

Methodist Church

page 11

The time has come and Conference meet,
The limit is its form.
New laws do make, old boys unseat
and change them by the score.

They send us good old Mr. Moss,
A fine true Methodist,
Of daughters four, one, DAJSY, dear,
He gave us for our organist.

Of spiritual food these men supply
Expecting we the partakers,
The parsonage had to have a cook-
We're supplied with Mr. Baker.

Again, again another change,
Old Time, he doth advance,
Conference meet, new mwn re-seat,
And draft us Mr. Vance.

A widower they sent us next,
A corpulent Mr. Myers,
Our sympathy stretched out at once
To help him through the briars.

Be patient with me, hearers dear,
I have many more to sum,
Mr. Patterson, from Labrador,
And his worthy spouse had come.

What do you think, a little Bird
To the parsonage now did fly,
And brought her gentle mate with her
His name was Wm. Pomeroy.

Then we had Mr. Darling,
Labored with us a year or two;
Fancy he was an American,
Not Canadian through and through.

A list of young men we have next,
Just from out the college;
They are anxious to join the benedicts
To increase their store of knowledge.

The first was Burton Robinson,
With his higher criticism.
He met his doom in the school room
That tested his catechism.

Then followed Rev. Mr. Ball,
Who was born across the sea.
Helped us in the Red Cross work
With his help-mate, dear was she.

Now there comes another gent,
David Williams was his name.
He followed Mr. Robinson's steps
But they're preaching just the same.

A picnic stamps the life of him,
At Silver Lake they brand him,
He organized the Ladies Aid,
As Mr. Kersey, we'll defend him.

And last, not least, our present priest,
Who did his bit o'erseas.
Methinks that Cupid's arrows
Has oft put him on his knees.

But he came back a single man,
His heart key left behind;
He scrambled through his college
Regardless of mankind.

But now he's settled down,
He has a wife and son
Mr. Johnston holds a spot in our hearts
A welcome and a smile.

Now pardon friends for these remarks
No evil or intent
They are but little passing thoughts
Of their labors briefly spent.

It was only a little over a year after this big event that Church Union took place and it was felt by Presbytery that this congregation could be served by Ripley and Bervie churches. It was a bitter blow. They had always kept up their finances and it was not easy to adopt another church. Sunday School was carried on for several years. The Ladies Aid never disbanded but continued until it became a Women's Institute. Services were held occasionally and the church kept in repair. Charles Shier and Jas. Needham acted as trustees through the years. They sold the shed for \$10, the organ for \$10, and lamps for \$10. In 1960 the church building was sold to George Emerson.

Mrs. G.H. Mooney tells the following;

I remember going to Anderson's on lot 4 to help make pies for the grand opening of this church. This garden party or tea-meeting was held during the week following the opening ceremonies. The coal-oil lamps were very beautiful- brass bases and dark red glass shades. They were donated by daughters of Thos. Stanley. When the church was closed, they took the lamps and had them wired for use in their homes. Mrs. J.F. McKenzie bought the small organ and uses it in her Bruce Beach cottage for singing.

In 1954 the pulpit was taken to Ripley to be used in the Sunday School room.

Jennie Shier, sister of Amos, donated the Bible to Wesley.

Wesley always had a good S.S. Some Supt. were- E.P.W. Pollock, James Geddes, Moffat Gawley and Mrs. Dore. Tom Gawley was Sec. for many years. Teachers of Bible Class- Henry Collins, Mrs. Dore, Lulu Collins. Boys Class- Minnie Fair and Girls- Jemima Stanley and later Lettie Gawley. Minnie and Lettie carried on for years after church closed.