

Paynes Mills, January 21, 1928

Standing of Payne's Mills Community Hall, Past and Present,  
Is Explained.

Old and New Trustees Set Forth Terms Under Which It is  
Operated.

Editor; The Times-Journal; Sir--

As there is an erroneous impression abroad regarding the Payne's Mills Community Hall, we being the old and the new trustees of the hall wish to correct this impression with a few facts. We are all residents of the community.

1. The old trustees (in trust) were appointed by the community before the hall was built as was also the land deeded (in trust) and all funds (monies and donations included)-Lumber, Timber, Gravel for concrete, a number of chairs, curtains (for entertainment) which has since been removed with the closing of the United Church.
2. The trustees (in trust) were further handicapped by not being allowed to charge the community for the use of the hall, which left them without any funds to maintain the hall and sheds.
3. Now the Provincial Government passed an Act in 1920 to assist rural halls in such standing as this:  
(a) The hall must come up to a standard; (b) Deed must be placed with the Township Council, which is a permanent body, which holds the deed for the community as the community is constantly changing; (c) The Council in turn appoint the trustees from the community, organizations having first place. Therefore, if there was a church here they would be entitled to one trustee on the board, a privilege they could not enjoy before. The grant from the Government is 25 percent of finished building.
4. The old deed (in trust) states distinctly that the land was given for building of a hall for Sunday School, preaching, social and business gatherings.
5. Contributors to the building of the hall: The community at large, Union Sunday School, a Presbyterian mission under the Rev. Robert McIntyre, patrons of the cheese factory, ladies of the community, later known as the Gleaners, and a number from outside points among whom were the Messrs. Payne of London, their ancestors gave the name of Payne's Mills. All these were working with the trustees (in trust) to complete the hall.
6. This hall was given the name Union Hall, Payne's Mills, as all were working in unionism. The name is displayed on front of the hall which was built in 1906.
7. For some time back there has been an agitation to have the trustees elected from the community at certain intervals, which was as it should be, but was impossible only by a course of law as the hall was "in trust".
8. In the late fall of 1926 the old builders withdrew the trust and instructed the trustees (in trust) to place the hall under the Act of 1920 re community halls, thereby making it a community hall as it stands today. The deed having been given to the ~~XXXXXX~~ Township



Council and the trustees duly elected. The trustees at present are: John McGugan, George Milligan, E. N. Styles, Charles Munro and Alf Blackman, all from the community, and R. Kimble and F. Coutts for the Council.

9. The uses of the hall is fully explained in the following: Section 6. of Regulations Community Halls, 1920: "Every hall erected under this Act shall be available for public gatherings of an educational, fraternal, religious or social nature or for the discussion of any public question, and no organization shall be denied the use of the hall for religious, fraternal or political reasons.

10. Regarding the closing of the United Church at Payne's Mills: A letter is on file with the present trustees showing that the church was closed on account of church union.

11. In regard the dances and entertainments given in the hall lately, there have been a few dances, two social evenings, one a presentation to George Berdan (an old neighbour and former trustee): a Christmas tree, with other doings in the near future by the young people of the community; a play; Elgin Girls Institute and the Community Club of the community, all of which has been and will be conducted above board and with an eye to the welfare of the community.

12. All doings in the hall must be in connection with the community. All the above doings are under the direction of members of the community.

Old trustees (in trust)--E. C. Gilbert, chairman

John McGugan, secretary

E. N. Styles

John Begg

New trustees---Alfred Blackman

John McGugan

George Millegan

C. O. Munro

E. N. Styles

## Payne's Mills United Church Closes October 30

Friends of Rev. George Gilmore and Family Tender Them Banquet and Present Well-filled Purse.

Payne's Mills, Oct. 28---Sunday, Oct. 30, marks the closing of the Payne's Mills United Church. On Wednesday evening a large gathering of the friends of Rev. and Mrs. George Gilmore and family honored them by a farewell banquet. Mr. Gilmore has been pastor of this church for nearly five years. An appreciation of his labors was shown by the presentation of a well-filled purse, Vermont Pow, one of the leading elders, making the presentation and Albert Bawden, another elder, reading the well-worded address. Mr. Gilmore was assured that his preaching had been clear, forcible, with comfort, encouragement and instruction, but above all had rung out with clearness the message of the wickedness and destruction of sin; of a living faith in Christ as the one effectual remedy; of the vanity of expecting any marked spiritual attainment so long as there is admixture with sin. All had been deeply impressed with the thorough consistency of his daily walk. He had not made the pastorate a mere social function. He had given time and energies unsparingly. It would be hard to overestimate the good influence exerted by such a personality as Mrs. Gilmore's in her ~~husband's~~ influential position. She had entered heartily into the various branches of the church's work and had shown herself the pastor's worthy helpmate. In his response, Mr. Gilmore assured his people of his deep appreciation, and reminded them that though they might not be aware of it, they had, by their sympathy and co-operation, contributed largely to whatever success he had attained. Mrs. Gilmore also made a feeling reply. Morley Parker, another elder, acted as chairman for the evening. General regret is expressed at the closing of the work at Payne's Mills. Sunday School was organized here in the schoolhouse in 1898, when the late Dr. McBane was the teacher and was largely his interest. Preaching services began in 1905, conducted by Rev. Robert McIntyre. Out of this grew the Presbyterian church, organized three years later, the hall being erected because of the need felt for a place of worship. Rev. W. T. Cranston and Rev. N. Stevenson are other ~~pastors~~ pastors who have labored here.



'LAST PARTY IN OLD HALL'



WED. December 29 1961



Memory gathering time---Members of the Paynes Mills Women's Institute gathered at the Institute hall last night for the last party in the building, which is soon to be torn down to facilitate the widening of No. 3 Highway. During the evening, a group of the members gathered to reminisce over past activities held in the building which was constructed in 1906. Shown in the above photo are, left to right, Mrs. Albert Auckland, secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Ken Bawden, district director, Mrs. Tom Blackman, first vice-president of the Paynes Mills Women's Institute; and Mrs. Morley Adams, past president and a charter member of the Institute.

St. Thomas Times-Journal photo and write up of December 28, 1961



Cutting the ribbon



Mrs Anna Kelly and Roy Jewell



Mrs. Albert Auckland presenting the Flag

OFFICIAL OPENING OF PAYNES MILLS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HALL  
March 14, 1962



# Guests at opening 1962

- 1 Mrs Kenneth Butler - Middlemarch St. I.
- 2 Mrs Dorothy Curtis Middlemarch St. I.
- 3 Mrs Leonard Kelly St. Thomas
- 4 Mrs Jas. A. Carmichael St. Thomas R.R. #7
- 5 Mrs H. H. Silcox Iona
- 6 Mrs Roy Piper Iona
- 7 Sadie Graham Iona
- 8 Jean Travers Paynes Mills
- 9 Gail Travers Paynes Mills
- 10 Ruby Silcox (Mrs. Robt.) Frame
- 11 Mrs. Hon Bogert Frame
- 12 Mrs Lawrence Bogert Frame
- 13 Mrs Lelaris M. Silcox " "
- 14 Mrs. Clayton Silcox "
- 15 Mrs. Ray Williams St. Thomas
- 16 Mrs. W. E. Locke "
- 17 Mr. & Mrs. C. M. Williams "
- 18 Mrs J. F. Ripley West Lorne
- 19 Mrs E. MacKillop West Lorne
- 20 Mrs. Wolfgang Liepmann West Lorne
- 21 Mrs June Dymock West Lorne
- 22 Mrs. Julia Martin General Store St. I.
- 23 Mrs Don Mc Gregor Gar. Glen
- 24 Mrs. Ann S. Lyle Middlemarch
- 25 Mrs H. C. Duff Middlemarch
- 26
- 27 Mr. & Mrs J. F. Bell St. Thomas
- 28 Mrs. E. Elgin Payson St. Thomas
- 29

- 30 Mrs Roy Olsen 315 Wellington St. St. Thomas
- 31 Mrs Glen Williams St. Thomas - Kelly and Ry.
- 32 Shirley B. Campbell 392 Laurel St. St. Thomas
- 33 Joan Crichtwell Hill Street Port Stanley
- 34 Betty Macomber 40 Crescent Ave, St. Thomas
- 35 Addie Morrison Sycamore
- 36 Mrs E. Schallenberg Sycamore
- 37 Mrs Wm Griffiths Sycamore
- 38 Albert J. Orchard Shedd
- 39 Mrs Mark Brown R. R. No 7. St. Thomas
- 40 Mrs. Floyd Brown Mrs. Bridges
- 41 Mrs. Stuart Graham Wallacetown
- 42 Miss Bernice Talpin Wallacetown
- 43 Mrs Stanky Ryk R. R. 1
- 44 Miss Anna D. Lyle - R. R. 1
- 45 Margaret R. Lyle - R. R. 1
- 46 Leonard H. Inch - R. R. 1. St. Thomas.
- 47 Kathleen Fulton - P. R. 1 St. Thomas
- 48 Mrs Joe Curtis Middlemarch St. I.
- 49 Mrs R. Dowler
- 50 Mrs J. A. Lyle
- 51 Mrs. J. F. McQueen Middlemarch
- 52 Mrs. A. F. McQueen "
- 53 Mrs. Curtis Campbell River Road
- 54 Mrs. Mildred Riepe River Road
- 55 Mrs S. Fulton River Road



56 Mrs. J. Dancy  
 57 Mrs. E. S. Down. - Hedden  
 58 Mrs. E. A. Munn  
 59 Mrs. J. Trace - Hedden.  
 60 Mrs. E. Ballam  
 61 Mrs. S. Fife - Talbotville  
 62 Mrs. J. Fife - Talbotville  
 63 Miss Lillian Fife - Talbotville  
 64 Mr. Jimmy Pow  
 65 Mr. Colin McEugan  
 66 Mr. Keith Blackman  
 67 Mr. Donald Dawdy  
 68 Mr. Duncan ~~Duncan~~ McKillop  
 69 Jane McKillop  
 70 Joyce TADema  
 71 Lynn Walker  
 72 Larry Walker  
 73 Charlotte McKillop  
 74 Donnie Harris  
 75 Charlie Gregg  
 76 Gladys Gregg  
 77 Tommy Travers

78 Sherry Travers.  
 79 Jane Williams  
 80 Sheila McEugan  
 81 Margaret Auckland  
 82 Lucinda Benn  
 83 Mrs. John E. Pearce, Wallacetown  
 84 Mrs. Mervyn Foreman - Wallacetown  
 85 Mrs. Morley Page - Wallacetown  
 86 Mrs. Lloyd E. St. Thomas  
 87 Mrs. Harry Allen St. Thomas  
 88 Mrs. James R. McKellar Wallacetown  
 89 Mrs. Neil McKellar Wallacetown  
 90 Mrs. Mac Graham  
 91 Mrs. Ted Payne Wallacetown  
 92 Mrs. Emma Lucas Wallacetown  
 93 Mrs. Ed. Harris -  
 94 Mrs. W. S. McKillop  
 95 Mrs. Roy Jewell Nutton.  
 96 Mr. & Mrs. Cecil Woodner. London.  
 97 Frank Auckland.  
 98 Clarence Small Wallacetown  
 99 Pat Adams Paynes Mills  
 100 Grace Adams Paynes Mills  
 101 Lat. Mack Paynes Mills  
 102 Mrs. Ken Bowden Paynes Mills  
 103 Mrs. Sarah A. Poole St. Thomas R.R. #1  
 104