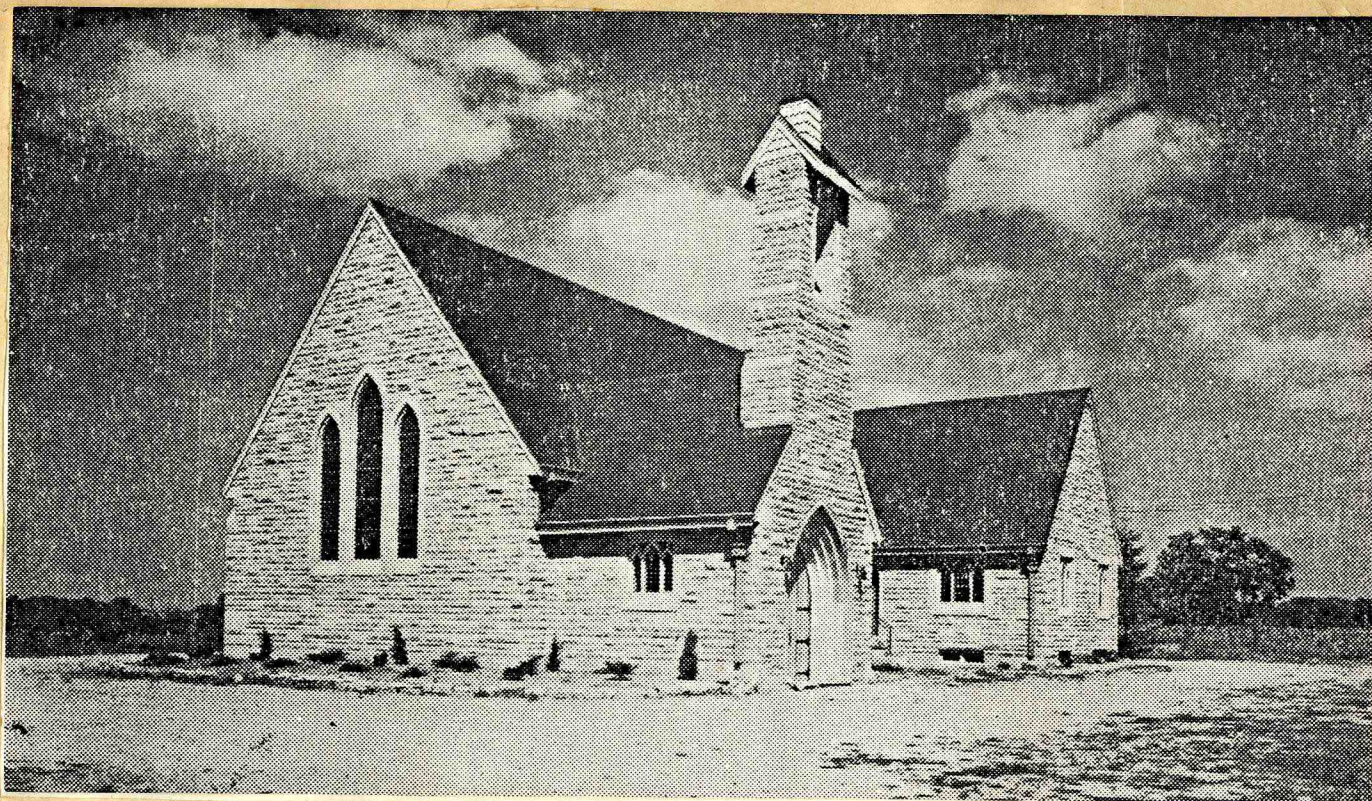


The man in the picture above is Christopher Moore, who was a notable figure in the early history of Union. For forty years he was Secretary of the Trustee Board of Union Methodist Church and also filled the positions of Caretaker of, the church and cemetery. In the choir, before cabinet organs were available, he started the hymns with a tuning fork.



The present Union United Church built in years 1948-9 replacing the former brick church, burned down on February 6th, 1948.

The church which was the subject of the preceeding sketch, was completely destroyed by fire Feb.6,1948. After the shock of loss, the people rallied and under the leadership of the pastor Rev. J.V.Clarke, the work of rebuilding was undertaken. Great enthusiam and energy were displayed by all in the community. On Aug.18,1948 the cornerstones were laid for the new building. On Sept.21, 1949 the dedication of the War Memorial windows was held. By Oct. of 1949 the beautiful stone building was completed. On Oct. 7 the dedication was held, with the Moderator, Rev.W.Brewing, as preacher. On Sunday Oct. 9 the first preaching service was held with the President of London Conference, Rev. D.D. Gayner, as preacher. Special services were held for six successive Sundays.

The Contractor for the building was Mr. Henry Parker of Parker Construction, Union.

(This postscript concerning the new church was added to the preceeding chapter by Miss E. Matheson, Dec. 1949)



This picture was taken after the disasterous fire on the morning of Feby. 6th, 1948, which destroyed The Union United Church built in 1877.

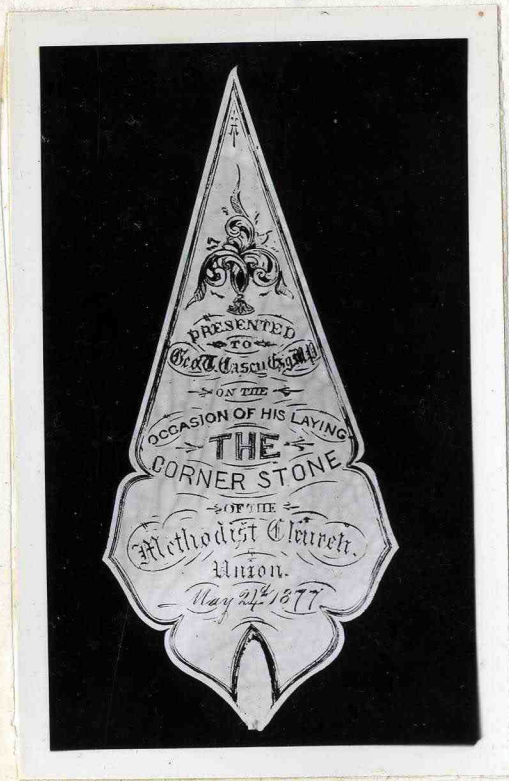


Left to right-

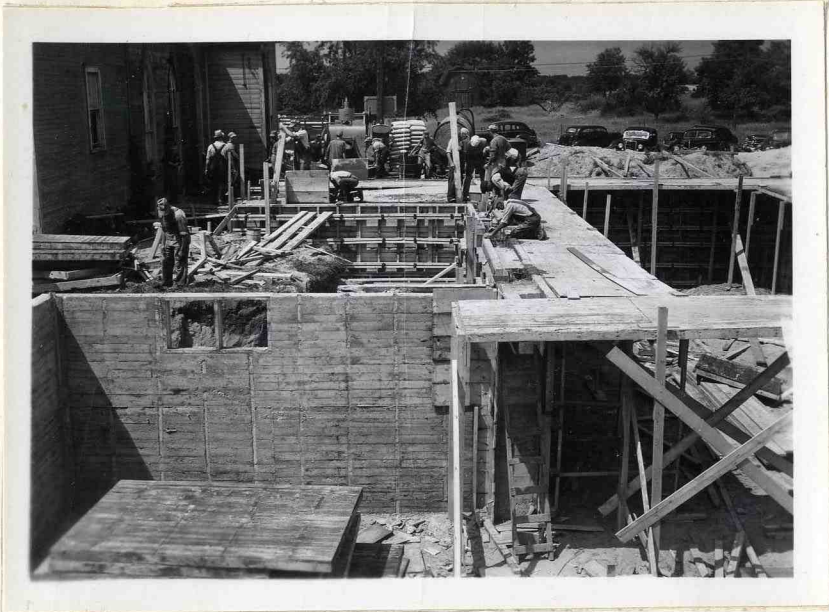
Mr. Harry Cross, Mrs. W.P. Willson, Mr. Samuel Hathaway, Mr. Harry Oke and the Rev. J. V. Clarke-
Mr. Hathaway turning the first sod for the new Union United Church on May 9th, 1948.



On Wed. evening, Aug. 18th, 1948- The oldest member of the congregation of Union United Church, Mrs. Mary Whaley, 95, laying one of the corner stones for new church assisted by Mrs. Mary Hepburn, (whose husband's father gave the land for the church built in 1877) and Mr. Harry Oke and Rev. J.V. Clarke. (Wm. Burgess at right)



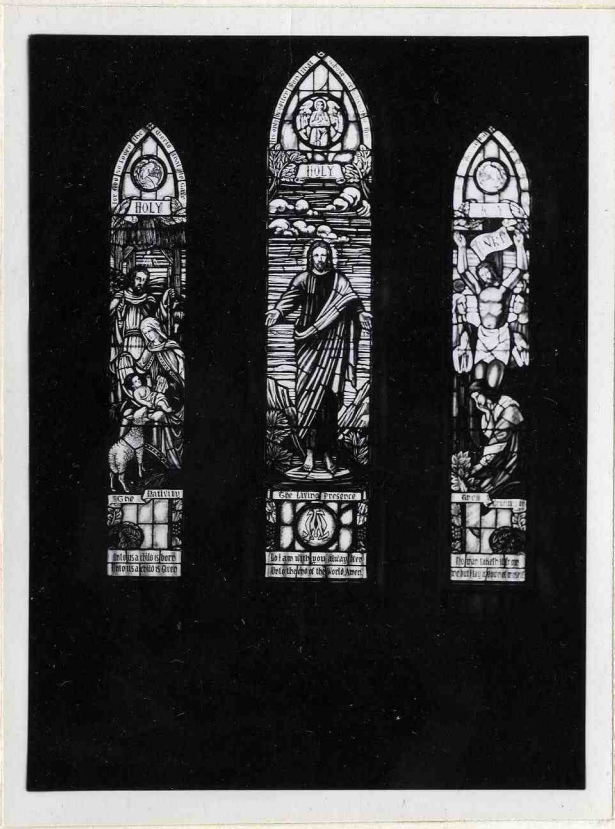
The silver trowel used 71 years ago by Geo. E. Casey, M.P. when he laid the cornerstone for the former church. This same trowel was used Aug. 18th, 1948 in laying the corner stone for the new Union United Church.



One of the many bees held by the men of the congregation to facilitate the building of the new Church.



Mr. Henry Parker, Contractor for the building of the handsome new Church, presented the keys to the Moderator, Rt. Rev. Dr. Willard Brewing, who in turn presented them to Mr. Leonard Fish, representing the Official Board of the Church, at Dedication Ceremony on Oct. 7th, 1949.



The beautiful stained windows in the Chancel of the new Church- the north window the gift of the Whaley family, the middle one, the Burgess family and the south, Miss. Zella Whyte.

HISTORY OF S. S. NO. 9, YARMOUTH

Lot 4, Con. 3, Yarmouth, was originally owned from the Crown by one, ^{JARVIS + SUSANNAH (PARKER) THAYER} John Thayer. It was later sold to John Stevenson and then on the 19th of Feb. 1851, John and Elizabeth Stevenson sold to the trustees of S. S. No. 9, Yarmouth, the property which has been the site of the Union school for one hundred years.

According to reminiscences of the late Wm. H. Norman and told to us by his daughter, Gertrude, he and a few other children first attended school in a log cabin, being taught by a young, well educated widow, who taught them for a small annual fee. Also each child, during the winter months, had to bring a few blocks of wood to keep the fires going. Other elderly residents claim that there was originally a school situated on Lot 3, right opposite to what has been known as "the old mill lane" and on the property now owned by Kenneth Russ. It would seem quite plausible that this is true, though no papers concerning the same can be found: but Mr. Russ has found, while ploughing, bits of crockery and a small brown crockery ink-well similar to those used in quill pen days.

The exact date for the building of the present school cannot be accurately ascertained but presumably it was built soon after acquiring the land, thus making it close to the hundred year mark, and down through the years from time to time, renovations and additions have been made to the original structure. According to school records, dated 1894, there was much controversy as to whether the trustees would enlarge and improve the school as it was then, or build a new brick one. Apparently so heated were the discussions that trustees resigned and others had to be elected to take their places. Anyway, it all ended up in the decision to enlarge the school at a cost not to exceed \$400.00. ^{the} addition