

## Memories of Labrador

Intro: We the Grade 7 class have put together a collection of memories from Them Days books. We are using a modern song to introduce our memories. Before we start we would like to thank all the people that donated their memories to the book and to the staff of Them Days who collected and edited these wonderful stories.

Song: The ink is black, the page is white  
Together we learn to read and write.  
(Children dressed in costume to represent the Eskimo, Indian, Settler  
moves to knees to represent school room) bell rings -

Teacher: "I don't have very clear memories of my first day teaching at Makkovik School. Just that things were very higgley-piggley. I remember that a school day would start at 7 o'clock for the teachers... I remember each child would get a cake of hard bread to eat at recess.... I thought that Labrador children are as intelligent as the average child anywhere else, their isolation was a benefit ..... p. 4 (Vol. 3 No. 1  
Makkovik School  
Alice Perault)

Memories: "I remember when our school room was small and stuffy".  
by each  
child (made "I remember in them days getting a good whippin' for being bad".  
up)

"I remember in them old days when I had to walk 3 miles to school".

"In them days all the kids were in the same class and we only had one teacher".

"I remember we used slates instead of paper".

"In them days when we were bad we had to stand in the corner with books on our head."

"I remember in them days we had to drink cod liver oil every day".

"I remember every day we had to carry a piece of wood to school".

"Every morning we had to eat just porridge for breakfast".

"I remember in them days I didn't go to school, I went into the woods with my family".

"I remember I didn't go to school, I stayed home and helped my mother skin hides."

"In them days I stayed home and helped my mother with the chores".

"In them days I stayed home to hunt with my father".

"I didn't go to school either my father died and had to provide for the family".

Song: A child is black a child is white  
The whole world looks upon the sight,  
A beautiful sight,  
And now a child can understand  
That this is the law of all the land.

Laws:  
of Labrador Wallace McLean  
(Vol. 2, No. 1 Sept. p. 5 Backs Turned)  
Mime actions of chores by children

Poem: Precious memories how they linger  
Linger round my soul  
In the stillness of the midnight  
Precious memories unfold.

Memories: "Oh, boy can I remember those fuhmy-dums. They were so-o-o good".

"I remember in them days on cold winter days have to go outside  
to the John."

"When I woke in the morning I could hear my grandfather chopping  
wood for the morning fire."

"Oh boy we never had sugar in them days but we had the best lassie  
candy you ever tasted."

" I remember meetin' Dr. Paddon he was a nice old fellar."

"I remember in them days when you could catch a seal without anybody  
makin' a big fuss about it."

"I remember when we used to have to scrub clothes on a scrubbing board."

"I remember in them days when it was so cold in the morning that the  
water was frozen in the pail."

"I remember in them days when I was 17 we all went to Makrovik for  
Easter I went to work for Rev. & Mrs. Sack as a servant girl."

"Do you remember those chewy raisins and juicy oranges we had at  
Christmas time."

"Back in my days there was no plane flying and you'd get a visit  
from a doctor once a year, once a winter if he could travel by  
dogteam."

"I remember in them days in Battle Harbour when we had to hitch up  
dog teams. - Did you ever hitch up a dogteam at 50 below."

"I remember Cartwright in them days there were little roads with  
footpaths leading everywhere little bubbling brooks coming from the  
forest leading down to the shores."

"I remember when I was a young feller, the only medicine we had for  
babies was vaseline."

Poem: Well do we remember in "them days"  
The life we loved and knew  
Call us the lost generation,  
Lost 'tween old ways and new. p. 61

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Them Days by Leslie Pardy