



Rev. Adam Ralph Lett
1880-1960

Our district has had many worthy sons, but the life of Add Lett has been chosen to be given in this "Tweedsmuir Record".

Adam Ralph Lett, the son of Thomas Benjamin Lett Sr. and Wilhelmina Marie (Minnie) Miller, was born April 13, 1888 on the old homestead in Wilberforce Township. After receiving his elementary education at "Lett's Schoolhouse" No. 2, he farmed his father's homestead, part of the land staked by his grandfather, Samuel Lett from Eniscorthy, Ireland, for his son T.B. in 1847. He proved a very successful farmer and an active citizen in the township, having become the township treasurer in 1912. Through the influence of a thorough

Christian home atmosphere and a close connection with the parish church of St. John the Evangelist in Eganville he obeyed the call to enter the ministry at the age of twenty-five.

Having passed the Entrance Examination to High School at twelve years of age he attended No. 2 school for two winters as the responsibility of the home was his. Hired help was required throughout the summers. His father, though suffering from acute arthritis, gave a guiding hand, but thanks to a shrewd industrious mother the family home beckoned and gave friendship to local persons and passing strangers alike.

It was at the age of twenty-five that Adam answered the urgent call of the Church. Taking the advice of his esteemed rector, the Rev. A.E. Ferguson and the special interest of the Rt. Rev. Roper, Bishop of the Ottawa Diocese, he entered Bishops University at Lennoxville, Quebec, in September 1914, the year of his father's death. Because of extra tutoring available in that residential university he completed his high school and theological training in the following seven years, graduating in 1920. He was ordained to the Diaconate by Bishop Roper on the Feast of Epiphany 1920 at Christ Church Cathedral, Ottawa.

His first parish was St. Mary's Church, Navan, Ontario, where he and his mother occupied the rectory until his marriage to Florence Hayes of Stafford, Ontario the following year. In his own parish church of St. Mary's he was ordained to the priesthood that same year. A very memorable event in this rural parish. His ministration here continued among his beloved par-