

- from The Guardian, sent in by
Rev. Joseph Pinel.

The Jubilee of the Victoria Methodist Church, Maynard, on the old Augusta Circuit, was celebrated on Tuesday, December 28, 1909. This is Historic Methodist territory, being noted as the district in which the now sainted Barbara Heck and her family eventually settled after leaving New York.

Victoria Church, situated on the third concession from the majestic river St. Lawrence, and about two and one-half miles from the Blue Church cemetery, where repose the remains of Barbara Heck, stands on the exact site of an old stone church which it replaces, and was dedicated as an M. E. Church on Dec. 28, 1859. Bishop James Richardson, Rev. A. S. Wightman, of Ogdensburg, and Rev. G. H. Johnston, of Brockville, all now dead, were preachers on that occasion.

About 20 years ago, during the pastorate of Rev. G. S. White, the building was remodelled and improved. It was accordingly with peculiar interest that exactly fifty years from the day of dedication past and present members of the church, with their friends, filled the church to commemorate the event. After an excellent supper in the basement, provided by the ladies, Mr. John Edwards, of Algonquin, who several years ago was converted here, and became a faithful and active member of the church, was called to the chair, and in an admirable manner discharged the duties of chairman.

Eleven persons were present who took part in the services 50 years ago, and in addition we were favoured with the presence of Rev. D. W. Aylsworth, now of the New York Conference, who built the church, and who is the only living preacher who was present at the dedication. Brother Aylsworth, though now 80 years old, preached two vigorous sermons on Sunday 26th, and rendered splendid service during four weeks of special services in October and November. Fine addresses were delivered by the Rev. Wm. Philp, M. A. president of Conference,; Rev. G. S. White, the Hon. Dr. J. D. Reid, M.P., and Bro. Aylsworth. Splendid solos were also rendered by Miss Sparling of Brockville, Mrs. Crabb of North Augusta, and Mrs. Kellond, of Cardinal. Mrs. John Conklin, daughter of the late Rev. W. H. Graham, a former pastor, also favoured us with an excellent reading. The Hon. Geo. P. Graham, son of the Rev. W. H. Graham, had been invited, but was unable to attend. We also had with us Rev. J. B. Hicks, B.A., a former pastor; Rev. R. Smith, of Prescott, and Rev. J. G. Crabb, North Augusta.

Bro. Aylsworth's address was largely reminiscent in character, and among other items of information, stated that no less than fourteen preachers had gone from this church to preach the gospel, a record not surpassed by many rural churches. It might be of interest to give the names of these men, as furnished by Mr. Aylsworth. They are A. Youker, Brock Lane, William Service, Ephriam Sherwood, Bidwell Lane, Joseph Young, G. W. Barrell, Egbert J. Carson, James Spicer, Samuel Briggs, David Youker,Rankin, Joseph Whitney (son of Samuel) and Alfred Ward. Truly God has blessed the labours of His people in Augusta.



Mrs. Geo. Robinson - leader
Mrs. Percy Fretwell - organist



late 30's

YOUNG PEOPLE'S CHOIR, THOUSAND ISLANDS BOAT TOUR

With Mrs. George Robinson as Leader, and Mrs. Percy Fretwell, organist, the choir of young people flourished in Maynard for a number of years. As well as appearances in the Maynard Church, they visited Bethel and Domville for special occasions. They usually filled the choir loft in Maynard, and in the smaller buildings, overflowed into the pews, sometimes outnumbering the congregation.

These pictures were taken in Alexandria Bay, N. Y. Mrs. Fretwell is standing at the left back, and Mrs. Robinson at the right. These ladies were well-liked by all the young folks, and stood for a good deal of good-natured teasing.

Seen in the back are June Baynham, Irwin Robinson, George Perrin, Charlie Ball, Nellie Byers, Harry Leonard, Claude Leonard, Cleveland Perrin, Bob Byers, Dorothy Barton.

At the front are Albert Sargent, Eleanor Torrence, Alma Knapp, Eddie Byers, Pearl Knapp, Goldie Perrin, Bruce Connell, Hubert Barton, Cecil Moore, Gereldene Barton, John Robinson, Mabel Saunders, George Bradford

All of the young people were not necessarily members of Maynard congregation, some are boy friends or girl friends of choir members, and they usually joined in the singing.

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

(from Brockville Recorder
clippings)

VICTORIA CHURCH, MAYNARD, MARKS 88th ANNIVERSARY

The 88th Anniversary Services of Victoria United Church, Maynard, were held on Sunday, Sept. 21st, 1947. Both services were very well attended, visitors from Prescott and the surrounding district helped to fill the pews.

At the morning service, the Rev. David Gray, minister of the church, conducted the service, and preached the sermon. His subject was, "sharing the Good Tidings". He took for his text 2nd Kings, Chapter 7, verse 9, "They said one to another, we do not well; this is a day of good tidings, and we hold our peace".

Mrs. Percy Fretwell, L.L.C.M., presided at the organ and gave fine rendering of several voluntaries. A full choir, under the direction of Mrs. George Robinson, gave fine leadership to the service of praise, and sang one of the finest anthems "Hills in their Beauty", they have sung for a few years.

The soloist for the day was Miss Bessie Lane, who was in splendid voice in the three solos she sang. At the morning service, Miss Lane sang "Jesus, lover of my soul", and at the evening service, "My Task", and "The Love of God, so deep, so boundless".

At the evening service, it was almost a capacity congregation. The Rev. David Gray conducted the service. The guest preacher was the Rev. L. M. Somerville, B.A., of Spencerville. He preached a very strong sermon on the subject "Our Needs and our Wants". It was highly appreciated by those who heard it.

This church "By the side of the Road" has rendered good service to the community in which it is situated, and to our country. From it there has gone forth into the life of our country an ennobling and purifying stream of manhood and womanhood. Some of them into the professions, ministers, doctors, missionaries, teachers and nurses. It is the hope and prayer of the Officials that the church will do no less in the days that are to come.

90th ANNIVERSARY OF MAYNARD UNITED CHURCH OBSERVED,

Maynard United Church's 90th anniversary was fittingly observed on Sunday, Sept. 4, 1949, with services in the morning at 11 a.m. and in the evening at 7:45 p.m. Large congregations were present at both services, and the guest speaker was Rev. John Hurst, Shanly, whose sermon was listened to with pleasure and profit.

The soloist at the morning service was Miss Helen Percival, Addison, who sang "The Stranger of Galilee" and "My Task". At the evening session, Miss Bessie Lane, Prescott, was soloist and sang "Lord, for tomorrow and its needs", and "Bless this House". Maynard Choir was also in attendance and the organist was Mrs. Percy Fretwell.

The church was beautifully decorated for this occasion, and special thanks are given Mrs. George Robinson and Mrs. Lawrence Fretwell for lovely baskets of gladioli and asters.

The 91st anniversary of Victoria United Church, Maynard, was fittingly observed Sunday, Sept. 17, 1950, when large congregations were in attendance at both morning and evening services. The Rev. David Gray was the minister for both services and delivered two powerful sermons that were listened to with pleasure and regret as they Rev. Gray's farewell messages as pastor to his people in Maynard. Rev. and Mrs. Gray assume the responsibilities of a new charge at Lunenburg on October 1st.

Maynard Choir was in attendance with Mrs. Percy Fretwell, L.L.C.M., at the organ. The guest soloist at the morning service was Miss Anne Relyea, Prescott, who thrilled her listeners in her rendition of "Behold the Master Passeth By" and "The Lord's Prayer" by Malotte.

At the evening service, Mrs. Richard Gray and Mrs. Wilfred Spero were listened to with pleasure when they sang two duets.

The altar was banked with a profusion of gladioli and asters. The huge basket of pink gladioli, centering the altar, was placed there by Mrs. Edna Good, Mrs. Gladys Conklin and Mr. s. Georgena Coville in memory of their parents, Mr. and Mrs. George Landon.

ANNIVERSARY SUPPER WAS DECIDED SUCCESS

The anniversary supper held in Maynard United Church basement on Wed. Sept. 7, was a success in every way. The ladies of the church catered to a large crowd from Brockville, Prescott and the surrounding district. After the sumptuous supper, a musical treat was presented by a group from the choir of the St. Paul's United Church, Prescott.

With Mr. W. Richard Gray at the piano, the group gave a fine rendering of several of the grand old songs that will never die. Mr. Gray, in his fine style, played two pianoforte solos, and later gave a recitation. Duets were sung by Mrs. R. Gray and Mrs. Wilfred Spero; and by Mrs. Bailey and Mrs. Sine, the latter called for an encore. Mrs. Bailey, in her capable manner, sang a fine solo. The group brought the fine programme to a close by singing two oldtime songs. With the singing of the National Anthem, a happy, successful anniversary was brought to a close.

CHANGES IN AND IMPROVEMENTS TO THE BUILDING

- 1945: The church auditorium was redecorated with Merrill Whitmore, Roebuck, in charge. The ceiling was painted white, the walls a light buff with powder blue border, edged with black. The woodwork and supporting beams were done in a deeper buff, and the seats in cream, with the floor gray. The cost of these changes was borne by subscriptions from church members and adherents.
- 1946: This year the church basement was painted by the same contractor, at a cost of about \$600.
- 1947: In April a Minshall electric organ was dedicated to the glory of God on Easter Sunday, April 6th. This organ also to be a memorial tribute to Pilot Officer Irwin Edward Stillwell Robinson, of the R.C.A.F. Ferry Command, who was reported missing and presumed dead during World War II, on a flight from Canada to Britain.
- To this purpose, Mr. and Mrs. George Robinson, his parents, gave \$500., an uncle, Mr. James I. Robinson of Montreal, \$250, and the balance of \$335 was quickly subscribed by neighbours and friends of the family. The organ was purchased from C.W. Lindsay, Ottawa, at \$1085, and installed by them.
- The dedication service was an impressive one, attended by a large crowd. Presentation was made by John M. Robinson, a brother of Irwin, while Mrs. John Robinson unveiled it. The instrument was accepted on behalf of the church by the Rev. David Gray. Thereupon Mrs. Percy Fretwell, church organist, took her place at the new instrument, and the choir sang "Glory be to God, the Father". Mrs. Fretwell also played "Largo" by Handel, thus demonstrating the beautiful tone of the new organ.
- 1947: On April 4, a committee composed of Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Dulmage, Mrs. Percy Fretwell, Mr. and Mrs. John Robinson and Mrs. Bruce Connell, laid new carpeting around the altar and pulpit. The old carpet was put down in the choir gallery to replace what had been there for many years. The steps leading up to the choir loft were painted oak brown, and new treads put on them.
- 1948: Maynard United Church received the gift of a mirror to be placed on the wall above the Minshall Electric Organ, for the convenience of the organist. This was a gift from Mrs. James Mosher and Mr. George Appleton, Prescott.
- 1951: A bathroom was installed in the parsonage, and water supply ensured by drilling a well. Water was also piped to the church kitchen, where a sink and tank for hot water were put in. Extensive repairs and redecorating carried out at the parsonage, total cost was \$1465.00. The plumbing contract was let to Toshack Bros. Prescott. Carpenters were William Durant, Edward Byers and Oscar Carson, members of the congregation. Painting and papering, etc. were done by the Women's Association, under the leadership of Mrs. Wm. L. Durant, president.

- 1951: The furnace in the parsonage was found to be defective, and a new one was installed by Toskack Bros.
- 1952: The kitchen range in the parsonage was replaced by a new one.
- 1956: The basement floor in the church, for a number of years had been giving way in various places. The cause is believed to be dampness, resulting from lack of cross-ventilation underneath it. It was decided at a Board meeting to put in a cement floor at the north end where the condition was worst. The was done in a series of "bees", the old floor torn out, and the new one laid. Arthur Dulmage, as Chairman of the Board, organized the work. Men who came to help included Gordon and Leslie Dulmage, Bill Durant, Earl Throop, Eddie Byers, Kenneth McNaught and Ezra Newans.
- New electric wiring was installed during that summer by Eldon Davis, of North Augusta. Cupboards and kitchen arpentry was done during October and November by Fred Alkerton, Roebuck. His wages \$1.25 per hr.
- Sunday School was held upstairs all summer and fall. Because of the delay in wiring, there was nor organ music for a number of weeks. Many people enjoyed the singing unaccompanied, and recalled the early days of the church, when a tuning fork in the hands of a leader, was all that was required.
- Note: When the first organ was brought into the church, there was violent opposition from those who believed it sacriligious. And old resident, Caleb Young, is reported to have said it spoiled the whole service. It was better to have Sam Whitney lead the singing!



-pictures from
Mrs. Kenneth McAllister

Parsonage
and
Church
1953





CLEVELAND GARNET PERRIN and
EVELYN BESSIE STEPHENSON
united in marriage, June 1939.
REV. T. P. SHAVER, officiated.



PHYLLIS DULMAGE married JAMES COUTLEE
Rev. H. Fresque officiated
Mrs. Fresque with them here.



DOROTHY, daughter of
Mr. and Mrs. Percy Fretwell
married GORDON
son of Rev. & Mrs. Fresque



EARLY WEDDING IN THE HOME
OF THE BRIDE

Note raised platform for the
wedding party- arch of
evergreens, nosegay for bride
basket for flower girl.

Seventy-fifth Anniversary of Victoria United Church, Maynard

The Victoria United Church held its 75th anniversary services on Sunday with a full church both morning and evening. Rev. A. Fokes, Shawville, Que., was special speaker. The Junior choir led the singing at the morning service. Miss Bessie Lane sang a solo and Mrs. George Carson and Mrs. C. C. Gilbert a duet. At the evening service the soloist was Mrs. Smith who is at present visiting relatives at Bishop's Mills.

On Monday evening a vesper service was held under the auspices of the Y.P.A. with Rev. T. P. Shaver of Richmond in charge. The Junior choir had charge of the music, the soloist being Mrs. Nuttall with Mrs. Cook at the organ. Rev. Wm. Wright was guest speaker. Other artists on the program following the vesper service were Miss P. Spero and Wm. Richards of Domville, which was much appreciated.

The anniversary activities continued on Tuesday afternoon with a ball game between the married men and boys, the score being 21-19 for the former team. A booth on the grounds was in charge of Ivan Lane and Tom Walker.

At six o'clock the Steelcotes of Brockville were defeated by the All stars team here. The umpires were Ardock and N. Lennox.

Supper "Bigger and Better" was served in the basement of the church to approximately 500 people after which a program was carried out in the auditorium of the church with a capacity audience. The following artists took part—Solo, Mr. Richards, Prescott; duet,



REV. C. C. GILBERT
Present Minister

Mrs. Pratt and Miss McDaniels, of Brockville; Mrs. Onstott, New York City, re Barbara Heck; violin solo, Mrs. Foster, Brockville; reading, Mrs. (Rev.) C. C. Gilbert; solo, Mrs. W. Bradley, Prescott; remarks by Dr. Conklin, Delta Lake; solo, Mr. M. G. Corbett, Merrickville; solo, Miss B. McDaniels, Brockville; violin solo, Mrs. Foster, Brockville



taken from Prescott Journal

Toronto R.G.A.M.C. At Maynard United

—Unique Service in Church With Soldiers Headed by Lt.-Col S. L. Spicer—Pastor Speaks On "The Spiritual Warfare."

Victoria United Church, Maynard, witnessed an unique service on Sunday, May 15th when Lt.-Col. Sterling LeRoy Spicer, M.D. of Toronto, also nine members of the Toronto R.C.A.M.C. Rifle Association attended in a body.

The service was conducted by the pastor, Rev. W. A. Dempsey who spoke on "The Spiritual Warfare." After the sermon the hymn, "Fight the Good Fight" was capably rendered by a quartette composed of members of the association and led by Sergt. Major P. S. Wood.

Dr. Spicer read a poem of his own composition entitled "Come unto Me" based on Christ's invitation, "Come unto me all ye that labour."

The Last Post and Reveille were sounded by bugler instructor Sergt. Reid. Following the service a ceremony was held at the Maynard cemetery when a Union Jack was deposited before the War Memorial.

Dr. Spicer is a great grandson of Mr. and Mrs. Hodges who were active with Barbara and Paul Heck and Philip Embury in the foundation of Methodism in Canada.

When you speak to a person, look him in the face.

Make no haste to be rich, if you would prosper.

May 19/38