

AGNEW, Laura



Laura Agnew (nee Pritchard) was born on February 8, 1874, in the Red River settlement of Kildonan. Her family moved to Prince Albert when she was a child. In 1896 she married Andrew Agnew, and in 1918 they moved to Saskatoon.

During her time in Prince Albert, Mrs. Agnew was very active and well known for her church and welfare work, in particular, work she had done with the Prince Albert jail, which

included conducting services for inmates for approximately ten years.

She was also very active in both Prince Albert and Saskatoon in the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire, the Children's Aid Society, the Women's Christian Temperance Union and the Canadian Guild of Health.

When Laura was 16, she became a close friend of Lucy Maud Montgomery, internationally known author of the Anne of Green Gables stories and other works, who lived in Prince Albert for a year between 1890 and 1891. They corresponded for over 40 years, and last saw each other when Montgomery made a visit to Saskatoon in 1930. Laura and her family are mentioned a number of times in the three volume, *Journals of L.M. Montgomery*, including photographs. One of her books, *Anne's House of Dreams*, is dedicated "To LAURA in Memory of the Olden Time."

Laura Agnew died on September 7, 1932, and was survived by her husband, Andrew, three sons and two daughters.

Thanks to Mr. Christopher Hansen, Laura Agnew's grandson, for information and allowing his research to be included.