

## **Davis, François “Napuk”. (1873-1947)**

François became the first Tribal Court Judge at Turtle Mountain. François “Napuk. Davis, (1873-1947) was the Metis son of William Davis and Marie Vallie, born November 1, 1873 at White Earth, Minnesota. His father William Davis and Jean Baptiste Wilkie were half-brothers. They moved to Pembina in the late 1840s. He married Marie Enno Heneault, then Marie Vallée at Pembina in 1862. William was also a counsellor for chiefs Little Shell II and III.

François married Angélique Turcotte at St. Ann’s Mission, Montana on June 25, 1892. Angélique was born March 16, 1876 at St. Peter Mission, Montana, the daughter of J.B. Turcotte and Angélique Paquin. The couple had twelve children. Frank “Napuk” Davis was the first Tribal Judge of the Turtle Mountain Band, appointed in 1920 at the time that a Tribal Judicial system was established as a Court of Indian Offenses. He served as Judge until 1945.<sup>1</sup> His brother Louis “Weesug” Jerome St. Matte Davis was one of the members of the Turtle Mountain Police in the early 1900s.



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<sup>1</sup> St. Ann’s Centennial Committee, St. Ann’s Centennial 1885-1985 Belcourt, North Dakota: St. Ann’s Centennial Committee, 1985: 193, 305.