

Jessie C. Crawford fonds

[ca.1908]

21 cm. of textual records

Biographical Sketch

Mrs. Jessie Catherine Crawford (nee Baker), of Owen Sound, Ont., took a one-year kindergarten assistants' course followed by one year at the Toronto Normal School before coming to teach at Port Arthur. In September 1908, the year she left the Toronto school, she was engaged as the first kindergarten director of the Port Arthur Public School System and operated out of Cornwall School under its principal Miss Gowanlock. She had one assistant, Miss Mills. Later she married Joseph Crawford a chartered accountant and politician (he served as Mayor and MPP in Fort William). She died in 1971.

Scope and Content

Series A 10/1/1-7 - Notebooks

Notes taken by Miss J.C. Baker during kindergarten assistants' course and during her one year at the Toronto Normal School and used as the basis for teaching at Port Arthur's first kindergarten at Cornwall School in 1908. The method followed was that of "Montessori", the Italian teacher, and was designed to develop specific skills of hand and mind. Books are hardbound and handwritten.

- 1) "Occupations" -listing techniques to develop skills and creative powers in children
- 2) "Gifts" -recounts methods of eliciting a child's natural gifts
- 3) "Folding" -examples of paper folding
- 4) "Cutting" -examples of paper cutting
- 5) "Drawing" -examples of drawings
- 6) "Weaving" -examples of weaving with paper
- 7) "Sewing" -examples of sewing with thread and paper

Additional Information

Custodial History - Formerly catalogued into the museum collection, 972.89.1-7

Related Material - See also A 76