

Rosspport Town Topics - cont'd from page 14.....

of their sister-in-law the late Mrs. M. Todesco of Port Arthur.

The ratepayers and non-ratepayers met at the school Tuesday evening to decide on keeping the school building for Rosspportites. It is a brick building having been built in 1949, has running water and oil heated. The debentures were paid off within the last year at considerable cost to the ratepayers. Those present favoured taking over the property for a year to see if the villagers can maintain the building. Although small, it could be used for a hall but the overhead as pointed out by an elderly ratepayer included hydro, heating, taxes, insurance, a new roof, re-decorating and other repairs.

FIRST NORTH SHORE A.A. ROUND-UP

On Palm Sunday St. Andrew's United Church was privileged to welcome Mr. Peter Waters of Oakville Ontario, to the pulpit as our guest speaker.

Mr. Waters was attending the first North Shore A.A. Round-up and spoke in this connection about his own personal experiences and the role of the congregation in relation to the plight of the alcoholic.

The talk was humorous and very stimulating and the congregation was indeed grateful for this rare opportunity of hearing such an excellent speaker.

WORKSHOP IN WORSHIP

'Contemporary worship .. celebrates life as a way of celebrating the Christ in whom all things live. It collates the Word and the World and points to the holy in the place of the profane. It lets everything that has life praise the Lord'.

In order to understand our own motives and deepen the experience of worship, St. Andrew's United Church of Schreiber arranged for a new experiment calling a workshop in worship.

With the help of the Rev. Dr. McNally of Marathon and other members of his congregation the basement of the church was transformed into a contemporary setting with the help of pastors, slogans and a variety of audio-visual equipment.

In the afternoon, members of the congregation gathered to discuss such statements as the one above. It soon led to other observations such as the fact that

worship is not the performance by certain 'professionals' with the congregation as spectators, but that true worship is the struggle of the community of believers to meet God - in the faith that God meets them where they are. Worship must therefore grow out of a sense of community and can only be real when we work at our relationships with one another.

The various parts of the liturgy were looked at and the various changes and innovations were appraised. The need was expressed to find forms of worship related to man of "NOW". Most of the church music, prayer life and liturgical forms are traditions which go back to a time that they were the "Now-expression" of a people seeking to worship God. Many of those responsible were looked upon as revolutionaries in their day.

We have taken their words, prayers and liturgical forms and made them into a 'sacred-tradition'. Men of the space age and atomic threat can only feel partly comfortable with the expressions of yesteryear. New forms must be explored to allow the Christ to be incarnated in our world of today, to bring his message and create the true church of God in the world.

As it has been said with regards to prayer: it is time for public prayer to become the act of risking encounter with the holy in the midst of life. "Now that God has become incarnate" asks Thomas Merton, "why waste so much time trying to make him incarnate?"

In the evening a group of people gathered to engage in a form of experimental worship which made use of a multi media presentation. One of the films which was used is the latest Berkeley studio production called "That all be One" which is a multi image presentation which has received critical acclaim from many reviewers since its first release two weeks ago.

With the help of two screens, readings and taped music the congregation became part of a total environment in and through which worship evolved.

It seems that the church will face drastic changes organizationally as well as architecturally to accommodate the present needs of men in their search for meaningful expressions of worship for our day and age.

Our greatest need will be for an openness of mind which will allow new things to be created in our midst and to recognize the beauty and wonder of God's ongoing revelation in the midst of man.

A friend is one who knows all about you and likes you just the same.