

## Mrs. G. H. Lidster Writes History Of Wallacetown United W.M.S.

When the W.M.S. of Wallacetown United Church observed its 40th anniversary last October, Mrs. George H. Lidster, a charter member, presented the following history which she compiled and wrote:

The W.M.S. of Wallacetown Methodist Church was organized on October 12th, 1920, by Mrs. J. A. Snell of Dutton, district superintendent.

Mrs. Godfrey met the Ladies' Aid of Wallacetown and gave a short talk on the work and aims of the W.M.S. After some discussion it was moved by Mrs. E. Small and seconded by Mrs. Alvro Keillor that a W.M.S. be organized. At the October 12th L.A. meeting at the home of Mrs. Wittingham, Mrs. Snell after an informative talk proceeded to organize. The following officers were elected: President, Mrs. H. Godfrey; vice-president, Mrs. D. W. Graham; recording secretary, Mrs. George H. Lidster; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Wittingham; treasurer, Mrs. F. E. Smith; strangers secretary, Mrs. Lorne Shipley; superintendent of Christian stewardship, Mrs. Alvro Keillor. The meeting closed with prayer by Mrs. Snell.

There were sixteen charter members, namely: Mesdames (Rev.) Godfrey, D. W. Graham, George H. Lidster, Wittingham, F. E. Smith, Lorne Shipley, Alvro Keillor, B. Clay, D. M. McCallum, James Lackey, Leitchfield, George Cummings, Roy Lidster, George Stidwill, Kortz and Ed. Small.

The first W.M.S. Sunday church service was held in April of the following year with Mrs. Godfrey in charge. Mrs. Roy Lidster read the lesson and Mrs. Irymn Lucas sang a solo. At the June meeting Mrs. Godfrey gave a good report of the W.M.S. convention at Listowel. At the July meeting, Gladys Keillor gave the study book in a very interesting way. The November meeting was held in the form of a prayer service in the church.

The first bale was packed in January, consisting of fruit and clothing. Mrs. Leitchfield was our first mite box superintendent. In May, 1925, the Tyrconnell Ladies' Aid was welcomed by Mrs. D. W. Graham. During these years a Watch Tower was formed by four ladies each giving a paper on some country. Then the Outlook was our missionary paper and Rev. Rutherford our minister. The members held an egg snower, each member donating a dozen or the price of a dozen. That year, Mrs. Ira Rob-

inson was sent as a delegate to Sarnia to the annual convention in May and at this meeting Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Leeming sang a duet. A collection of \$6.00 to defray Mrs. Robinson's expenses was given. At this time, Mrs. D. M. Littlejohn, Mrs. J. C. Campbell, Mrs. H. Ripley and Mrs. B. Braddon were the appointed Watch Tower.

### First Meeting After Union

The August meeting after union, Mrs. J. C. Campbell read a splendid paper on "What the Presbyterians Contributed to the United Church" and Mrs. Ira Robinson gave an equally good paper on "What the Methodists contributed to the United Church." Rev. Douglas was our minister at this time. The Misses Mary and Grace Farr gave a pleasing instrumental duet. In February, 1926, the first ladies day of prayer was held at the Presbyterian Church. In 1927 Mrs. Cessford Lunn moved that the system of giving by envelope be adopted. Dr. MacDonald is our pastor now. At one of our meetings we find that Mrs. Gray sang a solo accompanied by Mrs. Watson. In 1928, printed programs were introduced, Miss Thelma Braddon made them for two years. This year, we donated \$10.00 to the L.A. and W.M.S. church window.

### Discuss Baby Band

In November, 1928, a Baby Band was first discussed. Tyrconnell ladies donated \$33.00 to our society. In 1932, the W.M.S. Mission Circle girls and Tyrconnell ladies held a joint picnic. In September of that year we first subscribed to World Friends. The next year, Mrs. N. Welch was asked to include in her annual church report the names of those who paid over \$1.00 to the W.M.S.

In 1934 there was a motion to hold a bulb, plant and seed sale at the May meeting, proceeds being \$2.83. Now the proceeds of sales are about \$20.00.

In November, 1936, Rev. Harry Garbutt gave an interesting talk on the people of Nigeria and his work among them. We donated \$5.00 to this work. In 1940 at the 20th anniversary of our W.M.S. we had a birthday party at Mrs. Robb's. Mrs. Morley Page made a lovely cake decorated with 20 candles. Mrs. Leitchfield cut the cake and Mrs. Graham presented Mrs. Lidster with a life membership certificate for being secretary 20 years. The same year in November we were informed that Mrs. Fred Leitchfield had bequeathed \$200 to our W.M.S. Later, there was a motion to put the Leitchfield legacy to interest by bond.

### Memorial Service

In March, 1943, a memorial service was held for Mrs. Stidwill. In 1945 we celebrated our 25th anniversary at the home of Mrs. Allen Crawford and had a decorated cake with 25 candles made by Mrs. Davy and daughter. Mrs. George H. Lidster lit the candles and Mrs. D. W. Graham, Mrs. James Lackey and Mrs. F. E. Smith blew them out. Our recording secretary gave a sketch of the 25 years' work. Mrs. H. Hamilton cut the cake and served it. At the December meeting, Mrs. George H. Lidster resigned after 25 years as recording secretary.

Rev. Hill Hamilton was now our pastor. In December, 1950, Mrs. Davy and Mrs. Revell were thanked for opening their homes for Mission Band meetings for many years. In January, 1951, Rev. Grant Mills came from Dutton to be our pastor. During the war years we sent food parcels to Europe, as well as clothing.

In 1952 we were asked to raise \$160 for the new United Church training school at Toronto. Mrs. W. J. Glanfield led a committee and the money was raised.

### C.G.I.T. Group Formed

In 1953, a C.G.I.T. group was organized with Mrs. Kenneth Welch as leader. In 1954 we paid our allocation to the Mrs. Child's Scholarship Fund.

In September, 1955, at a meeting at Mrs. Littlejohn's, Miss Rena Beacom was presented with a piece of luggage and a sum of money. In June of that year the ladies were invited to hold a meeting at Mrs. Freeman Parker's at Springfield. Seventeen ladies attended. Preceding the meeting was a pot luck dinner. The same summer, Mrs. A. Crawford entertained the Baby Band and mothers at her home.

Bethel House was opened and we donated clothing and quilts. By 1959 our allocation had risen from \$150 to \$500. We have always sent delegates to the Presbyterian meetings and in 1959 some of our ladies attended the 25th anniversary banquet of Leaders' school. Over the years we have had 140 members and 45 have passed on.

We have made 22 life members, as follows: Mrs. D. W. Graham, 1925; Mrs. Alf. Shipley, 1927; Mrs. Alvro Keillor (in memory of her husband), 1938; Mrs. Cyrus Jones (in memory of her husband), Mrs. Harvey Ripley, Mrs. Fred Leitchfield, Mrs. Wm. Braddon, Miss Bain, 1939; Mrs. George H. Lidster (20th anniversary as recording secretary), 1940; Mrs. (Rev.) Turner, 1942; Mrs. D. M. Littlejohn (by Miss Bain), 1941; Mrs. Cessford Lunn, 1943; Mrs. Alfred Koehler, 1946; Mrs. James Lackey, 1947; Mrs. Ida Davy, 1951; Mrs. James Campbell, 1952; Mrs. T. R. Small, 1952; Mrs. Frank Smith, 1953; Mrs. James Revell, 1953; Mrs. Bert Braddon, 1953; Mrs. N. Sutton, 1957; Mrs. Morley Page, 1957; Mrs. Muriel Glanfield, 1958.

### Life Members

During the years we have had 10 presidents, namely: Mrs. (Rev.) Godfrey, 1920-1924; (when she left we presented her with mahogany candlesticks and half dozen fruit naps); Mrs. D. W. Graham, 1924-1928; Mrs. I. H. Macdonald, 1928-37½; Mrs. A. V. Walden, 1937½-39; Mrs. Morley Page, 1939-41; Mrs. I. W. Ripley, 1941 and part of 1942; Mrs. Ida Davy, 1942-1944; Mrs. H. Hamilton, 1944-50; Mrs. Morley Page (second time) 1950-55; Mrs. Wm. McKillop 1955-58; Mrs. Willard Watts, 1958-.

In all the years, there have been only three recording secretaries—Mrs. George H. Lidster, 1920-1945; (at 20 years she received a life membership and at 25th silver anniversary a silver engraved locket and chain); Mrs. Annie Trothen, 1945-55; Mrs. Victor Betts, 1955-.

There have been 14 treasurers with expense treasurers—Mrs. Kortz, 2 years; Mrs. D. McCallum, 1 year; Mrs. George Cummings, 3 years; Mrs. Wm. Braddon, 3 years; Mrs. D. W. Graham, 14 years; Mrs. Iva Crawford, 2 years; Mrs. Lottie Keillor, 12 years; Mrs. Don Lackey, 2 years now. Expense treasurers since 1935 have been Mrs. Alex. McArthur, 6 years; Mrs. T. R. Small, 3 years; Miss Allie Bain, 6 years; Mrs. Alex. White, 8 years.

### Mission Band Leaders

In 1925 our first Mission Band leaders were Mrs. Gray and Mrs. Wm. Braddon. Others following were Mrs. McArthur, Mrs. Henry Farr, Mrs. Koehler; assistants, Miss Grace Whittingham, Mrs. McFarland, Miss Dorothy Stidwill, Miss Annie Ripley, Mrs. Morley Page, Miss Marion Davy, Mrs. Alex. White, Mrs. Frank Brown, Mrs. Cleva Evans, Mrs. Cecil Campbell, Mrs. Chas. McDonald, Mrs. Harold Sloan, Mrs. Willard Watts, Mrs. Walter Robson, Mrs. Laurence Holland, Mrs. D. DeGraw, Mrs. D. Lackey, Mrs. Stuart Graham.

A Baby Band was organized in 1941 and leaders have been Mrs. (Rev.) Turner, Mrs. Earl Shipley, Mrs. Taylor, Mrs. Cleva Evans, Mrs.

Stewart Lindenman, Mrs. Car Woolley, Mrs. D. M. Littlejohn, Mrs. Willard Watts, Mrs. Crawford (present leader).

Many have faithfully fulfilled the offices of the other secretaries. Mrs. Ed. Shipley was Missionary Monthly secretary for 28 years. Mrs. Cessford Lunn, Mrs. Morley Page, Mrs. W. J. Glanfield and Mrs. Wm. McKillop were Christian Stewardship secretary for many years. Mrs. N. Sutton and Mrs. Bertha Pratt have served as supply secretary.

### Meet In New Parlour

In March of this year after extensive alterations to our church, we were able to meet in our new ladies' parlor, a dream fulfilled at last. Over the years we have exchanged visits with auxiliaries of other churches and enjoy the fellowship. We have sent many bales, made many quilts, stuffed toys and made layetts, held two Sunday church services each year. We have had social evenings, self-denial collections and plant sales, but most of our funds are free-will offerings. Many have contributed their musical talent to make our meetings more enjoyable. In the past minutes we find these names: Mrs. Lucas, Effie McFarlane, Mrs. Gray, Anna May White, Janice Parker, Mrs. N. Welch, Billy Page, Sharon Campbell, Mrs. Leeming, Mrs. L. Shipley, Mabel Sloan, Miss T. Braddon, Marion Lunn, Mrs. Browning, Iris Page, Mrs. D. W. Graham, Mrs. W. McKillop, Mrs. Farr, Mrs. Don Lackey, Mrs. Stidwill, Rosie May Lidster.

And now we seem to be coming to a parting of the ways and a federation of W.A. and W.M.S. is about to take place. We know that God will bless the new organization as he has blessed the old.

## Wallacetown W.M.S. Celebrates 40th Anniversary

On the afternoon of September 14 Wallacetown United Church W.M.S. celebrated the fortieth anniversary of the organization. Former members were invited as guests, and a goodly number were able to attend. Mrs. Morley Page and Mrs. Willard Watts received the guests at the door and presented each with a corsage.

Mrs. Watts spoke a few words of welcome, and Mrs. Duncan DeGraw took charge of the worship service. The scripture was John 5: 1-17.

Mrs. George Lidster, one of the charter members, had compiled the history of the last forty years of the W.M.S. work. This was read by Mrs. Morley Page and was very interesting to all those present.

Mrs. Alex. White and Mrs. Glanfield presented Mrs. Ed. Shipley with a gift of jewelry in appreciation of her many years service with the church.

Mrs. Clarence Beacom congratulated the members on their fortieth anniversary, and announced that Mrs. Wm. McKillop is to be honored with a life membership certificate and pin in recognition of her work with the organization. Mrs. Duncan DeGraw gave a short account of her stay at Leaders' School which she attended for three days.

The honored guests were introduced by Mrs. Morley Page, and a number of letters of regret were read from former members from distant places, who were not able to attend.

A beautiful solo, "He's Looking on You," was sung by Mrs. Don Lackey, accompanied by Mrs. Ken Welch.

Roll call, "A Highlight of the Last Forty Years," caused much happy reminiscing.

Mrs. Watts invited the ladies to the Sunday School rooms for tea. The lace-covered tea table was centred with a beautifully decorated birthday cake with forty ruby candles. The five charter members who were present were asked to come to the front. These ladies were Mrs. James Lackey, Mrs. Frank Smith, Mrs. Roy Lidster, Mrs. Geo. Lidster and Mrs. Lorne Shipley. Mrs. Shipley cut the cake.

A delicious lunch was served by the committee in charge and a social hour enjoyed by all. Pouring tea were Mrs. Alfred Koehler and Mrs. D. M. Littlejohn.

Guests attended from St. Thomas, Springfield, Port Stanley, Dutton, Blenheim and Wallaceburg.

— January 24th, 1962 —

# Inaugurals

The inaugural service of the Wallacetown United Church Women was conducted at the regular hour of worship on Sunday, January 14th. Rev. J. W. Shaver conducted the service, which was prepared by Rev. Norah L. Hughes.

The choir, under the direction of Mrs. Norman Welch, sang "Hear us, O Lord, as we Thy servants meet."

The address on "Women in the Church" was given by Mr. Shaver.



**MRS. WILLARD WATTS**

Following the dedication of the executive the president, Mrs. Willard Watts, spoke briefly.

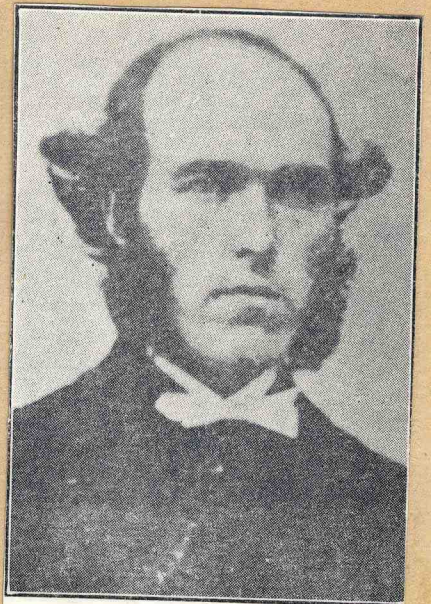
The executive is as follows: President, Mrs. Willard Watts; 1st vice-president, Mrs. Earl Shipley; 2nd vice-president, Mrs. Donald Lackey; treasurer, Mrs. Allen Crawford; assistant treasurer, Mrs. Stuart Graham; corresponding secretary, Mrs. Victor Betts; recording secretary, Mrs. Carl Bobier; standing committee conveners: citizenship and social action, Mrs. Claire Campbell; Christian and missionary education, Mrs. Morley Page; community friendship and visiting, Mrs. Wm. McKillop; flowers, Mrs. Edwin Pratt; literature and communications, Mrs. Duncan DeGraw; social functions and food, Mrs. Jack Campbell; Christian stewardship, Mrs. Irmyn Lucas; supply and social assistance, Mrs. Edwin Pratt; periodicals, Mrs. Stewart West; nominations, Mrs. Wm. McKillop; finance, Mrs. Allen Crawford; press and publicity, Mrs. Carl Bobier.

ST. ANDREW'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



REV. ARCH. McDIARMID

1859 - 1866



REV. NEIL McDIARMID

1868 - 1874



REV. DONALD STEWART

1880 - 1888



SESSION AND MANAGERS, 1902

Seated—J. C. Bain, Alex. Clarke, Rev. Donald Kelso, Donald McKillop, John Robb, D. C. McKellar.  
Standing—Dr. George Ling, J. R. Gow, Wm. Ford, Alex. D. McKillop, John C. Campbell,  
John Campbell.

In the early days of Canada's history, when its foundations were being laid, no race among its pioneer settlers contributed more to making those foundations firm and strong than the sturdy men and women from Scotland who came to this new land to live from the virgin forests their new homes. They had been tenants in the old land. Their love of independence impelled them to brave the difficulties and hazards of a long sea voyage and hard overland journey to find a place of abode, where their children might have more freedom and greater advantages than the system in Scotland, under which they had lived, afforded. They were men and women of vision.

They desired material advantages for their families, but the mental and spiritual were considered of first importance. A school and church were soon established in every settlement. Such was the character of the group of Scottish settlers [opposite page]