

## 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.

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CENTENNIAL COMMITTEE - Wallacetown United Church marked its 100th birthday on Sunday and these members, pictured above, were the committee in charge of arrangements for the service. Left to right are Morley Page, Mrs. Morley Page, who was convenor, Mrs. Allan Crawford, Mrs. Gertrude Page and Earl Shipley. Another member of the committee was Mrs. Thelma McFarlane who was absent when the picture was taken.

## Wallacetown United Church celebrate 100th Anniversary

# Simple, Sincere Eulogy of Beloved Scottish Minister

Rev. Dr. I. H. MacDonald, of Wallacetown, Described as Man Who Made Great Use of His Talents

WALLACETOWN, Aug. 18. — Rev. Dr. Isaac H. MacDonald, beloved Scottish minister of the Wallacetown United church, who died suddenly at the age of seventy-five from a heart attack on Saturday about noon, was paid a final tribute of respect by his sorrowing congregation, his fellow clergymen, his neighbors and a host of other persons, who, though not closely connected with him, esteemed him as a friend and bestowed on him their highest respect. His funeral was held here on Tuesday afternoon from his little church which was filled to overflowing. Seats placed in the aisles failed to accommodate all who wished to attend the funeral service, and scores stood outside near open windows to listen. A single file of mourners, young and old, took twenty minutes to file by his coffin, placed just below his old pulpit and banked on either side and behind with many beautiful floral tokens.

## Simple, Sincere Eulogy

The service was of a kind that must have been just as Dr. MacDonald would have wished it. The eulogy was simple and sincere, the reading of the passage of Scripture, "I go to prepare a place for thee. In my Father's house are many mansions," was one of his favorite passages, and the prayer was one of sympathy for his family.

Rev. S. Edworthy, pastor of the First United Church, St. Thomas, and chairman of the Elgin Presbytery of the United Church, arranged the service. The Scripture was read by Rev. W. T. Eddy, of West Lorne, and the prayer was led by Rev. Donald Stewart, of Rodney.

Rev. Waldemar Williams, of Sarnia, president of the London Conference, who delivered the sermon, said that Dr. MacDonald's genial spirit and his broad outlook on life had greatly enriched the life of the London Conference.

Death, said Mr. Williams, is a thing which comes so often with a shock, and so untimely and suddenly, that it is difficult to become reconciled to it. It always arouses the question of life in the hereafter. To the question there is an answer. It is in the plan and purpose of God that death comes.

Where do we come from, what are we here for, why does death come, and whither do we go, are questions that arise, continued Mr. Williams. Where we come from is a mystery for which even science has no answer. The answer to the second question is not apparent either. One often wonders about the answer to this question when the problems of life arise. Again there is no answer to why death has to happen. One school of thought answers the fourth question by telling us that the soul is the resultant of our bodily powers. There is a better answer, Mr. Williams said, that being that one's soul passes on from earthly things to God.

Religion has an answer for these questions. Creation was brought about by God and nothing can bring one more comfort than to be able to reach out to hold the hand of God. The Catechism answers the second question and sets forth that we are here to enjoy life and glorify God. Why death must come is to be found in the answer that it is in God's plan. Where are we going? Jesus again is the only answer.

## Made Good Test of Gaelic

Dr. W. R. McIntosh, who described himself as one of the few of the old guard who were here when Dr. MacDonald came to this country, knew Dr. MacDonald when he was in the Old Country. As a Highlander, gifted with use of Gaelic as well as English, Dr. MacDonald had had a genius for finding the places where he could make the most of his abilities. To Dr. MacDonald, it never mattered how large or small a community

hopeless, too somber. We might better think of the things that survive death. When I think of Dr. MacDonald, I think of his glowing personality. Though he was somewhat whimsical and humorous, he never strayed very far from realities. When he spoke, he spoke briefly and earnestly. Beautiful memories of our earthly experiences with him survive his death. He was particularly brotherly and sociable with his fellow ministers. I suppose because I am also a Highlander I may be prejudiced in his favor. But I have always looked upon him in small charges to which he brought a king of worldliness. If I were preaching, I would say to you leave behind in this world a legacy that death would not touch, a legacy such as Dr. MacDonald has left.

"The better a man is, the more inadequate he feels about meriting the glorious things that are said about him when he dies. There are very few of us who want long addresses and elaborate eulogies and Dr. MacDonald was one of these. We do not need proof of the life to come if we will only believe. It remains a great expectation. Death is swallowed up in victory and Dr. MacDonald's life was a great victory.

"In conclusion, may I say that our prayers will unceasingly go out in sympathy for a shattered home. His death was sudden, but what better could he have wanted. He had reached the advanced age of seventy-five and he answered the call to a higher life."

## Editorial is Read

Rev. Edworthy read the editorial on Dr. MacDonald which appeared in The Times-Journal on Monday. He said it was a most fitting tribute.

Following the service, brief services were held by members of the Canadian Legion and by the Masonic Order to which Dr. MacDonald belonged. Rev. C. L. Langford, Dutton, conducted the Masonic service. During the service, and while mourners filed by the casket, the church choir sang.

The pallbearers were members of the session, Norman Welch, J. C. Campbell, D. M. Littlejohn, John Robb, William Page, and Harvey Ripley. The floral bearers were Earl Shipley, Raymond Braddon, Cecil Campbell, Gordon Campbell, Harry Stevenson, William Galbraith, Jack Campbell, George McArthur, Earl Lucas, Lloyd Lidster, Gordon Bedford, John Ripley, Carman Leichfield, Allan McArthur.

## Many Ministers Attend

There were many clergymen attending the service. Among them were Rev. J. M. Dickson, Dutton; Rev. J. C. Davies, Burnsmosa; Rev. C. Carnegie, Rodney; Rev. James Moore, Wallacetown; Rev. Father Chisholm, West Lorne, pastor of the Wallacetown Roman Catholic church; Rev. Dr. J. A. McLean, Largie; Rev. Clayton Searle, Dutton; Rev. Andrew Boa, Norwich; Dr. G. N. Hagen, Rev. J. E. J. Millyard, Rev. A. E. Jones, and Rev. Robert Hicks, London, Ont.; Dr. A. A. Graham Glencoe; Rev. Gladstone E. Wood, London; Rev. H. F. Kennedy, Malahide; Dr. T. A. Symington, Alvinston; Dr. P. S. Dobson, St. Thomas; Rev. J. R. Waldie; Rev. R. W. Langdon, Thamesford; Rev. A. W. Hone, St. Thomas; Rev. W. A. Leitch, Fullerton; Rev. Mr. Hammond, Stratfordville; Rev. A. E. Lloyd, Woodstock; Rev. Keith Love, Kintore; Rev. W. E. Stenlake and Rev. C. C. Strachan, Aylmer; Rev. R. B. Cumming, Salford; Rev. P. F. Langill, Fingal, and Rev. Peter McFarlane, West Lorne.

The body was taken to New Hamburg for burial in Riverside cemetery, services there being conducted by Rev. S. Edworthy and Rev. Clayton Searle. The Masons of New Hamburg took part in the service.

# Dr. MacDonald and Premier



THIS picture of Rev. Dr. I. H. MacDonald, pastor of the United church at Wallacetown, and of Premier Hepburn, was taken on Wednesday last by Photographer A. E. Cantelon, of Dutton, at the official opening of the Currie road pavement at Wallacetown, just three days before Dr. MacDonald's sudden death. The premier and Dr. MacDonald were close friends.

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