



Madge Casselman “Cassey”

(1890-1963)

“Her devotion to learning was inspirational. Her joy of living had an even greater influence”

Long-time teacher and resident of Mission, Madge Casselman (1890-1963) was born in Ontario and went to the University of Toronto.

Her first ambition in life was to become a lawyer because she felt that women needed other women to look after them.

However this goal was dropped when, after graduating, she went on a trip to California. While there she decided that she did not want to go back to the East and came to British Columbia in 1922 and enrolled in “Normal School.”

She was a teacher in Mission from 1922-1929, but then got the job of principle of Matsqui Superior School. She remained principal there until 1932 when she was given the job of principal of Mission High School. She was a teacher principle at the school when there were only three teachers, but when the staff levels increased to eight a man replaced her.

She felt that the education system was a man’s world and that a woman had to work hard to maintain their rights and privileges. Because of this she continued to teach in Mission until she retired in 1954

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