

Mrs. Archibald J. Campbell, Philip D. McRae, Dan and Mary Matheson, Gilbert, James and Duncan Stalker and their families, John and Mary Sillars McGill, John C. and Mary MacMillan, Neil and Catharine McEachren, Neil Gilchrist, Mary Mitchell and Duncan B. McColl, and of Donald James and Arnie McMillan McKillop (donated by their daughter, Bella McKillop).

While many of these among the founders of the church and the early settlers are buried in the pioneer Simpson's Cemetery, just across the Thames River a mile or two north in Middlesex County, others lie in Oakwood Cemetery, near where the road through Crinan from West Lorne meets No. 2 Highway, and still others are in small family plots and at West Lorne. There never was a cemetery established in connection with the Argyle Church here.

The work done by the finance committee under Malcolm McColl, with Mrs. Donald McRae serving as secretary and James McPherson as treasurer, has been outstanding. Before undertaking the work, \$4,000 had been raised and set aside to cover repair work only. Of the remaining \$6,000 needed to rebuild the church, \$4,000 has been raised in the past year, and only \$2,000 remains now to be paid off.

Societies Of The Church.

No branch of church work lies closer to the life of the church than that of the Sabbath school. The first Sunday school was held in the old log school house, dating back to 1857. Here they continued to meet until the church was built. In those old days the Sunday School was well attended, and the work carried on very much as it is to day.



An Auxiliary of the Women's Foreign Missionary Society was formed through the endeavors of Mrs. Milloy. No one can estimate the results of their self sacrificing efforts to reach out a helping hand to their sisters in heathen lands.

In 1914 the Women's Foreign Missionary Society and the Women's Missionary Society of Montreal, and the Women's Home Missionary Society amalgamated under one head, and is now known as the Women's Missionary Society.

The Crinan Society celebrated its 60th anniversary in October 1946, in the church with the following program:- Opening Hymn No. 19. Scripture reading; Isa.55, and prayer by Mrs. Sutherland. Solo, "I heard the Voice of Jesus", by Mrs. M. Merritt, Chatham, History of the Society was read by Mrs. Donald McRae. Greetings from Mrs. McPhail, West Lorne, Mrs. Jas Andrews, Largie, Mrs. J. A. McLean, Dutton from Dr. McLean. Hymn No. 594. Greetings from Mrs. McLennan, Rodney. Solo: "Open The Gates Of The Temple" by Mrs. P. McPherson, accompanied by Mrs. John McPherson. Guest speaker, Mrs. Davies, Kilmartin; Solo: "Stranger Of Galilee", sung by Miss Grace McGill, West Lorne; accompanied by Mrs. Branchflower. Hymn No. 599, followed by the benediction by Rev. Mr. Sutherland, the present pastor of the church.



The Young People's Guild was organized in 1903. The Meetings held regularly twice a month. This society has done good work in keeping the young people in touch with the church work, and also in assisting the Mission schemes of the church, and other deserving objects toward which their contributions have been liberal.



The Willing Workers

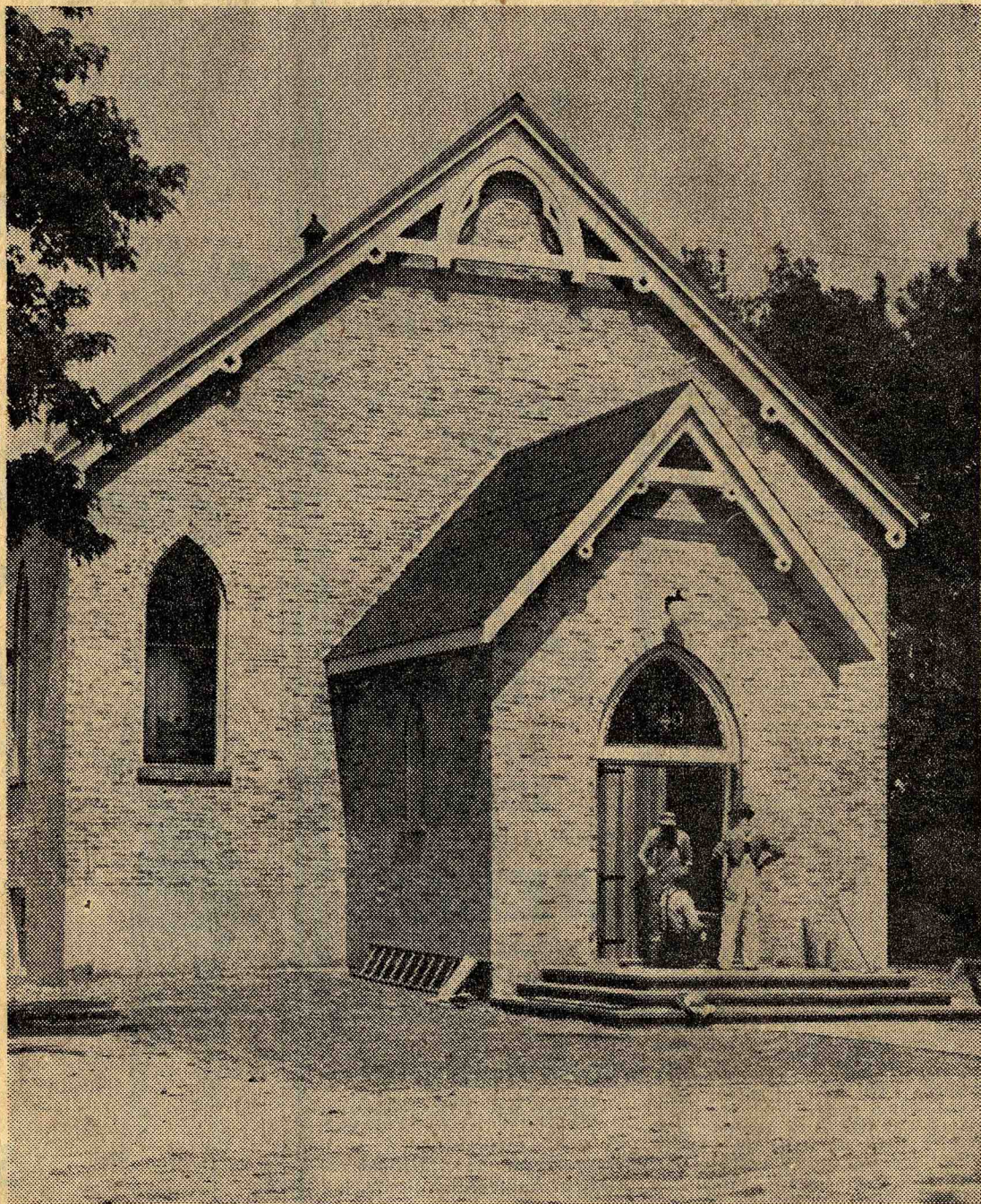
The "Willing Workers" is an organization of the ladies of the congregation and district for the purpose of doing patriotic work by supplying our soldiers with comforts. During the past year the ladies have done a great work for the empire in supplying the soldiers with home comforts. Considering the many calls upon the people of the country the work of the ladies fill a gap that it would be impossible for any other organization to fill. The work is one that only the ladies can successfully carry on and it should receive the united support of every one in the district. During the year 1916 the society has received donations of cake, candy, fruit and soldiers' comforts valued at \$200. Besides this they have through their own efforts without any canvas collected the grand sum of \$303.42. Of this amount, the "Busy Bees" a society of the young girls of the district who have been doing their bit, have contributed \$112.25. They have used \$80 90 worth of flannel which was made into shirts and \$86.49 for yarn which they used in making socks. \$50 was given towards purchasing a cot to be used in one of the English hospitals. Many of the soldiers have acknowledged comforts

sent from the society. At Christmas each boy from the district was remembered and the ladies are now paying each month \$5 for a prisoner in Germany.

We have ahead of us a closing period of the great war which will, we believe, exceed anything the world has ever known in its frightfulness. To overcome this frightfulness the work of the ladies is absolutely necessary and if we wish victory to rest on the arms of our country those of us who are enjoying the freedom and peace made possible by "Our Boys at the Front" we must stand united behind the work of the ladies, giving them every assistance. The officers are: Pres., Mrs. J. C. McMillan; Sec., Miss N. Jamieson; Treas., Mrs. M. Matheson.

The ladies of this organization, the Willing Workers, later became the founders of the Crinan Women's Institute.

New Church Rises Where Scotch Pioneers Built



This is the new Argyle Church at Crinan, north of West Lorne, where the work of completely rebuilding the pioneer church erected in 1861 is being rushed to completion for the service of rededication on Thursday at a special meeting in the church of the London Presbytery. The picture, taken Tuesday afternoon, shows workmen installing the new front doors. This Presbyterian church was founded by the first settlers in the northeastern part of Aldborough Township, many of whose descendants are among the 45 families represented in the present congregation.

Dedication and Re-opening Services

Thursday, June 17th, 1948, marked another red letter day in the history of our church and in the lives of the congregation.

At two-thirty in the afternoon, our members and visitors from the neighboring churches filled the new church for the dedication service. The choir, followed by the Moderator of Session, accompanied by the Moderator of Presbytery and other ministers entered through the main door of the church, and proceeded up the aisle as the choir sang the processional "Pe gates lift up your heads on high."

Rev. Wm. Sutherland, pastor of Argyle Church, led the opening devotional exercises. The Scripture lesson, Psalm 84, was read by the Rev. John Waldie, St. George's Church, London. This was followed by the entire congregation repeating the Apostle's Creed in unison. Rev. Harry Rodney, Knox Church, St. Thomas had charge

of the solemn and beautiful service of dedication and prayer of dedication. Miss Ann Mistele, Rodney, rendered the solo, "Bless This House". Rev. Richard Stewart, New St. James, London, gave the address. He said that this was a red letter day in the history of this church and in the life of each member. He expressed his congratulations to the people on their beautiful church home, and a debt of gratitude to the pioneers for the foundations laid by them in the yester years. The loss to the congregation of our revered and loved, member of Session, the late Colin Campbell, who had a vivid interest in having the church completed, was mentioned by Mr. Stewart. The speaker told us "Not to make a narrow and shallow church, not simply a negative church, but a House of Prayer for all people." The church was a school of Christ, a spiritual power-house and urged men to give themselves to the things of God. Rev. Mr. Sutherland led in prayer, and the benediction was pronounced by Rev. McLennan of Fingal.

Sunday, June 20th., 1948, which coincides with the exact date of Rev. Sutherland's induction two years earlier, was one of those days of summer that was ideal in every way. Blue sunny skies, with here and there a fleecy cloud like soft chiffon. According to the traffic it would seem that all roads were converging on Crinan. By half past nine the crowd began to gather and almost on hour before the service started the auditorium was filled. Chairs were placed in the basement, and also a loud speaker to carry the full church service. By the hour of service, every available chair or pew, in both church and basement was filled and the people were standing in the vestibule. Others had to sit on the outside and hear the service through another loud speaker.

As the hour of church service neared there seemed to be a hallowed peace shed over the entire assembly, a blessing spread among the devout people, who by labor, money, and much prayer had made possible the service of re-opening. The Rev. Wm. Sutherland, who had toiled with his people, and prayed for the welfare of our church, along with his flock, must have felt a blessed joy and peace in the knowledge that this beautiful House of God, a memorial to the past and a living symbol of our love of God, was completed.

The service opened with the organist, Mrs. Harold Carroll, playing "Prelude" by Chopin. The Rev. Wm. Sutherland conducted the first part of the service. The offertory was Mendelssohn's "Athalia". The choir, assisted by the Churchville Male Quartet, sang the anthem, "Break forth into joy," by Adam Geibel.

The guest speaker was Prof. D. Keith Andrews, Knox College, Toronto who did not need any formal introduction as he was a former Crinan boy. Prof. Andrews expressed joy at being home again and delight at the magnificent new Church Home. His sermon will long be remembered by those present as will the prayers offered during the day. The morning service closed by the benediction being pronounced by the Rev. A. Mc. D. Haig, a former minister of the congregation.

In the evening another memorable service was held to another overflow crowd. The organ prelude was "Andante" by Van Gluck. Our minister, Rev. Wm. Sutherland, conducted the service. The offertory was "Hymn of Thanksgiving" by Kennedy. The choir sang the anthem "King of Kings" by Herbert. After welcoming many visitors and expressing the thanks and appreciation of all the mem-

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members of Argyle to the neighboring churches for withdrawing their evening services, Mr. Sutherland introduced the guest speaker of the evening, Rev. Finlay G. Stewart, Kitchner, who was born and grew up in our neighborhood. Mr. Stewart spoke on the subject, "And let them have dominion."

The re-opening services took on a festive appearance on Monday evening when congregation and friends gathered in the basement around well laden tables to partake of the viands of the Re-opening and Anniversary Supper. The tables were emptied and filled many times until all had partaken to their heart's desire. This was followed by a sacred concert of song and music.

As a fitting climax to the re-opening, on Sunday, June 27th, the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was solemnized, this proved to be another testimonial of our love of Christ and a thanksgiving for the Spirit of God in our midst. It was felt by all the Spirit of God was truly in our midst in the New Church.

Argyle Church Prepared to Celebrate Centenary—1961.

Commencing on Sunday, June 25, and continuing on July 2nd, special services will be held at Argyle Presbyterian Church, Crinan, in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of that congregation.

On Sunday, June 25th, two services will be held with Rev. Wm. Sutherland of Winchester, the only former living minister, in charge. The following Sunday, July 2nd, the morning service will be taken by Rev. Donald St. Clair Campbell

something of which the present congregation is justifiably proud. The present church building was completely re-modelled in 1946 so that today they have an attractive and well-appointed building in which to worship. There are active groups such as the Sunday School, Young People's Society, W.M.S., Ladies' Aid and Mission Band carrying on the work started by earlier church members. The choir, with Miss Annie Isobel McCallum



REV. J. M. McCURLIE
... present minister

of Sarnia, a descendant of one of the pioneer families. In the evening, Rev. Finlay Stewart of Kitchener, a former moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, will conduct the service.

To further mark the centennial, a supper and social evening will be held on Thursday, June 29th.

The progress of Argyle Church down through the past cent



REV. WM. SUTHERLAND
... to speak on Sunday

as organist, provides leadership in the service of praise.

Rev. J. C. McCurlie is minister of the church, dividing his services with the congregation of Duff Church, Largie.

First Settlers in 1848-49

Although portions of Aldborough Township along the shores of Lake Erie were settled as far back as 1820, the north-east part, familiar-

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