

Forty-seven years ago a number of dedicated Church people pioneered the building of the present beautiful church in the wildwood at Pleasant Point, an event which will be fittingly observed on Sunday next. Previously worshippers assembled at different cottages and some of the husky men carried a small organ to different cottages.

To the late Mrs. Jos. Staples is given the credit for donating \$100 towards the building of a church and this was considered a generous sum of money at the time. Dr. Herbert Irvine, a son-in-law of Mrs. Staples and Mrs. Irvine, were among the continuous supporters of the church and members of today's congregations sing from hymn books donated by the Irvine's.

Other members of a small band of workers included Oliver Hezzlewood, secretary of the McLaughlin Motor Car Company, Oshawa, now General Motors; Matthew H. Sisson, a Lindsay boot and shoe merchant; a gentleman named Oliver of Port Hope and Messrs. Leslie and Cecil Frost, just launching out as lawyers did the necessary legal work as their contribution.

Among the consistent supporters through the life of the church may be mentioned Miss Tucker and a Mr. Nelson, who are still regular attenders. The present treasurer of the church, Col. Hilton Brown, has been a resident of the Point for over forty years and treasurer for a long period of time.

Prof. Arthur Burridge of the Century House, has contributed much of his time and talent to the spiritual life of the church by arranging for soloists, securing ministerial help and presiding at the piano. A young gentleman, W. Nurse, has rendered valuable service for many years, looking after the property and by attending to the many and varied announcements.

The Indian people were mentioned in headlines in British Columbia and Western Canada newspapers quite frequently in the past two years when their spokesmen stressed the words "civil rights" after the pattern of the black people in many U.S. states. Premier Trudeau however, sank a nail into the idea on a trip to the West when he emphatically stated that their rights to roam the lakes and woods and trap and shoot as of yore, had no priority today.

In days of yore Indian tribes battled along the shores of Sturgeon, Cameron and Balsam Lakes and for many years Indian arrow heads and other relics were common in the

above localities, particularly at the Old Laidlaw Fort near Vitoria Road and at Indian Point near Coboconk.

Visitors at Thurstonia Park have gazed with deep interest on the huge boulder or rock which bears a chisled inscription that the Iroquois and Hurons smoked the pipe of peace and signed a treaty at this spot.

Years ago in the memory of many of today's citizens there was an Indian Camp at Pleasant Point. They were a peaceful lot and while the men fished and sold the largest of muskies to men visitors, the Indian women made beautiful baskets and sold lovely strings of beads.

For many years farmers in the Cameron area plowed up many Indian arrow heads, spear heads and other articles.

A few years ago university teachers and students searched with some success for Indian camps and burial mounds at Indian Point.

One of the finest Indian legends is contained in the story of Manita, written years ago by a gentleman named Squire MacDonnel, the man who built and lived in the fine brick building now occupied by the Sir Sam Hughes branch of the Royal Canadian Legion. The legend centres around Sturgeon Point. The grave of this Indian maiden is reported to be on Sturgeon Point.

Stories regarding the sojourn of Indian tribes around Sturgeon Lake link with the story that a noted Indian Chief is buried at Pleasant Point in the vicinity of the Bay.

Probably the best known Indian Chief in the local area was Chief Johnston 'Paudash, a much respected resident of Lindsay. He was also well known among Indian people in and around Port Perry.

Chief Paudash spoke well and visited officials at Ottawa many times on behalf of the Indian people. He continually harped on the idea that the white men took away all the rights of the Indians and he was a forerunner in the effort to have parliament recognize the basic rights of the red men. Incidentally, Paudash gained recognition in World War One as a sharp shooter on the front line.

Another Indian from these parts who became world famous as a long distance runner was Tom Longboat. He was the winner of many athletic meets. Longboat was an attraction at one of Lindsay's sports days when he ran from the Village of Omemee and finished before a huge crowd at the Exhibition grounds on Adelaide Street.

Albert Smoke of Lindsay was at one time a competitor in long distance running.

Coincidentally it is interesting to make known that Lindsay was the home for a time of a champion marathon runner in the person of Doug. Prandon, an employee at the Northern Casket Company on King Street. Brandon was a competitor in the widely known Marathon held yearly at Hamilton.

How many readers recall a printer at the Daily Post called "Slats" Riley? He was a distance runner and also had the long legs of a fast runner. He lost a bet, however, when he boasted he could beat an old bag of bones, a horse owned by "Wiggley" Blair, a Lindsay tailor. A large crowd of betters hung over the railing at the half mile track at the Fair ground and interest ran high. Blair had to drive the high wheel race cart. Riley took the lead and looked like

a winner, but when his breathing became shorter the old nag, like the mud turtle of old, slowly caught up to Riley and passed him on the home stretch to the wire.