a linen closet.

The third floor provides a large room for a gymnasium or recreation room, which opens to a small nook and the stairs leading to the roof of the edifice, another suite of a study with library case and chamber for a curate and four chambers to be used as needed. In certain rooms are a system of ventilation, bringing fresh air from the roof. Bath conveniences are also supplied on this floor. The ceiling of the corridor of this floor has a skylight.

Handsome papers are being placed on the walls. When this is finished and the grounds graded, the work will be completed. From top to bottom the building is the very acme of quality and the predictions made that the house would be one of the handsomest in Salem, when completed, appear to be borne out in fact.

The completed rectory was first occupied on 1 September 1910. A postcard was issued (see cover photo) which depicted the new residence as well as its first occupants. Clockwise from upper left: Père Georges-Alphonse Rainville (1859-1920), pastor from 1904 to 1920; Père Rosario Richard (1877-1951), curate from 1905 to 1913); Père J.-Donat Binette (1881-1930), curate from 1910 to 1920; and Père J.Éméric Chenel (1874-1944), in residence in 1910. The grand residence was an object of pride for the parishioners of St-Joseph's as well as for the citizens of Salem. Less than four years after its completion, on 25 June 1914, all was reduced to rubble

# L'Académie St-Joseph Part II

The 1930s were a time of many changes at the Academy.

Père Grenier, the pastor and founder of the Academy, had been in ill health for some time. He retired to the Séminaire St-Joseph in Trois-Rivières in June of 1931 and Père Jean-Baptiste Labossière (1864-1940), a native of Sorel, arrived as pastor. Père Labossière had been pastor of St-Louis-de-France in Lowell for the past 18 years, and that school had also been staffed by les Soeurs-de-l'Assomption. The Academy participated in the grand celebrations when he was given the title of Monseigneur in 1935, and again when he marked the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his ordination in 1939.

The Sisters were saddened by the departure of Sr St-Olivier (Philomène Levasseur) during the summer of 1931. She had been Superior of the convent since their arrival in Salem in 1925. She was succeeded in 1931 by Sr Marie-des-Neiges (Virginie Bergeron), and in 1937 by Sr Aimée-de-l'Assomption (Eugénie Choquette).

The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the parish in 1923 had been simple, since all efforts had been on the construction of two new school buildings and the establishment of the Academy in the wake of the 1914 fire. The 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 1933, however, was an enormous celebration with the Sisters and students of the Academy playing a large role in the festivities.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the founding of the Academy in June of 1935 included a reunion of the graduates, teachers, and spiritual leaders, together with all present students. Père Grenier and Sr St-Olivier were among the honored guests. Mme Lillian (Lévesque) Pelletier, president of the first graduating class, was president of the reunion committee. A Mass, banquet, plays, and musical performances were included in the elaborate programs which marked the event.

The Alumni Association was organized with Lucien Audette as president to celebrate the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the first graduating class in 1937-1938. "The purposes of the association are to give the former pupils an opportunity to renew relations with the teaching staff for the school; encourage them to exchange ideas on important questions of the day including social, civic and religious subjects and to stimulate good citizenship."

Young elementary students had become quite proficient in French theatre over the decades. As Academy students, they were able to increase the number of performances which were, at times,

quite elaborate. Sports' teams were organized by the boys of the Academy and, in short time, were recognized among Salem's best.

# [to be continued]

# Les anciens élèves de l'Acadèmie

		Gagnon, Oscar
Class of 1933	Beaulieu, Annette	Lambert, Philippe
Arpin, Philippe	Beaulieu, Lucille	Lapointe, Gérard
Audette, Raymond	Brisson, Hélène	Leblanc, Hector
Belleau, Léonette	Cadorette, Pauline	Lévesque, Florence
Bouchard, Élisabeth	Delande, Donat	Marquis, Rita
Cadorette, Marie	Deschênes, Anita	McCormick, Claire
Charland, Louise	Gagné, Lucien	Moreau, Joseph
Cloutier, Rita	Gagnon, Alice	Poussard, Rémi
Cormier, Claude	Gaudreault, Liliane	St-Laurent, Jeannette
Denis, Jean	Jacques, Cécile	St-Pierre, Annette
Fortin, Géraldine	Jodoin, Alfred	Théberge, Béatrice
Gagnon, Clément	Lachapelle, Thérèse	Thériault, Lucien
Gagnon, Gertrude	Leclaire, Robert	Thériault, Lucille
Gagnon, Léon	Létourneau, Roger	•
Julien, Estelle	Lévesque, Marie	Class of 1936
Julien, René	L'Heureux, Philippe	Audette, Roland
LaBrie, Dolorès	Michaud, Loretta	Beaulieu, Diana
Lajoie, Cécile	Morency, Richard	Beaulieu, Léo
Laroche, Wildrid	Ouellette, Paul	Beauregard, Armand
Lavoie, Antonio	Ouellette, Philippe	Beaureard, François
Leblanc, Henri	Paquette, Annette	Boudreau, Andréa
Létourneau, Hilda	Perron, Edouard	Caron, Annette
Marcaurelle, Jeannette	Poussard, Alice	Desjardins, Cécile
St-Pierre, Gertrude	Poussard, Léona	Dubé, Georges
Sauvageau, Joffré	Roy, Alice	Gagné, Roselle
Thériault, Jeannette	Roy, Richard	Girard, Marguerite
Tremblay, Eugène	Thériault, Thelma	Jodoin, Florette
Tremblay, Henri		Julien, Gertrude
	Class of 1935	Lamontagne, Claire
Class of 1934	Beaulieu, Simonne	Leblanc, Hélène
Audette, Wilbrod	Bélanger, Rita	Leclair, Lorraine
		•

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Létourneau, Béatrice	Roy, Alfred	Lavoie, Yvette
Levasseur, Félicie	Soucy, Laurier	Leblanc, Anita
Marquis, Rita	Tremblay, Thérèse	Leblanc, Désiré
Parent, Estelle	Voyer, Bertrand	Lévesque, Lina
Perron, Angèla		L'Heureux, Patricia
Perron, Richard	Class of 1938	Michaud, Lionel
	Bélanger, Irène	Tremblay, Jeanne-Marie
Class of 1937	Bélanger, Rose-Anna	•,
Beauregard, Georges	Beliveau, Roger	Class of 1939
Beliveau, Armand	Bouchard, Rita	Banville, Achille
Charbonneau, Annette	D'Amour, Olive	Bélanger, Laurent
Coté, Laurette	Delisle, Joseph	Bergevin, Laurent
Cyr, Dorothy	Deschênes, Vivianne	Bérubé, Georges-Henri
Dubé, Normand	Dionne, Jeannette	Bouchard, Roland
Gallant, Jeannette	Dubé, Lorraine	Cormier, Jeannette
Genest, Edmond	Éno, Thérèse	Gagné, Arthur
Labonté, Yvonne	Hallé, Dolorès	Julien, Diana
Laplante, Louis	Harvey, Thérèse	Letarte, Juliette
Lebrun, Eugène	Jacques, Lucie	Lévesque, Pierre
Lebrun, Martha	Kendall, Jeanne-d'Arc	Lussier, Fernand
Lessard, Florence	Lachapelle, Madeleine	Mercier, Albert
Motard, Rita	Lambert, Blanche	Pelletier, Florence
Ouellette, Jeannette	Laplante, Louis	Potvin, Alphonse
Paquette, Rita	Laporte, Yvonne	Richard, Glacidas
		•

Tardif, Chanel

# Jérôme-Napoléon Bonaparte (1830-1893)

It was on Labor Day weekend, 125 years ago, that newspapers across the country issued reports of a death on Boston's North Shore:

Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, grand nephew of Napoleon the Great, died at 9:30 o'clock on Sunday evening at his summer home in Beverly.

Napoléon Bonaparte (1769-1821) was Emperor of France from 1804 to 1815. His youngest brother Jérôme (1784-1860) came to Baltimore where he married Elizabeth Patterson on Christmas Eve 1803 in a ceremony performed by Bishop John Carroll. Their only child Jérôme-

Napoléon (1805-1870) married Susan Williams on 3 November 1829 in a ceremony performed by Archbishop James Whitfield of Baltimore. This couple had two sons, Jérôme-Napoléon Jr. (1830-1893), called 'the head of what is known as the American branch of the Bonaparte family', and Chalres-Joseph (1851-1921) who left no descendants.

Jérôme-Napoléon Jr. was born in Balitmore on 5 November 1830. He was called "a remarkably handsome man, considerably over six feet in height, and was of very courteous and graceful manners". He entered Harvard College and later accepted an appointment to West Point from which he graduated in 1852. He entered the French imperial army in 1854 under his father's first cousin, Emperor Napoléon III (1808-1870), and received many honors for active and distinguished service throughout his 17-year career. He married Caroline Appleton of Boston in 1871, and the couple had two children, Louise-Eugénie (1873-1923) and Jérôme-Charles (1878-1945). The family resided in Washington, D.C. and in Newport, R.I., and made frequent trips to Europe. His presence in Beverly, Massachusetts in 1893 was explained in the press:

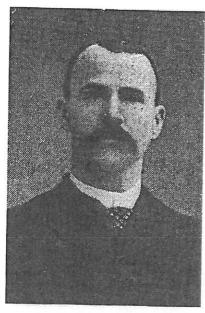
His health failed a year ago, and, acting under the advice of physicians, he came to this delightful seashore resort early in June and established his home in the beautiful residence erected by Gen. A. P. Loring. Contrary to expectations the change in air proved of ne benefit to him, and day by day it was more and more apparent that his time on earth was very limited. His immediate family hardly expected that his end was so near, as arrangements had been made to remove him to his home in Washington. He had been ill some time, it is said, of cancer of the stomach, but his condition was not considered serious until within a day or two of his demise. He died in the presence of members of his family – his brother, Charles J. Bonaparte.

Death came on 3 September 1893 and the funeral was held two days later at noon from St. Margaret's church at Beverly Farms. The soloist was Miss Alice G. Conley of Salem, and services were under the direction of undertaker William Carney of Salem.

During the services the body rested in the main aisle directly before the altar. The remains rested in a casket of Spanish cedar. The oxidized plate was inscribed "Jerome Napoleon Bonaparte, Born Nov. 5, 1830, Died Sept. 3, 1893." The casket was afterward placed in a natural wood box, for transportation to Baltimore, the place of burial. Leaving Salem at 1:45, the remains will be taken to Baltimore by Undertaker Carney by special car at 7 o'clock tonight.

Private services were held at the home of the brother of the deceased, and burial was in London Park Cemetery, Baltimore.

# A Salem Confectionery Shop



Candy makers were few among Salem's French community. In fact, only one appears to have achieved success in this profession.

Arsène Picot was born at St-Jacques-de-l'Achigan (Montcalm) Québec on 22
April 1855. In 1872 at the age of 17, he settled in Worcester, MA with his family and soon adopted the name Samuel
Picott. There he met Moses D. Gilman (1846-1927), a confectioner from Brôme County, Québec. Gilman was then constructing a large brick block at 207
Main Street where he would manufacture candy for the next two decades. After completing his education, Samuel was apprenticed to Gilman where he learned the trade of candy making.

On 24 June 1889 at the age of 34, Samuel Picott married Margaret

Monahan, a native of Ireland, and their daughter Elsie was born on 22 February 1892. Gilman closed his confectionery company in 1893, and Picott brought his family to Salem in 1894. Here, Samuel found a home at 71 Leach Street and took a position as candy maker with a Salem confectioner. His second child, Paul-Raymond, was born on 15 July 1895. Five years later, on 16 October 1900, the 45-year-old candy maker became a naturalized citizen under the name Samuel Peicott. An active parishioner of St-Joseph's, he became a member of la Société St-Jean-Baptiste, of la Cour St-Octave (Forestiers), and of l'Union St-Jean-Baptiste-d'Amérique.

Alfred-A. Poulin had established a small confectionery business in 1903 which met with little success, and it is likely this concern which Peicott purchased in 1904. He established his business at 41 Harbor Street and moved his family residence to 45 ½ Harbor Street. He first advertised in the 1905 Salem City Directory. Several years later, in 1909, a highly flattering description of the Peicott company appeared in the publication "Industrial and Mercantile Salem":

"Unsurpassed in production of highgrade goods, and having a merited reputation for reliability of service and moderate prices, is the confectionery house of Samuel Peicott, at 41 Harbor street. Fine and pure confectionery is

manufactured in great variety, including the most delicious of bons bons, chocolates, etc., and strictly pure ingredients only used. These unrivalled confections have a high standard of value in the market, unrivalled by any similar manufacturing concern. The most delicious of ice cream, flavored with pure fruit extracts, is also manufactured, and is sold at wholesale and retail and delivered promptly upon order. Cigars, tobacco and smokers' articles are also carried. A specialty is made of the well-known Salem kisses. Two people are employed. Mr. Peicott was born in Canada and was there educated and in the public schools of Worcester, Mass. He has had 30 years' experience in the manufacture of confectionery and is an expert in every detail of its line. Mr. Peicott is numbered among our most progressive and successful business men and widely

known as an estimable citizen of our city. He...was a member of the State Militia 11 years, of Battery B, Worcester, Mass."

After a decade of continued success, Peicott lost his home and his business along with his stock and equipment in the Great Salem Fire of 1914. Only three years later, his daughter Elsie died at the age of 25. Peicott found employment in the bakery of Joseph Dubé where he remained until nearly 70 years of age. Then, he took a position as a candy maker with another Salem confectioner, remaining there until retiring at the age of 83.

Arsène Picot, long known as Samuel Peicott, died on 29 May 1940 at the age of 85. He was survived by his wife Margaret (1857-1951), by his son Paul (1895-1969), and by his four grandchildren.

# SAMUEL PEICOTT, ICE CREAM AND CONFECTIONERY.

Ice Cream by the Plate or Measure. Delivered in any Quantity. Your orders solicited.

41 Harbor Street,

Salem, Mass.

# The Politician and the Lumberjack

Two brothers of Québec had families who became well-known in the United States. They were the sons of Jean-Baptiste Talbot and Marie-Victoire Pelletier who were married at St-Roch-des-Aulnaies on 28 April 1812. Jean-Baptiste Jr. was the grandfather of Salem politician Edmond Talbot Jr. His brother Antoine was the father-in-law of Michigan lumberjack Fabien Fournier.

## Jean-Baptiste Talbot Jr. (1813-1905)

Born at St-Roch-des-Aulnaies on 23 January 1813, he moved to Isle-Verte at an early age and was married there on 17 February 1846 to Adélaïde Morin. In 1877, after the death of his wife, he settled in Salem where he died on 4 January 1905. His son Edmond Talbot (1863-1941) married Anna Harrison in Salem on 16 October 1893, and they were the parents of Edmond Jr.

Edmond Talbot Jr. (1898-1974) was born in Salem on 1 June 1898. He entered politics in 1930, defeating incumbent Salem City Councilor Omer-P. Thériault who had served for 14 years. Talbot was elected to the House of Representatives in 1934 and served from this district until 1948. He was appointed Deputy Sheriff in 1944 and was elected president of the Essex County Deputy Sheriffs' Association in 1958, a position he held until his retirement in 1971. He was a parishioner of St-Joseph's church and a member of the *Société du Saint-Nom*, the Canadian Klondike Club, the *Club Richelieu*, and many other organizations. He was married to Marie-Louise Dubé (1902-1957) by whom he had four sons, and to Eva (Banville) Marquis (1905-1974) by whom he had one step-son. Edmond Talbot Jr. died on 24 November 1974 at the age of 76. His funeral Mass was offered in St-Joseph's church by his nephew, Père Georges-E. Morin.

## **Antoine Talbot (1830-1903)**

Born at Isle-Verte on 14 October 1830, he was married there on 21 February 1854 to Hortense Roussel. Their first child Hortense "Delima" was born on 20 June 1855 and was married on 12 February 1872 to Fabien Fournier.

Fabien Fournier (1848-1875) was born at St-Fabien de Rimouski on 4 April 1848, the son of Hilaire Fournier and Marie-Louise Gauvin. He is said to have first come to the United States during the Civil War to work in the lumber camps. After his marriage to Delima Talbot at Isle-Verte, he returned to the States and settled in Bay City, Michigan. There he became known as "Saginaw Joe" and was described as "a giant with exceptional strength". But, he was also a heavy drinker, a tough brawler and a rabble-rouser! He met his match on the night of 7 November 1875 when he was murdered on the Third Street ferry dock by Adolphus Robertson. On 13 August 1878, his widow Delima Talbot married Bruno Michaud (1855-1938) in the church of St-Ulric de Matane.

Ontario-born journalist James T. MacGillivray first heard the tales of Fabien Fournier while working as a cook in a lumber camp. These campfire stories had already become quite exaggerated over the years, and MacGillivray published his own versions in 1906 and 1910.

Here, Fournier is given the fictional name Paul Bunyan. (This may have come from the French bon jeune, a good young man, either in reference to Fabien as a good young lumberjack, or as a facetious reference to his raucous behavior.) Today, the folktales of Paul Bunyan are known worldwide.

Delima Talbot, the widow of Fabien Fournier, died on 25 December 1934 at Val Racine, PQ at the age of 79. Her first cousin Edmond Talbot Sr., the father of the Salem politician, died in Salem on 17 April 1941 at the age of 77.

### 

## The First Pilgrimage

The first pilgrimage to be organized by St-Joseph's parish took place 125 years ago, during the summer of 1893. The Salem Evening News of June 29<sup>th</sup> announced that:

The French people of the city are arranging for an excursion to St. Anne de Beaupre, a place near Quebec, noted for its wonderful cures of bodily ills effected there annually, and for its natural beauties.

The excursion began on Monday morning, July 24<sup>th</sup>, when 210 parishioners and Père Joseph-O. Gadoury left from the Salem Depot at 6:30. Another 47 boarded the train in Lynn at 6:42 with Père Jean-B. Parent. Several hundred boarded at Boston at 8:00 with Père Onésime Renaudier of Notre-Dame-des-Victoires. These were joined by hundreds more at Fitchburg. The 803 pilgrims traveled over the Fitchburg and Vermont Central railroads to St-Jean, PQ, then by way of the Grand Trunk railroad to Montréal, Lévis, and Québec.

There will be religious services held on the train at regular intervals. Tuesday morning at 7 o'clock the party will arrive at St. Anne. On the arrival of the train a procession will be formed to the church, there to hear mass and receive holy communion. After the mass lodgings will be secured. In the afternoon those who wish may return to the church for the sermon, the benediction of the holy sacrament and the veneration of the relics of St. Anne.

Wednesday is the Feast of St. Anne. Religious services will be held during the day and it is expected that 125,000 persons will participate in the feast, including Archbishop Tache and many of the reverend clergy. The feast over, the members of the pilgrimage are at liberty to return or stay at St. Anne. (Lynn Daily Press, Monday, 24 July 1893)

It was not until August 10th that "nearly all" had returned to Salem.

Founded in 1658, Ste-Anne-de-Beaupré is the oldest shrine in Canada. The church which was visited in 1893 had been dedicated in 1876 and was declared a basilica in 1889. Pilgrims were "immediately impressed by the richness and imposing grandeur, the majestic proportions and elegance" of the shrine. It was destroyed by fire on 29 March 1922. The present basilica is the largest church in the world dedicated to "La Bonne Sainte Anne".

### Views from the 1890s

Salem's French-Canadian population was increasing rapidly 125 years ago, and reporters rom the Salem Evening News contributed many insightful articles on the subject throughout the 1890s. One of these was based on an interview with Perley Derby (1823-1897), Salem's "veteran census taker and genealogist" who was said to have "possessed a remarkable patient and cheerful disposition and was upright in his dealings". The following was published on 22 September 1892:

Mr. Derby stated that the French population was increasing much more rapidly than any other nationality in the city. Every day new additions arrive on the trains from the north, although the influx is partly offset by departing Canadians. The latter put in two or three years in Salem, work hard and save their money, and after amassing a snug sum, return to their native places, where they buy land and settle down. This practice, however, is in direct opposition to the wishes of the French priest, Rev. J. O. Gadoury, who uses every endeavor to induce his countrymen to become American citizens and settle in Salem.

Another factor in the increase of population is the large numbers of births in the French families. Since January 1, there have been over 150 reported from the French district. Large families are the rule rather than the exception, many numbering from a dozen up to the twenties, one Congress street family numbering twenty-five heads.

The Frenchmen are industrious. The whole family, down to small children, are obliged to work, the majority being numbered among the employes of the Naumkeag cotton mills. The head of one family stated to Mr. Derby that his family earned \$180 per month. Their living expenses were in the vicinity of \$30 per month, all told, hence he made a clean gain of \$150 per month. He owned some property and was going to buy more. The sum of \$30 for a month's living expenses seems scarcely creditable, yet Mr. Derby says that he has no doubt that the figures are correct. They purchase the cheapest materials and understand how to put them together in such a way that they get a great deal for their money. He has on many occasions partaken of meals from their tables and has no fault at all to find with what has been set before him.

The Castle hill district is being rapidly built up by Frenchmen. There is already a population of nearly 300, where not long ago a single house stood.

Only two months later, on 19 November 1892, three short items appeared in the daily column "Our Man About Town". The unnamed reporter was perhaps motivated by the previous article to conduct his own investigation, and his findings were quite similar. One significant discrepancy, however, is in the population of the Castle Hill district.

The French citizens are as thrifty a class as can be found. They take pride in owning their own homes and it is really surprising how many of them do own houses and land. In the Castle hill district this is especially true, nearly all the French residents being land holders. The settlement, by the way, now numbers about 450 persons.

On the Point, in Ward 5, the French are large property holders, all the recent builders there being Frenchmen. They believe in tenement houses, cheaply constructed. One of the new ones is of the Canadian tenement house style, the stairways being open on the outside of the house.

One French citizen, who came to Salem a few years ago with but a few dollars in his pocket, is now the owner of half a dozen tenement houses, which he acquired one by one. Between thirty and forty families pay him rent now, the monthly roll of which is as much as his entire capital when he came here.

Nearly one year later, on 9 September 1893, Père Gadoury offered his views on the steadily increasing population of his parish.

Rev. J. O. Gadoury, pastor of St. Joseph's church, is authority for the statement that the French population of Salem is growing. With the announcement that the Naumkeag mills, in which the majority of the French working people are employed, was to shut down, a number of Frenchmen, with their families returned to Canada, or else sought employment in other places. Now that the mill has again started up, the places of the absentees have been more than made up by others who came here in search of work, meeting with more or less success

This fall, Fr. Gadoury is to take the census of the French people again, and his figures will be looked forward to with interest. He performed a similar work two years ago, but there has been a material increase since then. The work was performed by the pastor alone, taking over a month of his time.

So steadily has the parish grown, that Fr. Gadoury has been obliged to ask for an assistant. His request was granted and the clergyman who is to help him in his work arrived a few days ago. The new priest is Rev. J. L. M. Levesque of Montreal. [...]

The fall term of the new parochial school opened this week. The number of sisters who act as teachers has been increased from eight to twelve, while the pupils now number 587, and will probably reach 600 before the end of the month. At the convent, there are twenty boarders, children who have been sent there to be educated.

### Le Courrier de Salem

## Events of a century ago in Salem's Franco-American Newspaper September - December 1918

#### Medicine

• The Sisters of Ste-Chrétienne offered their home, Loring Villa, as a hospital during the influenza epidemic. Eighty patients were under their care between October 2<sup>nd</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>, and all but 12 survived.

### The Press

• Mila Vanasse (1883-1953) has left the office of *Le Courrier de Salem* after seven years of employment. She has gone to Sorel, PQ to serve as secretary to the general manager of the Québec, Montréal and Southern Railroad.

### **Politics**

- Joseph-H. Hudon has been appointed to succeed Émile Brunet as appraiser for the City of Salem.
- Hugo Dubuque (1854-1928), a judge of the Supreme Court of Massachusetts from Fall River, will speak at Ste-Anne's in Salem in December.

### **Families and People**

- Eugène April of Salem has received news of the death of his father Cyrille April at Rivière-du-loup. The widower of Émilie Massé, he was 85 years and 7 months of age.
- Odilon Pelletier (1861-1918) died on September 2<sup>nd</sup> at the age of 57. Born at St-Jean-Port-Jolie, PQ, he came to Salem at the age of 10. He was the first president of the Canadian Klondike Club from 1897 to 1899. He left a wife, Séraphine Labrie, four sons, and four daughters.

### Construction

• Raoul Thibault of 79 Lawrence street has constructed a sidewalk of wood in front of his residence.

#### Church

- Père J.-Alfred Peltier (1866-1944) sang his last Mass at Ste-Anne's on September 1<sup>st</sup>. He served as curate of St-Joseph's for 7 years, and pastor of Ste-Anne's for 16 years. He will be cucceeded by Père J.-L.-M. Lévesque (1855-1939).
- There will be no church services in Salem on Sunday October 6<sup>th</sup> and no public funerals during the week due to the influenza epidemic.

### Music

• Camille Duguay, celebrated baritone, will give a concert at Ste-Anne's in December.

# Genealogies

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1	Я	n	m	ρ

Louis Mignault-Labrie & Jeanne Chazou of St-Germain-Lazis, Brie, Seine-et Marne, France

- Jean Mignault-Labrie & Marie Boucher (Pierre & M.-Anne St-Denis)
   Château-Richer, 7 Nov 1689
- II Michel Mignault-Labrie & Ursule Soucy (Pierre & Élisabeth-Ursule Fouquereau) Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, 26 Oct 1724
- III Charles Mignault-Labrie & Dorothée Cordeau-Delorier (Toussaint & Gen. Michaud) Kamouraska, 12 Oct 1767
- IV Alexandre Mignault-Labrie & Desanges Beaulieu (Antoine & Josèphte Jouvin) Kamouraska, 7 May 1827
- V Georges Labrie & Marcelline Veilleux (Isaac & Angèle Thériault) St-Eloi, Rivière-du-Loup, 14 Jun 1858
- VI Georges Labrie & Odina Parent (Antoine & Emma Boucher) Salem, MA, 6 Aug 1906

#### **Parent**

André Parent & Marie Coudré of Mortagne-sur-Gironde, Saintonge, France

- I Pierre Parent & Jeanne Badeau (Jacques & Anne Ardouin) Beauport, 9 Feb 1654
- II Jacques Parent & Louise-Geneviève Chevalier (René & Jeanne Langlois)C. Fillion (Beauport), 1 Feb 1677
- III François Parent & Marguerite-Catherine Binet (François & Françoise Vachon)Beauport, 28 Nov 1719
- IV Pierre Parent & Brigitte Lemieux (Augustin & Catherine Brisson)St-Roch-des-Aulnaies, 25 Aug 1760
- V Michel Parent & Judith DeJossé (Jean & Marie-Anne Samson) St-Roch-des-Aulnaies, 13 Oct 1794
- VI Michel Parent & Emérence Ouellet (Joseph & Rose Guéret-Dumont) St-André, Kamouraska, 31 Jan 1832
- VII Achille Parent & Rose Levasseur (Abraham & Lucie Sirois)
  Trois-Pistoles, 13 Mar 1859
- VIII Antoine Parent & Emma Boucher (Maxime & Adéline Beaulieu)
  Lewiston, ME, 8 Oct 1883
- IX Odina Parent & Georges Labrie (Georges & Marcelline Veilleux Salem, MA, 6 Aug 1906

### Décès

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

Sr Louise AUDET S.A.S.V. (Sr Louise-de-la-Trinité), 88 ans, 20 février 2018 • George-H. BEAULIEU, 88 ans, 20 février 2018 • Edward-J. BEAUSOLEIL, 74 ans, 19 mars 2018 • Joyce-R. (Harvey) BILODEAU, 74 ans, 7 février 2018 • Gloria-J. (Charest) BOULAY, 85 ans, 16 février 2018 • Arthur-L. BRUNET, 73 ans, 16 mars 2018 • Jane-A. (Barnes) CARON, 98 ans, 11 mai 2018 • John-A. CARON, 75 ans, 30 avril 2018 • Yvette-M. (St-Pierre) CONLEY, 83 ans, 30 mars 2018 • Roseanne-L. (Raymond) DASSUK, 76 ans, 27 février 2018 • Louise-M. (Donahue) DEMEULE, 88 ans, 23 avril 2018 • Frances-E. (LeBlanc) DEVEAU, 87 ans, 25 mai 2018 • Lauraine-M. (Perry) DION, 88 ans, 15 mars 2018+ • Kevin-Émile DIONNE, 45 ans, 5 mai 2018 • Patricia-A. (Lévesque) DUBIEL, 67 ans, 20 février 2018 • Lucille-A. (Dionne) FORTIER, 85 ans, 26 mars 2018 • Yolande-M. (Cabana) FORTIER, 93 ans, 9 avril 2018 • Aline-E. (Thétiault) GILLIGAN, 91 ans, 28 mars 2018 • Joyce-M. (Pariseau) GILLIS, 77 ans, 21 mai 2018 • Sr Marie-Donat, S.S.Ch. (Gertrude GIRARDIN), 89 ans, 5 octobre 2017 • Rév. Père William-J. GUERRETTE, 87 ans, 28 février 2018 • Philippe-R. HÉBERT, 88 ans, 7 février 2018 • Gloria-T. (Léger) HILTUNEN (#25), 90 ans, 28 février 2018 • M.-Thérèse (Desjardins) HUDSON (#211), 89 ans, 24 mars 2018 • Dorette-E. (DeVarennes) JODOIN, 92 ans, 13 mars 2018 • Pauline-B. (Bérubé) KOBIALKA, 89 ans, 21 mars 2018 • Diane-T. LABRECQUE, 66 ans, 23 février 2018 • Alda-E. (Ricard) LaCHAPELLE, 100 ans, 19 mai 2018 • Marcia-F. (Donovan) LAMBERT, 79 ans, 10 avril 2018 • Evelyn (Jastremski) LeBEL, 87 ans, 8 mars 2018 • Arthur-R. LeBLANC, 85 ans, 12 avril 2018 • Muriel-Marie (Talbot) LEMELIN, 71 ans, 23 mai 2018 • Roland-F. LÉVESQUE (#116), 89 ans, 13 février 2018 • Rose-Patricia L'HEUREUX, 96 ans, 7 mai 2018 • Claire-F. (Sénéchal) LONGVAL, 85 ans, 17 mai 2018 • Estella-M. (Provencher) MARSHALL, 95 ans, 3 mars 2018 • Rosana-E. (Welser) MASSÉ, 97 ans, 23 février 2018 • Léo-Matthew MELANSON, 76 ans, 27 avril 2018 • Jeannette-T. (Pelletier) MERCIER, 84 ans, 8 mai 2018 • Léa-I. (Jalbert) MITCHELL, 104 ans, 4 mai 2018 • Robert-J. MORNEAU, 64 ans, 23 mars 2018 • Doris-L. (St-Laurent) NOLAN, 86 ans, 5 mars 2018 • Joan-E. (Robinson) NORMAN, 78 ans, 27 mai 2018 • Rita-E. (Turcotte) O'DAY, 96 ans, 3 mai 2018 • Dr Henry Guertin-OUELLETTE, 93 ans, 29 mai 2018 • Norman-P. PERREAULT, 82 ans, 17 février 2018 • Sr Marie-Amand, S.S.Ch. (Ida PERRY), 89 ans, 9 octobre 2017 • Patricia-J. (LaPointe) Korpusik-PHILPOTT, 79 ans, 7 mars 2018 • Jeannette-M. (Pelletier) PLOURDE, 99 ans, 24 février 2018 • Claire-M. (Coté) PROVENCHER, 86 ans, 21 février 2018 • Yvonne-Jeannette (Michaud) PULEO, 87 ans, 15 mars 2018 • Sr Fernande-A. RICHARD S.A.S.V. (Sr Fernandede-Ste-Marie) 84 ans, 9 mai 2018 • Paul-Nelson RICHARD, 69 ans, 1 avril 2018 • Thomas-D. ROBICHAUD III, 73 ans, 13 avril 2018 • Kathleen-M. ROY, 75 ans, 7 mai 2018 • Patricia-M.

(Poitras) SALVUCCI, 70 ans, 3 mars 2018 • Antoinette-A. (Caron) SIMMONS, 99 ans, 1 avril 2018 • Rita-M. (Girard) Sicotte-SPARFELD, 96 ans, 17 avril 2018 • Alice-Yvonne (Demeule) STEVENS, 87 ans, 8 mai 2018 • Rita D. (Pelletier) TANGUAY, 93 ans, 25 mai 2018 • Annette (Pelletier) THIBAULT, 99 ans, 10 février 2018 • Dorothea-C. (Barry) TREMBLAY, 95 ans, 9 avril 2018 • Robert-A. TREMBLAY, 83 ans, 25 février 2018 • Marie-A. (Dion) WHITE, 83 ans, 13 mars 2018 •

# Nous nous souviendrons d'eux



#### Vive Napoléon

Allegro

-folklore



# La Revue de Salem

La Revue de Salem, founded in 1999, is the official journal of the Franco-American Institute of Salem, and is published in April, August, and December. No material from this publication may be reproduced in any manner without the express written permission of the Franco-American Institute of Salem. The deadline for material to be included in the journal is the first day of the second preceding month (April issue closes on February 1 and is published on March 1).

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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.

Membership, which includes a subscription to *La Revue de Salem*, is available for \$15.00 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

Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

#### Officers 2018-2019

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### **Meetings**

Board Meetings of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2018 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 20 May and 30 September at 3:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.



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



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Cover Photo: The gateway to *l'Académie Ste-Chrétienne* (1918-1971) nestled among snow-tipped evergreens presented a spectacular winter landscape.

### News

Salem's deputy fire chief Alan Dionne, a 25-year member of the department, was selected as one of the two finalists for the position of fire chief on 27 July. On est fier de lui! • The annual French Mass was celebrated in Ste-Anne's church on July 28th. Merci, M. le cure! • Ste-Anne's ever-popular fund raiser, Grandma's Attic, was held on August 25th and on October 20th. Magnifique! • Out tenth annual summer social, l'Été en Fête, was held on Sunday afternoon August 26th. In our raffle, a Québec ornament was won by Lynda Michaud-Cutrell (#231), a 1year membership by Constance Martel-Servizio (#66), and a container of Québec maple syrup by Bonnie Hurd-Smith (#276). Félicitations! • The new \$5.8 million Mayor Jean-A. Lévesque Community Life Center at 401 Bridge street is now open! The dedication took place on Friday 21 September, followed by an Open House on Saturday, and a series of programs during Grand Opening Week! Un vrai trésor! • The North Shore Community Development Coalition has announced its plans to create low income housing in the Point neighborhood. Sixteen apartments will soon be available at 15-17 Harbor street, and another ten at 104 Lafayette street. The announcement was made in September. Un beau projet! • On 24 September, the owners of Shetland Park proposed a zoning change which would allow them to create over 550 residential units in the former Naumkeag Mills complex. C'est un début! • Members of St-Joseph's alumni and their guests gathered on 9 October for their semi-annual dinner and reunion in Salem. All graduates are welcome to attend in April and October. Venez! • The 28th Premier of Québec, Bernard Landry, died on 6 November 2018 at the age of 81. He had served as Deputy Premier from 1994 to 1998 and as Premier from 2001 to 2003. A state funeral was celebrated in the Basilique Notre-Dame de Montréal. Qu'il repose en paix! • Congratulations to Bob and Ray Danjou and to Mark Tremblay who were elected to the board of the Lafayette Associates for the coming year. Bravo! • Père John-G. Kiley (#275) has announced his retirement effective 1 June 2019. He has served as administrator of Ste-Anne's parish since 1 October 2014, bringing with him the qualities of leadership, kindness and devotion. He will be missed. Ad Multos Annos!

**Donations received** include: Books (46) from A.C.G.S. (#100); Books (12), CDs (4), artifacts (2), and file material from D.-Michel Michaud (#1); Photos and ephemera from Judy Pinault-Ware (#244); Book from Armand Devoe (#35); and gift in honor of Nelson-L. Dionne (#2) from Bonnie Hurd-Smith (#276). *Un grand merci à tous!* 

### Editorial

# Déjà Vingt Ans!

With this issue La Revue de Salem completes its 20th year of publication!

This issue contains articles on three very important individuals who were in Salem over a century ago and whose accomplishments are largely forgotten today. Dr Joseph Senay became the first Franco-American from Salem to graduate from Harvard in 1891. Mme Cloutier, who began her career here in 1895, later won the title of strongest woman in the world. Albert Larrieu, acclaimed for his performances at the Paris Opéra, turned his attention to the people of Québec before entertaining large audiences in Salem in 1918.

The Franco-Americans of Salem have an amazing history which has long been forgotten and is now being rediscovered. The Institute continues to unlock these secrets of our past and publishes its findings in its journal, *La Revue de Salem*.

The Institute is, of course, concerned with more than written history. We have traced hundreds of genealogies and we assist our members in tracing their own families. We celebrate our traditions and encourage the practice of our faith and language. We report on current events and support Franco-American culture. We collect printed materials, photographs and artifacts, and preserve them for future generations.

In our twenty years we have brought Salem's Franco-American heritage from darkness into light! We are grateful for the support of our members as we begin our third decade of publication.



# Madame Cloutier, World's Strongest Woman

The turn of the twentieth century was the Golden Age of strongmen – and women! In a chapter entitled « Madame Henri Cloutier », author E.-Z. Massicotte explains that

So numerous are the phenomena of physical strength in French Canada that we never, or almost never, think to include in this class persons of the female sex, so much do we believe that extraordinary strength is the exclusive endowment of men. However, powerfully muscular women are not rare, in this country, and most of our athletes acknowledge that their mothers were capable of astonishing achievements. (*Les athlètes canadiens*, Montréal, 1909, *trans*.)

Marie-Elise Sirois, the daughter of Prudent Sirois and Arthémise Lévesque, was born at Ste-Anne-de-la-Pocatière, PQ on 2 December 1867. The family moved to New England about 1880. By the age of 17, Marie-Elise is said to have been strong enough to have lifted a weight of 243 pounds two or three times in succession.

Now known as Marguerite or "Maggie", she was married in Nashua, NH on 22 May 1884 to Henri Cloutier (1863-1925). A native of Roxton Pond, PQ, he was the son of Philibert Cloutier and Philomène Goulet. The couple settled in Salem in 1890 with their two young daughters, Dora (1885-1911) and Doria (1887-1952). Two other children had died in infancy, Asa (1888-1889) and Arthur Philippe (1889-1890). Their fifth and last child Marguerite, or "Mina" as she was known, was born in Salem on 13 February 1891; she died on September 25<sup>th</sup> at the age of seven months.

Henri had always been interested in athletics. At the age of ten he had won a 20-mile race through fields and forests and rivers, completing the course in 2½ hours. Now standing at 5'7" and weighing 275 pounds, he turned his attention to weight lifting. He trained in the Eureka Club located in the basement of a tenement building in Salem's Point neighborhood. In July of 1895 he became the proprietor of his own gymnasium. The Salem Evening News of August 9<sup>th</sup> noted that "Henry Cloutier of this city is training to break some of the world's records in heavy weight lifting, and in practice last evening at his training quarters, 22 Derby square, came very near accomplishing his desire." Two months later, on October 18<sup>th</sup>, the News reported on his rising popularity stating that "A portrait and biographical sketch of Henry Cloutier, the new Salem strong man, together with an account of several of his remarkable feats of strength is printed in this week's Police News. He is credited with being one of the strongest men in the business, having broken several of the world's records at heavy weight lifting."

Only a month would pass before the News diverted its attention to Henri's wife. Now standing at 5'10½" and weighing 185 pounds, her athletic abilities were being carefully watched. The News of November 15<sup>th</sup> boasted that "Last night, at Henry Cloutier's training rooms in Derby square, some remarkable heavy weight lifting was accomplished [where] Mrs. Cloutier...claims

to be the strongest woman in New England." E.-Z. Massicotte describes in great detail the evening which launched her career:

[Her] husband had just opened, in Salem, Mass., a very popular gymnasium, for it numbered some one hundred members. One evening, while Mrs. Cloutier was walking across the hall, she saw a group of amateurs who were trying to lift, with one hand, a platform on which were placed 400 pounds of weights. Curious, she observed the useless efforts of each one, and when the last one, a giant, failed, she could not help but ridicule a bit these arrogant Samsons, who exhausted themselves in vain to move a weight which a woman could probably lift. There was more playfulness in her words than anything else, and she certainly would not have made her thoughts known if she had believed that she would be asked to defend her assertion. All the same, she took the risk, and at the astonishment of the spectators, succeeded on the first attempt. To say that she was given a rousing applause barely suffices to indicate the ovation that was given her.

The news of this stupendous feat for a woman traveled from mouth to mouth and, the following evening, there was a crowd at the gymnasium to beg Mrs. Cloutier to repeat her incredible show of strength. Submitting, without boasting, to the urgent requests of the crowd, she had 75 pounds added to the platform which already had 400, and she lifted it again just as easily.

The ovation of the previous evening was repeated, and all advised Mrs. Cloutier to train so as to develop her natural strength, for it was foreseen that she would astound the world.

She followed the advice and was soon classed among the leading marvels of physical strength.

On the first of April 1896, the Salem Evening News provided more details on her progress:

At Henry Cloutier's training rooms in Derby square Saturday night, there will be an exhibition of heavy weight lifting. Among those who will take part is Mrs. Cloutier, who is a woman of far above the ordinary strength of most men. She will lift a dead weight of 375 pounds with one hand, and over 600 with both hands. She juggles with a 100-pound dumbell in a manner to make many of the so-called strong men open their eyes. Mrs. Cloutier has entered the contest for the Police Gazette championship and trophy, which is open to the women of the world.

After nearly a decade in Salem, the Cloutier family left the city. Mme Cloutier joined a performing group organized by strongman Hector Décarie (1880-1954) and traveled throughout New England and Québec. She set as many as 15 records including lifting 510 pounds with one hand, lifting a platform with over 2500 pounds on her back, and holding apart two horses weighing 1400 pounds. She won an impressive victory over a female athlete at the Parc Sohmer in Montréal in November of 1899, and over a male athlete at the Grand Café National in Québec

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City in March of 1900. Shortly after, Dr Joseph-Pierre Gadbois (1868-1930), a Director of the *Association athlétique d'amateurs nationale*, examined Mme Cloutier and declared her to be "incontestably the strongest woman in the world." Her daughters Dora and Doria, who often performed with their mother, were also commended for their strength and health.

Mme Cloutier, now a celebrity, returned to perform in Salem and her visit was noted in *Le Courrier de Salem* on 14 October 1909:

Mrs. Cloutier, the strongest woman in the world, is presently in Salem where she will give performances over several days... The most extraordinary feats are nothing for her. She can hold two horses in the manner of Louis Cyr. She is ready to give \$100 to four men who succeed in opening her hand. With one hand she lifts 510 pounds. With two hands she can lift 1000 pounds... (trans.) [A list of 15 of her records was published in Le Courrier de Salem the following week.]

Mme Cloutier performed as late as 1917 when, at the age of 50, she appeared with strongman Arthur Dandurand at the rededication of the George-Étienne Cartier monument in Montréal.

Mme Cloutier died in Montréal on 18 January 1920 at the age of 52. The Montréal newspaper La Presse announced the following day that "Mrs. Henri Cloutier, widow, born Marguerite Sirois, considered to be the strongest woman in the world, died yesterday... The deceased had...astonished spectators everywhere by her daring feats of strength." (trans.) Her funeral was held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> in the church of Ste-Prudentienne in Roxton Pond and she was laid to rest in the parish cemetery. Her gravestone reads:

Mde H. Cloutier la femme plus forte du monde 1867-1920

Her husband Henri Cloutier died in Montréal on 26 May 1925 at the age of 62.



# Dr Joseph-Odilon Leblanc

Honored with a degree from Tufts and from the Faculty of Paris, Dr Leblanc practiced dental surgery in Salem for three decades.

The son of William Leblanc and Emma Bélanger, Joseph-Odilon was born in Salem on 21 October 1889. He was the youngest of three children which included William Jr. (1884-1945) and Joseph-Damase (1888-1955).

Joseph-Odilon graduated from the École St-Joseph in Salem and from the Séminaire de St-Hyacinthe in Québec. He completed his education at Tufts in Boston and received his degree in dental surgery in 1916.

Dr Leblanc enrolled in the U.S. Army at the start of the First World War and was soon promoted to First Lieutenant. After a brief assignment at Fort Ethan Allen Hospital in Vermont, he was sent to the Massachusetts State Hospital No. 66 which was deployed to France in September of 1917. Due to his expertise, he was sent to the Paris suburb of Neuilly-sur-Seine where he was placed on staff at the American Hospital of Maxillofacial Surgery. There, when off-duty, he offered his "untiring services" to civilian residents without charge. For this generosity he was awarded an honorary degree by the Dental Faculty of Paris.

# Dr JOSEPH O. LEBLANC

266 RUE ESSEX
Heures de Bureau: De 9 à 6.
Dimanche et Soir par
Rendez-vous.

The doctor received an honorable discharge from the service on 27 February 1919 and, upon his return to the United States, made his home with his parents at 42 Cabot street in Salem. He first opened his dental office at 266 Essex street, and relocated to 125 Washington street in 1923 where he remained for more than a quarter-century.

Dr Leblanc's father, William, died unexpectedly on 9 January 1926 while visiting relatives in St-Gabriel-de-Rimouski, and his body was brought to Salem for burial. He was 71 years of age and had been a resident of Salem since 1870. His widow, Emma, survived him by five years; she died in Salem on 6 July 1931 at the age of 70.

Dr Joseph-Odilon Leblanc, the "well-known dentist of Salem" with offices in the Salem Savings Bank building, served the people of Salem for 31 years. He died on 11 April 1950 at the age of 60. His funeral was held from the Chapelle Ste-Thérèse and he was laid to rest in St. Mary's Cemetery. "Full military honors were accorded" to Dr Leblanc, attended by dignitaries from the Franco-American War Veterans and other organizations.

# Murder at Kamouraska

A SHOCKING MURDER Was committed in Lower Caueda, a week or two since. by a Dr Helmes, of Sorel who, at the insugation of the wife, of his Tache, Seigneur of Karomaska, a place some distance below Quebec, who had been lixing in criminal connexion with Holenes at Sorel, travelled 200 miles in his own carigle for the purpose of murdering her husband.-Holmes after enticing Mr Tache, under some pretence, to get into his sleigh, sonveyed him to an unfrequented place shot him through the head and buried his body in the snow, the body was soon after discovered, and the fact was published, it was recollected by persons who had seen the murderer on his return, that he was stainthat of a pig. The act was traced to the guilty parties. Madame Tache was arrested and committed to prison in Mon-real, and Holmes escaped to Burnington, in Vermont, where he rad the hardinged to take up his residence at a public house and to acknowledge his agency in the horrid transaction, but with a pretence that he had been challenged by Tache and killed him in a fair duel. He was taken july custody by the Sheriff, and will be delivered up to the Canadian authorities for trial.

Many of Salem's Franco-Americans trace their origins back to the beautiful Kamouraska region of Québec. There, exactly 180 years ago, a "shocking murder" was committed which shook the peaceful village and captured the attention of news reporters far and wide. A lengthy front-page account (at left) appeared in the "Salem Gazette" on Tuesday morning, 26 February 1839.

The tragic events were never forgotten. Anne Hébert published her historical novel "Kamouraska" in 1970 and was awarded France's *Prix des Libraires*. The novel was made into an award-winning film by Claude Jutra three years later.

One hundred and eighty years ago, many of our ancestors were discussing the tragedy which had occurred at Kamouraska. Little did they know that news of the event would reach Salem long before they would!

The story itself is intriguing as it involves not only a murder, but an illicit love affair among prestigious families. Although well-known in Québec, the story is virtually unknown in Salem.

Louis Taché (1812-1839), Seigneur de Kamouraska, and Joséphine d'Estimauville (1816-1893) were married at Notre-Dame-de-Québec on 16 July 1834. The couple resided at the Manor house in Kamouraska where two children were born.

Soon, Joséphine declared that her husband Louis was an alcoholic, that he had abused her, and that he had threatened her life. She fled to her mother's house in Sorel in December of 1837, bringing her two children with her. Her husband arrived in January of 1838 but, after much quarreling, returned to Kamouraska alone.

A young unmarried physician by the name of Dr George Holmes was staying in Sorel. He had been a classmate of Louis Taché in Nicolet. He was a half-brother of Rév. John Holmes of Québec, and a good friend of Rév. Jean-Baptiste Kelley who was pastor in Sorel. Joséphine thought of Rév. Kelley as an uncle. (Her aunt Adélaïde Drapeau was the wife of Augustin Kelley, the pastor's brother.)

Dr Holmes became Joséphine's physician, but gossip spread quickly when it was discovered that they were romantically involved. Joséphine gave birth to a son, Hermégilde, who lived for several months. Suspicion arose as to who was really the father.

Dr Holmes arranged to have Taché poisoned with an ounce of white arsenic dissolved in brandy. Joséphine's servant, Aurélie Prévost, was his accomplice. Two attempts were made in late 1838 and another on 4 January 1839, but all were unsuccessful.

On Thursday 31 January 1839 Dr Holmes himself drove to Kamouraska by sleigh where he met Taché on the road. He invited Taché to get into his sleigh, saying that he had news about his wife and children in Sorel. Holmes then shot Taché twice in the head, then struck him seven times with the blunt end of the pistol. He then buried Taché's body under the snow in St-Denis.

Holmes went to a tavern and asked for water to clean his sleigh, saying that it was stained in blood since it had been housed in a barn where pigs were being slaughtered. He also washed his clothing and burned his sash to destroy evidence. He returned to Sorel where he asked a young medical student by the name of Van Ness to exchange his horse for another. Holmes fabricated a story, confessing to Van Ness that he had been in a duel with Taché and had killed him accidentally. Upon hearing the news, Rév. Kelley talked the distressed Holmes out of committing suicide and urged him to turn himself in to authorities.

On Sunday February 3<sup>rd</sup>, Taché's body was found by a man who noticed blood in the snow. An inquest was held from the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 28<sup>th</sup>, but Holmes had already fled the area. He was arrested in Burlington, Vermont. Authorities in Québec wanted him extradited for trial, but this was refused and he was set free. Dr George Holmes was never seen again.

Joséphine was arrested and was imprisoned in Montréal, but was released on 27 February 1839. She was again tried as an accomplice on 21 September 1841, but was acquitted. She married Léon-Charles Clément of Les Éboulements on 18 May 1843, and the couple had six children. Joséphine died in Montréal and was buried at Les Éboulements on 28 June 1893.

The shocking murder which took place at Kamouraska in 1839 continues to fascinate people today. Many of its mysteries will never be solved.

# L'Académie St-Joseph

#### Part III

The elderly pastor of St-Joseph's, Monseigneur Labossière, died on 25 July 1940. His two successors remained here only briefly: Père J.-Stanislas Vermette died on 18 February 1944, and Père Éli Barnaud retired due to failing health on 14 May 1948. The next pastor, Père Arthur-O. Mercier, would remain for nearly two decades.

Three Sisters served as Superiors of the convent during the 1940s. Sr Ste-Catherine-de-Suède (Blanche DeBlois) arrived in the summer of 1940, Sr Ste-Anne (Cécile Morin) in 1943, and Sr Georges-François (Annette Bouchard) in 1946.

Shortly after the close of World War II (1941-1945), the health of Père Pierre-H. Grenier began to decline. The founder of the Académie died on 22 August 1946 at the age of 89.

The Classical and Commercial courses were merged during the 1945-1946 school year. L'école Sainte-Thérèse, a mission school for primary grades on Summit avenue, opened in 1946. A spacious new cafeteria, located in the basement of the elementary school on Lafayette street opened on 5 May 1947. Parish priests organized the JEC (Jeunesse étudiante catholique) and the CYO (Catholic Youth Organization) for students. Sports included basketball, baseball and bowling.

Students took an active part in raising funds for the construction of a new church. The enormous statue of St-Joseph was removed from the roof of the old church in 1944, and the towers were removed in 1946. The razing of the structure was begun in 1948.

#### [to be continued]

#### Les anciens élèves de l'Académie

Class of 1940		
Archambault, Irving	St-Gelais, Gérard	Cormier, Cécile
Bérubé, Armand	Théberge, Esther	Crowell, Liliane
DeGrandpré, Jean		Cyr, Rita
Deschamps, Paul	Class of 1941	Dionne, Lorraine
Dionne, Lucille	Beaulieu, Florian	Dubé, Rita
Gagné, Auguste	Beauregard, Jeannette	Fontaine, René
Julien, Paul	Bérubé, Paul-Émile	Gagnon, Jeannette
Pelletier, Lucille	Bouchard, Alice	Gagnon, Lionel
Perron, Gracia	Bouchard, Roger	Guerrette, Omer
Plourde, Lauretta	Chouinard, Conrad	LeBlanc, Gracia
Richard, Yoland	Chouinard, Guy	St-Arnaud, Robert

#### Class of 1942

Boudreau, Béatrice Charron, Rita-A. Cyr, Cécile-P. LeBrun, Louise Lévesque, Jeannette Lévesque, Lilliane L'Heureux, Alice Marquis, Thérèse Parent, Maurice Pelletier, Rita-E. Pelletier, Rita-M. Pinette, Évangéline Sauvageau, Thérèse Taché, Jeannette Thériault, Doris Thibeault, Jacqueline

#### **Class of 1943**

Bérubé, Pauline-M.
Bouchard, Lillian-T.
Caron, Roland
Charette, Rita-C.
Cyr, Raymond
Gagnon, Irène-M.
Gagnon, Thérèse-E.
Goyette, Alfred
Goyette, Robert
Hallé, Murielle-C.
Jalbert, Edmond
Laplante, Laurette-M.
Massé, Bertha-M.-L.
Ouellette, Edmond

#### Class of 1944

Audet, Irène-L.
Bélanger, Jacqueline
Cadorette, Thérèse-L.
Chaput, Blanche
Deschênes, Antoinette
Desjardins, Conrad

Gagnon, Thérèse-I.
Girard, Conrad
Larocque, Violette-L.
Letarte, Normand
Marceau, Charles
Marquis, Doris-J.
Pelletier, Jacqueline-L.
Pelletier, Lorraine-T.
Pelletier, Thérèse-E.
Provost, Dolorès
Richard, Marie-Jeanne
Sénéchal, Béatrice-D.
Turcotte, Lina-M.

#### Class of 1945

Anketell, Dorothy-E. Blanchette, Lucille-E. Boudreau, Lorraine Coté, Marie-Claire Cyr, Pauline-E. Dubé, Ludger-E. Dubé, Marcelle-F. Éno, Léona-M. Laplante, Thérèse-M. Larocque, Pauline-E. Lavoie, Gérard-J. Léger, Gloria-G. Lévesque, Thérèse L'Heureux, Marguerite Normand, Lorraine Pelletier, Thérèse-J. Plourde, Lucille-T. Sénéchal, Roland Théberge, Henri-O. Thériault, Yvette-L. Turcotte, Wilfrid-J.

#### Class of 1946

Banville, Alma-M. Blais, Anita-M. Bouchard, Geneviève

Bouchard, Jeannette Brault, Constance Castonguay, Roger Chaput, Anita-M. Charette, Claire-L. Gosselin, Thérèse Lachance, Cécile-C. Lareau. Béatrice-M. Lavoie, Lucille-B. Lessard, Richard Lévesque, Lorraine Paquin, Grace-T. Potvin, Cécile-D. Sullivan, Louise Thériault, Anita-M. Vartzelis, George-D.

#### Class of 1947

Audet, Louise Blais, Robert Boucher, Louise Bourassa, Rita Brault, Conrad Charette, Roland Demers, Doris Desiardins, Auguste Dionne, Marguerite Fraser, Phyllis Gagnon, Jacqueline Gagnon, Léona Gagnon, Lorraine Gagnon, Robert Jalbert, Léo Jalbert, Robert LaPlante, Gérard Lavoie, Lorraine Lebrun, Lorraine Lessard, Lucille Lévesque, Roland L'Heuruex, Gérard

Marquis, Noëlla

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Martel, Armand
Martin, Dolorès
Michaud, Madeleine
Michaud, Marie-Mae
Morneau, Hector
Ouellette, Gérard
Ouellette, Rita
Pinault, Lilian
Plourde, Irène
St-Gelais, Henri
St-Laurent, Lorraine
St-Pierre, Muriel
Tremblay, Raymond

#### Class of 1948

Beaulieu, Georges
Bouchard, Donald
Bouchard, Jacqueline
Caron, Louise
Caron, Yolande-T.
Castonguay, Lorraine-A.
Coté, Cécile-L.
Gagnon, Gloria-L.
Gagnon, Laurelle-A.
Gaudette, Roger
Hébert, Philippe

Jalbert, Mona
Jeffrey, Irène
Lavoie, Marguerite
LeBrun, Roger
Leclair, René-A.
Lévesque, Georges-H.
Lévesque, Pauline
Morneau, Robert-A.
Ouellette, Richard-J.
Pelletier, Gertrude-J.
Rousseau, Marie-Éva
Rousseau, William-E.
St-Laurent, Thérèse-A.
Tardif, Claire-A.
Tremblay, Dolorès-M.-J.

#### Class of 1949

Audet, Thérèse-J.
Beaudoin, Arthur-B.
Beaulieu, Gérard
Beaulieu. Thérèse
Bouchard, Cécile
Cameron, Léo
Castonguay, Aline
Chase, Marcia-L.
Chouinard, Gilbert

Daffe, Gloria-L. Daly, Joseph-E. Deschamps, Roger Gauthier, Robert Goyette, Ronald-A. Guerrette, Jeannette Guimont, Constance Lachance, Lucienne Languirand, Gérard Laplante, Léonne Lareau, Florence Larocque, Lorraine Lavoie, Claire Lavoie, Jeannette Lebel, Doris Lévesque, William-A. L'Heureux, Robert-A. Michaud, Normand Morin, Gertrude Morneau, Jeannette Morneau, Thérèse Normand, Georges-R. Provost, Louis-W. St-Laurent, Doris Thériault, Annette Tierney, Lucille Tremblay, Gilles-J. Violette, Gertrude



# Albert Larrieu, French Troubadour

It is not often that we have the good fortune to encounter artists formed in the school of the great masters of France, and who have been admired and appreciated even in the great theatres such as the Grand Opéra of Paris... (Le Courier de Salem, 28 May 1918, trans.)

Albert Larrieu (1872-1925) was born in Perpignan in the Provence region of France on 12 September 1872. The son of a physician, he was educated at a Jesuit school before entering a college of medicine. It was then that he decided to pursue his true calling, that of a poet and musician. He settled in Paris where he met Théodore Botrel (1869-1925), the "Bard of Brittany". Together, the amassed a large repertoire of French folksongs which they enriched with their own original compositions in various styles. They traveled and performed to promote the words, music and culture of France.

Larrieu eventually formed his own trios, joining with professional singers. Two of these were France Ariel, a graduate of the Université de Paris, and Geneviève Lecompte of the Paris Opéra. The *Trio Larrieu* sailed from Paris in September of 1916, having been "officially sent by the French government", and gave its first American performance in New York City the following month. After a tour of the United States, the trio gave its first Canadian performance in Montréal in May of 1917.

In his monograph Larrieu asks, "Could I have imagined, that in the North of the American country, I would find an entire people living our traditions, speaking our language, having kept our habits, our customs, our way of thinking, our old proverbs, our charming legends, our old songs?" Overwhelmed, he began collecting the folksongs of Québec and wrote many of his own compositions to celebrate the customs of the French-Canadians. Among his original works are "La Feuille d'Érable", "Au Bon Vieux Temps", and "La Soupe aux Pois". Larrieu was often regarded as being "le plus canadien des Français" (the most Canadian of the French).

Père Hermas-P. Desmarais, a curate of St-Joseph's parish, invited the *Trio Larrieu* to come to Salem. In its announcement, *Le Courrier de Salem* called Larrieu "one of the masters of French song [with] a rich and varied repertoire". The trio performed at Salem's Federal Theatre on Sunday afternoon 2 June 1918 before an audience of more than 1,100 people! At the conclusion, the trio presented a comical sketch in traditional costume. All who attended remained "under their spell", according to a critic. "We are not at all surprised by their dazzling success everywhere...in the United States and Canada".

The trio returned to Québec and continued to tour and perform extensively. After the unexpected death of Geneviève Lecompte in Sherbrooke, Suzanne Gali of France joined the group.

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Père Rodolphe-A. Fortier, the pastor of Ste-Anne's parish, invited the *Trio Larrieu* to return to Salem. Larrieu accepted, and a performance was given in the new parish hall on Cleveland street on Sunday evening 27 November 1921. The "very entertaining *soirée musicale*" included a varied program which was called "certainly one of their most charming"

Albert Larrieu continued to work and perform in Québec until his return to France in 1923. The "poet-composer and distinguished musician" died in Paris on 2 March 1925 at the age of 52. He left a large body of work including poems, songs, and operettas, most of which were published by Eveillard & Jacquot of Paris and by Ed. Archambault of Montréal. His monograph, « À propos du Canada-Français: Une poignée de Vérité », was published in 1920 by Gagnon & Cie of Fall River, Massachusetts.

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### Le Courrier de Salem

# Events of a century ago in Salem's Franco-American Newspaper January - April 1919

#### **Societies**

• La Ligue de Ralliement français en Améerique was founded on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Père Georges-A. Rainville, pastor of St-Joseph's in Salem, was elected Honorary President.

#### Medicine

 Salem native Joseph-Odilon LeBlanc passed his examinations in Paris where he was awarded a doctorate. He has opened an office of dentistry at 266 Essex Street.

#### **Politics**

- Inauguration ceremonies were held on January 6<sup>th</sup> for Omer Thériault who was unanimously elected president of the City Council.
- Thirty-nine French-Canadians of Salem were admitted as United States citizens on January 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### Families and People

- Mme. Auguste Harrison of Matane, PQ is visiting her brothers and sisters in Salem.
- Wildrid Guimond of Matane, PQ and formerly of Salem is here visiting relatives.
- Alma St-Pierre and Napoléon Rainville were married at St-Joseph's on Christmas Day. They will reside in Penacook, NH.
- Pierre Tardif and Rose-Delima Boucher of 10 Read Street celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on February 8<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Businesses**

- Stanislas Fugère has established his undertaking business at 118 Lafayette Street.
- Ferdinand Gagné has purchased the restaurant of Frank Pelletier at 143 Canal Street.
- Paul Lebel of Danvers, formerly of Salem, offers hardwood at \$14 per cord, delivered.
- Dumas et Ruais have established a wood and coal yard at 78 Leavitt Street.
- Joseph Dubé, baker, is having a reservoir constructed to hold 1,000 gallons of fuel oil. His six ovens can bake 2,000 loaves of bread per hour.

#### Church

- Maria Duplessis and Rosanna Dubé have taken the religious habit at the Nazareth novitiate in Eureka, California.
- Père Rainville has gone to Nicolet, PQ for the funeral of the mother of Bishop Joseph-S.-H. Brunault.

#### Music

• Dr Casgrain will offer singing classes at 114 Lafayette Street every Sunday afternoon.

#### Entertainment

- The Société St-Vincent-de-Paul will hold a soirée on January 5<sup>th</sup> to benefit the poor of St-Joseph's parish. There will be a conference by Ephrem Barthélemy as well as a musical program.
- The operetta La Grotte enchantée and the play Les Sabots du Diable will be presented by the students of St-Joseph's on January 26<sup>th</sup> in honor of the 61<sup>st</sup> birthday of Père Rainville.
- A four-act drama, *Trahison et Repentir*, will be offered at St-Joseph's on March 16<sup>th</sup> to raise funds for a parish library.
- A whist party will be held at St-Joseph's on April 2<sup>nd</sup> to celebrate *Mi-Carême*. The comedy, *La Dent du Pére Michel*, will be presented.

# First Families of Salem (VIII)

### Senay (1871)

Joseph Senay, one of the first French-Canadian settlers in Salem, was employed by the Naumkeag Mills for more than a half-century. His son, a "bright scholar", became Salem's first Franco-American to graduate from Harvard.

Joseph Senet was born in Dudswell (now Marbleton), Québec on 14 October 1846, the son of Joseph Senet and Reine Couture of La Présentation. He was baptized the following month at Ste-Cécile-de-Milton. In 1856 the family settled in Somersworth, NH, and the family name was changed from *Senet* to *Senay*.

At only ten years of age, Joseph was first employed in the mills of Somersworth as an errand boy. Several years later the family moved to Brunswick, ME and then to Providence, RI where Joseph married Marguerite Martin. The couple returned to Brunswick for a time, before settling in Salem, MA on 1 March 1871. Ten children would be born to this couple, but only four would survive: Joseph-A., Délia, Elmire, and William.

Joseph and Marguerite's son, Joseph-A. Senay, was born in Brunswick, ME on 22 August 1869 and was 18 months of age when the family settled on Congress street in Salem. He graduated from the Saltonstall School and from Salem High School before continuing his education at the *Collège de St-Hyacinthe* in Québec. He entered Harvard Medical School in 1887 and was graduated on 24 June 1891 with the degree of Doctor of Medicine. He was "a skillful physician and was a member of the Massachusetts Medical Society". He immediately opened his practice at 15 Harbor street, in a boarding house operated by his parents.

Dr Senay was married in the church of St-Jean-Baptiste in Lynn on 6 May 1895 to Agnès Lévesque. The couple made their home at 15 Harbor street, before moving to 23 Harbor street in 1897 and to 235 Washington street in 1899. By 1902, Dr Senay "had a large clientage, but was obliged to give up on account of ill health". After an illness of several weeks, he succumbed to tuberculosis on 20 October 1902 at the age of 33. Père Gadoury officiated at the funeral in St-Joseph's church. The pall bearers were Dr Émile Poirier, Dr Armand Mignault, Dr Horace Poirier, and pharmacist Pierre-L.-M. Gaudette. Burial was in St. Mary's Cemetery.

After the death of their son, Joseph and Marguerite remained at 235 Washington street until 1913 when they moved to 2 Hawthorne Boulevard. Three years later, on 28 April 1916, their son William died at the age of 32. Their daughter Elmire Labrecque, died shortly after leaving 14 children.

Joseph Senay retired from the Naumkeag Mills in 1923 after 52 years of service and having operated "practically every machine in the business". The following year, on 19 April 1924, his wife Marguerite died at the age of 82. "She had been a resident of Salem 53 years and she was greatly esteemed". Joseph Senay, "one of the first French settlers in Salem", died on 16 December 1928 at the age of 82. He was survived by his daughter Délia (1874-1938).

# Genealogies

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Jean Leblanc & Marie Avisse of Cahagnolle, Normandie, France

- I Georges Leblanc & Charlotte Bélanger (Charles & Marie-Jeanne Émond)
   l'Islet, 31 Jan 1746
- II Joseph Leblanc & Geneviève Beaudoin (Jacques & Madeleine Proulx)Montmagny, 15 Feb 1768
- III Joseph Leblanc & Madeleine Desrosiers (Alexandre & Modeste Fournier)
   St-Jean-Port-Joli, 19 Aug 1805
- IV Guillaume Leblanc & Olympe Gagnon (Régis & Marcelline Caron)St-Jean-Port-Joli, 13 Feb 1849
- V William Leblanc & Emma Bélanger (Louis & Mathilde Pelletier) Salem, MA, 13 Feb 1882

#### Raymond

Renaud Phocas-dit-Raymond & Catherine de Gaspart of St-Pierre-de-Langon, Bazas, Guyenne, France

- I Romain Phocas-dit-Raymond & Thérèse St-Pierre (Pierre & Marie Gerbert) Kamouraska, c. 1715
- II François-Romain Phocas-dit-Raymond & Geneviève Deslauriers (Jacques & Marguerite Toupin), Kamouraska, 6 Nov 1741
- III Étienne Phocas-dit-Raymond & Geneviève Michaud (Jacques & Josèphte Ouellet) Kamouraska, 10 Feb 1766
- IV Clément Phocas-dit-Raymond & Judith Ouellet (Michel & Marguerite Dumont)
   St-André-de-Kamouraska, 27 Jul 1802
- V Israël Phocas-dit-Raymond & Léonore Lavoie (Augustin & Marguerite Marcotte) St-Patrice, Rivière-du-Loup, 12 Nov 1839
- VI Siméon Raymond & Léda Bélanger (Germain & Charlotte Caron) Salem, MA, 17 Jul 1887

### Décès

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

Paula-F. (Michaud) AYOTTE, 90 ans, 18 juin 2018 • Lucienne-M. Lachance) BEAUREGARD, 87 ans, 2 août 2018 • Nancy-Louise (Denis) BERGERON, 59 ans, 26 août 2018 • Caroline (Bousquet) CAHILL, 93 ans, 22 juin 2018 • Ronald-P. CAMIRÉ, 77 ans, 17 août 2018 • Darren-R. CLOUTIER, 47 ans, 10 août 2018 • Léo-R. CAMERON, 88 ans, 1 juillet 2018 • Thomas-R.-J. DARISSE, 67 ans, 30 juin 2018 • Ronald-P. DESCHÊNES, 89 ans, 25 septembre 2018 • Jeannette-M. (Louf) DIONNE, 92 ans, 21 septembre 2018 • Alice-E. (Genest) FOLEY, 84 ans, 15 juillet 2018 •Noëlla-T. (Marquis) GNESS, 90 ans, 14 septembre 2018 • Thérèse-R. (Michaud) GOSSELIN (#178), 92 ans, 22 septembre 2018 • Jeanne-C. (Mailhot) Tardiff-HART, 82 ans, 24 juin 2018 • Robert-P. HÉBERT, 64 ans, 8 juin 2018 • Léo-J. JACQUES, 91 ans, 2 août 2018 • Louvianna-C. (Blais) JALBERT, 94 ans, 22 septembre 2018 • Arthur-Joseph JULIEN, 76 ans, 27 septembre 2018 • Ronald-A. L'ABBÉ, 62 ans, 12 septembre 2018 • Peter-T. LaBRANCHE, 14 ans, 30 juin 2018 • Fernande-L. (Belleau) LABRECQUE, 102 ans, 8 juillet 2018 • Gertrude-Thérèsa LABRECQUE, 87 ans, 18 septembre 2018 • René-C. LAMARRE, 84 ans, 2 juin 2018 • Norman-W. LAVOIE, 70 ans, 4 septembre 2018 • Theresa (Kobuszewski) LeBEL, 87 ans, 2 juin 2018 • Lawrence-Lucien LeBOEUF, 74 ans, 11 juin 2018 • Robert-H. LeCLAIR, 85 ans, 12 juin 2018 • Danielle-Marie L'ITALIEN, 41 ans, 10 septembre 2018 • Rita-T. (Coté) LUSSIER, 90 ans, 9 août 2018 • Laurent-E. MADORE, 71 ans, 10 septembre 2018 • Marjorie (Forcier) MALONE, 95 ans, 23 septembre 2018 • Donald-I. MELANSON, 75 ans, 22 février 2018 • Ann-M. (Cyr) MICHAUD, 80 ans, 8 août 2018 • Joan-E. (Fitzpatrick) MICHAUD, 83 ans, 23 juillet 2018 • Norman-Joseph MICHAUD, 80 ans, 18 juin 2018 • Raymond-A. MICHAUD, 87 ans, 2 août 2018 • Lina-M. (Turcotte) OUELLETTE, 92 ans, 21 septembre 2018 • Raymond-J. PLANTE, 93 ans, 17 août 2018 • Donald-M. QUINTAL, 85 ans, 21 septembre 2018 • Gloris-D. (Maurais) ROBICHEAU, 87 ans, 31 juillet 2018 • Florida-Caroline (Tremblay) SINCLAIR, 88 ans, 3 juin 2018 • Ronald-Henry TALBOT, 61 ans, 1 septembre 2018 • Yvonne-M. TALBOT, 81 ans, 23 août 2018 • Léo-A. TANGUAY, 87 ans, 7 septembre 2018 • Nadine-M. (Russell) TONDREAULT, 56 ans, 3 juillet 2018 • Shannon-Marie TREMBLAY, 47 ans, 21 juillet 2018 •

Nous nous souviendrons d'eux

# Records de Mme Cloutier

- 1. Soulevé de terre, d'une main 510 livres.
- 2. Soulevé de terre des deux mains, à la Kennedy, 922 à 1,000 livres.
- 3. Soulevéde terre, deux mains, à la Jefferson, 1,225 livres.
- 4. Lever simultanément des deux mains à la hauteur des genoux: à droite, 200 livres; à gauche, 250 livres.
- 5. Jeté à droite ou à gauche 125 livres.
- 6. Etant debout sur une table, soulever au moyen de courroies fixées à la ceinture, une plateforme chargée de 1,800 livres.
- 7. Soulever un poids au moyen de courroies fixées autour du cou, 800 livres.
- 8. Jeté des deux mains en haltères séparés; à droite 54 livres et à gauche 54 livres, 108 livres.
- 9. Jeté des deux mains, en barres à sphères, 175 livres.
- 10. Soulever avec le dos une plate-forme chargée de 2,225 à 2,250 livres.
- 11. A la volée, d'une main, 145 livres.
- 12. Jeté des deux bras, 14 fois successivement, 160 livres.
- 13. Charger sur l'épaule, avec l'aide des genoux, un baril de ciment de 315 livres.
- 14. Retenir deux chevaux de 1,400 livres à la manière de Louis Cyr.
- 15. Dévissé à droite, 235 livres.

- Le Courrier de Salem, 21 octobre 1909



# 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.

Membership, which includes a subscription to *La Revue de Salem*, is available for \$15.00 per year. Address all correspondence to F.A.I.S., 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA 01902-3305

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Il nous fera plaisir de vous servir en français.

#### Officers 2018-2019

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### Meetings

Board Meetings of the Franco-American Institute of Salem for 2019 will be held at 40 Nahant Street, Lynn, MA on 19 May and 29 September at 3:00 PM. All members are welcome to attend.