

In June 1959, Queen Elizabeth and Prince Phillip came to Canada to officiate in the opening of the St. Lawrence Seaway and then to make a 45 day tour of Canada, including London. Many of this community went to London to see them.





Mrs. Fred Brown (left) and Mrs. Kenneth McNeil(right) singing an old, familiar hymn at Elgin Manor(Home for Senior Citizens)

On the old Talbot Road, west of St. Thomas, has been built, a splendid Home for Senior Citizens. It has been named Elgin Manor and was opened in 1964. It can accommodate close to 100 and has every facility for caring for the aged.

From the beginning, they are stressing the importance of intertaining the elderly residents and the Home is grateful to the Women's groups who pay them weekly visits.

In the above picture, we see the Kingsmill Mapleton Institute members mingled with the women residents of the Home, while Mrs. Brown and Mrs. McNeil sings for them.

Century-Old Mapleton Landmark Razed To Improve Visibility At Crossroads

One building and possibly a second, which have had a big stake in the pioneer past of this crossroads community, are soon to give way to modern progress.

The old grocery store on the northeast corner of the hamlet is being dismantled by the present owner, Earl Mc.Kenzie. This is being done on orders of the Department of Highways, which has bought the strip of land and paid for the building.

This and possibly the present store on the Northwest corner will be razed to give drivers better vision of the curving No. 74 Highway and the two approaches to the highway from Yarmouth Concession 10 and opposite, from South Dorchester, Concession 10.

The two land marks were well known 75 to 100 years ago. If old buildings could talk, historians would bend an ear toward Mapleton to recapture the early days when pioneers wrested a living from the forest. Mapleton gets its pleasant sounding name from the great expanses of virgin hard maples that once covered the district.

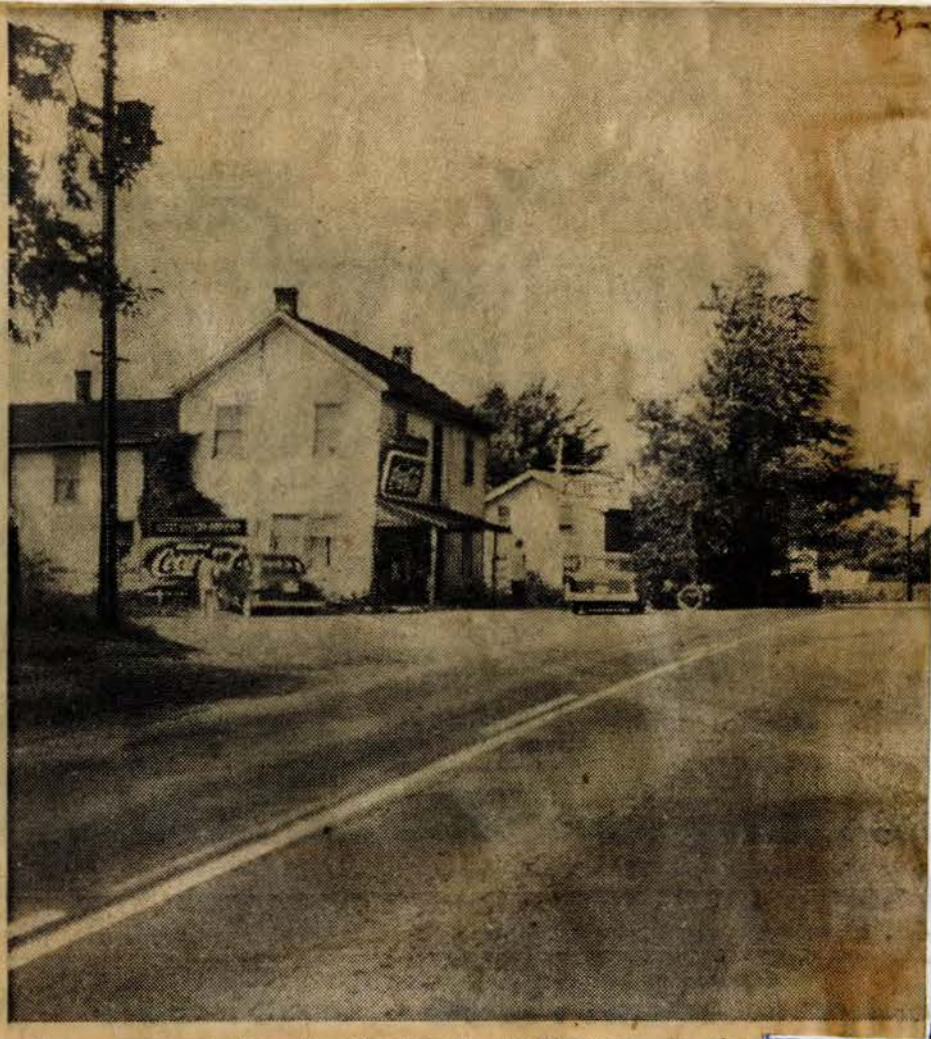
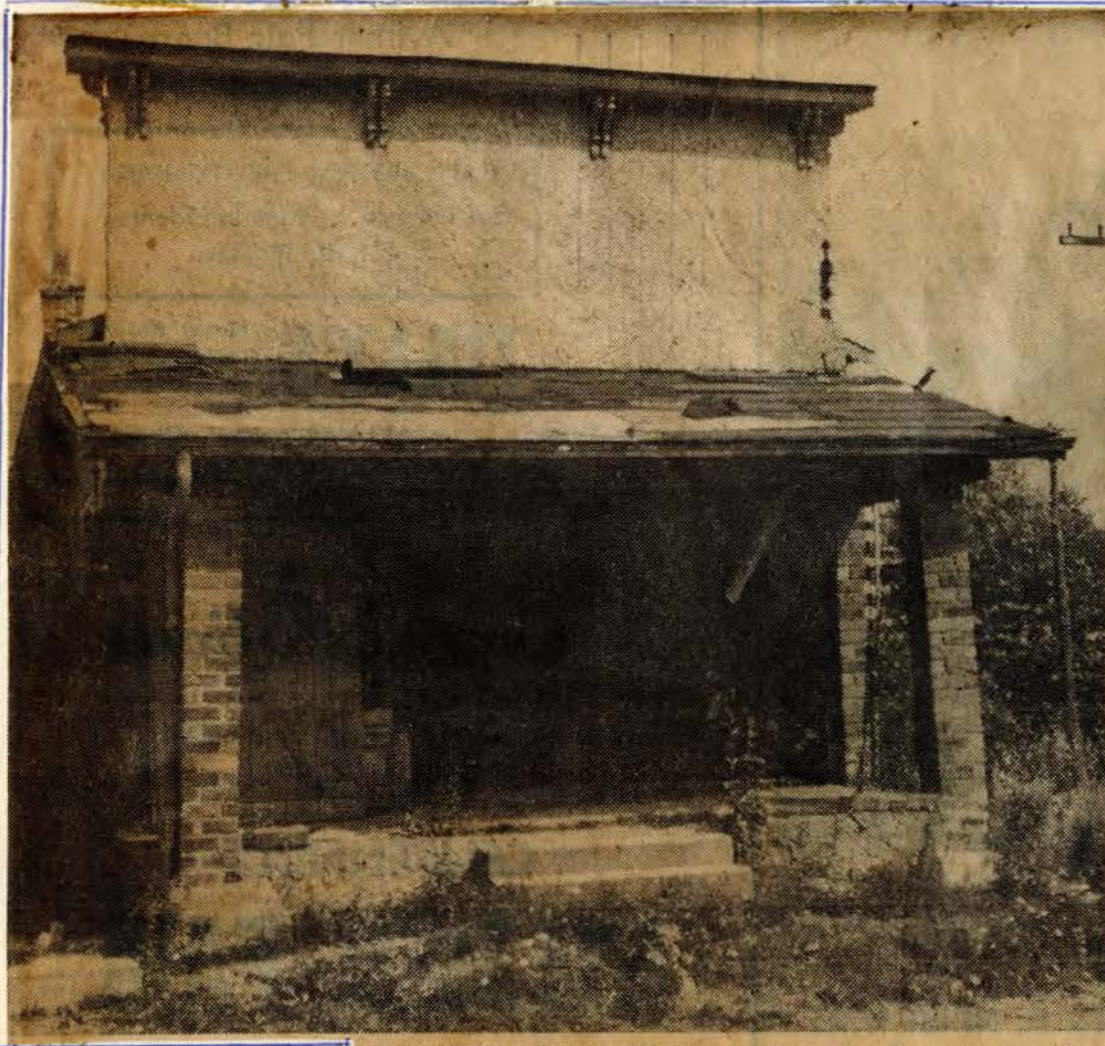
Records fail to show just when John Wismer built the store on the northeast corner. Indications are that it was more than 100 years ago and possibly 125 years ago. Wismer settled on Concession 10, South Dorchester, just east of Mapleton sometime between 1826 and 1831. Active in both Church and political life, he served for many years as magistrate. In 1856 he replaced his original log house with a fine brick residence.

Shortly,
 Shortly after settling in the area, he built a general store on the southwest corner of the village, on the Charlton farm. After disposing of this store to William Appleford, he built another store on the north east corner, the structure which is now being dismantled.

This unique building, empty for a number of years, now shows brick and mortar fill between the 2 x 4's and 2 x 6's studding. This fill being covered outside with clap board.

The first volume of The Tweedsmuir History Book refers to a tavern on the northwest corner of the crossroads and reads " In the early days, men had to team grain, etc over mud roads for long distances and it was natural that you find taverns along the way, where horses and men could be fed and refreshed." This old tavern was sold in 1915 to Mr. and Mrs. J.R. Charlton, who used it as a private residence. The building has since changed hands several times, latterly being used as a grocery store.

August 17th, 1956.



REMOVING LANDMARK—One of the landmarks which has identified Mapleton for more than a century is being razed (left) for better vision on No. 74 Highway and the two approaches to the highway at the North Yarmouth crossroads community. The former store, with its succession of owners, will be down by Sept. 1

after a settlement from the Department of Highways. In the right hand picture is seen a portion of the highway, looking north, and the present store, a former tavern, which may also give way to progress. At the right in the picture can be seen the verandah of the building being torn down.—(T.-J. Photos).

One - Time Centre of Village Life Leaves Mapleton Crossroads

May 22nd, 1957.



Old tavern starts on journey to be private home and give Mapleton "daylight angle."—(T-J Photo)

A century ago when crossroads communities boasted a tavern where horses and men could be rested and refreshed, no one worried about a small crook in the road, but today when high powered cars need practically unlimited visibility, crossroad curves are labelled "Dangerous". The old tavern, situated on the southwest corner of Mapleton was moved Tuesday afternoon.

Huge beams were placed under the structure and moved it to the farm of Robert Cline, two miles to the east. Even this move had to be held up while the Mapleton Cheese factory finished its output of cheese for the day and the hydro service would be disrupted for a time as the building was being moved under the service lines.

Surrounded by a large crowd, including hydro and telephone crews and many vehicles and bystanders, the 18 x 30 foot building looked down disdainfully as if to ask what all the excitement was about.



1857 Guide to Gentility Reflects Changing Times

Kathleen V. Moore, a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Moore, was born and grew up on the farm, east of Mapleton, which is still in the Moore name (1959). Kathleen has made a diligent study of pioneer days and writes weekly, in this field, for The London Free Press. The issue of August 22nd, 1959 contains a photograph of her maternal grandparent's home in Malahide. She writes "The Lady's Guide to Perfect Gentility" by Emily Thornwell, New York, 1857, once occupied a space on my grandparent's bookshelves and now, a century later, on mine."

Excerpts from this old book will be of interest, since practices she relates are no longer in use.

Dyeing One's Hair - Hair may be turned black with different vegetable substances boiled in wine - leaves of mulberry, myrtle, fig, senna, raspberry, arbutus and the bark of the walnut, sumac

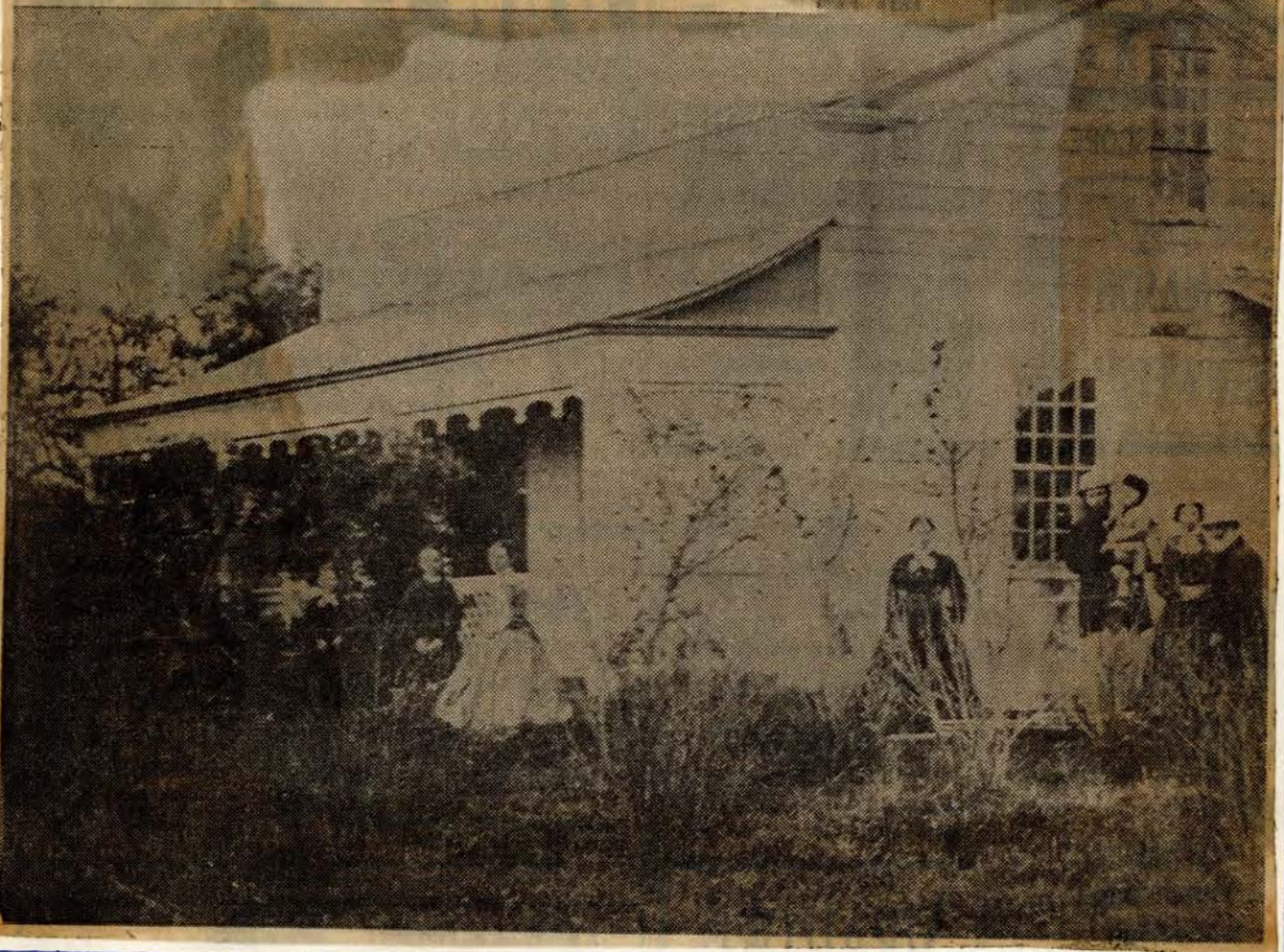
Hair Oil For Baldness - Boil half a pound of green southernwood in a pint and a half of sweet oil. Add a pint of port wine. Strain through a fine linen bag, three times. Then add two ounces of bears oil. Replace near fire till ingredients are thoroughly incorporated.

In the section 'The lady abroad' (meaning outside her own home), a lady must not present herself in a library or a museum alone, unless she goes there to study or to work as an artist.

After twilight, it is not becoming for a lady to walk out alone. If she has no other escort, she should be accompanied by a servant. Married women are accompanied by their husbands, unmarried women by their mother or a chaperon.

Propriety of Dress - To suppose that great heat of weather will permit us to go out in slippers or with legs and arms bare, is an error. Even weather in dog days would not excuse this.

The home of Mr. and Mrs. Jeremiah Widner, Malahide Township, in the mid-nineteenth century. From this home of the author's grandparents came the etiquette book of a century ago.



Kathleen Moore.

Kathleen Moore has a sister, equally gifted in literary knowledge and talent - Mrs. Elgiva Adamson of Stratford. She has helped greatly from the beginning, to make the Shakespeare Festival at Stratford, a success. Mainly she has prepared concise outlines of the Shakespeare plays that will be played at Stratford. They are produced in pocket size, inexpensive editions and sell by the thousands to Shakespeare enthusiasts.

Early this year the World University Service of Canada bought four thousand pamphlets on eight plays for distribution to Student Centres, Hostels, Refugee Camps, Hospitals and Universities in Europe, Asia and Africa.



Elgiva Adamson.



A Group at The Disciple Church - Mapleton.

Numerous marriages have been solemnized in the sanctuary of this Church. One of special interest took place in 1953, when Myrna Moore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Moore became the bride of Orville Spiers.

Myrna, on her mother's side, is a great granddaughter of Peter McNeil, one of the earliest members of the church.

On her father's side, her Moore ancestors were pioneers in the area and her grandmother, Mrs. Arthur Moore has been a useful member of the Kingsmill-Mapleton Women's Institute since its first year.

The wedding of Myrna Moore to Orville Spiers.



Disciple Church (Continued)

Following Mr. Fermer's retirement to the Maritimes, in 1954, the Church was served by Mr. Carlton Wells (1954 - 55), Mrs. Stanley Stainton (1955-56) Mr. Wells (1956 - 62) Mr. William Bilson (1962 - 63) For a short time the Aylmer and Mapleton Churches worked together under the combined leadership of Mr. Wells and Mr. Bilson.

In May 1963 Mapleton joined with Park Ave. Church in St. Thomas in a call to Mr. Donald Foley. When he left in 1964 Mr. Wells was called back for the fourth time as interim Minister until a pastor for the two churches could be called.

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Friendship Circle

In January 1955 a group of young married couples from the church and community organized a social group, to be known as the Friendship Circle. Largely due to their efforts an electric organ was purchased for the church in 1957. Proceeds from a scrap iron drive and a turkey supper were added to generous personal gifts from the congregation.

The turkey supper was such a success, that it has an annual event. The group has also sponsored an annual 'Decoration Day' service in the Macropolis Cemetery since 1957.

A new ground level entrance and wash rooms were built on the south east corner of the church in 1961, which provides more room, safer stairway to the basement and upper Sunday School class rooms.

From time to time, memorial gifts have come to the Church. In May 1959 following the tragic death of little Peggy Garten in their barn fire, as no trace of the little body could be found, a normal funeral could not be held. A memorial service for her was held in the church, at which time the family of little Peggy presented the church with a communion table in her memory.



The new addition, (lower left)

Former Mapleton Minister Dies In Digby, N.S.

MAPLETON—The death of a former minister of this community, Rev. William Fermer, occurred at Digby General Hospital, Nova Scotia, last week.

Mr. Fermer, who was 75, was born in Kent, England and before coming to Canada was a social worker in slum areas in England, and during World War I was active in YMCA work.

He was ordained in Lethbridge, Alta., in 1921 and held pastorates in the four Atlantic provinces. He spent nine years in Ontario—eight at the Mapleton Church of Christ Disciples.

In 1954 Mr. Fermer moved to Nova Scotia and retired from active ministry in 1955.

Survivors include his wife, the former Mamie Tucker, of L'Etite, New Brunswick.

The funeral was held Wednesday, Sept. 8 in the South Range Church of Christ Disciples with Rev. Russell Carr officiating. Interment was in South Range Cemetery.

Sept-1965

Women's Missionary Society of the
Church of Christ, Disciple, Mapleton
marks its golden milestone.

June 19th, 1958.

The Women's Missionary Society of the Church of Christ, Disciples marked its golden milestone on Thursday, June 19th.

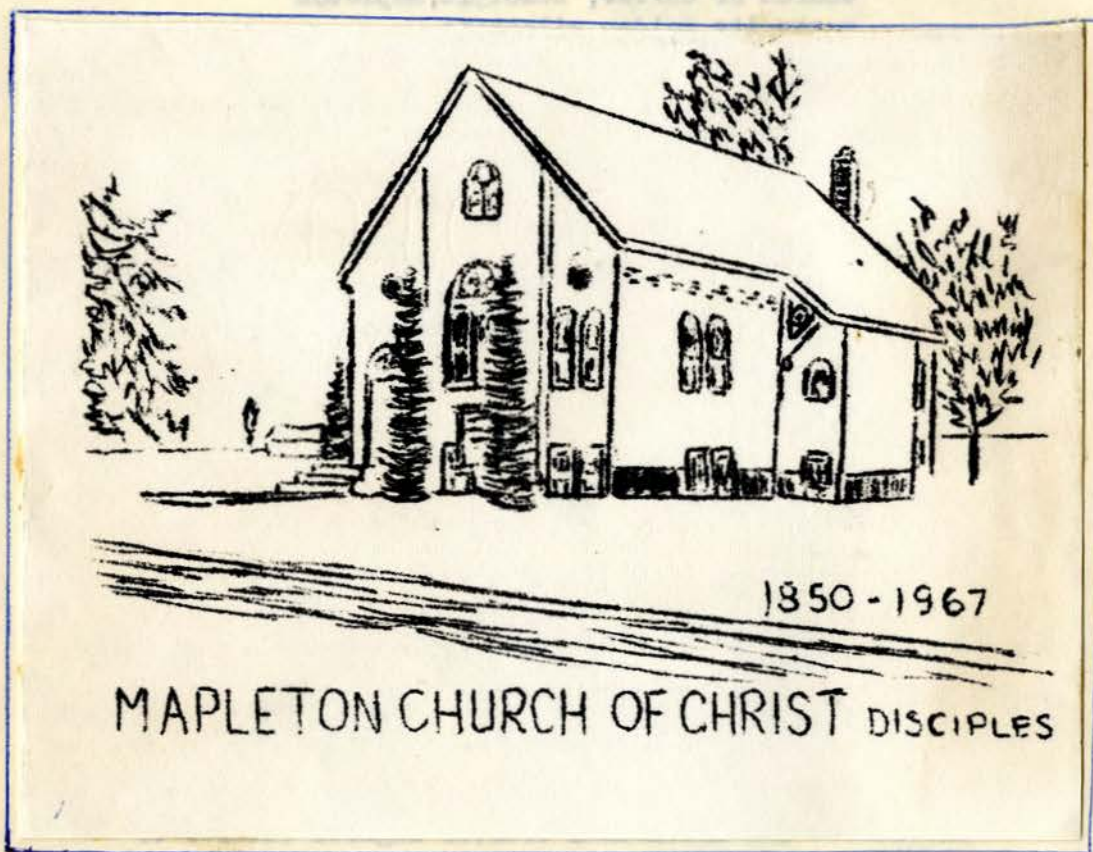
To share in celebrating the occasion, ten societies had been invited :- Springfield Baptist, Springfield United, Belmont United, Belmont Presbyterian, St. James Presbyterian, Church of Christ St. Thomas, Aylmer and Park Avenue, Trinity and Crossley Hunter.

The afternoon began with organ prelude by Mrs. Fred Brown, while the guests were being seated. The address of welcome was given by Mrs. Claude Hoover. The 67th Psalm was read by Mrs. Ralph Stover. A solo, 'He Smiled On Me' was sung by Mrs. John Thomson. Mrs. Herb Brown gave the highlights of the Society's history since its inception in 1908.

Mrs. Dawson and Mrs. Archie Coulter lighted candles to represent the continuity through the years of the Society's work. Mrs. Kenneth McNeil, President of the Society took charge of the memorial service. Flowers were used as a symbol of remembrance and Mrs. Donald Finch arranged the flowers in a memorial basket :- (white) orange blossoms for remembrance, (pink) weigelia for youth, (blue) delphinium for dignity, (rose) peony for friendliness, (pink) peony for thoughtfulness, (golden) chrysanthemums for faithfulness and roses for love.

Mrs. Keith Heipleh concluded this part of the service with a thought for the future, bearing in mind the example of the past, stressing the society's role in the work of the church. Mrs. Stanley Stover and Mrs. Lewis Brown lighted the candles - 'The light of the future'.

After a hymn and the benediction, the guests were invited to the tea room for an hour of fellowship. Mrs. Lorne McNeil and Mrs. Herb Brown poured tea and members of the society served.



This sketch was made by
 Larry Morgan, grandson of Mrs.
 Fred Brown and was used on the
 invitations sent out for this
 event. Later it was made into
 a stencil for hasty notes like
 this one and the congregation
 are using them for their
 personal correspondence.

The Disciple Church holds a Re-union

After one hundred and seventeen years of continuous witness, the congregation of the Mapleton Church of Christ invited all who had enjoyed association and fellowship with them, to return for a day of worship and renewal of acquaintances.

On June 25th, 1967, two hundred and seventy persons responded. among them were former members, pastors, Sunday School pupils and these from other churches who had worked in the congregation while living in the community.

Mr. Archie Coulter, senior elder, led the service and an inspiring message 'The Value of Worship' was given by the pastor, Rev L.B.Nethercott. Rev. William Bilson well loved former pastor, Mr. Carlton Wells, pastor for four separate terms over a period of twenty five years, Rev R.G.Dakin of Princess Ave.Church, ST. Thomas and Rev. B. Woodruff of the Church of Christ, Aylmer assisted in the service.

Special music by the choir, under the direction of the organist, Mrs. Fred Brown with her neice, Mrs. Horace Parkes as guest soloist, added greatly to the service.

Greetings were extended by Rev. K. S. Wells, General Secretary of the All-Canada Committee. Mr. James Stephens spoke of his father, Rev. J.D.Stephens, who served the longest continuous pastorate in the church here (1923 - 1939). Letters of greeting were read from Rev. O.W.McCully and Rev.H.Franks, former ministers and from Rev.Colin Zavitz and Rev. William Wells, who served many sundays as guest ministers during their student days.

Following this afternoon service, all enjoyed a picnic lunch in the Church basement and on the lawn with the ladies of Park Ave. Church in charge of the serving.

In this age of materialism and growing indifference, it is good for us to look back to the sacrifices that built the foundation of the work here and to the faithfulness and determination that has brought us to the present. It is then that we realize that these same qualities are necessary to meet the challenges of the future.

(Margaret Mc Neil)