

# The Dutton Advance

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*A TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE – Helen Van Brenk points to one of the displays while Leta West looks on during Heritage Days at Wallacetown United Church on the weekend. Winner of the Heritage poster contest was Margaret and her son*

*Jonathan Farrell-Griffin. Children attending had the chance to join in making a craft of yesteryear. Events continued through Sunday with breakfast starting the day off followed by a hymn sing and Revival Church service.*



# Heritage Days at Wallacetown

Heritage Days were held at Wallacetown United Church the weekend of February 18th and 19th, when those present celebrated their heritage through the Tyrconnell and Wallacetown Methodist Churches up to the time of church union in 1925.

The activities were planned by a committee consisting of Russ Barber, Helen Van Brenk, Leta West and Rev. Evelyn McLachlan. Much valuable information was obtained from the Wallacetown Women's Institute Tweedsmuir Book, and from the history of Wallacetown United Church that had been written in 1975 by Margaret Welch, a long-time choir director of the church.

A display included many articles, books, pictures, and newspaper clippings from many years ago. These illustrated the history of the church from the time the circuit preachers travelled on horseback to Tyrconnell and Wallacetown and held services in homes, through the building of a church in each place, and the eventual closing of the Tyrconnell church.

Among articles on display was a coal-oil lamp once mounted on the wall of one of the churches. An interesting picture showed Tyrconnell Methodist Church, built in the 1850's. This was the church where, in 1903, Morley Page sang his first solo in public.

"Down Memory Lane" was a video taped by Rev. Evelyn McLachlan as she interviewed Raymond Braddon, Audrey Littlejohn and Walter and Alma (Gowan) Trothen about their own memories and stories that had been passed on to them concerning life in the early days of the churches.

The viewers were taken back in time to such memorable events as the Sunday School picnic in Jonas Page's woods when the boys would make a survey of all the good food spread out good on a cloth on the ground and would choose their own spot according to where the most pies and cakes were placed.

On Saturday afternoon the United Church Women had a quilting bee, tying one crib quilt as well as working on quilting another one. Large quilts, two of them with names embroidered on them from long ago, were also on display. The children participated in crafts, such as making a pioneer doll from scraps of material.

A Heritage Poster contest was held and prizes were

awarded to winners Margaret and Jonathan Farrell-Griffin, and to runners-up Sarah and Samantha Webster.

Saturday evening was a fun time when adults and children were taken on a horse-drawn wagon ride, and then joined together in games at the church.

The Sunday activities began with a delicious breakfast served by the men, followed by a hymn sing led by Louie Lackey and Leta West and accompanied by Sophia Gowan.

The regular church service was led by Rev. McLachlan and included hints of a revival service similar to what might have taken place many years ago. Old hymns were used, there was a lot of singing and the sermon was delivered in a very loud voice.

Special music was provided with beautiful harmony by Don and Jack Page who are direct descendants of Jonas Page who figured so prominently in the early history of Tyrconnell Methodist Church.

The church choir, with the addition of the Page brothers, sang "The Circuit Riding

Preacher." Sophia Gowan was the accompanist throughout the service.

Rev. McLachlan in her sermon challenged the congregation to make their Christian faith the most important part of their lives. Souls and spirits need to be revived by prayer, by the study of God's word and by fellowship with other Christians. This will bring comfort for dark days and a readiness to proclaim God's love to others by word and deed.

All in all, the events of the weekend added up to a successful celebration of the heritage of Wallacetown United Church. As the church family looked back on its past, members were given aspiration to walk toward the future with the courage and faith of the early pioneers.



May 31/1947

### Married at Wallacetown



MR. AND MRS. GEORGE LIVINGSTON MARTYN signing the register at Wallacetown United Church following their marriage on Saturday evening, May 31st. The bride, the

former Mabel Sloan, is a daughter of Mr. John Sloan and the late Mrs. Sloan, of Fingal, while the groom is a son of Mr. Arthur L. Martyn and the late Mrs. Martyn, R.R. 4, St. Thomas.

*The First Evening Wedding at the Wallacetown United Church.*

### Mabel Sloan Bride of George Martyn

Wallacetown United Church Scene of Pretty Ceremony

The Wallacetown United Church was the scene of a lovely candle-light ceremony at nine o'clock on Saturday evening, when Mabel Irene, only daughter of Mr. John Sloan and the late Mrs. Sloan, Fingal, became the bride of George Livingston, son of Mr. Arthur L. Martyn and the late Mrs. Martyn, R.R. 4, St. Thomas. Rev. Hill Hamilton officiated at the ceremony. The church was attractively decorated with apple blossoms and spring flowers. Mrs. Frank Huff, Dresden, played the wedding music and the soloist, Mrs. Harvey Flett, Stratford, sang "Through the Years" and "Because."

Given in marriage by her father, the bride wore a gown of white satin, with finger-tip veil and carried a cascade bouquet of orchids and lilies of the valley. The bride's only adornment was a single strand of pearls, the gift of the groom. She was attended by Miss Evelyn Shaw, Toronto, who wore blue nylon marquisette, and Miss Helen Martyn, sister of the groom, who wore pink sheer, with matching headdress and shoulder-length veil. The bridesmaids carried bouquets of pink roses. The flower girls, Barbara Aileen Sloan, and Marietta Roberts, were dressed alike in white embroidered marquisette and floral headdress and shoulder-length veils and carried colonial bouquets. Esmond Smith, of Sparta, was the best man and the ushers were Harold Sloan, brother of the bride, and Art Martyn, brother of the groom. The bride's gifts to the bridesmaids were sterling silver engraved compacts, and to the flower girls initialed gold bracelets, and to the soloist and organist a gift of crystal; to the waitresses china, and Mrs. Glanfield turquoise earrings. The groom's gift to the best man was an engraved lighter, and to the ushers, gold pen knives.

The reception for ninety guests was held in the church and auditorium. The bride's table was centered with the wedding cake and decorated with apple blossoms and forget-me-nots. Mrs. Harold Sloan chose gray crepe and navy accessories and wore a corsage of pink roses and Mrs. Art Martyn chose flowered jersey with black accessories and wore a corsage of cream roses. Elaine Keillor of Wallacetown entertained delightfully during the reception, on the piano and the violin. The Women's Association catered for the dinner and Mrs. James Milligan, Mrs. Jack Clifford, Mrs. Herbert Lunn, Mrs. George Sewell, Mrs. Jack Burger, Miss Vera Hatch, Miss Orpha Leeming and Miss Annie Ripley served, convened by Mrs. Glanfield. A cablegram of congratulations was received from Mr. and Mrs. Jan Kieboom and family of Nijmegen, Holland, just before the wedding. The bridal couple left on a wedding trip to Northern Ontario, Ottawa and New York State. The bride wore a powder blue suit with gray accessories. Relatives and friends were present from Toronto, Stratford, St. Thomas, Thorndale, Sparta, Port Stanley and Listowel.

### Young Ladies Feted At Wallacetown 59

On Friday evening, Aug. 28th, Mr. and Mrs. Ken Welch opened their spacious home at Wallacetown to the congregation of Wallacetown United Church, who gathered for a social evening in honor of seven young ladies.

Misses Anna May White, Ida May Graham, Betty Campbell, Mary Webster and Karen Lamb are beginning studies in their chosen vocations. Miss Lois Webber has accepted a position with the London Life Insurance Company in London. Miss Rena Beacom will be leaving shortly to do missionary work in Japan.

On behalf of the congregation, Gordon Campbell, Mrs. Morley Page, Mrs. Willard Watts and Alex White congratulated the girls and wished them good luck. Mrs. Ken Welch and Mrs. Willard Watts presented each with a suitable gift.

At the close of the evening a delicious lunch was served by the ladies.

31/May 1947

### WALLACETOWN Y.P.U. ELECTS OFFICERS 1952

United Church Group Reorganized Sunday Afternoon

WALLACETOWN, Feb. 5.—The Young People's Union of Wallacetown United Church met Sunday afternoon at Kenneth Welch's home to reorganize for 1952. Preceding the meeting, the members enjoyed dinner at the Welch home.

A short devotional period was conducted by Kenneth Welch and Betty McKillop was appointed secretary for the meeting. The following officers were elected: President, Kenneth Welch; vice-president, Frances Marcus; secretary-treasurer, Jack Page; convener for faith and evangelism, Mrs. Don Lackey; stewardship and training, Betty McKillop; citizenship and community service, Don Page; missions and world outreach, Doris McFarlane; recreation and culture, David Littlejohn and Barbara Marcus; Y.P.U. representative to official board, Don Lackey; social committee, Bev Davey; Teresa and Carl Bobier, Mary Lou Taylor, Margaret Bibby, Jack McKillop, and Margaret Jo Taylor.

The purpose of the Y.P.U.'s new commission program of worship, study, and action was discussed; also the pledge included on the membership card.

It was decided to hold week-end meetings, devotional on Sunday afternoons and socials on Friday or Saturday evenings. The next meeting will be at the home of Kenneth Welch on Sunday afternoon, Feb. 17. Louie Lackey, convener for faith and evangelism will have charge of the program. All young people in the congregation who are interested in Y.P.U. work are invited to dinner at the Welch home preceding the meeting.

### CONGREGATION WILL INCREASE GIVINGS

Wallacetown United Church Departments All Prosperous

WALLACETOWN, Feb. 5.—The annual meeting of the Wallacetown United Church was held in the schoolroom, preceded by an enjoyable pot-luck supper. Rev. Grant Mills presided and Mrs. Norman Welch was secretary.

The annual reports were distributed and members followed with interest as the different treasurers reported on the year's work. All organizations were over the top and had substantial balances.

The M. and M. Fund passed the objective for the year, and the congregation voted to increase M. and M. givings by 10 per cent as asked by the heads of the department.

A special gift from Harold Chalk, of Birmingham, Mich., executor of the estate of the late Mrs. D. W. Graham, was acknowledged with appreciation. This is to be used for an improvement to the church.

The matter of adding some junior elders to the session was discussed and the manner of nomination and election of these was left in the hands of the session. The hour of service is to be moved ahead to 10:30 a.m. with Sunday School afterward, to avoid changes in hours having to be made with Dutton change in the middle of the year.

The congregation also decided that all church books be closed promptly on Dec. 31 so that the congregational secretary can get reports in order before the annual meeting. The official board expressed its appreciation of the help of Miss Alice McKillop in printing the financial statements.

The following church officials were elected: Stewards for three years, William McKillop, Donald Lackey, Harold Sloan; envelope treasurer, Morley Page; M. and M. treasurer, William McKillop; expense treasurer, Norman Welch; auditors, Clarence Taylor and Alex McArthur; congregational secretary, Mrs. Norman Welch; ushers, Donald Lackey, Bob Davy, Clarence Ripley, Lawrence Holland, David Littlejohn, Cecil Campbell, Charles McDonald and Kenneth Evans.

Rev. Mr. Mills expressed appreciation of himself and Mrs. Mills for the splendid spirit of co-operation that exists between them and the people at Wallacetown United Church.