

### St. Thomas Churches *Continued*

When the congregation was organized twenty-four years ago it began with a membership of twenty-five, with two elders, Mr. David Forbes and Mr. William Watson. It has grown since then until it now has a membership of three hundred and twenty with twelve elders, Messrs. David Forbes, James Garrow, William Gall, John Bloye, Edward Lowe, John McCormick, Donald McLachlin, D. A. McCallum, William Garrow, Robert Geddes, W. A. McIntyre and Angus McCallum.

The congregation is seriously considering the building of a new church in the near future.

#### GRACE METHODIST CHURCH

The history of Grace Methodist church dates from 1816 when Rev. John Hamilton was appointed to the circuit then called Westminster. The first pastors were Conrad Vanduse and J. K. Willsten. In 1836 the congregation had a membership of 416.

In 1873 when the Canada Southern Railway was built the eastern portion of the city grew so rapidly that a more convenient place of worship had to be provided for. A congregation of 33 members was formed. The church was called Grace after M<sup>rs</sup> Grace Rosevear. The church was dedicated by Rev. S. Rose who was succeeded by Dr. Smith. The pastors following were: Rev. T. Colling, B. A., Rev. J. E. Lancel, Rev. James Gray, Rev. A. M. Phillips, Rev. I. B. Aylesworth, M. A., L. L. D., Rev. J. G. Scott, Rev. Reuben Millard, Rev. Henry Irvine, Rev. Wm. Godwin, Rev. G. A. Gifford, M. A., Rev. Dr. J. R. Gundy, and the present pastor, Rev. Dr. Richard W. Knowles, who came here from Avon about three years ago.

The cornerstone of the new Grace Methodist church on Balaclava street on the site of the former structure, was laid September 21, 1909, by Rev. A. K. Birks, of London, assisted by Rev. Dr. Gundy and numerous visiting pastors, Mayor George Geddes, Ex-Mayor F. Wright and Alderman S. Chant.

The trustees of the church at that time were: James Hammond, Joseph Hatch, B. F. Miller, J. H. Sharpe, C. Pearce, C. E. Raven, S. Chant, F. W. Wright, Alex. Thompson, J. A. Kilpatrick, J. Belfrey, J. E. Hatch, G. W. Stinshy, J. F. Pelan, Richard Sutton, James Tanner, W. W. Dickson, W. James, Henry Newkirk.

The building committee consisted of Rev. Dr. Gundy, chairman, W. J. James, J. S. Wintermute, S. Chant, J. H. Sharpe, C. E. Raven and Richard Sutton, secretary.

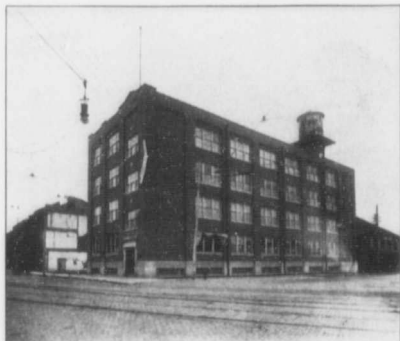
Architects of the new church were J. L. Wilson & Son, of Chatham; the contractor for mason work, A. E. Ponsford, and for the carpenter work, Sanders & Bell, of this city.

#### YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

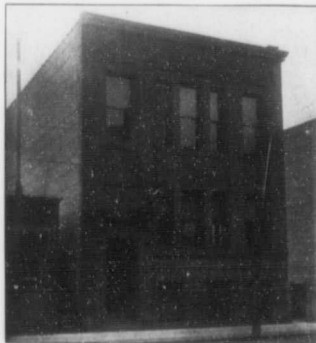
One of the most important factors in any city, large or small, is the Young Men's Christian Association, indeed it would be difficult to mention a more worthy object for philanthropy, and it should receive the hearty support of everyone interested in the physical, spiritual, and mental development of young men.

The St. Thomas association, organized Dec. 14, 1871, has been so successful in its work that the present building, purchased in 1901 has been found greatly inadequate, and nearly two years ago a campaign was inaugurated and \$65,000 was donated by the generous citizens of St. Thomas for the erection of the present magnificent building nearly completed, on the site at the corner of Ross and Talbot streets, generously donated by the Michigan Central Railroad Company.

Continued on page 107



E. T. Wright & Company's Factory, 180 Talbot street



Bell Telephone Building, 478 Talbot street



P. H. Williams' Offices, 510 Talbot street