

June, 1954

**In Rural Homes**

The Presbyterian settlers in the early 1850's decided they needed a church, and they banded together to form a congregation in 1854. This was the forerunner of the present congregation. For two years they met each Sunday in rural homes, until 1856, when the first church was built on the site where the present church stands. St. Andrew's today dates back to 1888, when a new church was built on what had been the old Sunday school floor.

Almost everything which is now in use in the building dates back to before 1900. Only the interior walls have been changed to brighten the church. Members of St. Andrew's are proud of their ancestry and have contributed much to making the Centennial worthy of old St. Andrew's history.

**In Typical Home**

Mrs. Crinklaw's play is called "A Scene from the Seventies," and depicts a typical home 80 years ago. The stars of the play make comments on political history and church history, but their characters are not identified with old residents. The pageant actors and actresses, who performed tonight and will put on the show again tomorrow are: Robert Elliott, Hazel Crinklaw, George Trigger, Bella Smibert, Adam Flowers, Babe Munro, the Rev. Howard Dickinson, the Rev. Ralph Barker, Eva McLachlin, Ed Sumner, Lorne Dale, Cal Grose, Cecil Diggon, Jim McLachlan, Jr., George McLachlan, Colin McPherson, Marilyn Duncanson, Mary Laidlaw, Blanche Carmichael, Chris Smith, Jessie MacPherson and Thelma Whitney. The pageant was directed by Katie McCorquodale, with musical direction by Mr. Barker. Make-up was by Paul Marr, from the London Little Theatre, stage set was by Betty Black and Emily MacVicar, and lighting was by Rae Dale.

**Ninth Minister**

Mr. Barker, who is only the ninth minister of St. Andrew's since 1856 said that it was a privilege to be minister of the church at this time. He said many older members of the congregation had come back to give Centennial greetings. "The influence of a church is great on the community," he said. "It cannot be overestimated. But in the old days the church was the centre of community life." Although he has no objections to social life within the church he felt that people come in spite of the many other attractions, because they want to—for spiritual edification.

Greetings were extended to the congregation also by the Rev. S. A. Moote, Grace United Church, who represented the Middlesex Presbytery, and the Rev. A. E. Duffield, who gave congratulations on behalf of the London Conference.