

St. Andrew's Burns Mortgage In 21st Anniversary Celebration

June 19, 1946

EDITOR'S NOTE: At the time of the celebration of St. Andrew's 21st Anniversary and the burning of the church mortgage, we are printing a short history of the congregation, written by Rev. Stuart Woods. Reprints will be available at The Express office.

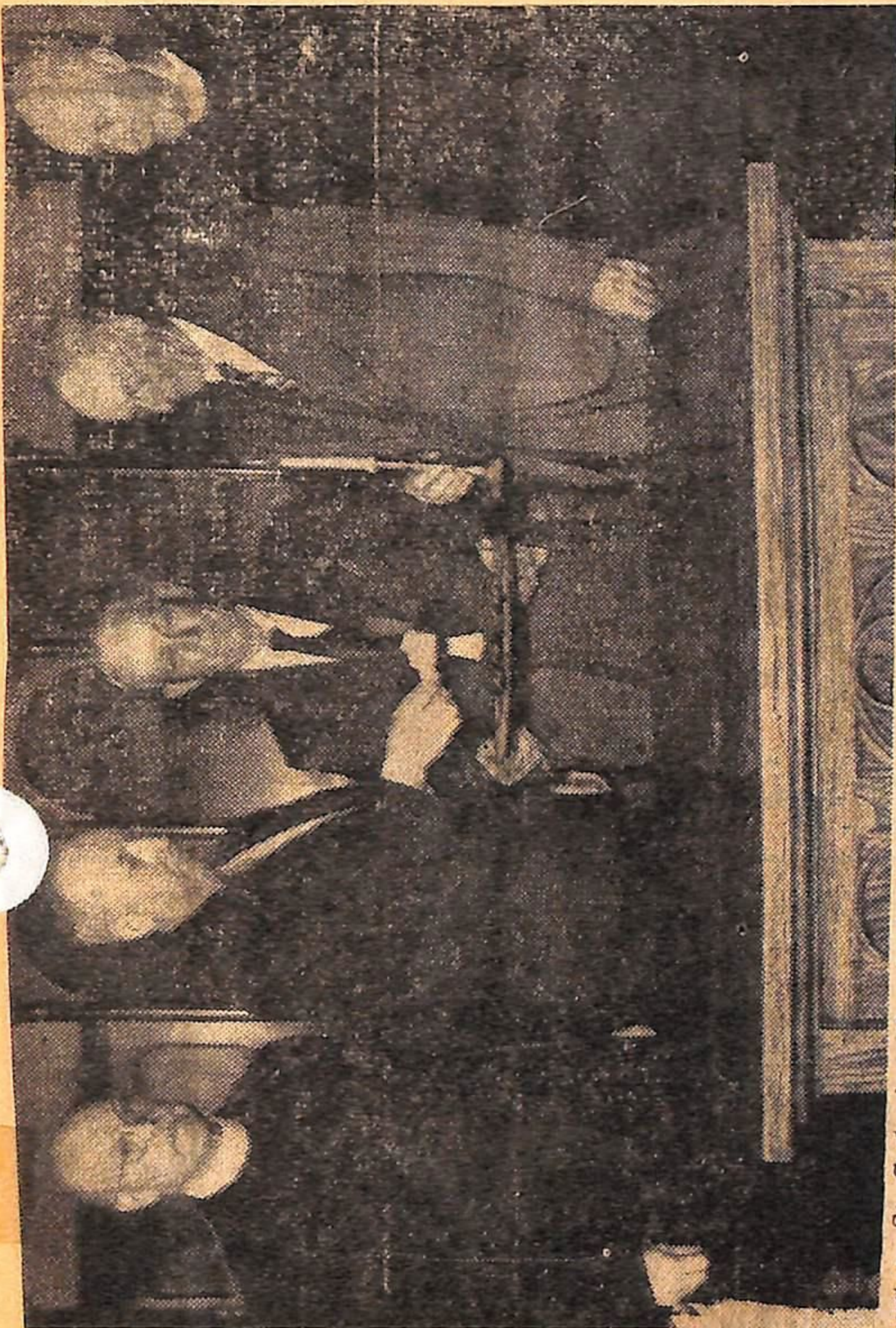
When church union became a fact, the members of Knox Church, Beamsville, who desired to remain Presbyterian, withdrew and formed a minority group in the continuing Presbyterian Church. Two of the elders of Knox withdrew, viz, Messrs. W. R. Logan and John A. Book to form the nucleus of a session.

On June 21st, 1925 a deputation from this minority group, viz, Messrs. W. R. Logan, J. A. Book and John Ritchie, presented their case before the Presbytery of Hamilton. Dr. S. Banks Nelson was appointed interim moderator to look after the interests of the group.

Rented I.O.O.F. Hall

They were, of course, without a church home, and they worshipped for a few Sundays in the Community Hall. Then they rented the I.O.O.F. Temple on Queen St. which was formerly a Disciple Church.

The first communion was held on July 5th, 1925, conducted by Rev. Dan Drummond, D.D. of St. Paul's, Hamilton, who was assisted by Messrs. D. B. Dewar and Geo. Ingles, elders from Hamilton. A Communion Roll was established with 89 names enrolled. This roll was increased to 116 by February 10th, 1926. 129 partook of Communion that day as guests also were present.



Courtesy St. Catharines Standard

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church burned its mortgage a week ago Monday night. Rev. Dr. L. L. Young, minister of St. Andrew's, asked John Book if the mortgage had been legally discharged, and when the congregation's oldest living elder replied in the affirmative, Dr. Young instructed that the paper be burned. Picture shows Rev. Dr. William Barclay, Moderator of the Hamilton Presbytery, John Book, George Konkle, Alex Southward, and Dr. Young.

Calvary Church Debt ^{June 26} Completely Cancelled ¹⁹⁴⁶

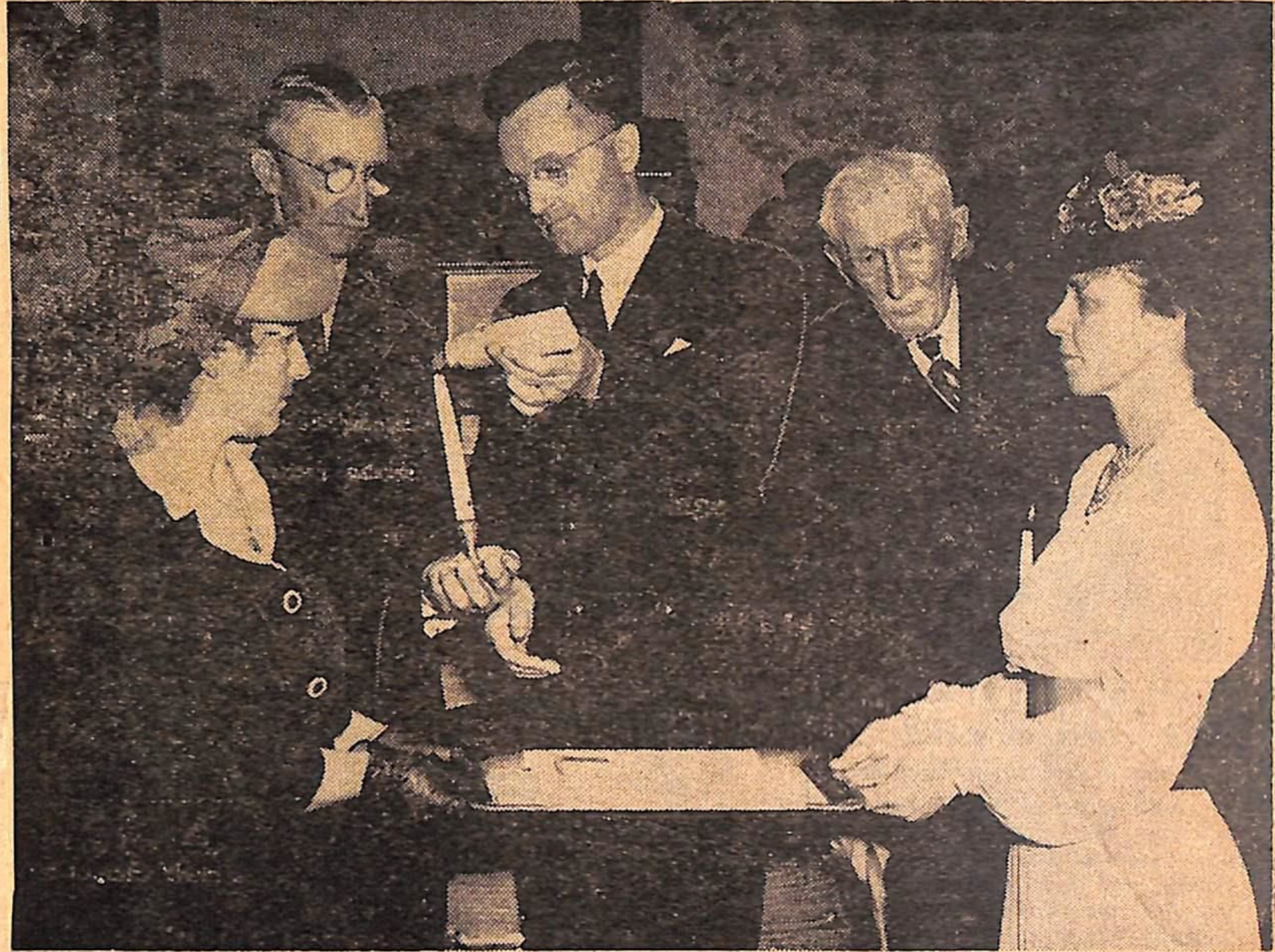
A full congregation attended Calvary Gospel Church Monday night for special services which included a mortgage-burning ceremony, marking the last payment of the church's debt.

Rev. David Benson, pastor of Calvary Church, presided at the service which featured special musical numbers and was addressed by Rev. Peter Hoogendam, B.A., Th.B., pastor of Philpott Tabernacle, Hamilton, and president of the Associated Gospel Churches of Canada.

Musical numbers were contributed by Pauls Brothers Quartet, Hamilton, and the Mennonite Brethren Male Chorus of 25 voices, of Vineland.

Took Part In Ceremony

The service opened with singing of the hymn, "A Firmer Foundation Ye Saints Of The Lord," followed by prayer by Mr. Benson. The pastor then presided at the burning of the mortgage. Mr. R. deMontmorency, one of the founders of the group in Beamsville and secretary-treasurer for the past 16 years, gave a brief history of the church to the congregation. Mr. Keown, a member of the board, presented a short address. Miss Marguerite Lightle and Mrs. David Benson held a tray on which the mortgage document was burned. Frank Keown and William Cartmer, who celebrated his 95th birthday a few weeks ago, lighted the paper at both ends. The congregation then arose and sang the Doxology.



Second Beamsville church to burn a mortgage within a week was the Calvary Gospel Church, which held a service of thanksgiving and burned the note on Monday, June 24. The mortgage for \$1,000 was taken out in 1939 when the congregation purchased its present building. Shown above during the ceremony

Courtesy St. Catharines Standard
are, left to right: Mrs. Benson, wife of the minister; Frank Keown, member of the board; Rev. David Benson; William Cartmer, 95, oldest member of the congregation, and Miss Marguerite Lightle, one of the first members of the congregation.