



Charlotte Evelyn Neid

(1908 -)

Charlotte Evelyn Neid, a gifted teacher, was the eldest child of William and Jennie Clark (nee Manzer), pioneers of the community. Born and raised in Silverdale, Evelyn always dreamed of being a teacher when she grew up.

After high school, she attended Normal School in Vancouver and obtained her teaching certificate in 1926. At the age of 19, she went to Alberta to pursue her career, earning \$1,000 per year. While there she met and in 1933 married Samuel Anton Neid (1907-1992).

In 1935, Evelyn and her husband moved back to Silverdale where their two sons were born and raised. When her second child was only a year old, Evelyn resumed teaching at Silverhill School (1942-1958). A former student of hers recalls: "She was my ideal for many years. She was fair, capable, and encouraging as a teacher and to an even greater degree as a person."

Endowed with a special gift and fondness for music, she taught the school choir who won "many first prizes" at the annual Fraser Valley Music Festival. She also directed and produced memorable Christmas concerts every year that were attended by hundreds of people.

In 1958, she became the Primary School Supervisor and for the next 2 years travelled throughout the district helping out young new teachers. Two years later, she became a "teaching principal" at Silverdale School where she taught until she retired in 1973.

In addition to teaching and caring for her home and family, Evelyn played "a vital role in community service". She was an active member of the Mission Memorial Hospital Auxiliary; the Fruitvale Rebekah Lodge (Past Noble Grande); Mission High School Parent Teachers Association (Vice-President); and Silverdale Community Centre (Secretary-Treasurer for 35 years). In recognition of her outstanding contributions and service to the community, Evelyn received a Freeman Award from the District of Mission in 1999.

Copyright © 2002 by Mission District Historical Society

All rights reserved. No part of this work covered by copyright may be reproduced or used in any form or by any means without the prior written permission from the Mission District Historical Society.

