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# A Demographic Study of the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada.

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A  
Demographic Study  
of the  
Sault Ste. Marie  
Separate School Board  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada

by

Kenneth G. DeLuca

Submitted to  
Northern Michigan University  
in partial fulfillment of the requirement  
for the degree  
Education Specialist

Northern Michigan University  
Marquette, MI  
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To my wife, Irene, I wish to express my appreciation for her patience and encouragement during the time spent doing research for this project.

K. G. De Luca

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## INTRODUCTION

The need for this demographic study of the Sault Ste. Marie, Canada, Elementary Schools arose with the realization that enrollment in the schools has been declining since 1969.

With this in mind, the task of predicting the Kindergarten to Grade 8 enrollments from 1976-1980 using the Survival Technique Method was undertaken. This method predicts, on the basis of past data, the percent of survival as it is often called, and attempts to determine the average percentage of survival from one grade level to the next higher grade level each year or from one age group to the next older age group.

This study includes information pertaining to the development of the community of Sault Ste. Marie. This information shows the rapid rate at which the city grew. Beginning with the founding of the site in 1622, ethnic group communities developed through the establishment of industry.

Along with a growing city develops a need for educational facilities and so began the development of the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School System. The development of the system from its conception in 1889 to the present, 1975, is outlined in order to show the rapid rate at which new schools were constructed during the 1950's and 1960's.

Keeping in mind the fact that the system is a "separate" system it seemed necessary to include a breakdown as to how it is financially supported formerly and today.

In order to best understand the enrollment problem the system is encountering, maps are included showing the area encompassed by the system, the location of the 27 elementary schools, and the population density in 1969 with projections to 1980. With the information gathered from the density maps, areas of the city are indicated where schools are presently, or are going to be incurring changes in enrollment.

Combining this with the information indicated on the projections, predictions could be made of areas of the city where it is not feasible to renovate schools and in fact not in the best financial interests of the system to operate the school.

SUMMARIES OF READINGS ON THE EFFECT OF FALLING  
BIRTH RATE ON SCHOOLS

A study, "Enrollment in Schools and Universities, 1951-76" by W. M. Illing and Z. E. Zsigmond appeared in the September 1968 issue of *Grade Teacher*.<sup>1</sup> It forecast a spectacular four-fold expansion in the non-university, post-secondary area, such as in community colleges and technical institutes. Total elementary enrollment in Canada is now about four million pupils, which rose to about 4.1 million in 1970, declined somewhat and by 1975, was back at today's level.

The study indicates that the total secondary school enrollment, over 1.2 million in 1966, will increase but at a diminishing rate. It predicted that by 1975 there would be 1.7 million students in secondary schools. Increase in the 14-17 age population is one factor in rising secondary enrollment.

A second factor, the retention ratio is also rising. Only 35% of all pupils in Grade 2 in 1952 made it to Grade 12 in 1961. By 1966 this ratio had risen to 45%, and the new projections indicated it would rise to almost 60% by 1975.

By the mid-seventies, the study estimates, about one in every six young Canadians completing their formal education will attain at least a first-level university degree. The present ratio is about one in ten, an increase of about ten per cent.

Another study appeared in Times Educational Supplement in May, 1975, entitled "Population Growth and Its Impact in Orange County, California".<sup>2</sup> This article pointed out that the phenomenal growth of Orange County during the past two decades has left a profound and indelible impact on its population and environment. The primary purpose of this study was to analyze the dynamics of population growth with an examination of its impact on the environment as a secondary purpose.

Demographic data for this study came primarily from governmental sources and environmental data found in scattered journals, reports, newspapers and books.

The population of Orange County has undergone an exponential growth from 1890 to 1970; during that period the population increased by more than 100 times. Population increased by 236% from 1950 to

1960 and by 95% from 1960 to 1970. This rapid growth has placed extreme pressure on educational officials who are trying to budget and plan for the future. New buildings and expansion of former ones has become almost a daily happening. The question is where and when will it stop.

An article entitled "Big Drop in Birthrate Baffles Officials" was printed in 1973 in the October issue of Times Educational Supplement.<sup>3</sup> The article begins by stating that the falling British birth rate may upset all the plans for schools and staffing.

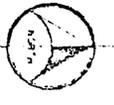
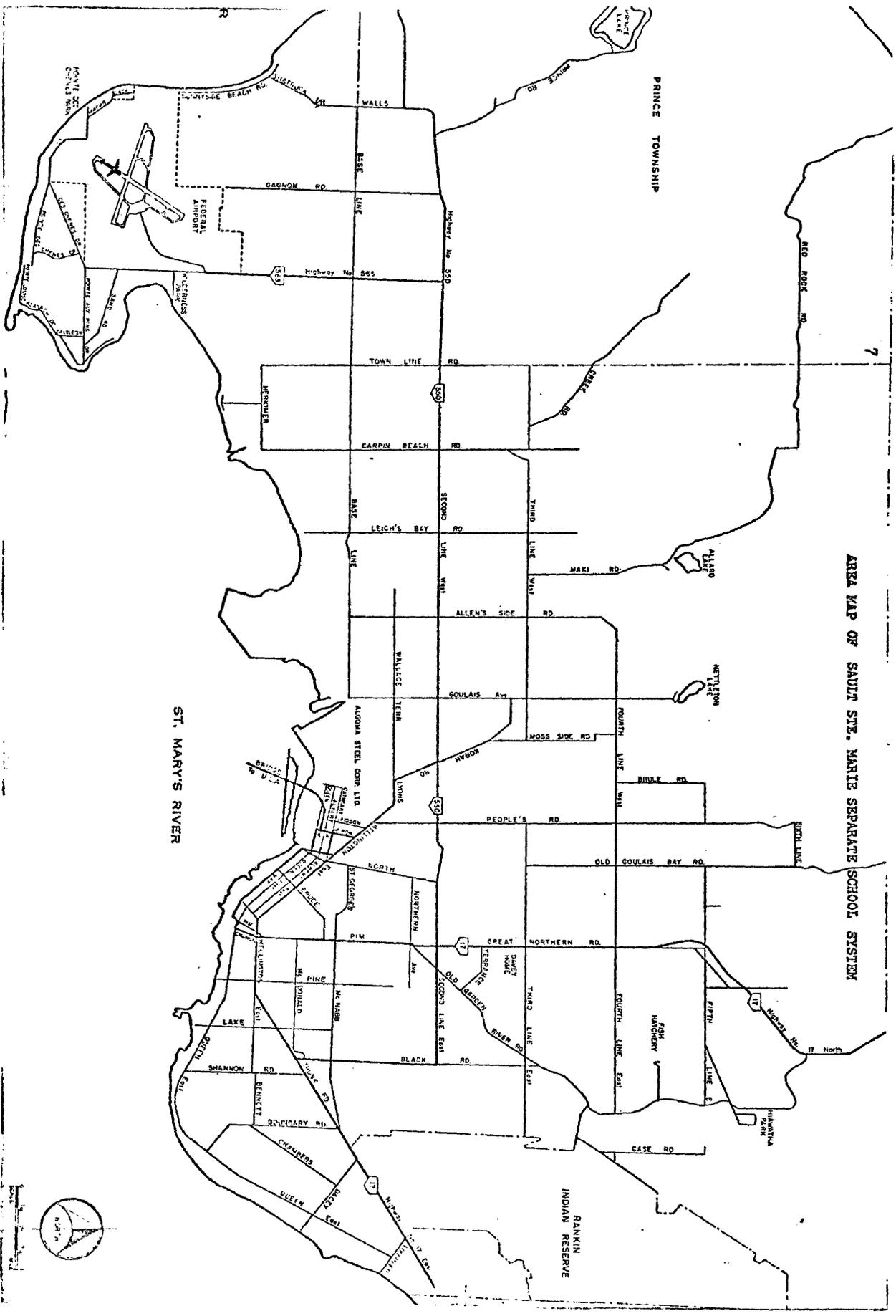
Throughout Western Europe the birth rate rose steeply in the late fifties and early sixties, reaching a peak in Britain in 1964. Since then the number of babies being born steadily declined. A very sharp decrease was experienced in 1972.

With this slackening in the birth rate comes substantial savings to the government as fewer schools have to be built, fewer teachers trained and fewer children educated.

The "survival" technique method used in this study is widely used in projecting school enrollments. It is a method that predicts on the basis of past data. The per cent of survival, as it is often called,

attempts to determine the average per cent of survival from one grade level to the next grade level each year or by age groups.

AREA MAP OF SAVITZ STE. MARIE SEPARATE SCHOOL SYSTEM



## THE DEVELOPMENT OF SAULT STE. MARIE

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, is situated on the St. Mary's River where the waters of Lake Superior flow east to Lake Huron and South to the Straits of Mackinaw. The area was first discovered in 1622 by Etienne Brule; however it did not develop into a permanent settlement until 1750. In the late 18th century the North West Fur Trading Company had a thriving establishment at the Canadian Sault. In 1822 the Treaty of Ghent resulted in the division of the settlement at the Sault with the south shore officially becoming American and the north shore remaining British. The building of the American canal and locks occurred in 1855. In 1870 Sir Garnet Wolseley and his expeditionary force on the way west to restore law and order in the Red River area after the Riel insurrection were denied use of the American locks. The protest which followed made the Canadian government realize that they were completely dependent on a foreign power to reach the Canadian Pacific Railway which reached the Sault in 1887 and led to work on a Canadian canal in 1889. The construction of the canal completely changed the economic and social structure of Sault Ste. Marie.

Prior to this development, Sault Ste. Marie was basically a French and English town. Slavic peoples, Irish, Ukrainians, Finns and Italians settled within walking distance of their work at the canal and the railway to begin a pattern of ethnic neighbourhoods which still are in existence today. The population figures of Sault Ste. Marie are available from 1890 when there were 1,621 people. By 1900 the figure jumps to 4,189 and more than doubles two years later to 8,582.

Now three centuries after Brule's discovery, Sault Ste. Marie has a population of over 80,000 with the canal and lock systems being one of the busiest in the world. Its industrial complexes include the second largest steel operation in Canada, a pulp and paper mill and a second railway.

Sault Ste. Marie is now a prosperous, modern, thriving, industrial city with an average weekly wage which is among the top four highest cities in Canada. The Algoma Steel Corporation dominates both the landscape and the employment force with approximately 10,000 employees. Any change in operation at the plant has an immediate effect on the welfare of the people. Ethnic neighbourhoods set up in the first half of the century with the growth of the steel mill

are still noticeable although they are undergoing a massive urban renewal effort. An extensive riverfront urban renewal scheme has changed the appearance of the city and contributed to its growth. Included in the changes are a multi-million dollar Civic Centre, Senior Citizen's Complex, Shopping Mall and a Hotel Complex along the riverfront.

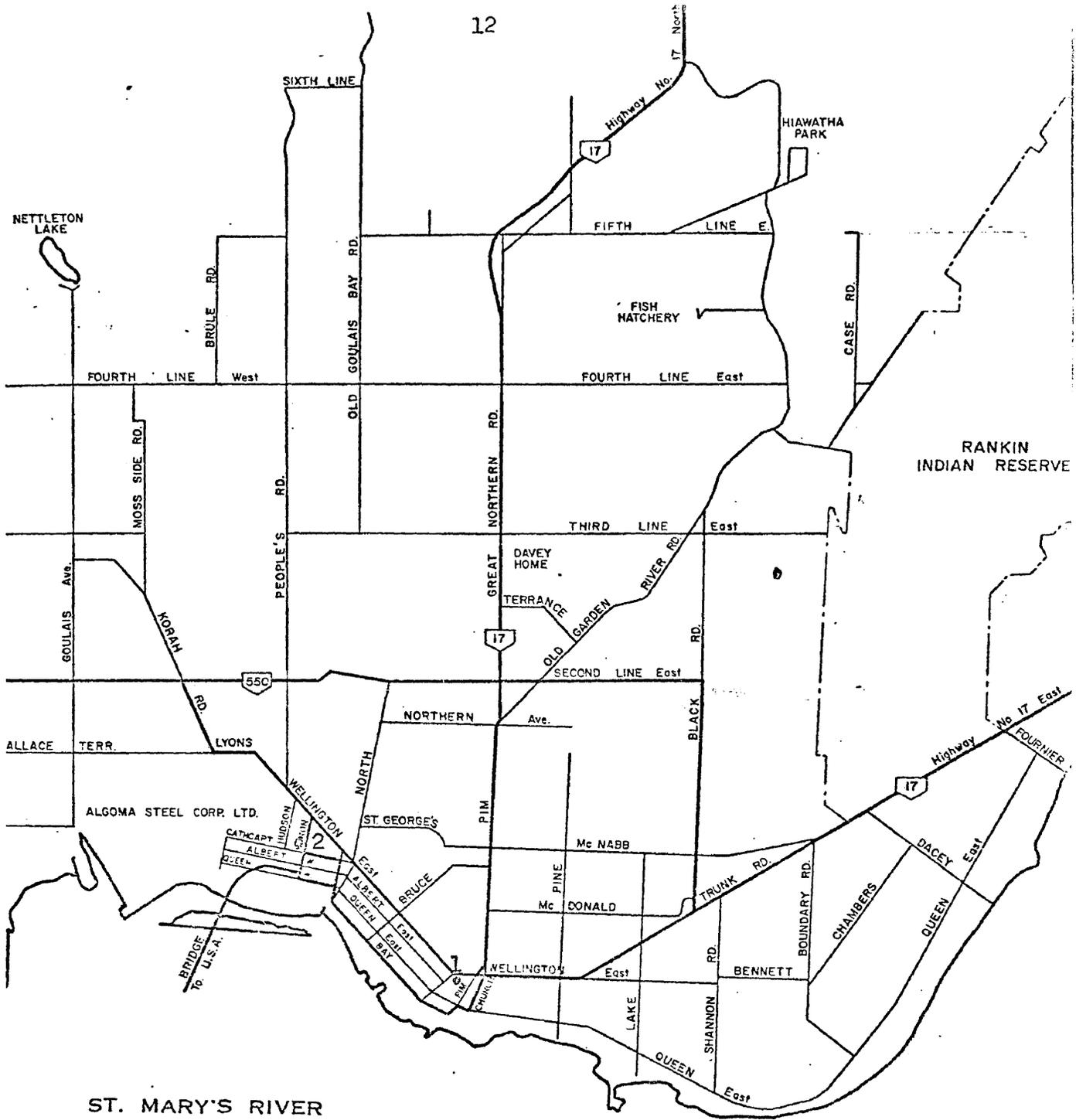
## A HISTORY OF THE SEPARATE SCHOOLS OF SAULT STE. MARIE

"Sacred Heart School is the oldest separate school in Sault Ste. Marie. Built in 1889 there is a dearth of records regarding it, and even many old timers are brought to a pause when asked to recall some of the fine old school's history which has produced some of the Sault's most outstanding citizens".<sup>4</sup>

The work of raising funds for the erection of the school was undertaken by Father J. C. Finnett, priest of the Sacred Heart parish prior to 1889. Before the new building was constructed, the Separate School met in a single room, St. Anne's Chapel, just back of the Sacred Heart Church.<sup>5</sup>

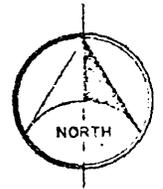
The second Separate School built in the area was St. Ignatius School whose history is largely the history of the Separate School Board of Steelton, a community adjacent to the Sault. The school was built in 1902 by the Jesuit Fathers to be used as a school and a church. In 1903 the Steelton Separate School Board was organized, and rent was paid to the Jesuit Fathers for the lower part of the building as a schoolroom.<sup>6</sup>

In 1907, by agreement with the Steelton Separate School Board, all Catholics west of Gore Street were free to send their children to St. Ignatius School



Location of the First and Second Separate Schools

- 1) Sacred Heart
- 2) St. Ignatius

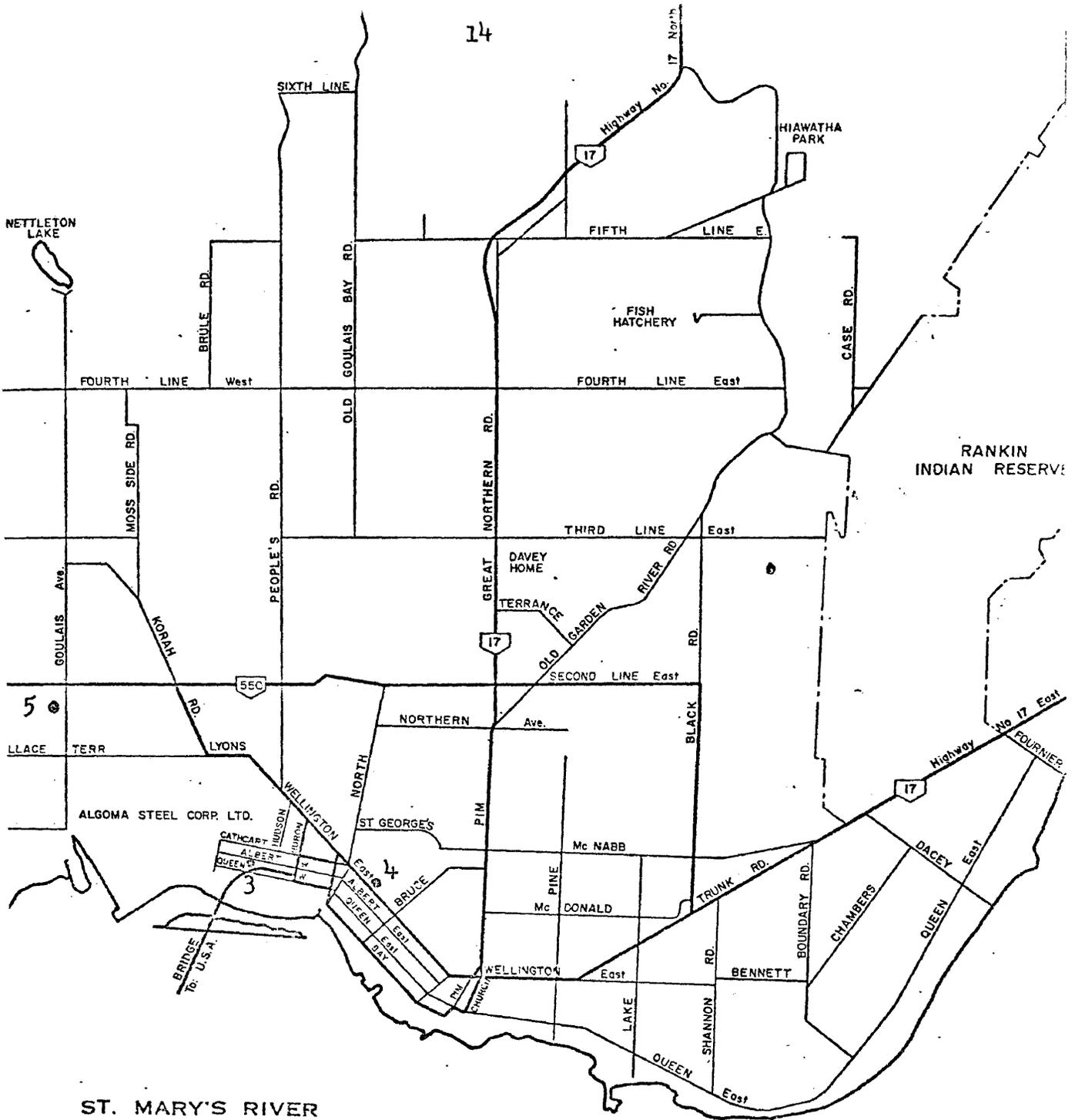


provided that they paid separate school taxes. As a result, the school became crowded, and the four rooms in the lower part could not accommodate them. St. Ignatius Church was built in 1911, and the upper part of the school which had been used as church quarters was remodelled into four additional classrooms.<sup>7</sup>

The Steelton School again became over-crowded within three years, and there was need for additional classrooms. Part of the over-crowding was the result of children from Sault Ste. Marie attending the Steelton School. To relieve the problem, two schools, St. Mary's and Holy Angels were built by the Sault Board in 1914. Since another school was needed in the Bay View area of the Sault, in 1917 a third school, St. Stanislaus, was erected by the Sault Board.<sup>8</sup>

With the amalgamation of Steelton and Sault Ste. Marie in 1918, the two Separate School Boards also united, and assumed the responsibility of guiding the destinies of the five schools.

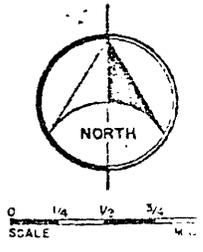
In 1918, Sacred Heart, St. Mary's, Holy Angels, St. Stanislaus were being administered by the Sisters of St. Joseph, and St. Ignatius by Sisters of Wisdom.



ST. MARY'S RIVER

Location of the Third, Fourth and Fifth  
Separate Schools

- 1 St. Mary's
- 2 Holy Angels
- 3 St. Stanislaus



A number of lay teachers were also on the various teaching staffs.<sup>9</sup>

In 1920 the Separate School Board constructed a sixth school, St. Joseph, on Korah Road. The Sisters of St. Joseph were also engaged to operate this school.<sup>10</sup>

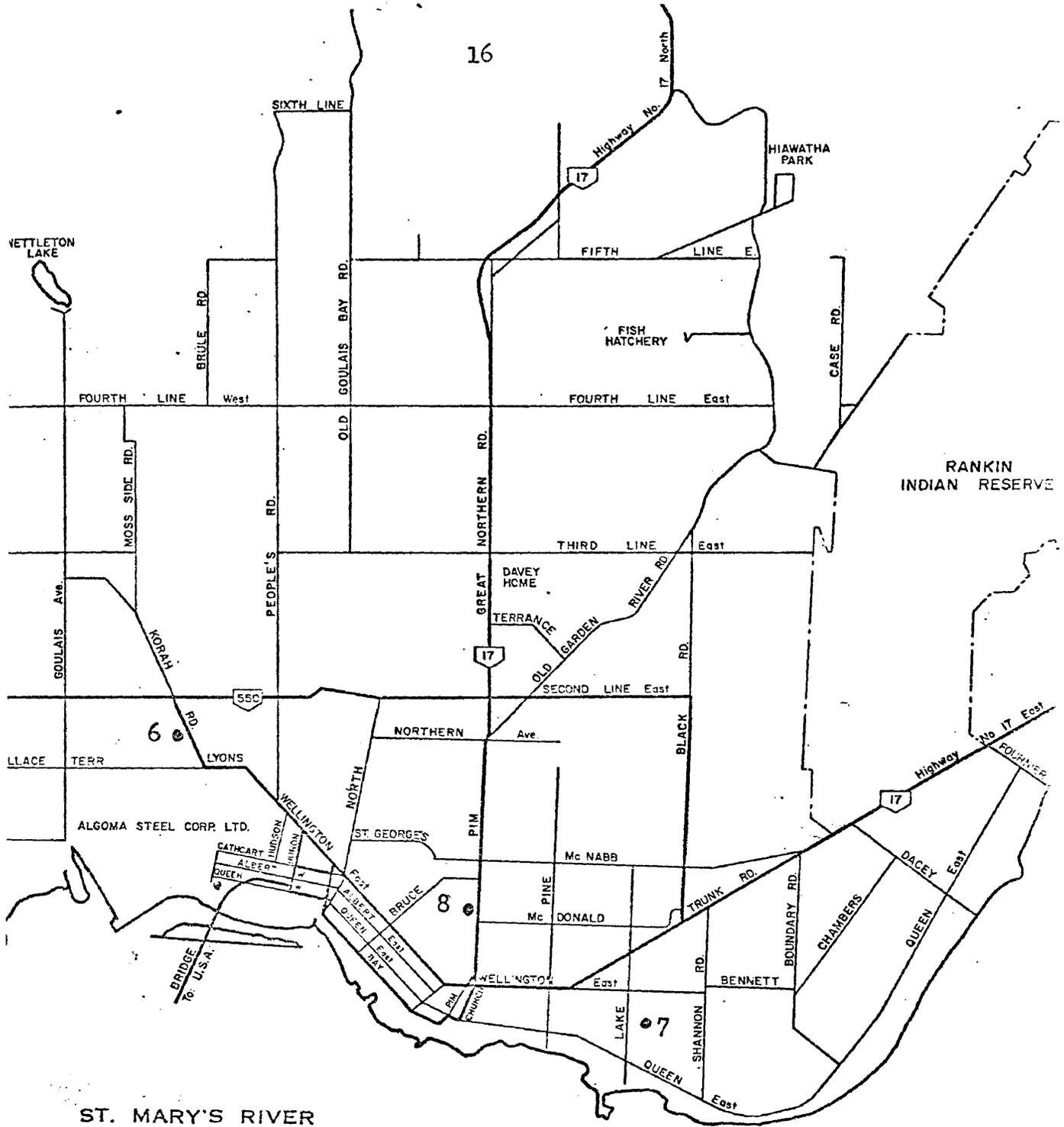
The Sault Separate School Board did not build a new school during the period of 1920 to 1948. During this latter year the old Sacred Heart School was replaced by a new building. It was not until 1953 that two new schools, St. Mark and St. James were constructed, making a total of eight.

Since the inception of State support for Separate Schools in 1841, the Roman Catholics of the province of Ontario have persistently requested a greater share of municipal taxes and grants.

In 1932 meetings were held in Sault Ste. Marie demanding that taxes be more equitably divided between Catholic and non-Catholic supporters.<sup>11</sup>

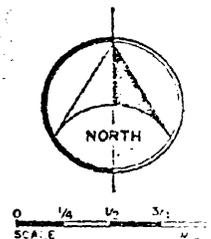
Two resolutions, asking amendments to the Provincial Assessment Act to remove unjust discrimination against the Roman Catholics of Ontario, and to insure for each child of the province an equal share of funds collected in taxes for educational purposes, were passed at three meetings held in Blessed Sacrament Church, Sacred Heart Church, and Holy Rosary Church.<sup>12</sup>

The two resolutions which were passed were



Location of the Sixth, Seventh and Eighth Separate Schools

- 6) St. Joseph
- 7) St. Mark
- 8) St. James



presented to Major James Lyons, M. P. P., and in turn to the Premier and Provincial Cabinet.

The resolutions were as follows:

"That Catholics of this province are unjustly discriminated against in the matter of taxation, and that Catholic children are not being afforded the same educational advantages as non-Catholic children, notwithstanding the explicit intention of the British North America Act to give the recognized denominations at the time of confederation equal rights in the matter of taxation in general and education in particular, and that the provincial Assessment Act as it is now worded should be amended to ensure each child of the province an equal share of the funds collected in taxes for educational purposes."

"Whereas the Act of Confederation assured to minorities in the province of Canada that no citizen would be taxed to support a school system not his own . . . and whereas for many years the Catholics of this province have suffered a grave injustice in the unfair distribution now in force in the province, whereby we are taxed for the support of public schools:

We the men of Sault Ste. Marie, wish to request the government of this province to relieve us of the intolerable burden under which we are labouring, and by a just and fair distribution of corporation and other taxes, to do the minority justice for which they have waited for so long a time."<sup>13</sup>

During the 1932-1933 school year the highest individual salary was nine hundred dollars, and the lowest salary was five hundred and fifty dollars.<sup>14</sup>

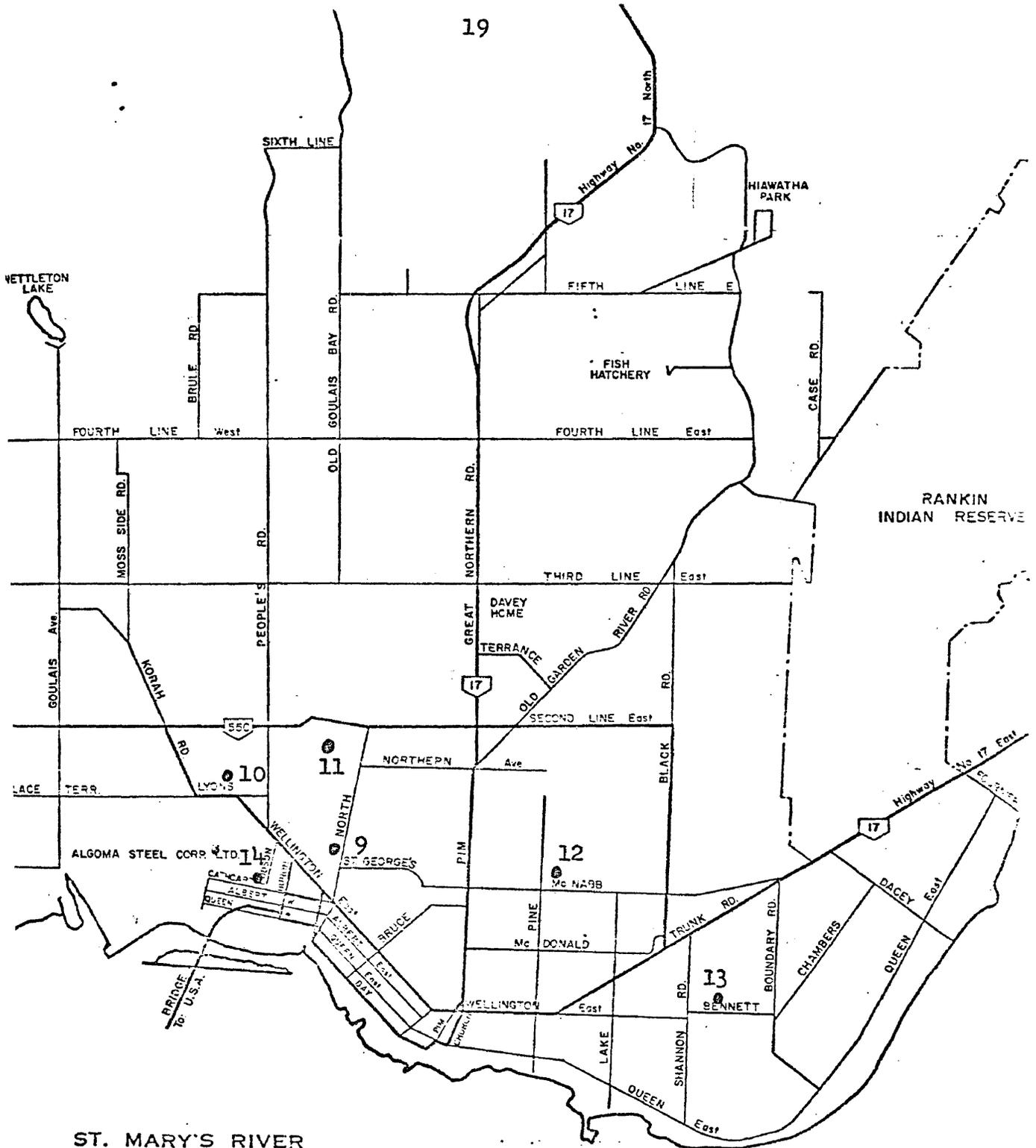
A summary of construction undertaken in 1955 by the board shows that two rooms were added to both St. Mary's and Corbus Christi Schools and that a tenth school, St. Theresa (six rooms) was erected.<sup>15</sup>

On September 1, 1955, Mr. Fred R. Mills was appointed inspector of Separate Schools, R. C. S. S. in Sault Ste. Marie. This appointment marked the first time a Department of Education separate school inspector would have his headquarters in the city of Sault Ste. Marie.<sup>16</sup>

St. Ann School was constructed in 1958 followed by St. Bernadette in 1959, St. Patrick School in 1961 and St. Margaret's following in 1962.

Construction continued in the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School System during the next decade, 1963-1973. New buildings began with Canadian Martyrs in 1963, Holy Family, St. Paul and St. Joan of Arc in 1964, Notre Dame in 1966, Ecole Cardinal Leger in 1969 and Sister Mary Clare in 1972.

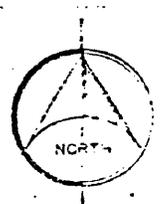
If the Sault Ste. Marie Roman Catholic rate-payers of 1932 who attended meetings protesting the lack of their right to benefit from corporation assessment were living in 1964, they would have seen that their resolutions presented to the provincial



ST. MARY'S RIVER

Location of the Ninth to Fourteenth Separate Schools

- Corpus Christi      12) St. Bernadette
- St. Theresa        13) St. Patrick
- St. Ann            14) St. Margaret



government in 1932 were finally given attention. The provincial government introduced the Ontario Tax Foundation Plan which gave the separate school boards of Ontario a formula by which they would benefit from a corporation assessment grant.

In 1946 the enrollment was 1,138 students in six school buildings. Comparing this figure with the 1956 enrollment of 2,111 in fourteen school buildings, an increase of approximately 85 per cent is noted in a ten-year period. The enrollment in 1964 was 4,260 in twenty-six school buildings which indicated an increase in enrollment of about 200 per cent from 1956. As of September 1, 1975 the total population of the Separate Schools was approximately 6,759 students in twenty-nine buildings. This figure indicates an increase of about 35 per cent from 1964.

Growth of the separate schools of Sault Ste. Marie from 1889 to 1975 paralleled the rapid growth of the city.

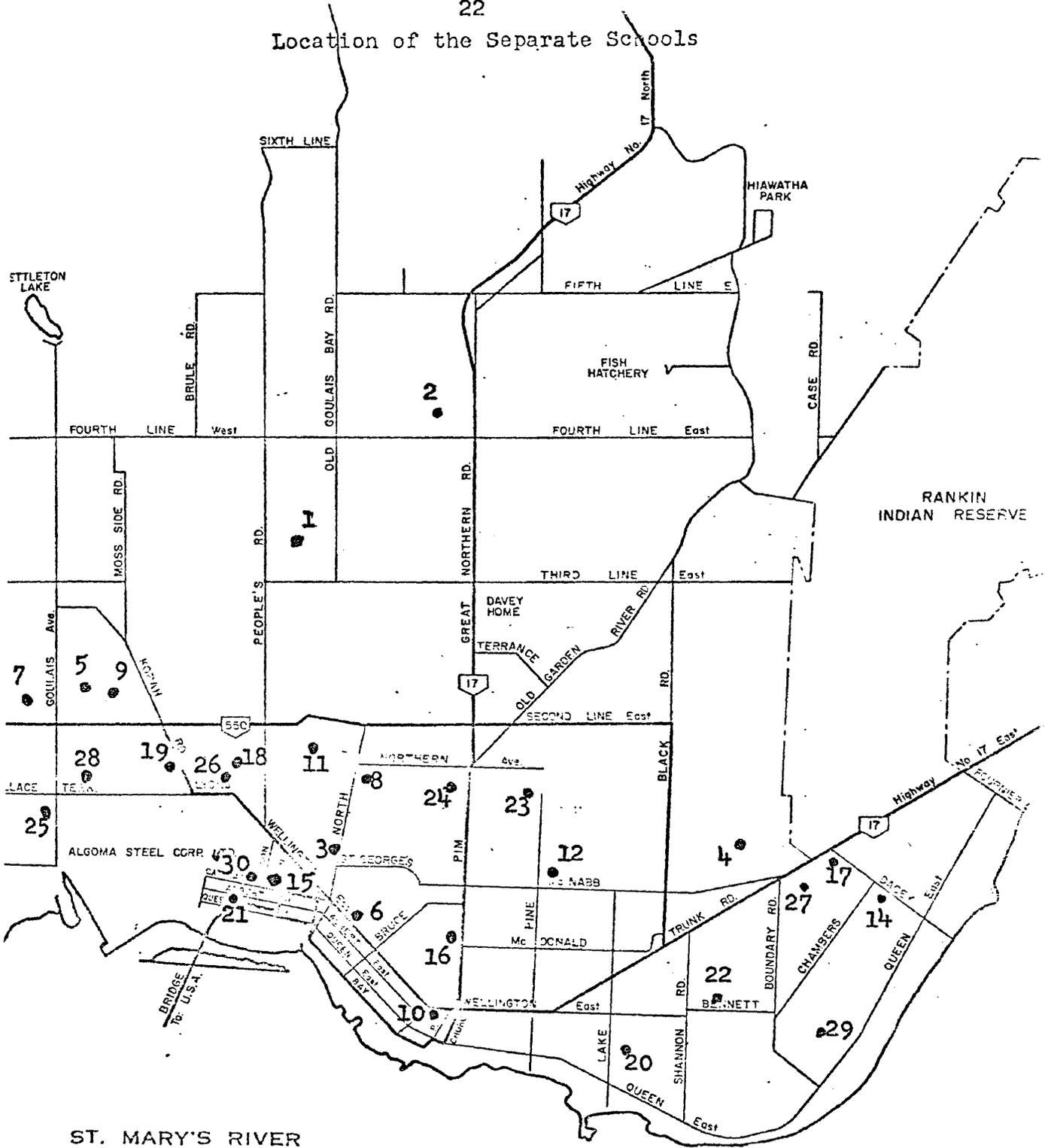
Legend For Map  
of  
Location of Sault Ste. Marie District  
Elementary Separate Schools

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. Canadian Martyrs       | 181 Greenfield Drive       |
| 2. Christ the King        | 536 Fourth Line East       |
| 3. Corpus Christi         | 5 Cornwall Street          |
| 4. David C. Thorp         | 15 Jean Street             |
| +5. Ecole Cardinal Leger  | 423 Henry Street           |
| 6. Holy Angels            | 102 Wellington Street East |
| 7. Holy Family            | 42 Rushmere Road           |
| +8. Notre Dame Des Ecoles | 600 North Street           |
| 9. Our Lady of Lourdes    | 319 Prentice Avenue        |
| 10. Sacred Heart          | 721 Wellington Street East |
| 11. St. Ann               | 139 White Oak Drive        |
| 12. St. Bernadette        | 462 McNabb Street          |
| 13. St. Francis           | 147 Brookfield Road        |
| 14. St. Hubert            | 207 Dacey Road             |
| +15. St. Ignatius         | 304 Cathcart Street        |
| 16. St. James             | 1 Blake Street             |
| +17. St. Joan of Arc      | 104 Rankin Road            |
| 18. St. John              | 100 Churchill Avenue       |
| 19. St. Joseph            | 395 Korah Road             |
| 20. St. Mark              | 145 Hugil Street           |
| 21. St. Mary              | 451 Albert Street West     |
| 22. St. Patrick           | 16 Texas                   |
| 23. St. Paul              | 78 Dablon                  |
| 24. St. Pius X            | 48 Oryme Avenue            |
| 25. St. Stanislaus        | 210 Pittsburgh Street      |
| 26. St. Theresa           | 100 Estelle Street         |
| 27. St. Thomas            | 121 Gibb Street            |
| 28. St. Veronica          | 309 East Balfour Street    |
| 29. Sister Mary Clare     | 178 Glen Avenue            |
| *30. St. Margaret         | 376 Cathcart Street        |

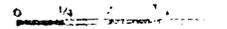
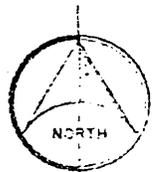
+French Schools

\*Closed in 1972--Being used as an Audio-Visual Center

Location of the Separate Schools



ST. MARY'S RIVER



## FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR THE SEPARATE SCHOOLS

The Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board receives two legislative grants annually, each paid for different purposes and calculated differently.

## a) The Ordinary Expenditure Grant

This is the largest grant the board receives. Teachers' salaries, classroom supplies, plant maintenance and other costs of operating the school system are classified as Ordinary Expenditures.

Enrollments affect the total amounts the board can receive under this category. Under the government's present grant formula, this Ordinary Expenditure Grant is payable to a maximum, or ceiling, set by the Province for each board. In 1975 the ceiling for school boards was set at \$920 per pupil, which was increased by factors that applied to those boards faced with situations that made their operation more costly than the average. For instance, because of Northern Ontario's geographical location and other factors in 1975 the grant ceiling for the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board was \$1,079 per pupil. Multiplied by enrollment, this produced a total spending ceiling of about 6,760 pupils x \$1,079 = \$7,294,040.

b) Extraordinary Expenditure Grant

This grant applies to all capital outlay and other expenditures subject to individual approval from the Ministry of Education. Transportation costs, new buildings and additions and school site purchases are among those classified as Extra-ordinary Expenditures.

In 1975 the amount of Extraordinary Expenditures was determined by the total of individual approvals issued for the various items, plus a maximum amount of \$650 per pupil for furniture and equipment. The Sault Board in 1975 received a total of \$4,393,350.

Last year the Province determined that the average elementary board had equalized assessment per pupil of \$52,500. For this average board, they would pay 63.5% of the ordinary expenditures up to the grant ceiling, and the local board is expected to finance the remaining 36.5%. Similarly, this "average" board would receive a rate of 75% on the first \$60.00 per pupil of approved Extraordinary Expenditure and 95% on the remainder. The percentages decrease for boards whose assessment is greater than the average and increase for those who are lower.

Local Taxation

The board's local assessment and the revenue that

can accrue from it is little compared to the public board. A relatively small increase in the amount they are required to raise through taxation can affect the mill rate quite severely. In 1973, for example, there was a need to raise nearly \$698,000 through local taxes. This required a rate of 11.24 mills on residential property. If the board spent to the maximum Ordinary Expenditure of \$713 per pupil they would have required an additional 4.5 mills to raise the difference.

It is important that an attempt be made to maintain a comparable mill rate. Years ago in Sault Ste. Marie Separate School supporters paid as much as 10 mills more than public school supporters. That situation existed primarily because the government then was not providing the financial support it does now. The trustees are fearful that if the tax levy is substantially higher than that of the public board there is a strong possibility the system would lose even more assessment. The reason for this decrease in assessment is that parents, faced with this additional tax increase, would transfer their children into the public system.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES  
IN  
ADDITION TO THE REGULAR CURRICULUM

Today the Sault Ste. Marie and District Separate School Board offers a varied number of services and programs in addition to the regular curriculum. Since it is a Catholic School System, one of the aims and objectives is "To guide the students in order that they may develop into sound Christians, who are members of a democratic society, and who have the competence and abilities to provide for themselves a living in our modern society."<sup>18</sup>

The Religious Education Program in the Separate Schools follows the "Come to the Father Series" which is based on readings from Sacred Scripture.<sup>19</sup> In this program the school, church and home co-operate to teach the child how to live his religion daily.

Closely associated with the Religious Education Program is the Family Life and Sex Education Program. The program has been slowly evolving over the past five years and by September of 1975 will have been introduced into all the grades with the exception of Grade Six.

The Separate School Board has a Special Services

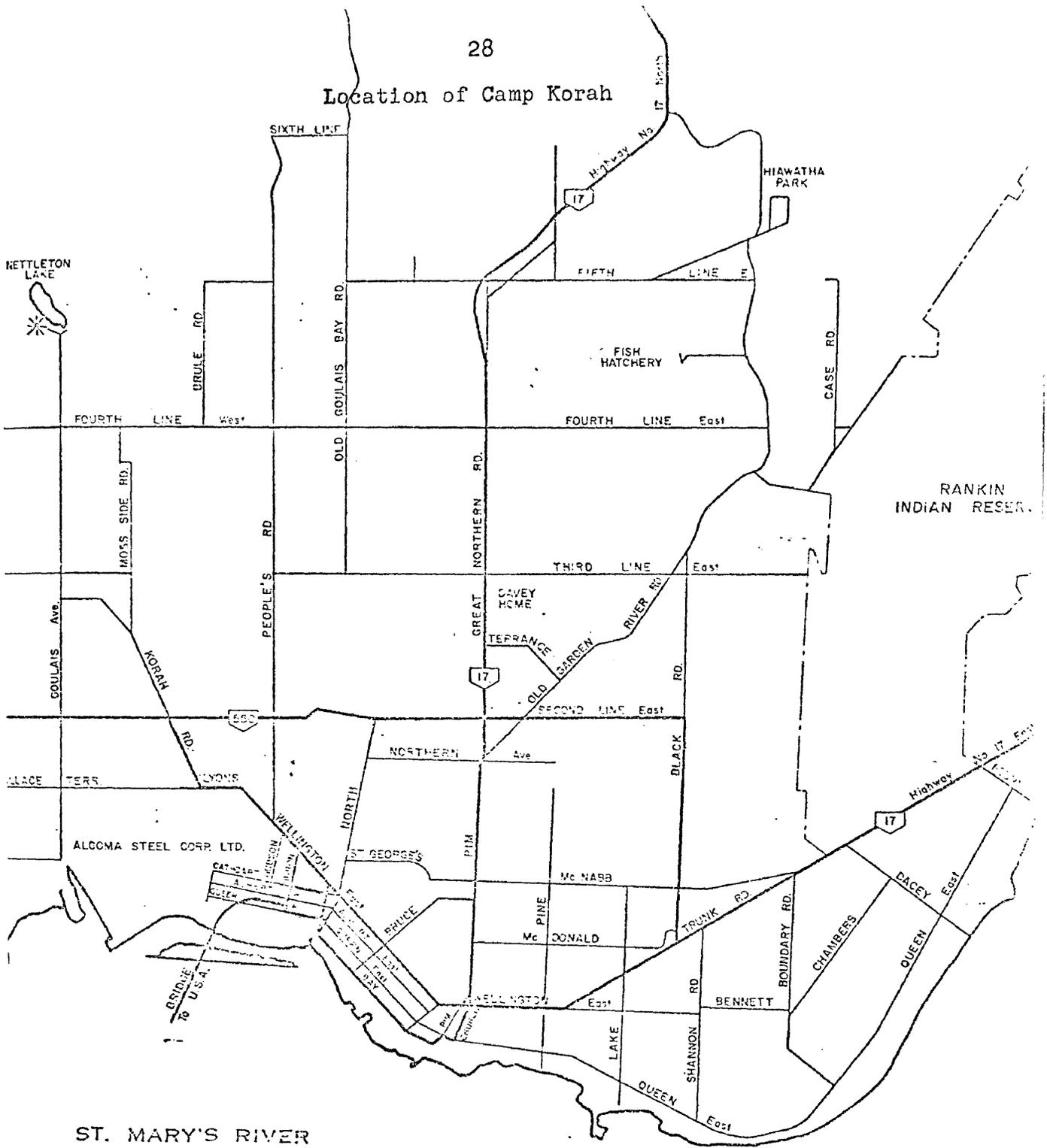
Department to administer tests to diagnose learning or behavior problems. From this a remediation program may be developed in co-operation with the classroom teacher, principal and parents. Primary, junior and senior opportunity classes exist for those children with learning disabilities and one class for the hard of hearing. In most schools a remedial teacher assists those children with difficulty in reading and a visiting speech correction teacher handles students with speech and language difficulties.

The Separate School Board provides after-hours programs for Separate School students through Community Schools Program. The school facilities are also made available for adult or neighbourhood groups.

The Separate School Board has purchased Camp Korah, a facility for outdoor education. During the spring, fifth grade students spend a day at the camp in environmental studies and in the fall, sixth graders do likewise. When renovations are completed to the existing buildings it is planned to have seventh grade students participate in a Winter program.

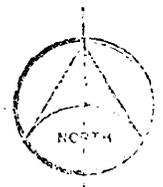
For the past four years the School Board has offered a summer school program for students in the

# Location of Camp Korah



ST. MARY'S RIVER

\* Camp Korah



0 1 2 3 4 5  
MILES  
SCALE

Primary (Grades Kindergarten to 3) and Junior (Grades 4 to 6) levels. Science, language, arts and crafts and physical education are the areas of instruction. Close to seven hundred children participated in this program in 1975 and with this interest, it is expected that the program will be continued in 1976.

1976-77 will be an important school year in the system as metric measurement will then be taught, throughout the first eight grades in the mathematics curriculum. The metric units of measurement have been introduced from Kindergarten to Grades 3. In 1975-76 Grades 4, 5, and 6 have gone completely metric while Grades 7 and 8 will follow next year.

## IDENTIFICATION OF THE PROBLEM

As with most communities, the population of Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada grew at an alarming rate during the 1950's and 1960's. The city census figures indicate the population in 1950 was 31,534 and in 1969 it grew to 76,994 requiring schools to be built or enlarged as the city spread both north and east. However, this growth tapered off in the late 1960's and as a result a decline in school enrollments began.

The Separate School System in Sault Ste. Marie, in 1970 had 7,639 students. This figure was reduced to 7,475 in 1971, to 7,190 in 1973 and still further to 6,759 students in 1975.<sup>20</sup> These figures indicate a decline of 980 students in a five-year period.

With this drop in enrollment many difficulties arose within the system. Classrooms were closed in eleven schools and in one case, St. Margaret's school was closed completely and the students were absorbed by neighbouring St. Mary's school. Several full time administrators were returned to half-time teaching positions since the lower enrollments in the schools didn't merit full-time supervision.

Many kindergarten teachers found themselves teaching a half-day since their classroom enrollment didn't reach a total of 25 which is needed in order to operate a full-time kindergarten.

If the present trend continues the board will find itself in the position of closing or combining schools and further reducing the number of principals, vice-principals and teachers.

This situation has brought about a high degree of competitiveness for kindergarten students between the Public and Separate Schools.

The big question in the minds of the educators is when will the decline end.

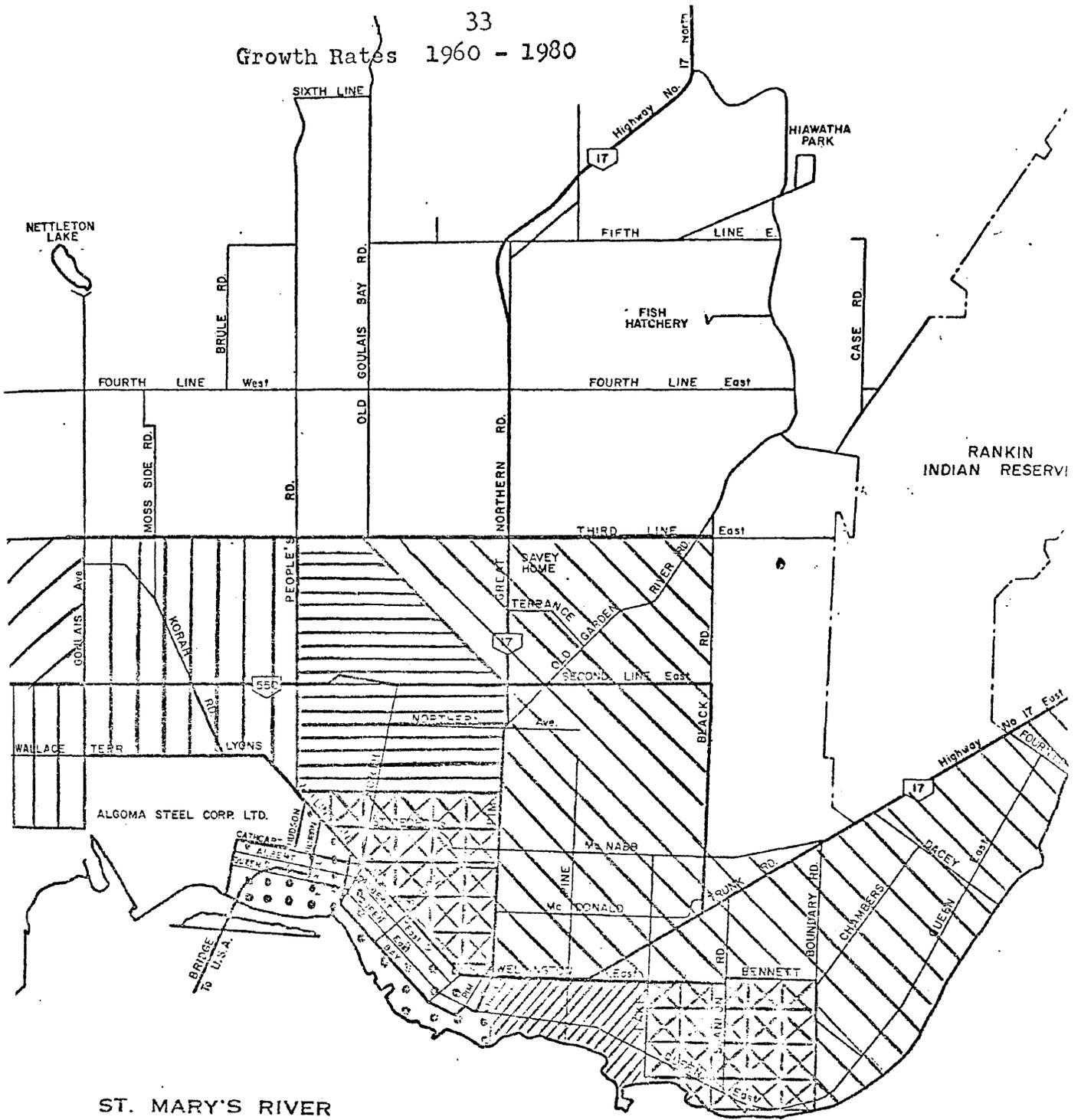
## EVALUATION OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

Evaluation of existing school buildings reveals several interesting facts. In the 29 Separate Schools there is a total of 16 classrooms not in use during the school year 1975-76. Also, only two of the six rooms in St. Margaret's are being used for the Audio Visual center. Although one might think that these empty classrooms are be restricted to one area of the city, perhaps the downtown area, such is not the case. The schools containing empty classrooms, as indicated on the Evaluation of School Building Chart, are spread throughout the entire city.

It is interesting to note that 7 of the 28 schools or 25% are badly lacking library facilities. This 25% if made up of schools which have books systematically arranged in the halls of the school where the students are not able to sit in a quiet undisturbed atmosphere to read and to do research.

As indicated on the chart on the following pages, twenty-two of the twenty-nine schools have been built since 1950. Renovations in the majority of cases have added classroom space.

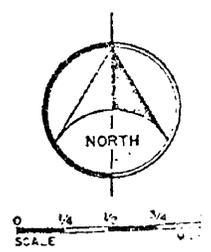
33  
 Growth Rates 1960 - 1980



ST. MARY'S RIVER

Legend -- Percentage of Increase

|     |  |      |  |
|-----|--|------|--|
| 5%  |  | 100% |  |
| 10% |  | 200% |  |
| 30% |  | 300% |  |
| 50% |  |      |  |



in the  
Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board

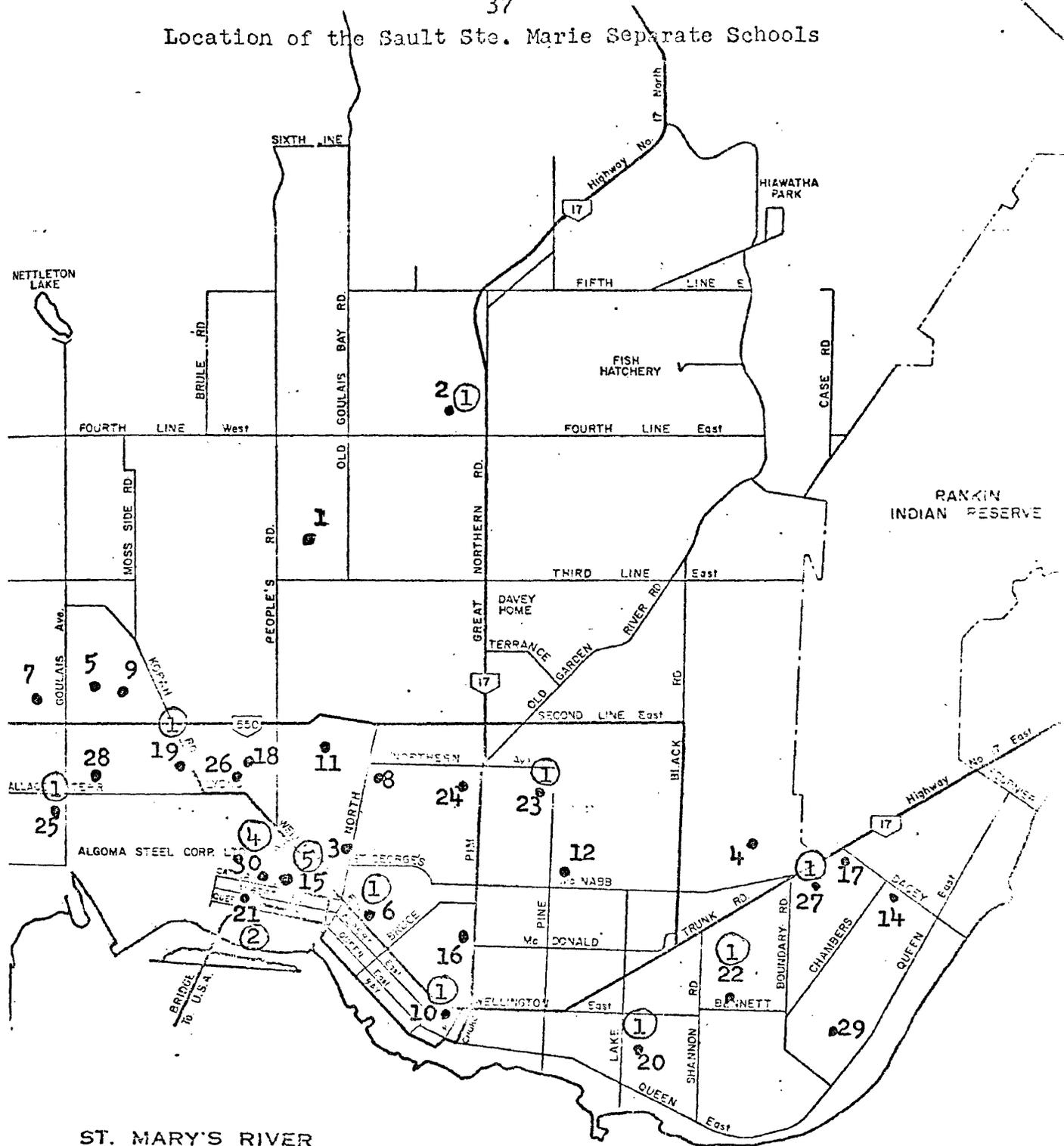
| School               | Year Built | Renovation Date | Enrollment | Classrooms Utilized | Empty Classrooms | Library |
|----------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|---------|
| Canadian Martyrs     | 1963       | -----           | 107        | 4                   | 0                | No      |
| Christ the King      | 1958       | -----           | 100        | 4                   | 1                | No      |
| Corpus Christi       | 1954       | 1957            | 306        | 12                  | 0                | No      |
| David C. Thorp       | 1973       | -----           | 151        | 6                   | 0                | Yes     |
| Ecole Cardinal Leger | 1969       | -----           | 117        | 5                   | 0                | Yes     |
| Holy Angels          | 1914       | 1967            | 287        | 11                  | 1                | Yes     |
| Holy Family          | 1964       | 1966            | 424        | 14                  | 0                | Yes     |
| Notre Dame           | 1966       | -----           | 222        | 8                   | 0                | Yes     |
| Our Lady of Lourdes  | 1958       | 1965            | 402        | 13                  | 0                | Yes     |
| Sacred Heart         | 1889       | 1948            | 165        | 9                   | 1                | Yes     |
| St. Ann              | 1958       | 1965            | 237        | 8                   | 0                | Yes     |
| St. Bernadette       | 1959       | 1965            | 372        | 13                  | 0                | No      |
| St. Francis          | 1957       | -----           | 231        | 9                   | 0                | No      |
| St. Hubert           | 1960       | 1962            | 233        | 9                   | 0                | Yes     |
| St. Ignatius         | 1902       | 1957            | 89         | 4                   | 5                | No      |
| St. James            | 1953       | 1957            | 216        | 10                  | 0                | No      |
| St. Joan of Arc      | 1964       | -----           | 152        | 5                   | 0                | Yes     |
| St. John             | 1954       | 1964            | 238        | 9                   | 0                | Yes     |

| School            | Year Built | Renovation Date | Enrollment | Classrooms Utilized | Empty Classrooms | Library (Room) |
|-------------------|------------|-----------------|------------|---------------------|------------------|----------------|
| St. Joseph        | 1920       | 1965            | 253        | 11                  | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Mark          | 1953       | 1957            | 251        | 10                  | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Mary          | 1914       | 1965            | 225        | 9                   | 2                | Yes            |
| St. Patrick       | 1961       | 1966            | 240        | 10                  | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Paul          | 1964       | 1966            | 251        | 9                   | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Pius X        | 1953       | 1963            | 260        | 9                   | 0                | Yes            |
| St. Stanislaus    | 1917       | 1957            | 183        | 7                   | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Theresa       | 1955       | 1966            | 371        | 15                  | 0                | Yes            |
| St. Thomas        | 1954       | 1965            | 196        | 8                   | 1                | Yes            |
| St. Veronica      | 1953       | 1973            | 284        | 11                  | 0                | Yes            |
| Sister Mary Clare | 1972       | -----           | 309        | 9                   | 0                | Yes            |
| St. Margaret      | 1962       | -----           | ----       | 2                   | 4                | ----           |

\*This school was closed in 1973 and is now being used as an Audio Visual Center

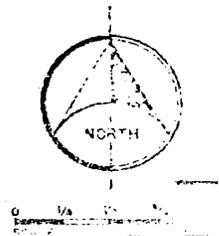


Location of the Sault Ste. Marie Separate Schools



ST. MARY'S RIVER

○ Circled numbers indicate vacant rooms during academic year 1975-76.



The system contains Sacred Heart dating back as far as 1889 and which has not been renovated to any degree since 1948. St. Mary's built in 1914, is another school in which little renovation has been done other than the addition of a gymnasium. St. Ignatius, built in 1902 and not renovated since 1957, is a school which is deteriorating and badly in need of repair.

With the above three exceptions, the school buildings in the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School System are in excellent condition. The good condition of these buildings can be attributed to two factors:

- 1) Most schools in the system are less than 20 years old.
- 2) A constant program of renovation of the buildings has been in effect.

Demographic Study

ESTIMATING FUTURE SCHOOL ENROLLMENT ON THE BASIS OF PAST ENROLLMENT TRENDS

| Census Year | PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PERCENT OF SURVIVAL IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          | ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
|-------------|---|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|---|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|----------|----------------------|----------|--------------------------|-----|--|
|             | 0-1   |                      |          | 1        |                      |          | 2        |                      |          | 3        |                      |          | 4   |                      |          | 5        |                      |          | 6        |                      |          | 7        |                      |          | 8        |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
|             | Year Old  | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old                                      | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Year Old | Per- cent Sur- vival | Num- ber | Total Annual Enrol- ment |     |  |
| 1969        | 64  | 537                  | 636      | 672      | 775                  | 780      | 872      | 938                  | 920      | 942      | 942                  | 870      | 808   | 758                  | 805      | 873      | 808                  | 758      | 805      | 873                  | 808      | 758      | 805                  | 873      | 808      | 758                  | 805      | 873      | 808                  | 758      | 805                      | 873 |  |
| 1970        | 64  | 639                  | 635      | 645      | 668                  | 770      | 803      | 912                  | 809      | 904      | 904                  | 890      | 839   | 811                  | 764      | 811      | 839                  | 811      | 764      | 811                  | 839      | 811      | 764                  | 811      | 839      | 811                  | 764      | 811      | 839                  | 811      | 764                      | 811 |  |
| 1971        | 64  | 627                  | 638      | 630      | 666                  | 671      | 707      | 841                  | 806      | 876      | 876                  | 851      | 876   | 836                  | 803      | 876      | 836                  | 803      | 876      | 836                  | 803      | 876      | 836                  | 803      | 876      | 836                  | 803      | 876      | 836                  | 803      | 876                      | 836 |  |
| 1972        | 60  | 622                  | 625      | 629      | 628                  | 639      | 652      | 756                  | 818      | 865      | 865                  | 851      | 896   | 854                  | 827      | 896      | 854                  | 827      | 896      | 854                  | 827      | 896      | 854                  | 827      | 896      | 854                  | 827      | 896      | 854                  | 827      | 896                      | 854 |  |
| 1973        | 556   | 604                  | 613      | 628      | 626                  | 623      | 527      | 605                  | 756      | 827      | 827                  | 831      | 870   | 883                  | 864      | 870      | 883                  | 864      | 870      | 883                  | 864      | 870      | 883                  | 864      | 870      | 883                  | 864      | 870      | 883                  | 864      | 870                      | 883 |  |
| 1974        | 525   | 531                  | 605      | 619      | 630                  | 620      | 635      | 686                  | 673      | 753      | 753                  | 824      | 833   | 887                  | 855      | 833      | 887                  | 855      | 833      | 887                  | 855      | 833      | 887                  | 855      | 833      | 887                  | 855      | 833      | 887                  | 855      | 833                      |     |  |
| 1975        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          | 667      | 658                  | 665      | 671      | 671                  | 751      | 808   | 817                  |          | 808      | 817                  |          | 808      | 817                  |          | 808      | 817                  |          | 808      | 817                  |          | 808      | 817                  |          | 808                      | 817 |  |
| 1976        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
| 1977        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
| 1978        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
| 1979        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |
| 1980        |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |   |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |          |                      |          |                          |     |  |

Step 1

Obtain the pre-school census figures by age group for the period 1970 through 1975 and the public school enrollment figures by grade for the school years 1969-70 through 1974-75

Step 2

Place these figures in the appropriate columns under "number"

Step 3

Calculate for this known period the percentage of survival for each group to the next age group in the following year; the percentage of survival for the 5 years old group on age 3 to the "Kindergarten" group in 1969; the percentage of survival for the 6 years old group on age 4 to the "Kindergarten" group in 1970; and the percentage of survival for each grade group to the next grade in the following year.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PERCENT OF SURVIVAL IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR

ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR

| Grade        | 0-1     |          | 1       |          | 2       |          | 3       |          | 4       |          | 5       |          | 6       |          | 7       |          | 8       |          |
|--------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|
|              | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent |
| Kindergarten | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 1            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 2            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 3            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 4            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 5            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 6            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 7            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |
| 8            | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     | 637     | 63.6     |

Example: There were 624 children in the "0-1 year old" group in 1970 and 627 children in the "1 year old" group in 1971. The percent of survival for this group was 627 divided by 624 or 100.5. In the following year, 1972, this group was "2 years old" and had decreased to 625 children.

Thus, the percent of survival from "1 year old" to "2 year old" was 625 divided by 627 or 99.7. Similarly, there were 639 children "5 years old" in 1972. In the 1973-74 school year 657 children were enrolled in kindergarten; a survival of 657 divided by 639 or 102.8 percent increase.

Step 4

Determine the average number of children in the "0-1 Year Old" group and the average percent of survival for each age or grade group to the next group the following year for the entire school. Indicate these averages in the table.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PERCENT OF SURVIVAL IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR

ELEMENTARY ENROLLMENT IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR

| Census Year | 0-1     |          | 1       |          | 2       |          | 3       |          | 4       |          | 5       |          | Kindergarten |          | Grade 1 |          | Grade 2 |          | Grade 3 |          | Grade 4 |          | Grade 5 |          | Grade 6 |          | Grade 7 |          | Grade 8 |          |     |
|-------------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|--------------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|---------|----------|-----|
|             | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber      | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent | Num-ber | Per-cent |     |
| 1973        | 643     |          | 637     |          | 636     |          | 672     |          | 775     |          | 786     |          | 872          |          | 939     |          | 920     |          | 942     |          | 878     |          | 808     |          | 738     |          | 805     |          | 774     |          | 763 |
| 1974        | 564     |          | 633     | 99.6     | 635     | 99.7     | 645     | 101.5    | 668     | 99.4     | 770     | 99.4     | 803          | 102.3    | 912     | 104.6    | 889     | 94.8     | 904     | 98.3     | 935     | 95.3     | 839     | 93.6     | 811     | 100.4    | 784     | 96.2     | 751     | 76.1     |     |
| 1975        | 624     |          | 627     | 100.3    | 638     | 100.5    | 639     | 99.2     | 664     | 103.3    | 637     | 98.4     | 707          | 91.5     | 841     | 104.7    | 886     | 97.1     | 876     | 98.5     | 873     | 98.7     | 872     | 97.6     | 836     | 94.6     | 803     | 93.9     | 757     | 76.6     | 711 |
| 1976        | 601     |          | 629     | 99.7     | 625     | 99.7     | 623     | 98.6     | 628     | 99.7     | 635     | 98.4     | 652          | 99.2     | 756     | 105.9    | 810     | 97.3     | 865     | 97.6     | 873     | 97.4     | 896     | 100.3    | 854     | 97.5     | 827     | 98.3     | 792     | 79.2     | 737 |
| 1977        | 594     |          | 624     | 103.3    | 618     | 95.4     | 628     | 100.5    | 629     | 99.2     | 628     | 98.7     | 673          | 102.3    | 685     | 105.1    | 756     | 100.0    | 827     | 101.1    | 851     | 98.4     | 870     | 102.0    | 883     | 98.5     | 845     | 99.1     | 819     | 95.9     | 740 |
| 1978        | 523     |          | 531     | 95.3     | 603     | 100.2    | 619     | 100.2    | 630     | 100.2    | 628     | 99.1     | 633          | 102.4    | 686     | 104.4    | 673     | 98.2     | 753     | 99.6     | 874     | 99.6     | 833     | 97.9     | 827     | 102.0    | 865     | 96.1     | 826     | 94.1     | 690 |
| 1979        |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |              |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |     |
| 1980        |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |              |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |         |          |     |

Summary: The percent of survival from grade 1 in 1969 to grade 2 in 1970 was 98.0%; from 1970 to 1971, 97.1%; from 1971 to 1972, 97.3%; from 1972 to 1973, 100.0%; from 1973 to 1974, 98.2%; from 1974 to 1975, 96.9%. Adding these together and dividing by six, the average percent of survival is 97.4%.

Step 5  
Project the census figures of each age group and the enrollment figures for each grade group beyond the known period by multiplying the number of children in an age or grade group in the last known year by the average percent of survival between that age or grade group and the next group.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN AND PERCENT OF SURVIVAL IN EACH SUCCEEDING YEAR

| Census Year | 0-1     |                    | 1       |                    | 2       |                    | 3       |                    | 4       |                    | 5       |                    | Kindergarten | Grade 1 |                    | Grade 2 |                    | Grade 3 |                    | Grade 4 |                    | Grade 5 |                    | Grade 6 |                    | Grade 7 |                    | Grade 8 |                    |         |                    |       |
|-------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|--------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|---------|--------------------|-------|
|             | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival |              | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival | Num-ber | Per-cent Sur-vival |       |
| 1962        | 643     |                    | 637     |                    | 636     |                    | 672     |                    | 775     |                    | 786     |                    | 872          |         | 938                |         | 920                |         | 942                |         | 878                |         | 808                |         | 793                |         | 805                |         | 678                |         | 7633               |       |
| 1970        | 624     |                    | 635     | 95.8               | 638     | 100.5              | 630     | 99.7               | 645     | 101.5              | 668     | 99.4               | 770          | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                | 99.4    | 770                |       |
| 1971        | 624     |                    | 627     | 100.5              | 630     | 100.5              | 630     | 100.5              | 630     | 100.5              | 630     | 100.5              | 630          | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5   | 630                | 100.5 |
| 1972        | 601     |                    | 622     | 99.7               | 625     | 99.7               | 629     | 98.6               | 628     | 99.7               | 631     | 95.5               | 632          | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2    | 635                | 99.2  |
| 1973        | 526     |                    | 604     | 100.5              | 610     | 99.4               | 626     | 100.5              | 626     | 99.5               | 626     | 99.5               | 626          | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5    | 626                | 99.5  |
| 1974        | 525     |                    | 531     | 95.5               | 530     | 100.2              | 530     | 100.2              | 530     | 100.2              | 530     | 100.2              | 530          | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2   | 530                | 100.2 |
| 1975        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 530     | 99.9               | 605     | 100.0              | 620     | 100.4              | 619     | 98.3               | 667          | 107.6   | 658                | 103.6   | 665                | 96.9    | 671                | 99.7    | 753                | 100.0   | 808                | 98.1    | 847                | 101.7   | 838                | 94.5    | 852                | 98.5    | 852                | 98.5  |
| 1976        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 519     | 99.9               | 630     | 100.0              | 607     | 100.4              | 605     | 98.3               | 625          | 101.1   | 700                | 104.9   | 641                | 97.4    | 659                | 99.1    | 698                | 98.2    | 742                | 98.6    | 807                | 99.9    | 831                | 98.1    | 820                | 97.3    | 814                | 97.3  |
| 1977        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 519     | 99.9               | 630     | 100.0              | 607     | 100.4              | 605     | 98.3               | 625          | 101.1   | 700                | 104.9   | 641                | 97.4    | 659                | 99.1    | 698                | 98.2    | 742                | 98.6    | 807                | 99.9    | 831                | 98.1    | 820                | 97.3    | 814                | 97.3  |
| 1978        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 519     | 99.9               | 630     | 100.0              | 607     | 100.4              | 605     | 98.3               | 625          | 101.1   | 700                | 104.9   | 641                | 97.4    | 659                | 99.1    | 698                | 98.2    | 742                | 98.6    | 807                | 99.9    | 831                | 98.1    | 820                | 97.3    | 814                | 97.3  |
| 1979        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 519     | 99.9               | 630     | 100.0              | 607     | 100.4              | 605     | 98.3               | 625          | 101.1   | 700                | 104.9   | 641                | 97.4    | 659                | 99.1    | 698                | 98.2    | 742                | 98.6    | 807                | 99.9    | 831                | 98.1    | 820                | 97.3    | 814                | 97.3  |
| 1980        | 525     |                    | 520     | 99.0               | 519     | 99.9               | 630     | 100.0              | 607     | 100.4              | 605     | 98.3               | 625          | 101.1   | 700                | 104.9   | 641                | 97.4    | 659                | 99.1    | 698                | 98.2    | 742                | 98.6    | 807                | 99.9    | 831                | 98.1    | 820                | 97.3    | 814                | 97.3  |

Example: In the last known year, 1974, there were 525 children in the "0-1 year old" group on the pre-school census. The average percent of survival from "0-1" to "1" was 99.0. Therefore, multiplying 525 by 99.0% we estimate that there will be 520 children in the "1 year old" group in 1975. Similarly, there were 667 children enrolled in kindergarten

In the 1975 school year, the average percent of survival between "Kindergarten" and "Grade 1" is 104.9. Therefore we estimate that there will be 700 children enrolled in Grade 1 in the 1976 school year by multiplying 667 by 104.9%.  
Step 6 -- Total the enrollment figures horizontally for both the known period and the future period in each of the "total" columns.

## FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

An analysis of enrollment projections based on the "Survival Technique" indicates a continuing drop in enrollment. From the 1969 to the 1975 school year the number of students attending the Sault Ste. Marie Separate Schools declined from 7,639 to 6,759, a drop of 980 students. The calculations of enrollment figures for the next five years indicate a continuing decrease.

Table of Enrollment Projections

| Year | Enrollment | Decline |
|------|------------|---------|
| 1976 | 6,484      | 275     |
| 1977 | 6,233      | 251     |
| 1978 | 5,978      | 255     |
| 1979 | 5,789      | 189     |
| 1980 | 5,657      | 132     |

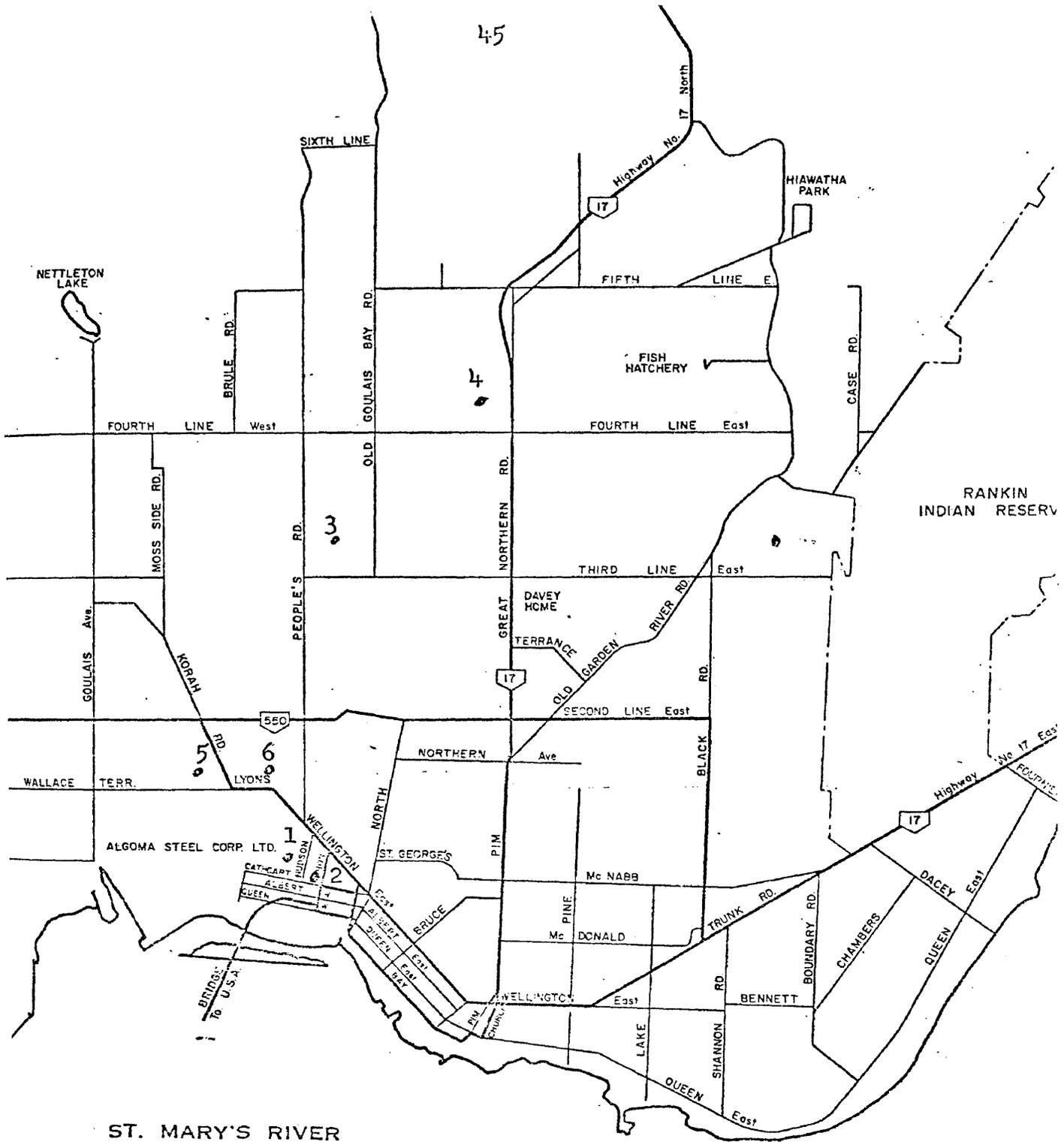
\*\*Total decline in enrollment from 1975-1980 is 1,102 students.

There are presently 16 classrooms not in use during the 1975-76 school year and with a further projected decline of 1,102 students over the next five years this number will definitely increase.

It is time for the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board to consider the combining and closing of schools.

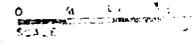
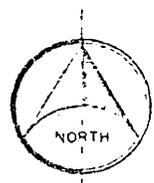
St. Ignatius School, with 4 utilized and 5 empty classrooms is one to be considered. The school was erected in 1902 and although remodelled in 1957 is quickly deteriorating. Keeping this in mind, along with the cost factor of operating such a building, it is recommended that this building be closed and either sold or leased in order that the board may recover some revenue. The closing of this school would result in very little inconvenience for the students or staff since St. Margaret's School is two blocks away. St. Margaret's School was closed in 1972 and is presently being used as an Audio-Visual Center. The Audio-Visual Department occupies only two classrooms of the six available rooms thus allowing room for the four classrooms from St. Ignatius School to occupy the remainder of the building. This would be quite practical considering that the building is being totally heated and maintained.

On the north side of the city the Separate School Board is operating Christ the King School which



ST. MARY'S RIVER

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. St. Margaret's School   | 4. Christ the King School |
| 2. St. Ignatius School     | 5. St. Joseph School      |
| 3. Canadian Martyrs School | 6. St. Theresa School     |



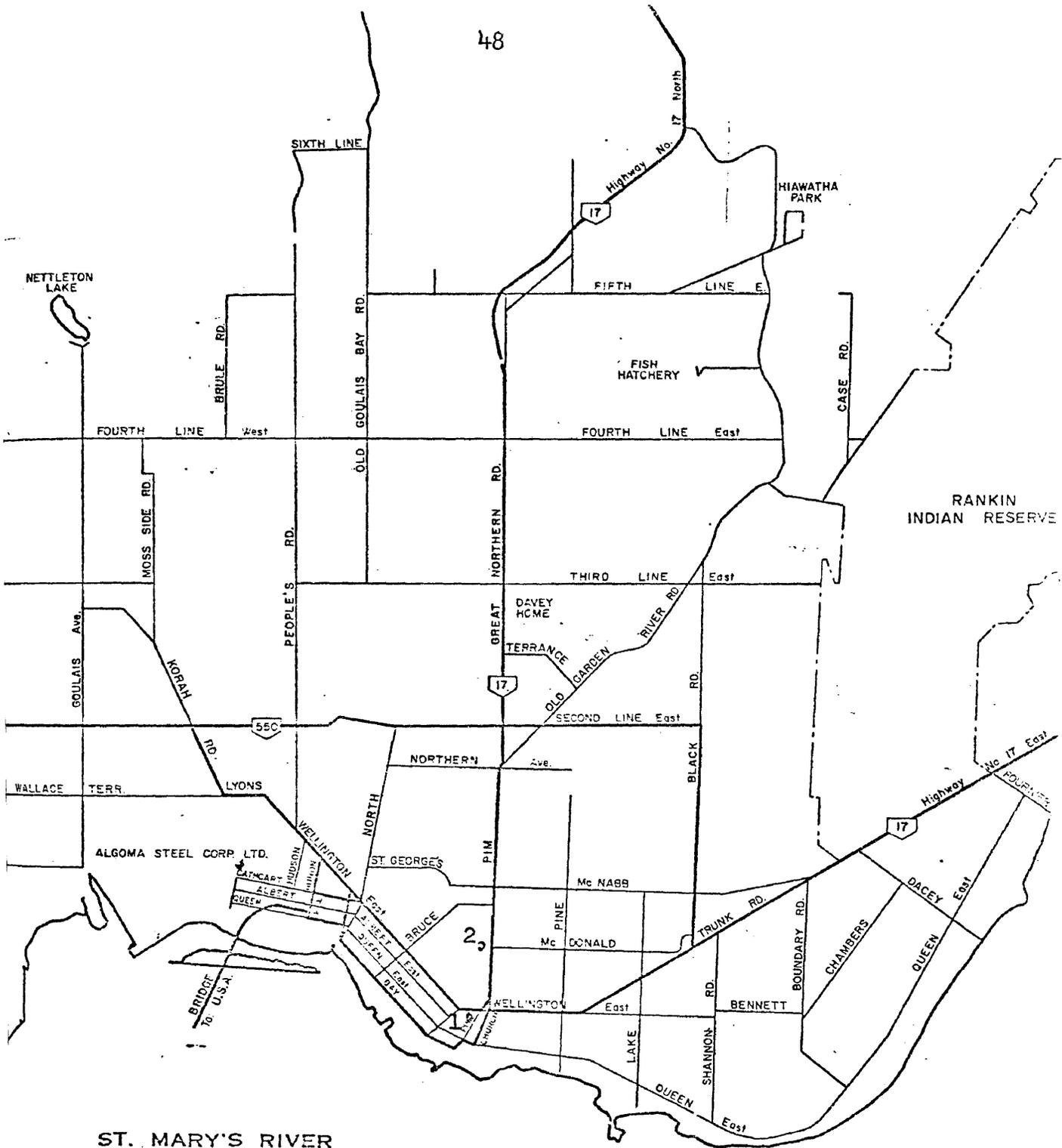
contains 3 classrooms and Canadian Martyrs School containing 4 classrooms. This is financially impractical in light of the fact that both schools must be maintained for so few students. Christ the King School has at present 18 Kindergartens, 21 Grade Ones, 22 Grade Twos, 13 Grade Threes, and 26 Grade Fours. The grades two and three are combined as one while the kindergarten is half-time. Canadian Martyrs has at present 16 Grade Fives, 25 Grade Sixes, 34 Grade Sevens, and 32 Grade Eights. Since neither school is large enough to handle all the students, definite steps should be taken to close at least one of these schools. Most students attending these schools are bussed in daily from outlying areas. It would seem practical to bus the students to a school in the area that can accommodate them and close at least one of the two schools. Two schools, St. Joseph and St. Theresa, located in this area of the city would be the answer. Both schools, although containing only one empty room have a low pupil teacher ratio throughout the grades. With a slight change in boundaries students within walking distance could be changed from St. Theresa to St. Joseph, since both schools are only 3 blocks apart, and the students from Canadian Martyrs' School could be bussed to St. Theresa. This would allow the closing of the Canadian Martyrs

School Building and the board could consider using the building to recover revenue.

Sacred Heart built in 1889 in the downtown area of the city is another to consider for closing. This school contains 9 classrooms, 5 used as regular classrooms, 1 used as half-time kindergarten, and 3 others used as rooms for children with learning disabilities, the Hearing Impaired, and as a Special Education Classroom, thus leaving one room vacant.

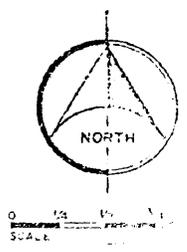
Considering the fact that all the children in the classrooms for the Hearing Impaired, Children with Learning Disabilities, and the Special Education Classroom are bussed, these classes can be moved freely to a school anywhere within the system that contains an empty classroom. We are therefore looking at a school of actually 5 1/2 classrooms in an area of the city that has no room for development. Careful attention should be given this area and if the continued decline in the school's enrollment continues, busing of the students to nearby schools that could accommodate them should be considered.

Due to the seriousness of the problem of declining enrollment in the Sault Ste. Marie Separate School System, a continuous study of similar nature should be carried out by board officials.



ST. MARY'S RIVER

- 1. Sacred Heart
- 2. St. James



## FOOTNOTES

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2. Robert Seng-Pui Wong, "A Study of Population Growth and Its Impact in Orange County, California," Times Educational Supplement, May, 1975, Volume 35, No. 11.
3. Philip Venning, "Big Drop in Birth Rate Baffles Officials," Times Educational Supplement, October, 1973.
4. "Sacred Heart Was Sault's First Separate School." Sault Ste. Marie, January 15, 1934, p. 7.
5. Ibid. p. 7.
6. "St. Ignatius School Was Built by Jesuit Fathers in 1902," Sault Daily Star, Sault Ste. Marie, February, 1935, p. 7.
7. Ibid. p. 7.
8. Ibid. p. 7.
9. Sault Ste. Marie Directory for 1918, Hamilton, Henry Vernon and Sons, 1918, p. 282.
10. "Educational Buildings of Sault Ste. Marie Are \$1,548,000.," Sault Daily Star, Sault Ste. Marie, December 19, 1922, p. 7.
11. "Separate Schools Ask Wider Tax Split," Sault Daily Star, Sault Ste. Marie, November 28, 1932, p. 3.
12. Ibid. p. 3.
13. Ibid. p. 3.
14. Ontario Department of Education, Urban Public and Separate Schools Teachers' Superannuation Report, June 10, 1933, pp. 1-2.
15. Ontario Department of Education, Form Building 3, Final Approval, Toronto, July 6, 1954.
16. F. Kinlin, The First 83 Years of Separate School Inspectors in Ontario, p. 4.

17. "Separate School Enrollment," Sault Daily Star, Sault Ste. Marie, September, 1956, p. 9.

18. Sault Ste. Marie District Separate School Board, "Objectives and Aims of Our Schools", Sault Ste. Marie, p. 1. (Mimeographed)

19. "Come to the Father Series" is a religious education program approved for use in the Separate Schools by the Canadian Bishops. (Toronto, Ontario: Paulist Press, 1972).

20. A Statistical Information Sheet, "Enrollment By Grades," Sault Ste. Marie Separate School Board, September 30, 1975.