

Outlying school: Crerar

1946-1956

The school operated for several years from early summer until late fall. A camp residence was converted into a school house. The furniture was home made. The first year there were 35 pupils in attendance, many of whom had never attended school before. The first teacher, Vera Spence, remained for three years. ... At least one pupil later obtained his doctorate at the University of Alberta.

By E. G. (Gunnar) Wahlstrom p. 66 Echoes Along the Athabasca River



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Crerar School

#4934 (West Fawcett Lake) Organized
May 30, 1946 (p. 96 Echoes)

During the winter, the students would do correspondence. For 3-4 months in the summer, a supervisor would come to Swanson Lumber camp and teach in one of the residences. The teacher Gordie remembers best was Jean Young, a great person and teacher.

At one time there were 30-40 kids but at the end there were only the Willis' kids.

Gordie started regular school in Smith about 1957. (as told by Gordie Willis, also p. 526 Echoes)

Verna Willis helped Ida Guetinger, Jimmy Small, Ernie and Larry Beauchamp and Jimmy Willis occasionally. As the children got ready for Grade 9, places were found for them to board in Smith. (Verna Willis, p. 525 Echoes)