

March 9th 1882

The Dutton Council talked of buying a large bell for the School house and also for the use of the village.

The second department of the public school holiday for two weeks owing to the teacher Miss McIntyre being ill with scarlet fever.

April 13/1882

The Dutton Public school has steadily increased within the last two years and Mr Duncan deserves credit for his energy in bringing it to its present state. The junior dept under Miss McIntyre also gives satisfaction.

Nov 28/1882

Following are the names of those who received honoray cards last week from the Public School

Ella Jackson, Mary Fowler, Cath McCallum
Cath Dewar, Christie Corbett, Mary Young, Flo
Schultz, Arch McMillan, Geo. Sutton, Richard Waite
Wmⁿ Love, John McPherson.

Dec 14th 1882

The following received honor cards from Public School last week - Ada Black, John Blue, Arch McMillan, Edgar Hertel, Geo Sutton, Mary Fowler, Ella Jackson, Richard Waite, Cath McCallum, Cath Dewar, Clara Sutton, Cynthia Sutton, Bernice Mitton, Mary Young, Christie Corbett.

KNOX CHURCH

Dutton had its beginning in the year 1871 when the Canada Southern Railway was built, now taken over by the New York Central R.R. and the first church services were held by the different denominations in the Public School until the year 1877.

In that year the regular Baptist Church gave a contract to Hugh McIntyre to build them the present Baptist Church. The building was shared with them by the local Presbyterians who had been organized and united with the Wallacetown Presbyterian Church. The minister was Rev. Mr. McDonald, the precentor, Mr. Duncan, father of George Dunean.

The Rev. Donald Stewart followed Mr. McDonald as minister of the two congregations.

In 1882 when the first Presbyterian Church was started, there was a very successful union Sunday School carried on with Mr. Geo. Duncan as Superintendent.

Knox Church was built in 1882 and opened in January 1883, the late Prof. McLaren of Knox College being the guest speaker. Rev. Donald Stewart was the minister and lived in Wallacetown, and conducted the service every Sunday afternoon following the Sunday School, Mr. Duncan being the Sunday School Superintendent.

Mr. Stewart having accepted a call to Finch, the united charges of Dutton and Wallacetown found it hard to arrange a satisfactory time for services, so it was decided that the congregations separate, and each call and support a minister of its own. A call was given by Dutton to Rev. Thos. Wilson of Tottenham and Beeton, which was accepted.

The first printed annual report of Knox Church was in the year 1889, a year after Rev. Mr. Wilson became the first pastor of Dutton alone.

Mr. Wilson's foreword to the report is as follows: "It was with fear and trembling I was induced by your hearty call to accept the pastorate of this church. To leave a congregation long established and in a flourishing condition, to accept this charge while in its infancy and with so little experience, when no man knew what the result would be, was of great concern to me. The reports which have been submitted by the different organizations of the church's work must be sufficient

to convince us that the work is not ours but "His" and must prosper."

The Session - Rev. Mr. Wilson, Moderator, Wm. Rothwell, clerk, Duncan McArthur, Neil McArthur, R.S. McMillan and James McArthur.

No. of families connected with the congregation - 110, Members - 111.

Board of Managers - James Poole, A.N.C. Black, M.C. Leitch, W. Rothwell, James McCallum, Duncan McMillan, Robt. McMillan, Henry Hollingshead - Chairman
Mrs. Thos. Wilson - Sec-Treas.
Receipts - \$193.14

Sunday School - Rev. T. Wilson - Superintendent
Jas. McArthur - Assistant Superintendent
C. St. Clair Leitch - Sec-Treas.
Malcolm McArthur - Assistant Sec-Treas.
Organist - Miss Kate McMillan
Teachers & Officers on the roll 18
Scholars on the roll 189.

In 1895 Rev. Thos. Wilson received a call to King St. Presbyterian Church, London, and accepted it. Then Rev. James Steven was called to the pastorate of Dutton in 1897, and remained as minister of Knox Church till 1905 when he resigned. Then Rev. James Malcolm became the pastor, coming here from Teeswater. Rev. Walter Nichol of Largie, as Moderator.

The first Women's Missionary Society was organized by Mrs. Rev. Jas. Malcolm in 1906. Mrs. Malcolm, Pres. Mrs. E. Doyle, Sec. Mrs. D.C. Campbell, Treas. Mr. Malcolm left the charge in the year 1911. He was succeeded by Rev. J.C. Robinson, who was called from Wyoming. He was called in 1915 to Tiverton, then Rev. Robert Stewart, minister of Motherwell and Avonbank received a call to become pastor of Dutton Knox Church, and he was placed in 1916.

The matter of Church union having come up in 1925, Mr. Stewart and four Elders and 39 members went into the United Church. The vote was 102 for continuing and 39 for Union. X

After Church Union, Rev. Thos. McConnell, lately out of Ireland, was invited by Dutton congregation to become their pastor in 1925. After a pastorate of six months he accepted a call to Medicine Hat. In 1926 Rev. J.M. Dickson from St. Davids became pastor

and remained until 1939, when Rev. D.B. Cram was called from Moosemine. He remained till 1943 when he was called to Teeswater.

Rev. Mr. Fraser came to the Dutton congregation from Wyoming in 1943 and he remained as pastor till 1945 when he resigned because of ill health. In 1946^(?) Rev. Gordon, padre in the second great war became the pastor of Knox Church, Dutton, and he is the present minister. x

In the pastorate of Rev. Robert Stewart the present church was built on the old site, notwithstanding the closeness of the two railroads. Preparation for building was started in 1919 with Mr. W. Hollingshead chairman of a substantial committee.

The first thing was to pull down the old church which held so many sacred memories. The men of the congregation rallied valiantly to the task. The farmers came in with their teams and scraped and levelled, and the business men and those employed through the day came after hours and cleaned brick and piled lumber. There were men among the congregation used to building. They helped with the cement work. Building began in 1920 and in September of that year the corner stone was laid by the late Duncan McArthur, grandson of one of the first elders, who afterwards became Minister of Education. So well did the chairman and building committee manage the financial affairs of the building that there was not a mortgage on the church when it was completed. x

The Ladies Aid was a great help paying for the seating accomodation at a cost of \$2900. also the Young People and the Sunday School and Choir contributed to the furnishings.

THE METHODIST CHURCH
NOW
THE UNITED CHURCH

In 1877 the residents of the village of Dutton thought they should have a church in which to worship. At that time the Baptists were the strongest in numbers. It was decided the Presbyterians, Methodists and Baptists gather together all the money they could and build a church and all worship together, which they did. Then the question of communion came up. The Baptists believed in immersion, the Methodists thought that either immersion or sprinkling was acceptable to God, and the Presbyterian method was sprinkling. Many of the older Methodist members had been immersed in baptism, and they could partake of communion with the Baptists, all others could not. After a time the Methodists pulled away and rented the hall over Mr. Lane's store and worshipped there.

The Methodist Conference made a circuit of Tyrconnell, Wallacetown and Dutton. Rev. Teskey was our pastor. Dutton had the morning service at 11 o'clock, Sunday School at 3 o'clock and Class Meeting at 7 o'clock. Rev. Mr. Tesket resided in Tyrconnell and retired there in 1880.

Rev. Mr. McCann followed him and lived in Wallacetown. He was very frail, and died in 1880. Rev. Mr. Earl, a young man just back from a trip to the Holy Land, was sent to fill in for Mr. McCann. He and the Baptists had many debates on methods of baptism, in fact weekly debates were the main source of entertainment.

In 1882 Rev. Mr. Fallis came to us and a parsonage was rented from Mr. McArthur on Nancy Street, and we had the evening service.

In 1882 the Methodist church was finished on Main Street where the Town Hall now stands, and the bell in the belfry rang out clear and sweet for the Sabbath evening service. An organ was installed by J.M. Jackson. A hand pump was built in it and Mr. Jackson's son sat on the floor and pumped it. Mrs. Hill was organist. One Sunday after the anthem the lad disappeared and Mr. Jackson had to pump it himself. However, the boy was there the next Sunday.

In 1835 Rev. R.D. Gamilton was our pastor, and brought his bride during his
pastorate.

Our congregation increased, and a front extension was built to the church.
The debt was paid off and the church was redecorated.

In the summer of 1890, one day the Janitor was cleaning the church and went
home for his dinner leaving a hot fire that somehow caught in the new extension.
All that was saved was the organ. The insurance paid for the organ and the
decorations. So back we went to Mr. Lane's hall to worship. The women had teas
and concerts, etc. The bell was broken when it fell.

In 1888 W.S. Jackson sold his house on Shackleton Street to the Methodist
parsonage board and Rev. Mr. Middleton moved on Dec. 12. The church lot on Main
St. was sold to the town to build a town hall, and a corner lot on Nancy and Mary
St. was bought from James Thompson, and every time the building committee was
undecided about buying, the price went up \$100.00.

The corner stone of the new church was laid in 1890. Rev. Mr. Middleton
was with us five years. In 1893 Rev. C.T. Scott became our pastor. He was loved
by young and old and during his pastorate the church was filled even to the gallery
every Sabbath. Men, women and children all worked together to raise money to pay
on the new church.

Mrs. Gusterson, president of the Ladies Aid, and her committee made a quilt of white
and red cashmere, and sold names on it at \$2.00 a name. They realized \$200.00 from
the quilt, The ladies gave Mrs. Middleton the quilt, and on the fiftieth anniversary
of the church the quilt was returned to us.

Rev. J.E. Moore followed C.T. Scott, 1896-99. Rev. Mr. Beer came in 1899-1902.
He had a family of four, and all worked in the church organizations. Rev. Mr. Powell
followed Mr. Beer. During his pastorate the parsonage lot on Shackleton St. was sold
to Mr. Duncan McLean, and the house was moved just back on a lot on Mary St and a lot
was bought from Dr. Paton on the corner of Mary and Peter Streets, and Dowsell