

**WHY METHODISM FLOURISHED**

IN ENDLESS REPETITION from public speakers, newspaper editors, beer commercials, bank presidents and preachers comes the information that the times are changing. Many of the clergy are said to be "restless." Not a few have left the ministry for secular employment, charging that the Church is starving them or failing to adapt itself to new ideas and modern conditions of living. Experiments are being conducted with "retraining" clergy, and it is predicted that this will be expanded.

In the circumstances, it would seem inappropriate, perhaps futile, to cite advice from any clergyman who served back when life was simpler, and things now regarded as necessities were not even available as luxuries. Especially irrelevant, it may be, would be the counsel of a man ordained approximately 100 years ago. However

At the annual Conferences of the Methodist Church before the 1925 union, it was customary to take friendly note of ministers who had completed 50 years on circuit. At London Conference in 1921, a veteran was accorded the prescribed five minutes to review a half-century of toil and perhaps deliver a message to young clergy. In those years it was expected that Methodist ministers would move every three years, whether or not pastor and people so desired. Rev. John Hart had served 17 congregations, nearly all in hamlets so small that any newspaper mentioning one of them would certainly inform readers how many miles it was from Toronto, London or Guelph. So he came at last to Conference and made his speech:

"We preachers of 50 years ago did not have as hard a time as some think. On my first circuit I bought only \$2.40 worth of potatoes in three years . . . ."

Continued next column.....

**Gordon M. Dodge**

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Were in Terrace Bay on Monday March 3rd. with a complete line of drapery, carpet and upholstery samples. Unfortunately, an ad which should have appeared in last weeks paper announcing the showing, was omitted. Anyone interested in drapes, carpeting or upholstery are asked to please contact Otto & Bayne Ltd. at the above address or please phone.

Young brethren, do not be too anxious about your circuits. It is a glorious thing to get a poor circuit and work it up. Young brethren, do not go borrowing money. Don't be afraid to preach three times on Sunday, and if you have good health don't be afraid to preach four times. Preach the Word and visit the people. If I had fifty years to spend again, I would give it all to the Methodist ministry."

taken from Printed Word.



"Does Madam care to try on the trousers?"