

Beecher United Is Linked Directly With the Oldest Free Church In England

Wiltshire Village the Original Source of Congregationalists in the Dominion.

SILCOX A PIONEER

City Church To Celebrate 88th Anniversary With Special Services.

From a Wiltshire, England, village in 1550 to London, Ontario, in 1925, may seem a long cry, yet under certain circumstances this is quickly bridged. About the year first mentioned the Marquis of Bath, desiring a mansion at Longleat Park, imported from Scotland a colony of stone-masons for the purpose, who stipulated, however, for freedom to worship God after their own manner. This being accorded, they came, and in this way the first nonconformist church in England was organized.

A lease granted by the marquis permitted the erection of the first independent chapel. One of the clauses of the lease stipulated that the building should never be enlarged, nor should the roof ever be of any other material than thatch. The little church still stands, barn-like in appearance, with its upright pews and galleries, one side for men, the other for women, and the date of its erection, 1566, being deeply cut on a stone in the end wall. Services are being held there regularly today.

Spreads To Canada.

From this little church came the Rev. Joseph Silcox over 100 years ago, and founded the first independent or Congregational church at Frome, which church celebrated its centenary on Sept. 28, 1919, the services that day being preached by his grandson, Dr. J. B. Silcox, son of the Rev. Wm. Clarke (of Clarke's bridge fame) began preaching regularly to the Congregationalists in 1837 in the old grammar school near the court house. London now became a center of extension work and soon posts were opened in most of the villages between London and Berlin.

Many Removals.

The local congregation had later a large room on Dundas street, placed at their disposal by Mr. Farr. Soon after this a building was erected on Richmond street, near the present location of the Free Press office. Once again came another move to a



GEORGES EMILE DAESCHNER, who is soon to retire from the post of French ambassador to the United States.

church building on the north side of King street, a little east of Wellington street, the schoolroom of which is still standing.

In August, 1876, the building now occupied on Dundas street was opened and dedicated. This edifice, damaged by fire in 1914 and more recently by lightning, has this summer been thoroughly overhauled and redecorated, making it one of the prettiest and most comfortable church auditoriums in the city.

Among those who have served in this pastorate may be named Revs. William Clarke, Edward Elms, John Durrant, W. F. Clarke, M. Boyd, C. P. Watson, J. A. R. Dixon, R. W. Wallace, H. D. Hunter, R. Aylward, Dr. Wythe, J. W. Pedley, E. C. Oakley, D. S. Hamilton, E. A. Penfield, H. D. Whitmore, Dr. J. B. Silcox, M. Kelly, the present pastor, Rev. Chas. S. Miller, who is conducting the 88th anniversary services.

SYNTHETIC DIET FOR NEW UNIVERSITY CLUB

A proposal is under way to form an honor science club at the University of Western Ontario to accommodate the rapidly increasing number of students in that course.

At an informal gathering of a number of embryo scientists of arts '28, an outline of the proposed club was laid. The organization is to be a strictly masculine one and the chief attraction will be synthetic refreshments taken in scientifically correct proportions.

Professor Russell, of the department of geology, in speaking of the club, stated that it was highly desirable that a subject so important as science should be represented among the clubs of the university.

ARTIST IS GUEST OF "U" ALUMNAE

Miss Emily Warren Takes Members on Visit to Homes of Great.

Miss Emily Warren, distinguished artist and lecturer, was a guest of honor at a meeting of the Alumnae association of the university of Western Ontario held last night at the home of Mrs. Gordon Tennent, Fullerton street.

Miss Warren's talk on "Homes and Haunts of the Great" was very informally given, and illustrated with her own paintings and slides. Her audience was taken on a fascinating trip across England and the continent, paying intimate visits to the houses and gardens which once sheltered the great artist, statesmen and poets of the old world. The assembly were shown the beauties which surrounded the lives of Shakespeare, Milton, Wordsworth, Johnson, Ruskin, Carlyle, Bunyan, Sir Christopher Wren, and Dickens.

The original of The Palace Beautiful and The Glebe House were among the delightful spots pictured. The slides also include the studies where these men worked, furnished exactly as they were when the men themselves were living.

Miss Warren told of her personal acquaintance with Ruskin, and how she first met at the age of ten. It was a case of little Miss Warren making the first overture, for she wrote him asking his advice as to whether she should become a doctor. Up to this time she knew him only by name. Ruskin answered the letter and asked to be allowed to call upon her. This began their friendship.

Miss Marion Wrighton, president of the alumnae, presided over the gathering. Following the address a brief business meeting was held. Miss Catharine Campbell being appointed as alumnae reporter on the Western Gazette. A delightful piano solo was given by Miss Cecilia Little.

The guest of honor was paid a special little tribute by the club members, when she was presented with a corsage bouquet of pink roses, lilies of the valley and pom-pom pinks. The presentation being made by Mrs. K. P. R. Neville. Following the meeting supper was served. Mrs. Neville presiding over the tea cups, assisted by Miss Marion Wrighton and Miss Gertrude Rowntree.

HUNTERS' SPECIALS.

For the accommodation of hunters this season the Canadian Pacific will operate special trains for Sudbury and intermediate points, including camp steps, leaving Toronto Union station 10 a.m. Oct. 30 and 31, Nov. 2 and 3. These trains will carry standard sleepers, coaches and baggage cars.

Call on any Canadian Pacific agent and he will gladly reader every assistance in arranging your hunting trip.—Adv.

CHURCH COMMISSION SETTLES TWO OUT OF FIVE DISPUTES

Ilderton Presbyterian Building Given To Minority at Van-neck and Ivan.

MUST PAY FOR MANSE

South Nissouri Congregation Ordered To Pay \$1,250 To North Nissouri.

Two cases of the five heard by the provincial church union commission during all-day sessions at the court-house yesterday were completed by J. D. Falconbridge, K.C., Toronto, chairman, and his colleagues of the judicial body.

Ilderton Presbyterian church was given to the minority group of the former Presbyterian churches at Van-neck and Ivan, both of which voted to enter the United church of Canada. The commission discharged its duty in a second case in instructing the South Nissouri Presbyterian congregation to pay \$1,250 cash within a month to the North Nissouri United church for the manse, situated at South Nissouri, which formerly served these two congregations.

Judgment was reserved in two cases involving the Kintore Presbyterian church and the other involving Melbourne and Riverside churches, both of which voted to remain in the United church of Canada. The fifth case affecting the Motherwell and Avonbank churches, both of which also voted into the United church, will be completed in Toronto, the evidence not being completed at 11:30 o'clock last night.

Must Pay \$1,250.

The first case concerned the manse for the North and South Nissouri churches, the former congregation holding a two-fifths interest in the manse, which is situated at South Nissouri, having entered the United church, while the other congregation voted to remain Presbyterian. The application made to the commission was to fix the sum to be paid by the South Nissouri church to retain the manse property, that church offering \$1,000, claiming that the building is worth \$2,500, as against the claim made by the North church that \$5,000 was the value of the manse. It was finally settled that the South Nissouri congregation must pay \$1,250 in cash within a month, or else the manse will be sold and the proceeds divided upon the basis of the interest actually held by the two congregations. Rev. Roy Johnston is the minister in charge at North Nissouri, while Rev. Chas. M. Anderson, B.A., LaSalle, Mo., has just been given a call by the South Nissouri congregation.

The second case was that of the application of the Motherwell Presbyterian group of Van-neck (English settlement) and Ivan churches to be given either one of these two churches to settle in. By agreement that the group which is now linked up with Bryanston and Bethel, with Rev. James Hagan as the newly-appointed minister, should be given possession of the former Ilderton Presbyterian church, leaving the former Methodist church to accommodate the members of the United church at Ilderton. Van-neck and Ivan charge undisturbed.

Kintore Claim.

In the third case the minority group of Kintore Presbyterian church claimed that "deliberate" means had been taken to prevent the taking of a vote on church union in that congregation, with the result that no vote was actually taken, and asked the commission to recommend that either the Presbyterian or Methodist church at Kintore be given to them. The Presbyterian church originally had about 165 members and 100 adherents, while now, as a United church, the congregation has 120 members and 93 adherents, with the new Presbyterian group meeting in the Oddfellows' hall, claiming to have 60 or more members and adherents with a minister as supply from week to week, though regularly organized as a Presbyterian congregation. Sharp difference developed as to the result of a congregational meeting on Sunday, Dec. 21, whether it was agreed to take a vote by ballot on church union at the annual meeting on Jan. 12, or only to discuss the question at what should be done. Rev. I. H. Macdonald, Ph.D., pastor, sent out a letter prior to Jan. 12 urging a favorable vote on union. A motion was adopted at the annual meeting by 86 to 11, and later "considered to be unanimous" that the congregation go into union without a vote. On April 28 a resolution was made upon the session by 25 members of the congregation asking for a formal vote by ballot on church union. On May 18 the session acted upon this by "agreeing to take the 20 days' grace allowed by the church union act before calling the congregational meeting," naming May 28 as the date. When the meeting came, it was decided that it was too late to take any vote and have it completed legally before June 10, the date of the consummation of union, and thus the church automatically went into union.

Dr. Macdonald stated emphatically that he and the session "had kept faith with the parishioners and had acted as a spiritual court in deliberately fixing the date of the congregational meeting (after the requisition had been made) so that no vote could be taken."

Irregularity Alleged.

Counsel for the minority, in summing up, declared that there had been "irregularities in the not taking of the vote," that the "deliberate" means had been taken to prevent a vote being taken, and that the efforts of the moderator and session "had been to defeat the church union act" in delaying the vote. Counsel also urged "that unquestionably there is a spare church in Kintore with the old Presbyterian church and the former Methodist church, while the minority has to worship 'in a country roadside hall,' which was described as 'a tin building, stove in one end and slat seats.'"

Counsel for the United church urged "that the commission should be loath to take action unless it felt that the will of the congregation was not properly expressed, and in this instance the will of the great majority of the congregation had been carried into effect, pointing out that

Damascus Loss Over 1,000 Lives

Associated Press Despatch.—Washington, D. C., Oct. 31.—Estimates placing the property damage during the French bombardment of Damascus at \$10,000,000 and the loss of life at 1,000 persons have reached Washington.

Detailed information is still awaited as to the damage done to American property, and it is expected formal claims will be presented in Paris when complete data is at hand.

The commission has no jurisdiction over the former Methodist church and that to give the Presbyterian church a small minority would be to do a substantial injustice. Judgment was reserved by the commission as to the alleged irregularities regarding the vote, and suggested that while the minority group be permitted to worship in the former Presbyterian church from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoon without charge.

In the fourth dispute, the Presbyterian minority of Melbourne (Guthrie church) and Riverside, claiming to have 25 members and 30 adherents, asked for one (preferably Melbourne) of the two churches. Melbourne voted 56 to 15 in favor of union and Riverside 13 to 2 for union. The Presbyterian church has been worshipping "economically" in the Anglican church at Melbourne since June, paying \$2 rental per Sunday. Morning and evening services have been held in the Guthrie church for the former Methodist and Presbyterian churches, with Sunday school for the two congregations in the morning in the basement of the former Methodist church. Evidence was given to show that Melbourne is "the center of a community," as required by the act, and that there is an idle church at Melbourne, though both these contentions were denied by counsel for the United church, who claimed that the Guthrie church, as well as the former Methodist church, are needed to conveniently meet the needs of the two churches in Melbourne, and that it is no hardship for the Presbyterian minority to worship in the Anglican church. Judgment in the case, at the beginning of which the minority was offered the privilege of worshipping in Guthrie church from 2 to 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoon and one week meeting, until Jan. 1927, with a nominal allowance for fuel and janitor's expenses, was reserved by the commission. Rev. G. W. Oliver is minister of Melbourne and Riverside, while the minority group is linked up and served by the Presbyterian minister at Appleton, five miles distant.

In the fifth case the minority group of the Motherwell and Avonbank United churches made application for either one of the two churches. Motherwell voted 64 to 47 for union and Avonbank 97 to 49 for union, the value of the former being fixed at \$10,000 and the latter at \$5,000. The minority church has 100 members on its roll and 25 adherents, worshipping in the Motherwell schoolhouse, affiliated with Avonbank, a Methodist district. Rev. W. J. Walker, St. Marys, as interim moderator. The group has been given the school free of charge during the summer, while no evidence was given as to monetary arrangement for the winter. Rev. Neil Leckie, pastor of the two churches, testified "that to give either church to the Presbyterian group would split the church and scatter the members to the four winds."

Mr. Leckie was cross-examined very closely by counsel for the minority, who finally decided to go on with the case until Mr. Leckie produced the church roll, that he (counsel) might check up on his evidence. It was agreed that further evidence and argument should be heard before the commission at Toronto some time in the near future. The commission, which includes also H. B. Watson, K.C., Hamilton, and R. S. Cassels, K.C., Toronto, sits only on Fridays owing to the fact that Mr. Falconbridge, principal of the Ontario Education Board, is busy throughout the week giving lectures. The commission sat at Orangeville last week and will sit at Owen Sound and Waterloo during the next three weeks.

Travel With Commission.

G. W. Mason, K.C., Toronto, and R. B. Whitehead, Toronto, are traveling with the commission as legal counsel in the interests of the United church, while D. L. McCarthy, K.C., Toronto, and Norman S. Macdonald, Toronto, represent the Presbyterian church interests.

Local lawyers assisting in the cases here included F. W. Gladman and J. Edgar Vining for the United church, and J. G. Gillanders for the Presbyterian church.

Noticed in the large audience, largely out-of-town people, were the following ministers: Rev. C. I. Wm. Beattie, D.D., C.M.G., chairman of the church union committee of the old London presbytery; Rev. W. R. McIntosh, D.D., chairman of the Middlesex United church presbytery; Rev. James MacKay, B.D., moderator of the London Presbyterian presbytery; Rev. John MacNab, D.D., clerk of the London presbytery; Rev. I. H. Macdonald, Ph.D., Kintore; Rev. George Gilmore; Rev. N. A. Campbell, Van-neck; Rev. W. E. Millison, Rev. J. W. Hilbert, Rev. W. Vance, Ilderton; Rev. G. W. Oliver, Melbourne; Rev. A. E. M. Thomson, B.D., president of the London United church conference; Rev. B. H. Robinson; Rev. H. P. Parnaby, Mount Pleasant; Rev. John C. Crawford, Rev. B. Storey; Rev. James Anthony, Thamesford; Rev. W. J. Walker, St. Marys; Rev. Neil Leckie, Motherwell.

GRAY, MCCANN AND DOWLER HEAD POPPY COMMITTEE

James Gray, B. C. McCann and R. H. Dowler will head the Poppy Day committee, which meets in the chamber of commerce next Tuesday evening. Representatives of each chapter of the I. O. O. F., the Hadrash, Salvation Army, G. W. V. A., Tuberculosis Veterans' association, Soldiers' Wives' League and Boy Scouts will complete plans for the annual observance of Poppy Day.

Either Friday, Nov. 13, or Saturday, Nov. 14, will be the date observed.

REV. W. E. WILSON TO SPEAK IN LONDON

Sunday School Anniversary of Wellington Street Church To Be Held Tomorrow.

The Sunday school anniversary services of the Wellington street United Sunday school will be held tomorrow. This big event is looked forward to by hundreds throughout the city and surrounding district every year, and, as in the past, it is expected that the church will be full to overflowing at all three services. For the past two years Rev. W. E. Wilson, in charge of the social service work of the former Methodist church in Toronto, has been the preacher for the anniversary, and he will again be the spiritual attraction on Sunday morning and evening. Rev. J. Bruce Hunter, B.D., of the Metropolitan United church, of this city, will address the school in the afternoon. Rev. J. W. Hilbert, pastor of the church, John T. Wallace, Sunday school superintendent, and G. E. Macdonald, his assistant, will have charge of the services.

The Sunday school orchestra of about fifty players, the largest and best Sunday school orchestra in Canada, will be in attendance at all three services, and will render a program of high-class music equal to any ever presented by a local organization. The fame of this orchestra has spread all over Canada, and only recently James Cresswell, who is the conductor, received a request from a large publishing house in Cleveland for full particulars of the orchestra, its history and photographs. Besides giving a generous program at all three services, the orchestra will give a 30-minute orchestral recital after the evening service. Ewart George, who is organist with the orchestra, will preside at the organ during the day.

On Tuesday evening the members of the Sunday school will present a thanksgiving pageant. This has been in preparation for some time, and it is expected will be equal to any previous anniversary entertainment presented at Wellington street church.

BUYERS COMPETE FOR LOCAL POTATO CROP

Prices Are Climbing Daily. With Most of Tubers Still in Ground.

London market was invaded today by American potato buyers who offered district farmers \$2 and \$2.10 a bag for their potatoes, stating they would take their entire crop at this price. Some of the farmers parted with their spuds, while others wanted more money.

The fact that many farmers in Michigan have not been able to dig their potatoes and the short crop in other parts of the United States has led to an orgy of competition across the line. In Detroit buyers are paying \$5.25 for a bag of 150 pounds. The Canadian weight of a bag of potatoes is 90 pounds.

There are many hundreds of bags of potatoes in Middlesex still in the ground, and it is believed that most of the crop is still safe. A few warm days will see the farmers busy digging potatoes, which are mounting higher each day in price.

TECHNICAL PUPILS OBSERVE HALLOWEEN

Special Program and Refreshments Enjoyed by Large Gathering.

Second-year students of the technical and commercial high school observed Halloween in a happy function at the school last night. Principal H. B. Beal, the teachers and their wives attended the affair, at which also more than 300 students were present. Refreshments were served during the evening at the cafeteria, which was specially decorated for the occasion. Fitzgerald's orchestra provided the music during the evening, which embraced the following program: sing song, round dance, time race, B. Leah and M. Notage, winners; bagpipes and dance, Miss Glays Brown and Ruth Fitzgerald; peanut race, M. Harley, winner; reading, Miss Lulu Coley; Scotch dance, Rev. W. J. Walker, Russian Copaque, Daisy Hill; Irish dance, Ruth Fitzgerald; bagpipes, Miss Brown; flower-guessing contest, S. Jackson; dancing burlesque, boys of second year technical class; lighted candle race, W. Edwards, winner.

The Simcoe high school soccer team, in town for a match with the technical school in the afternoon, were the guests of honor during the evening, the arrangements for which were made by the following committee: R. Bessent, Miss W. Balfour, Miss L. Twiss, J. A. Dickenson, S. R. White, J. Simpson and T. W. Hone.

BIG BUSINESS REPORTED.

Real big business done in a modern way by a firm who adhere strictly to honest methods, to carrying out in detail that which they agree, who represent the goods sold only in their true character, and who stand aloof from all contemptuous stunts. Of course, they trust you when you buy perfect goods on credit at less than cash prices from Johnston Bros., 214 Dundas street.—Adv.

ADDRESSES AYLMER C. OF C.

Gerald Pearson, manager of the Market square branch of the Bank of Montreal, addressed the Aylmer chapter of commerce, which meets in the chamber of commerce next Tuesday evening. A member of the executive of the London chapter, Mr. Pearson conveyed the greetings of the city body to the Aylmer chapter. Mr. Pearson is a popular speaker with rural organizations and bodies in the towns and villages of the London district.

MIDDLESEX TEAM FIRST AT INTER-COUNTY SHOW

Komoka Boys Bring Honor and Prize of \$25 to the County.

Middlesex county boys, members of the Komoka Pig Club, swept the boards in the inter-county hog judging competition held at Toronto yesterday. The Middlesex team won first prize, \$25, for their judging, and also won first in the demonstration competition. This means that they win gold medals offered by W. D. Robb, vice-president of the C. X. R., and get a free trip with all expenses paid, to the Royal Winter Fair, where they will represent Ontario against the other provinces.

Members of the team which has brought honor to Middlesex and to R. A. Finn and Frank Parrish, who trained the boys, are: Chester Brown, Colchester; Archie Campbell, Ivan and Phil Matthews, Delaware.

Middlesex stood fifth in the earload hog competition for the 21 counties of Ontario. This is the same standing as last year.

The judges at Toronto were Wade Toole, O.A.C., S. E. Todd and I. B. Martin.



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5% per annum upon \$100 or more for 12 months or longer up to 5 years.

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"So this is Your Birthday, Grandmother."

"YES, dearie, I am seventy-five years old to-day. It doesn't seem possible, for I don't feel old."

"And you certainly do not look old. Besides, you are always so happy and cheerful that you do not seem at all old."

"A woman is only as old as she looks, you know, and I have always tried to keep young and healthy."

"And were you never sick, grandmother?"

"Oh, yes, indeed, there was a time in my life when I never expected to live to be fifty, say nothing about seventy-five. When your mother and my other children were small I had my hands full and got run down in health. I got so nervous that I could not sleep and had frequent headaches. Every little thing the children would do seemed to annoy and worry me until, finally, I gave out entirely, and was in bed for months with nervous prostration."

"Did you have a doctor?"

"Yes, dearie, I had two or three doctors, but they only told me that it would take a long time for me to regain strength. One day your grandfather came in with some of Dr. Chase's Nerve Food. He said some one told him that it would restore me, and he went away to the drug store and bought half a dozen boxes."

"What did your doctor say about using it?"

"Well, what could he say? He only said that he had done all he could, and that he had run across a great many cases in which the Nerve Food had been used with excellent results. So I began using Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, and it was not long before I was on the way to health and strength."

"And did it make you well?"

"Well, the best evidence is that I am here to-day, well and happy, after all these years. And I am more than ever enthusiastic for Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, for I have used it several times during the last few years when I felt that I needed some assistance to keep up vitality. As a person gets older I think their blood gets thinner, and they seem to need something like Dr. Chase's Nerve Food to increase their strength and vigor."

"That is something worth knowing, grandmother."

"If you will take my advice, dearie, you will not forget about Dr. Chase's Nerve Food when you get run down, tired out and nervous. This has been my advice to a great many people, and I know that it has done them good."

Dr. Chase's Nerve Food, 60c a box, all dealers or The Dr. A. W. Chase Medicine Co., Limited, Toronto, Canada.