United Church celebrates 176th anniversary

Richmond Hill United Church will celebrate its 176th anniversary as a congregation this Sunday, May 6. Records indicate that a Methodist congregation (the forerunner of the United Church) met in homes and

some time prior to 1803, with ser-

vices conducted by a circuit, or

"saddle bag" preacher.

The same congregation met in a log building just south of McConaghy Public School from about 1810 until a timber structure was erected just south of the present church in 1860. schools in the Richmond Hill area

This church building, on the site of Cosmo Music Company Limited, burned to the ground, Sunday,

December 24, 1879, leaving the congregation again without a meeting hall until 1880.

The cornerstone was laid for the present church building May 24, 1880, and already plans are being made for a special centennial celebration next year.

In 1925 all Methodist

congregations joined and became the United Church of Canada

The Rev. Dr. Robert Smith, who ministered to Richmond Hill United Church from 1968 to 1974 will return next Sunday to help the congregation celebrate their anniversary.

Dr. Smith will speak at the ser-

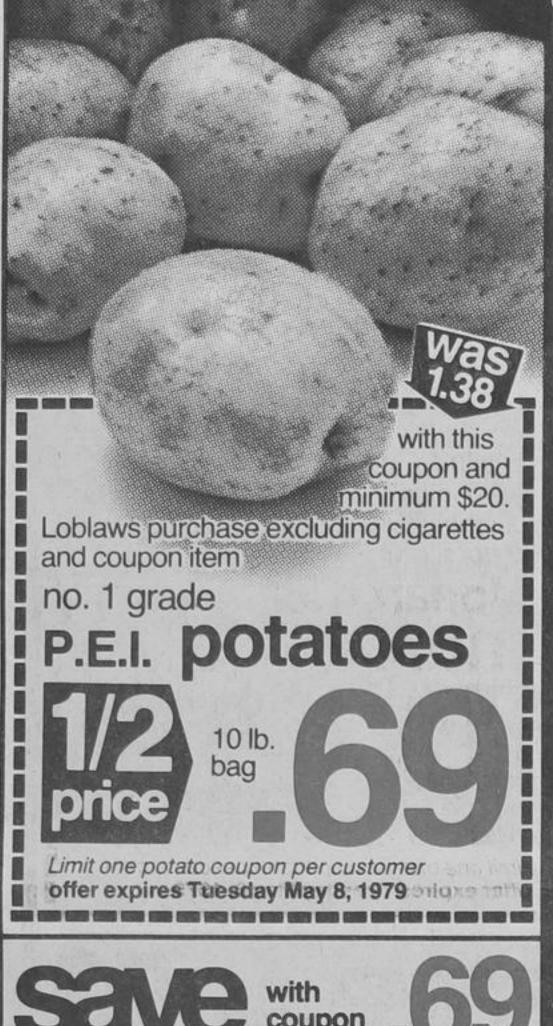
vice. His talk is entitled "Toward a New Synthesis", asking the question "Where is the church going in the future?"

Richmond Hill United's interim minister, the Rev. Dr. Norman McNairn will lead the anniversary service with special music supplied by the choir.

After the service all are invited to a congregational luncheon in the

The church's minister designate. Very Rev. N. Bruce McLeod, will not be able to attend this special service as he will be conducting services at Northminster United Church where he is presently interim minister.







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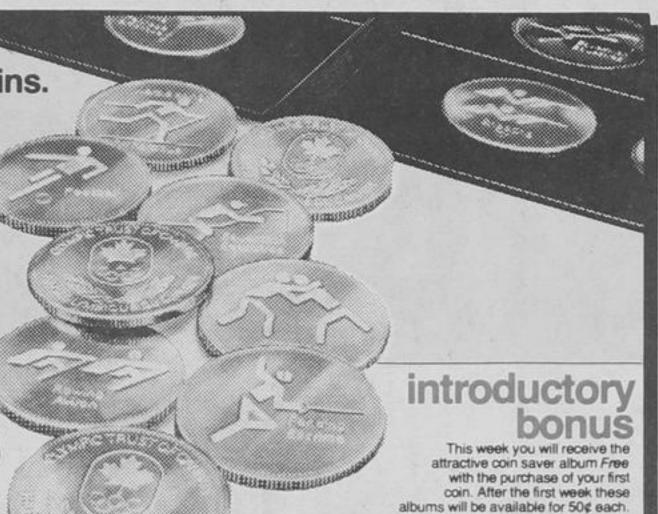
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Prices effective to Tues. May 8 except bakery effective to Sat. May 5, 1979. Stores reserve the right to limit quantities. Richmond Hill only

