

Good seed sown

130 years of history for Ballinafad church

At the memorial service and dedication of the cairn at Ballinafad, Miss Luena Campbell gave this address:

It is 150 years ago that your ancestors and mine came to carve their homes from this forested area.

In the beginning of Methodist worship in Ballinafad, the services were held in Mr. Roszell's home and later in a log school across from the store on the seventh lip. The first minister to visit the settlers was a Methodist minister by name of Heyland. The deed for the land for the church was for 1,600 sq. ft. at a cost of 5 shillings (\$1.25). This was in 1842 — 130 years ago.

There was 1/4 acre for a parsonage in the former Duncan Ferguson house where Mr. McKim lives now. Rev. Tyndall was the last minister to live in it.

Church bricked
In 1867 the frame church was bricked in. The Presbyterians who had been meeting in homes had the use of this church also before their own was built in 1873. The Methodist service was in the afternoon and the Presbyterian

service was in the morning. Many of the young people attended both services.

In 1870 a Sunday School was organized with 13 teachers and officers and 80-90 pupils. Weekly prayer meetings were held usually on Wednesday evening.

Erin circuit
In 1884 Ballinafad was placed on Erin circuit when Wesleyan and Episcopalian Methodists united. This same year an organ was purchased. Previous to this the singing was led by William Sayres with the use of a tuning fork.

This history was copied from Miss B. Hill's writings in the Acton Free Press.

From memory
Now it will be from my own memories of the last 25 years of the Methodist Church.

There was a platform across the front of the church where everyone stood around to visit after the service. The men would drive up close to this platform

and the ladies would step into or out of the buggy or cutter.

Communion was held with everyone kneeling at the altar at the front of the church.

Before the use of individual glasses a large goblet was passed along with each one taking a sip of the wine. The bread was not cut in dainty squares. It was broken.

Minister visited
The minister and his wife usually visited on Wednesday afternoon so they were here for prayer meeting in the evening. The worship service they held in each home had everyone kneel beside his or her chair for prayer.

They were always entertained at someone's home for supper. The horse was put in the stable and fed. A bag of oats and a bundle of hay were tucked in the buggy for them to take home as well as something from the garden or cellar or a few eggs.

There were no fowl suppers in those days but there were tea meetings in the old hall in cold weather. In summer when the weather was warm garden parties were held at some home where there was suitable space. Light was provided by lanterns hung on wires. There would be a program and long tables set up for the supper.

Remembers clergymen
One minister that I remember was Mr. Watts. I was small and wore a white furry coat. He would put his hands under the big collar and put it around my face. I never liked this little gesture.

Dr. McArthur had been a missionary in Japan, where they removed their shoes when indoors. He always stood still in the one spot that was warmed by his feet when there and kept up this habit.

Mr. Smith—I can picture him but have no special remembrance. I have a plate that I believe his wife painted on china.

Very prompt
Mr. Jewitt. He was minister when we left the farm in 1919. He was very prompt and would wait for no one but begin the service on time.

Mr. Evans was the minister at the time of church union in June, 1925. He joined with Mr. Waddell of the Presbyterian church for the first communion of the United Church. Services were held in former Presbyterian church as it was the larger and newer building. The Methodist church was torn down in 1954.

Sunday schools
In the Sunday School Fred Near was superintendent until he moved to Georgetown. Then Eb Beswick took charge until he moved to Acton. Then Robert Henderson followed by my dad, George Campbell, until he moved to Georgetown in 1919. Then I believe William Swindtehurst followed in their footsteps. We started in the primary

class in the choir loft in the north corner with Mrs. Beswick as our teacher. Our next class was in the south corner with Miss Edna Sayres as teacher. From here we went to the north corner again below the organ. Miss Susie Bennett was teacher and when she left Miss B. Hill's took charge of her class.

Cut up party
When we left this class we were teenagers and went to the class in the west corner where Miss Myra Vannatter was teacher. I remember a cut-up party she had for us at her home up the seventh line. Our invitations came by mail and were slashed in every way. Each one was to take a sheet of tissue paper. For entertainment each boy made himself a tie and each girl made an apron. At the supper table the food was put on whole. We had to each cut ourselves a piece of cake or pie.

Ira Vannatter taught the Bible class in the centre pews for the adults.

tiny tickets. When you had 10 of these you handed them in for a larger card about five inches square. When you had five of these you gave them in for a big one to keep.

Christmas concerts were held in the old hall where all the children took part in some way, in recitations, dialogue, chorus or drill.

A picnic was held at the end of June for both churches and both schools, Blue Mountain and Peacock. This was held at Stanley Park in Erin. There were races for all and games.

Boat rides
The food was set on long tables

in a large building. Then there were row-boats! Someone who could handle the oars would take us for a ride in the row-boat. You would go around the lower pond, then go under the bridge and around the upper pond. That ride was a highlight of the day.

Good seed was sown in the hearts and minds of children and adults. It took root and grew and bore fruit which no one can count.

It is truly wonderful to think of all the good things done by the Christian settlers through all the years of pioneer development. The religion of that period was practical and knew no limitations wherever there was need.

Now \$2,700 for walk

That October walkathon in which many town and district students walked 32 miles has so far turned in \$2,699.96 in pledges.

Halton and Peel Association for the Hearing Handicapped sponsored the walkathon and Mrs. G.B. Clements of Milton was the convener for the event. Almost all of the pledges have been collected, she reports.

Soliciting is archaic

Agencies servicing human needs in the community shouldn't have to rely on donations through United Appeal or other similar forms of financing, Warden Jim Swanborough told the community services committee of county council.

Terming the form of collection as archaic, Swanborough said the private soliciting of funds is fast becoming a thing of the past and should be placed on a more stable basis. He noted United Appeal organizations were finding difficulty in reaching their goal.

Submit Budget
Swanborough suggested the organizations should submit prepared budgets to a municipal body, either one of the boroughs if regional government is invoked or at the county level.

He noted the work of those agencies now supported by United Appeal was important and dealt with human needs.

GLOGG
Clogg is as important as food to many Swedes. This traditional drink is made with claret wine, sweetened with sugar and flavored with almonds, raisins, dried orange peel, cinnamon, cloves and cardamom. It is usually set afire before serving.



"FROSTY" the Snowman gave Speyside School students a smile at Thursday night's Christmas concert. Under the disguise was pupil John Clair.

(D. Gibbons photo)

How to care for Christmas Cyclamen

The beautiful cyclamen is often the choice of those giving a potted plant during the Christmas season. This popular plant has round, marked leaves and flowers ranging from white to several shades of red. However, cyclamen is difficult to keep in home conditions, says John Hughes, horticultural specialist, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

Cyclamen should be provided with a temperature of 60 to 65 degrees during the day and 50 degrees at night. Otherwise the flower buds will blow open and the foliage will turn yellow rapidly. The plant requires good light, but should be shaded from hot sun.

If you want to bring your cyclamen into bloom again next year, rest the plant after blooming. Reduce watering and temperatures to about 50 degrees. This will help bring the corn into a dormant state. Repot the corn in June in a general potting mixture. The upper half of the corn should be out of the soil to prevent the leaf and flower stems from rotting.

During the summer the plant can be grown outdoors in a shaded location.



To old friends and new go our wishes for a wonderful Christmas season.

Management and Staff
Toronto Dominion Bank

Candles for man's old friends

Here is an appealing story that focuses on Man's old friend, the candle. Back in the Middle Ages, any light, no matter how fragile, was much prized, and a candle though perhaps common to us, was a possession of great value.

A shoemaker lived in a cottage on the edge of a village, near the dark woods. Although a poor man, he placed his candle in the window each night to guide travelers. Despite wars, hardships and illness, by some miracle, some mysterious grace, his light never wavered.

This inspired the villagers and during the Christmas season most of them placed a candle in their windows. The custom grew and became universal.

MANY THINGS
Christmas is a Holy Day, a day of Grace and gratitude. Most of all, it means joy and hope for the world. Beyond the fun and festivities, there is the spirit of faith in the goodness and good will of people everywhere.



Our Christmas wish: that your heart shares the blessed joy of the shepherds.

K. ROSZELL SHOPPE



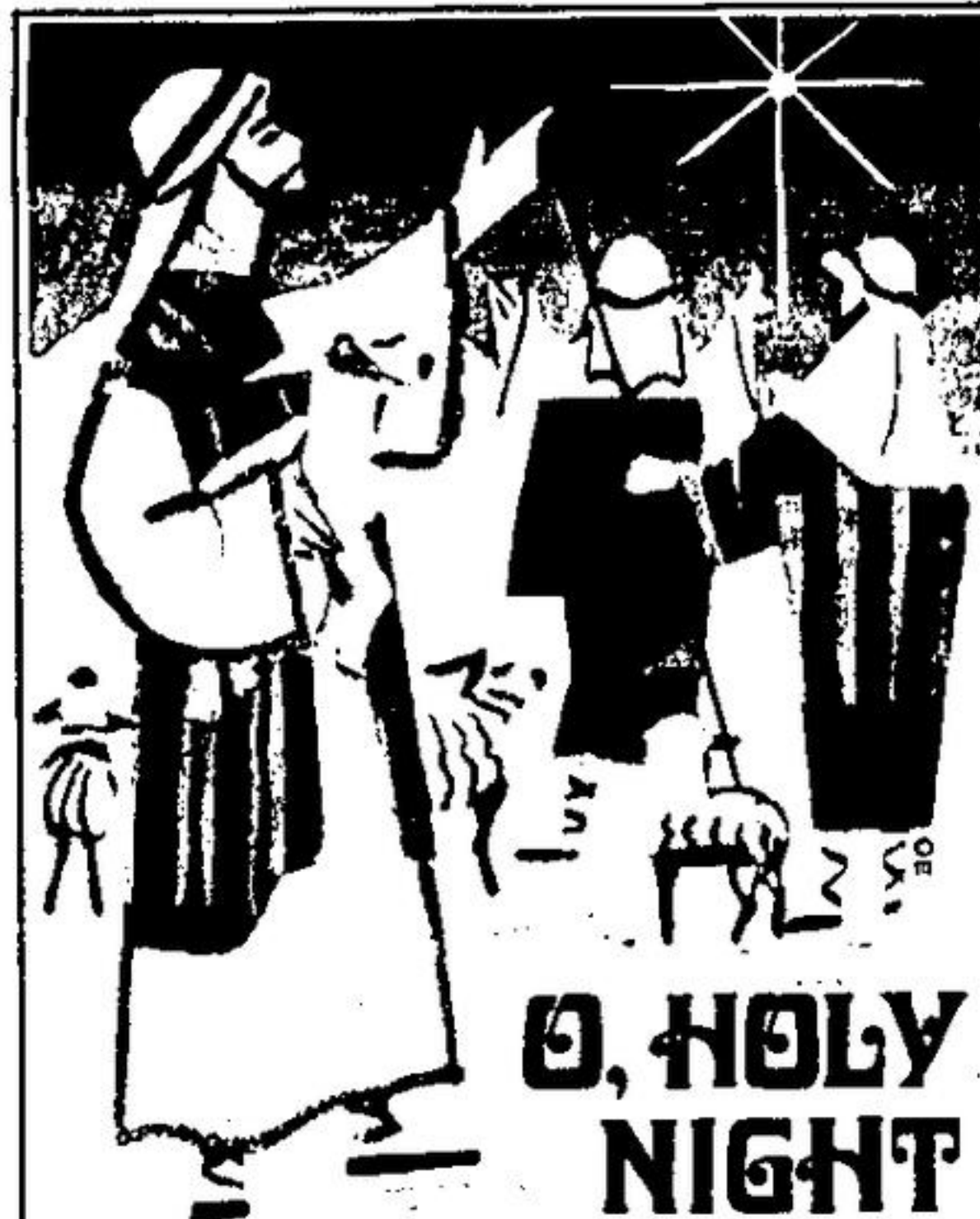
TO ALL...
MERRY CHRISTMAS

Christmas is here!
Hope it brings you and your loved ones a bounty of good cheer.
Frank Toth Motors
12 Guelph St. - Acton - 853-1840



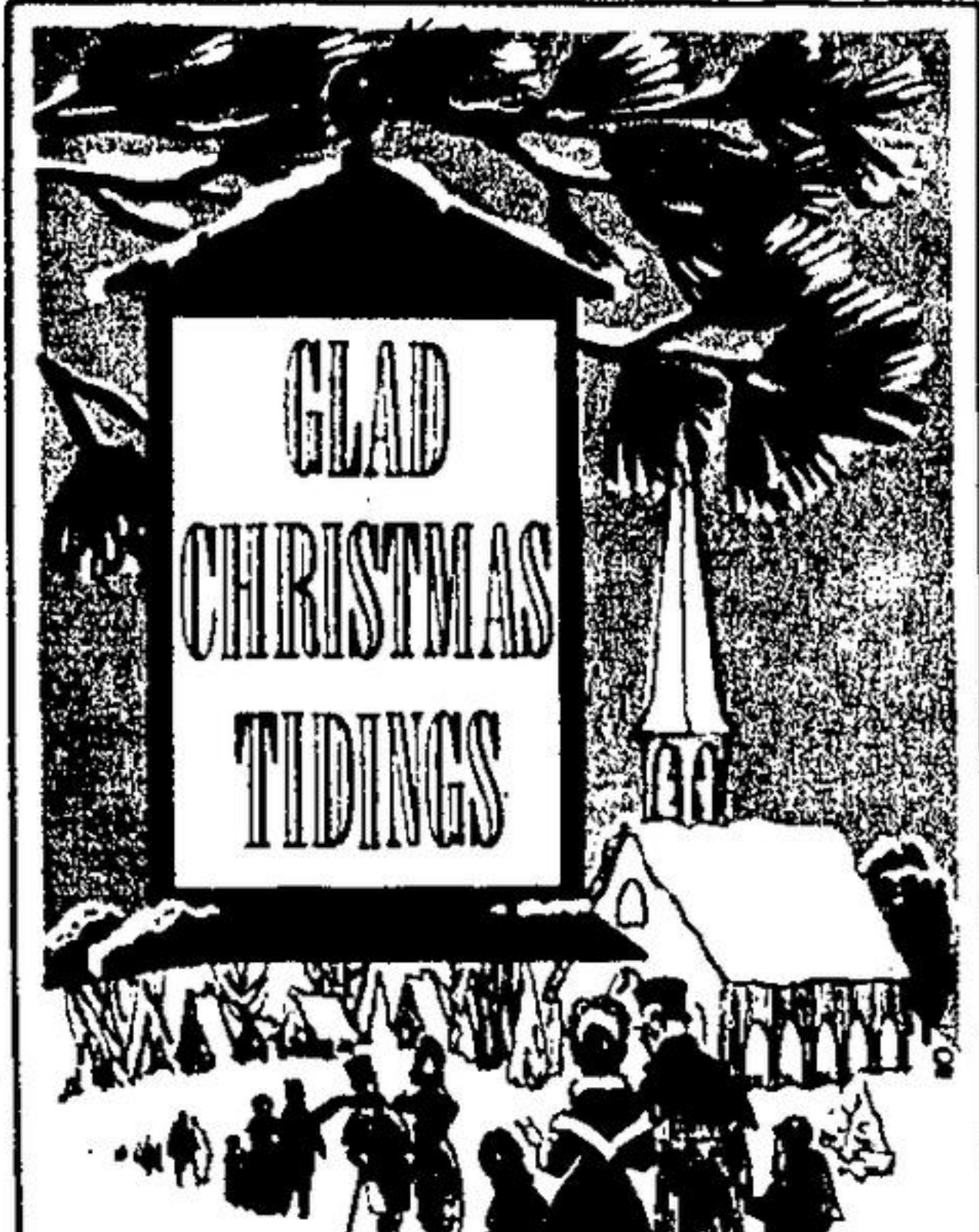
Christmas wishes and perennial thanks to all our fine patrons and friends. May joy brighten and fill your homes. Merry Christmas.

Pearl, Jack and Grace
Caroline Nurseries



Across the ages shines the wonder of a Holy Night. May the true meaning of Christmas make your holiday bright.

Jon Hurst Electric
ACTON



At the season of holly and mistletoe, it is our special pleasure to wish you a Merry Christmas and to express our thanks for your patronage throughout the year.

MANAGEMENT AND STAFF
The Station Hotel

We wish you Merry Christmas

JENNING'S EXCAVATING

"ANNE and ALLAN"

R.R. 1 - LIMEHOUSE

We wish you Merry Christmas

AT THIS TIME OF THE YEAR, AS ON NO OTHER OCCASION, WE ARE PRIVILEGED TO GIVE EXPRESSION TO OUR THOUGHTS CONCERNING THOSE WHOSE FRIENDSHIP AND GOOD WILL WE CHERISH.

IN THIS SPIRIT WE SEND YOU WARM HEARTED GREETINGS WITH BEST WISHES FOR THE NEW YEAR.