

# The clergy speak out . . .

BY REV. ANDREW H. MCKENZIE  
Of Knox Presbyterian Church



**CONGREGATIONAL CONFLICTS**  
During the past thirty years in which I have been serving the Church of Christ as a student and ordained minister, it has too frequently been my responsibility to "moderate in" conflicts that were disturbing the life of congregations, and from these deeply distressing circumstances I have drawn a few conclusions which I want to share with readers of this column.

It is unfortunately true, and also gloriously possible, that, as a minister friend said to me just yesterday, "in the Church a nobody can quickly become a SOMEBODY!" By virtue of talent, personal magnetism, eagerness to wield influence and control decisions, an aggressive person can rapidly become the leader of a militant group within a congregation and even become, in the minds of the rank-and-file members of that parish group, more important than the clergyman or the governing body chosen by the congregation or set in their places by superior authority.

communicant members remember that together they strive to know, to accept, and obey the will of God for His Church as declared in Scripture and revealed by His Spirit.

I recall that in a Toronto church of my own denomination many years ago there was an exceptionally gifted minister who was having difficulty with some members of his Session. These men undoubtedly felt they were quite justified in disapproving very strongly of the tendency of their "spiritual leader" to become highly intoxicated on occasion, and they brought it rather pointedly to his attention in a meeting of the Session.

This clergyman, acknowledging that this was a "problem" about which they should all have a concern, invited the elders immediately to engage with him in prayer so that they might unitedly ascertain how God would have them deal with the problem. If some of us are inclined to find such an incident as this somewhat humorous, as I do, our chuckling should not obscure for us the fact that the guidance given by this member of the cloth was an example of genuine spiritual insight.

When a man brings into the fellowship of believers some besetting weakness, or an inappropriate and selfish lust for power, or some other self-serving "idolatry" it should be a matter of concern, thought and prayer to the King and Head of the Church to discover, if possible, the best way of dealing with the matter so as not to destroy an individual and to ruin the peace and harmony of the church. This is the living out of the redemptive role of the Church of Christ, and, for the proper administration of the parish is much preferred to expulsion of the "sinning" individual or excommunication. The Church demonstrates its awareness of the life-changing power of God's Spirit when conflicts within it are resolved effectively and happily.

We should not be surprised then when some deep unpleasantness rocks a parish for evil is always aggressive and seeking to operate in good societies. What we should lament is the fact that there is sometimes so little real turning to God for the wisdom and strength necessary to resolve the crisis and to bring good order once more.

And we all realize, I am sure, that if the local congregation cannot find ways to end its conflicts, its attempts to influence a world where there are inflexible ambitions, bitter enmities and even more profound and far-reaching hypocrisies than in the Church, will be indeed pathetically inadequate.



**GUEST SPEAKER** Rev. E. A. Cline, right, shows Rev. W. H. Moore, centre, and Acton branch president of the Canadian Bible Society, Arthur Harris, a copy of the Scriptures in Viet Nam as at Sunday evening's annual meeting of the Bible Society. Mr. Harris was persuaded to remain as Society president for another year. A successful financial campaign has reached \$3,600 by Sunday night.—(Staff Photo)

## Today is a day of opportunity speaker tells Bible Society

The basic need in the world today is spiritual and the answer to that need is found in the Bible, the Rev. E. A. Cline, regional secretary for the United Bible Societies in South-east Asia told the annual meeting of the Acton Branch of the Canadian Bible Society at Knox Church Sunday evening.

Mr. Cline is living in Burlington until he returns to Asia, where he will be based in Hong Kong.

He told those at the impressive service and business meeting of the Acton Society that there is a real demand for the Bible in the war-torn countries of Asia. There is a harvest as the Lord has promised, the speaker stressed, but the cost is often great in missionaries and suffering.

We're seeing the result of sowing the seed of God's word among the laymen, Mr. Cline said. Christian laymen are taking over the ministry in refugee camps and the demand for Scriptures is so great the Society has difficulty keeping abreast of it.

He described the situation in Indonesia in 1965 when things looked bad for the Christians.

Lists of missionaries to be assassinated were being circulated by the Communists. But the coup failed and today more than 400,000 Indonesians have embraced Christianity.

"The West is on trial in Viet Nam," the speaker said and "today is a day of opportunity." Mr. Cline said he was disappointed to come home to Canada and find that the church which used to be respected is today exposed to ridicule. "Today it is the accepted thing to ridicule the gospel and ridicule the clergy," he stressed.

He urged his audience to make God's word real in their own minds and a real factor in their own community.

At the earlier business meeting of the Acton Branch of the Bible Society Arthur H. Harris of Rockwood was returned as president for the year. Mr. Harris was highly commended for the time and talent he put into the Acton Branch this year. Receipts from the financial campaign amounted to \$3500 by Sunday and donations are still coming in.

Members of the executive for

this year are Harold Swallow, Dorothy Simmons, Robert Wame, Jake Van der Kooy and secretary-treasurer Mrs. A. Orr.

Retiring secretary-treasurer, Clarence Coles, was given a vote of thanks for his many years of service.

The district secretary-treasurer of the Canadian Bible Society, Rev. W. H. Moore, is retiring in December and he and his wife were presented with a gift by the Acton Branch with flowers also going to Mrs. Moore. They were presented by Carol McKenzie.

Life memberships were presented at the conclusion of the service which was conducted by the president.

A welcome to Knox was given by Rev. A. McKenzie who urged those in attendance to support the Bible Society. He congratulated the executive on the fine results this year and said if people believed in the Bible there will be plenty of support forthcoming.

Mr. M. Coles read the Scripture. Terry Atkinson was the soloist and Ted Hansen the organist.

Clarence Coles read the minutes of the previous year's annual meeting.

## Baptist congregation bids farewell to Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Gammon

Friends of Rev. and Mrs. Stanley Gammon met in the Baptist Church basement on Friday evening to bid them farewell prior to their moving to Thornbury. Mr. Gammon will begin a pastorate there after seven faithful years spent with the Baptist congregation here.

Before the short program began Judy Gordon presented Mrs. Gammon with a lovely pink carnation corsage, a farewell gift from the B.H.F. group.

Everyone enjoyed the old-fashioned singing led by Gerry Skirrow. Mrs. Frances Feltham contributed a solo, He Hideth My Soul, which was much enjoyed.

W. Feltham read the Psalm Unto the Hills suggested by the hills which the Gammons will be able to enjoy in the Thornbury area.

Brian Harris showed slides of familiar scenes including some taken at the Gammon cottage at Dorset. At the close, he spoke words of appreciation of the years of faithful service Mr. and Mrs. Gammon have given to the church and conveyed prayers and good wishes accompanying them to their new ministry.

He presented Mr. and Mrs. Gammon with two oil paintings of the beauty spots in Halton county. Mr. Gammon replied thanking the church for the thoughtfulness saying the gifts would remind them of their time spent in Acton. He also invited everyone to visit them at their

new home, if in the vicinity.

Mrs. Marg Baillie presented Mrs. Gammon with a tray, the gift of the Mission Circle.

A time of Fellowship was enjoyed over the tea cups and a delicious buffet lunch was served by the social committee.

Until arrangements are complete for another minister for the congregation, laymen are taking the services.

**Anniversary at Trinity**

Guest preacher Sunday at the United church's 125th anniversary was a professor of preaching, the Rev. Dr. Greer Boyce. Dr. Boyce lectures in preaching and pastoral care at Emmanuel College.

In the usual "Talk Back" hour over coffee after the service, members of the congregation talked with the guest speaker.

## Man charged hit and run

A hit and run accident on St. Alban's Drive last Wednesday afternoon resulted in police investigation and a subsequent charge.

About \$225 damage was caused to the car owned by Egbert Hofstede, Scene St. A Limehouse area man was charged with leaving the scene of the accident; his car had an estimated \$75 damage.

## Acton Night at Wingham

It was "Acton night" at Wingham Legion Saturday when the first anniversary of the opening of their new Legion was celebrated.

A large representation of Acton members with wives enjoyed the dinner and dance.

The Choralliers entertained the large crowd, led by George Muselle with Gil Malcolm doing the announcing. John McHugh and Mrs. Dave Harris sang solos, with Hector Daigle and Henry Leachman giving some of their popular guitar and mouth organ numbers.

## Free Press Personals

Lady curlers enjoyed golf and lunch together Monday at Hilltop Lodge, Erin.

Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Townsend, Bramalea; Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Weaver and Mrs. T. Flynn and Teresa from Hamilton visited with Mrs. Phillips on fall fair day.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Frank visited with Mr. and Mrs. Howard Donald, Mount Forest, last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Dick Wood and family of Toronto were fair visitors, and their names were missed from last week's list.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed. Watt and Stanley of Kearney visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Frank on Monday.

On Friday evening the high school staff and their wives, husbands and guests enjoyed a wieners roast around a bonfire at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Brian Skerrett on Churchill Rd. N.

Miss Janet Braida is a patient in St. Joseph's Hospital, Guelph. The Sheridan student, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rino Braida, has had a knee operation.

Back home again Friday after a very enjoyable bus tour through the United States to California are Mr. and Mrs. R. L.

Davidson, Mrs. J. Dennis and Mrs. Evelyn Near. Seeing the Grand Canyon, Las Vegas and Disneyland were highlights of the trip.

Well-known in Acton years ago, Mrs. J. W. Jones, Toronto, visited friends here Sunday. Mr. and Mrs. Jones first operated a store where Gordon's Hardware is, and later where Family Outfitters is now. Mrs. Jones is widowed, and her grandson drove her up to Acton.

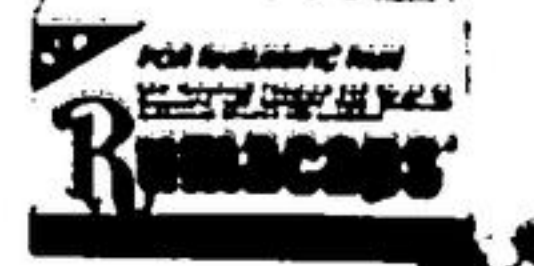
Mrs. Pearl Kennedy spent a week with her sister-in-law in Halleybury, and also with other friends in Northern Ontario.

Mr. and Mrs. L. M. MacDonald, of Detroit, Mich., and Mrs. W. T. A. Bell of Toronto, visited with their mother, Mrs. R. M. MacDonald, this week. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Small, of Niagara Falls, called on the latter's mother, Mrs. R. M. MacDonald on Sunday.

Several Actonians were among the guests at the Ontario Science Centre's pre-opening reception Saturday. The centennial centre was open to the public Sunday. Over 20,000 invitations had been sent out for the Saturday affair, and from reports the visitors were thrilled by the excellent exhibits.

## RHEUMATIC PAIN? Rumacaps capsules give proven relief!

Rumacaps are specially formulated to give you fast relief—the very first day—from nagging rheumatic pains and aches. Also proven effective for relieving leg, back, sciatica, headache and neuritic pains. Ask for new Rumacaps—a distinctive blue and white capsule of soothing comfort—at your local druggist.



Rumacaps are capsules of soothing comfort!

## Free Press

## Church Notices

**CHURCHILL COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
Churchill Road North.  
Minister:

The Rev. A. Walter Fosbury, B.A., B.D.  
124 Tildy Ave. Phone 853-2386

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
11.00 a.m.—Worship and Church School. Sermon subject, "The Bread and the Wine."  
World Wide Communion Sunday. Visitors are welcome at all church gatherings at the Church on the Hill.

**ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
Founded 1842

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
No Evening Service  
No mid-week prayer meeting until advised.

"Study to show yourself approved of God."  
2 Tim. 2: 15.  
All Welcome

**BETH-EL CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH**  
Minister — Rev. P. Brouwer, B.A., B.D.  
Acton, Ontario

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
10.00 a.m.—Morning Worship Service. Nursery and pre-school Sunday School.

11.10 a.m.—Sunday School.  
4.00 p.m.—Afternoon Worship Service.  
7.30 p.m.—Teen Meet at the church.  
Tuesday evening, 7.30-10.30 — Catechism Classes.  
Come, worship and study with us to be better equipped to serve God and men.  
Everyone Welcome

**PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA KNOX CHURCH, ACTON**  
Rev. Andrew H. McKenzie, B.A., B.D. Minister  
Mr. E. A. Hansen, B.A. Organist and Choir Master

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
9.45 a.m.—Church School for children 3 to 15 years.  
10.40 a.m.—Session meeting.  
11.00 a.m.—Divine Worship and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper. Communion Homily: "The Master's Memorial."  
8.30 p.m.—Young Adult Discussion Group.  
Everyone Most Welcome

**EVANGEL PENTECOSTAL TABERNACLE**  
P.A.O.C. 33 Churchill Road  
Rev. S. M. Thoman, Pastor, 853-2715.

Wednesday, October 1—8 p.m., one night only, Canadian Ambassadors Male Trio, preaching and singing.  
**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
10.00 a.m.—Sunday School.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Worship.  
7.00 p.m.—Sectional Rally in Waterloo Lutheran University, 75 University Ave., Waterloo.

Tuesday, 8 p.m.—Prayer Service and Bible Study.  
Thursday, 8 p.m.—Christ Ambassadors. Psalm 119, verse 1 — "Blessed are the undefiled in the way, who walk in the law of the Lord."

**MAPLE AVENUE BAPTIST CHURCH**  
81 Maple Ave., Georgetown  
Pastor: Rev. Robert C. Lohnes

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
Here is our sincere invitation to the whole family to attend church.  
9.45 a.m.—Sunday School. All ages.  
11.00 a.m.—Morning Service.  
7.00 p.m.—Evening Evangel.  
Georgetown 877-6665

**THE CHURCH OF ST. ALBAN THE MARTYR ANGLICAN**  
Corner Willow St. and St. Alban's Drive  
Rev. H. J. Dawson, B.A., B.Th.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
Trinity XVIII  
Harvest Thanksgiving Sunday  
9.00 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.  
10.30 a.m.—Church School and Nursery.  
10.30 a.m.—Holy Eucharist.  
Wednesday, October 8, 10 a.m. — Holy Communion said in church, followed by a coffee hour in the Parish Hall.

**TRINITY UNITED CHURCH**  
Minister:  
The Rev. Gordon B. Turner, B.A., B.D.  
Director of Music:  
Dr. George Elliott, M.A., Ph.D.

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5th, 1969**  
10.00 a.m.—Corporate Worship. Sacrament of Holy Communion.  
10.00 a.m.—Nursery.  
Sunday School (to Grade 4).  
11.00 a.m.—Sunday School (Grade 5-8).  
11.15 a.m.—"Talk Back" (adult program of dialogue with the Minister).  
7.00 p.m.—Hi C. and Hi 9ers (Youth Groups for Teens — alternating Sunday evenings).  
We Welcome You and Your Family to Take Part in the Life and Worship of Trinity

**Roxy THEATRE**  
Milton 878-3272  
SHOW TIMES Sun. thru Thurs. 8 p.m.  
Fri. & Sat. 7 & 9 p.m.  
Sat. Matinee at 2 p.m.

**THURS.-FRI.-SAT. OCT. 2-4**  
**FINIAN'S RAINBOW (Color)**  
- PETULA CLARK, FRED ASTAIRE  
**SKY SCRAPER Cartoon**

**SUN. - MON. - TUES. - WED. OCT. 5 - 6 - 7 - 8**  
**PRIME OF MISS JEAN BRODIE**  
MAGGIE SMITH ADULT COLOR  
**SCUBBA DUBBA (Cartoon)**

**THURS. - FRI. - SAT. OCT. 9 - 10 - 11**  
**DAY OF THE EVIL GUN (Color)**  
GLENN FORD  
**BATTLE BENEATH EARTH (Color)**  
KERWIN MATHews

**127th ANNIVERSARY 127th**  
**ACTON BAPTIST CHURCH**  
**Sunday, October 5th**  
Services 11 A.M. & 7 P.M.  
Guest Speaker  
**REV. ARCHIE GOLDIE**  
SECRETARY CANADIAN MISSIONS  
SPECIAL MUSIC MORNING  
Miss Lilla Moore from Bethany Baptist Church, Toronto.  
SPECIAL MUSIC EVENING  
Hillsburg Baptist Mixed Quartette  
EVERYONE WELCOME

**Ready to Wear FOR FALL**  
FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY  
THIS WEEK WE ARE FEATURING  
MEN'S & BOY'S FALL AND WINTER WEAR

- SUBURBAN AND DUFFLE COATS  
PILE & QUILTED LINING
- SWEATERS—POLO CARDIGANS—PULLOVERS  
JUMBO KNITS - SMART NEW DESIGNS AND ASSORTED COLORS
- FALL AND WINTER UNDERWEAR  
— FLANNEL SHIRTS —  
DRILL WORK SHIRTS AND PANTS  
— MEN'S VESTS — WORK MITTS  
— DRESS GLOVES — FLANNELETTE  
PYJAMAS — HOUSE SLIPPERS  
— WORK BOOTS — DRESS SHOES  
SNOW BOOTS — ETC.

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**IMPORTED DUTCH BULBS**  
While the Best Varieties are Available

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