

# THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN

VOL. 16

JUNE, 1972

NO. 6

## New Editor Appointed

Just before going to press we have been informed of the appointment of a new editor for THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN. It will no doubt be approved at a meeting of the synod executive committee at Elliot Lake on May 18-19. The new editor is The Rev. Roger W. McCombe, BA, BTh, LTh, who is a high school teacher at Espanola. His new duties commence with the September issue.

A special committee appointed at the request of the executive committee has made several recommendations in regard to the diocesan paper, and together with the ALGOMA ANGLICAN Advisory committee were charged with the

## Bala Parish Has Summer Exchange

Occupying the rectory of Trinity Church, Bala, for the summer months is The Rev. Duncan A. Lyon with his wife and little daughter. The Rev. John Watson, Mrs Watson and their son Derek are in England at Fr Lyon's rectory and parish at Duxford, in the Diocese of Ely. The exchange is from May until August, and while here Fr Lyons is responsible for the services at Bala, MacTier, Port Carling, Mortimer's Point and Southwood.

Born near Liverpool, England, he is a graduate of the University of Durham. Just prior to coming to Canada Fr Lyon spent three weeks in South-west Africa of a fact-finding tour for the Church to collect information on the problems of discrimination faced by the Church in that country.

## Algoma Visitor In Rome Attends Papal Audience

Mrs. M. Kowaleski, our correspondent in the parish of St Peters, Elliot Lake, describes her impressions of an interesting event she witnessed at another St Peter's—a papal audience at St Peter's, Rome, which we are very pleased to publish.)

One of the highlights of a week's holiday in Rome was a visit on March 22 to the huge public audience hall adjoining St. Peter's Basilica. Before the arrival of Pope Paul VI, every available seat was occupied, and scores of latecomers were allowed to stand in the aisles.

At the moment of his entrance the excitement was terrific. He walked to the platform, a small figure in white, while a high school band from the United States of America, resplendent in blue and gold uniforms, played—much to my surprise—*The Battle Hymn of the Republic!*

The Pope, speaking in Italian, introduced ten Cardinals who were on stage, and reading from cards, welcomed many of the groups, then talked to us about the meaning of Lent and the miracle of Easter. (Italian is easy

task of finding a successor to the present editor who gave notice of his desire to resign last year. Their report will be considered at the executive meeting.

See page 2A for *The Archbishop's Letter* and further references to the change in editorship.

We would remind all our correspondents that from now on all news items, photos, etc. should be sent to Mr. McCombe, Box 1028, Espanola, Ont.

## Youths Starve To Aid Hungry

The Junior Youth group of St. Michael and All Angels Church, Thunder Bay, usually known as "Michael's Angels", staged a twelve hour "starve-a-thon" on a day in Lent. Beginning at eight o'clock in the morning twenty-two of the teen-agers gathered in the Church basement and all of them completed the day with various degrees of hunger, but at 8 o'clock in the evening they were ready to rush to the kitchen for the lunches.

The fast had a three-fold purpose: first to raise money to help the starving and homeless people in Bangladesh, and the total from their sponsors was expected to be about one hundred and fifty dollars for this project. Second, they experienced something of the needs of the third world through their hunger, and by movies, discussions and speakers. Third, to look at the Christian teaching concerning the care of those in need and this included a time for devotions, prayer, and litany.

to understand.)

Following this, more and more visitors were welcomed. After mentioning those from Canada the Pope switched effortlessly to French and finally to English with warm words of welcome and a shortened version of his earlier address.

As each party was announced its members stood up and thus were identified to the accompaniment of handclapping. There was a warm feeling of friendliness among the thousands in that vast auditorium. The channels were open!

After giving everyone his blessing Pope Paul received a standing ovation. He looked indefatigable as he smiled and waved good-bye.

## SUPERIOR RE-ELECTED

At a chapter meeting of the Canadian congregation of the Society of St John the Evangelist held at Bracebridge on May 2, Father John G. McCausland was re-elected Superior for another term. He was first elected on January 4, 1966.

## Vows Taken By Sudbury Girl



The Bishop of Toronto with Maureen Briggs, now Sister Maureen, SSJD.

At a special service held in the chapel of St. John's Convent, Willowdale, Ont., on Friday, April 14, Sister Maureen took her first (three years) vows of poverty, chastity and obedience as a member of the Sisterhood of St. John the Divine.

Receiving the sister's vows was The Bishop of Toronto, The Rt. Rev. G. B. Snell, Episcopal Visitor to the Sisterhood, giving her the veil and triple girdle of rope worn by all professed nuns. The chapel was filled with a large congregation of sisters and novices and several guests, including the Sister's mother, who travelled from Alberta for the occasion. One of her former Rectors, with his wife, who had been Maureen's leader in the Junior Auxiliary, were present, and the Rector of the Church in Toronto where she has been assisting, acted as Bishop's Chaplain.

## Sudbury Church Celebrates Sixtieth Anniversary Year

The sixtieth anniversary of the building of The Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, was observed on Mothering Sunday this year and was the first of a number of events planned to mark this anniversary year for the parish. The guest preacher at the 11 a.m. service was the Dean of Algoma, The Very Rev. F. F. Nock, a former Rector of The Epiphany who served there for nine years before becoming Dean of the Cathedral.

Dean Nock paid tribute to the courage, vision and foresight of the men and women who built the church. He said it was a courageous effort at that time when the population of Sudbury numbered only about five thousand, and expressed the hope that the present parishioners show the same vision and courage, qualities needed in the Church for these trying times.

## Church Army Missionaries Tell Of Work In Malaysia

April 23 was "Church Army Sunday" this year at the Lakehead. Capt. Ray Taylor, the director of the society in Canada, was guest preacher at St Paul's and St John's Churches in the morning. He spoke at the 8.30 Eucharist at St Paul's and again at 10 a.m., then was taken after the sermon to St John's in time to deliver the sermon there at the eleven a.m. service. In the afternoon he met with some of the clergy of the deanery and also with the four Church Army officers who were attached to parishes there.

On the same day at St Thomas' Church Capt. Michael Guy, who had been parish assistant there a few years ago returned to speak about his work in Malaysia with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship. Capt. Guy, who was sponsored by St Thomas' parish in his missionary work has been in Canada on furlough to continue his studies at Wycliffe College, Toronto. He was accompanied by his wife and two children, Lisa, who was born in Malaysia, and Rachael, born since

Sister Maureen entered the order from the parish of The Epiphany, Sudbury. As a young girl she had been a member of St. Paul's, South Porcupine in the Diocese of Moosonee.

The vows were taken during the Eucharist which was sung by The Rev. D. N. Hemming, SSJE, Chaplain to the Sisterhood, assisted by The Rev. F. B. Dalby, SSJE. The service, which was fully choral, concluded with a special recessional trumpet and organ arrangement.

Following the morning service the Sisters entertained those present to a delightful buffet luncheon served in the large refectory of the guest wing.

they returned last year. Mrs. Guy, a native of Philadelphia, was also a missionary and met her husband when they were both at language school. They have both become proficient in the Tamil language. Mrs. Guy spoke at the evening service at St Thomas while her husband showed slides illustrating some of their work in Asia. Beside the crowded congregations at St Thomas' morning and evening on the Sunday, Capt. Guy was the guest speaker at the annual meeting of the Anglican Churchwomen held at St John's Church on April 20 where he was heard by more than ninety persons.

Malaysia, said Capt. Guy, is a very modern country with the second highest living standard in south-east Asia, next to Japan and though it is multi-lingual, English is spoken or understood by a majority of the people. He said he was surprised to find that the Church, which had been in the country for five hundred years had made so little impact in the life of the people, but extreme caution had to be exercised by the Christians in a land where it is against the law to try to convert Muslims who form about half of the population. The rest are Buddhists, Hindus, and many other religions; The Tamils, among whom he works, he said are weak in numbers but strong in their Christian faith.

Captain and Mrs Guy and their children returned to Malaysia in May to continue their work with the Overseas Missionary Fellowship, serving under The Rt. Rev. Roland Koh, Bishop of West Malaysia.

## Reading Matter Is Asked For Seamen

The Lakehead Mission to Seamen is appealing this season for ten thousand or more magazines and pocket novels, any good reading material for the five thousand seamen expected to visit the port of Thunder Bay this year. *Foreign language magazines are specially needed.* If people in other parts of the diocese can assist by supplying any perhaps parishes can co-operate and if someone is driving through the Lakehead they could be sent in this way and left at St John's Church, 226 Pearl St., Thunder Bay, or taken to the "Flying Angel" headquarters at the Keefer Terminal.

## Camp Gitchigomee Open During July

The Lakehead Church Camp will open this year on July 2. At its beautiful location on Sandstone Lake, this oldest continuous youth camp in the diocese will be operated by the Thunder Bay Deanery during July and four camps will be held: Intermediate Girls, July 2-8; Junior Girls, July 9-15; Boys (8-12 years), July 16-22; Senior Mixed (13 years and over), July 23-29.

## IN NEW TEACHING POST

The Reverend Colin P. Clay, who has been a part-time professor teaching Religious Studies at Thorneloe College, Sudbury, has accepted a part-time appointment with Huntington College (United Church). He will be teaching a course on *Modern Christian Thinkers* at Iron Bridge in the winter extension program of Laurentian University, 1972-73.

## THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN

Circulation: 5,700

Official Publication of the Diocese of Algoma  
The Anglican Church of Canada

Archbishop: The Most Rev. William L. Wright, D.D., D.C.L., LL.D.

Advisory Committee: The Very Rev. F. F. Nock, B.A., D.D.

Canon Jas. F. Hinchliffe, B.A., The Ven. G. W. Sutherland, B.A., B.D.

Editor: The Rev. David N. Mitchell, Box 273, Bracebridge, Ont.

Circulation Mgr.: Mrs. P. Paterson, Box 637, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

Treasurer: Mr. William Wadley, C.A., Box 637, Sault Ste. Marie, Ont.

All news items correspondence &amp;c. should be sent to the Editor

Subscriptions \$1.50 a year, paid through your parish or sent to the Treasurer

Make cheques &amp;c. payable to Diocese of Algoma

Second class mail, registration number 1423

Printed and mailed monthly by Charters Publishing Co., Brampton, Ont.

Postmasters: Please direct change of address forms 67B and

30B to P.O. Box 637, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario.

### Editor Salutes His "Crew"

With this issue the editor relinquishes a duty he has been proud to perform for the past eleven years. This is the one hundred and twenty-fourth issue with the present masthead, and it is not without a trace of sadness that we take a last look at it, something akin to the nostalgia a captain must feel as he brings his ship to port for the last time.

This analogy is not that much out of context, for an editor bears a responsibility in some ways resembling that of a ship's captain. He is in sole charge of each issue of the paper. The "cargo"—news articles, pictures, etc., are placed where he directs; he steers the course—whether to face the stormy seas of controversial issues, or to float easily along the placid waters of indifference. With each trip the owners must trust the person to whom they have given the charge of their ship, so is the freedom and responsibility an editor enjoys. If some may think we have at times abused this freedom we can say that we have always been conscious of our responsibility to the Diocese of Algoma and to the whole Church.

As a captain leaves his ship he would shake hands with the crew, and as we look at the top of this page and remember the few changes in the masthead during the years we would like to say what a privilege it has been to have those names with us and to serve under them and with them in this great work. *His Grace, Archbishop Wright* has always championed the cause of this paper and it has been a joy to record for our readers so many of the events of his remarkable ministry in this diocese and throughout the Canadian and world-wide Church. We have been proud to have shared his confidence and are humbly grateful to him for the kind words in his Letter this month.

To the *Advisory Committee*—those three able prelates who have shown such patience and long-suffering towards a sometimes headstrong editor: we are thankful their duties have been light, but we want them to know the strength it has been to have them "aboard" with their eyes on the chart; their encouragement was appreciated.

The *Circulation Managers* have all done a very efficient job. When we began as editor Pamela Bird took over the organization of our subscription lists and we owe a great deal to her capable work. Her successors, Mrs. Audrey Smith, Mrs. Gladys Reed, and now Mrs. Patricia Paterson have carried on in real Algoma tradition.

THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN has been an important department of the *Diocesan Treasurer's* duties. Mr. H. M. Monteith was in that position in 1961 and he was a cool and efficient manager as we faced an immediate crisis over Post Office regulations which had been neglected when the paper had been prematurely aborted four years before. After two years "Monty" was succeeded by Mr. William Wadley who has contributed so much, both in expert management and in keeping the editor supplied with a steady flow of copy. His experience is invaluable at this time when increased costs make the future of any publication uncertain.

Then there are those important members of the crew, the "stokers and engineers" who keep the ship running—to the staff and printers of *Charters Publishing Co.* for their excellent work, even to the girls at the switchboard who will probably miss the familiar call: "Alan Charters in a hurry—long distance from Bracebridge." To all our sincere thanks.

Not least, to all those people without whom the paper cannot exist—the many contributors and many more readers—our thanks for your valued interest and loyalty. May we bespeak the same interest and loyalty for our successor.

A new hand at the helm will mean that many changes will become evident and not only in the masthead, but it will still be the same ship, though it may be "re-fitted" for future tasks. The next decade promises to be even more exciting than the past. For the publishing media it will be more challenging as we experience a growing "illiteracy" when fewer people are being taught to read and write. Our first editorial warned of this danger eleven years ago. Today the computer is hired to do our thinking for us. We wish the

## The Archbishop's Letter

The Archbishop's Study  
June, 1972

### Reflections

My dear People:

My first comment must be one of thanksgiving for the many messages of good wishes received during the past few weeks. Naturally, priority must be given to the hundreds of letters in which prayers were constantly offered on behalf of the bishop. I am feeling fine and have accepted diocesan appointments during the past few weeks.

Also I desire to acknowledge the constant care which the editor of THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN, The Reverend David Mitchell, has exercised in making our paper so outstanding during the time he has been editor. The loyalty of interest and constant scrutiny shown in its monthly production have singled him out to be a most competent and versatile priest. On behalf of all our readers I wish to thank "David" for a job well done.

At the beginning of September his successor, The Reverend Roger McCombe will assume the editorship. We pledge him our support and know that from Espanola he will continue the good work so dutifully carried out by his predecessor.

A diocesan Church paper in as widely extended an area as Algoma can be of the greatest benefit in cementing the fellowship of all areas. As we look forward to the centenary celebrations marking the consecration of our first bishop, THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN will be of tremendous assistance in our preparations.

This preparation has already begun. Booklets are being assembled in a composite form giving an outline of the lives of the six bishops since 1873 and also a resume of life in Upper Canada in what is now known as Algoma from 1800 to 1873. Dr. Homer Curry of Sault Ste Marie, who is being ably assisted by other writers who will be mentioned in later issues has already made introductory arrangements for the compilation of a book serving study purposes.

new editor well as he faces the challenge of these times.

We have been carrying on under the old masthead until a successor was found. It has been left to us whether a summer issue is published or not. Reluctant to "leave the ship" we hope to be able to continue this practice we have followed every year — perhaps the only diocesan paper to have had such a long run without a break; but after it is completed we wish to "step ashore" where with all our readers we will look forward to a new era in the life of THE ALGOMA ANGLICAN.

Let us not forget that "spiritual renewal" must be uppermost in our centennial celebrations. I will meet personally with representatives of the eight deaneries shortly so that definite spiritual objectives will be simultaneously observed during 1973 culminating in a Service of Thanksgiving and Re-Dedication October 28 in the Sault Ste Marie Armoury when the entire diocese will meet for this auspicious celebration. We shall be honoured in having our Primate, Archbishop Scott at that service.

Now is the time to think, pray and act upon the plans which will be unfolded.

These are days of uncertainty. We hear overtones of those who are anxious to follow Jesus but do not have much sympathy with the Church. They maintain the Church appears to lack inspiration, love and sacrifice which the early Christians possessed. Experimental non-institutional Christianity seems to make a greater appeal in some quarters. There are those who are impatient of prayer, devotion, contemplation—they look to Christ mainly in terms of social and political activism, concerned about race, poverty, ecology, or the third world. But we all belong together. The witness of social and political activism and the witness of prayer and contemplation need each other.

Those who enjoy the old institutional life of the Church need to be challenged by the new and novel movements that are with us.

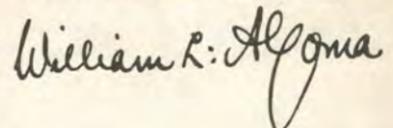
But conversely, every new movement owes more than it realizes to at least some of those in the old Churches who have handed down the knowledge that Jesus is Lord, in Creed and Liturgy and practical Christian lives.

I have been reading John A. T. Robinson's *The Difference in Being a Christian Today*. Here is set out a "new look" in meeting the future with adequate spiritual resources found in Christ and His Church.

It is our privilege to share in the love and sacrifice which our fathers have shown in the past one hundred years.

Our ultimate trust must always be in the Divine Love which has never forsaken us. We rejoice and share in that Love and it is our calling to carry that Love into the world.

Your friend and Archbishop,



### The Archbishop's Itinerary

June 4—11 a.m.	St George's, Espanola
7 p.m.	Holy Trinity, Little Current
11—11 a.m.	St Paul's, Haileybury
7 p.m.	St John's, New Liskeard
12—8 p.m.	Christ Church, Englehart
13—7:30 p.m.	St Simon's, Temagami
14—8 p.m.	Christ Church, North Bay
18—11 a.m.	St John's, Chapleau
20—9:30 a.m.	Executive, Canadian Council of Churches, Toronto.

## Charles Robert Clerk And Algoma's Theological Log-house

The sixtieth anniversary of All Saints', MacTier, to be observed this year will be in a beautifully finished church and parish room,

with electric chimes sounding from the belfry, a far cry from the first place of worship when settlers were opening up the community along the stage route between Gravenhurst and Parry Sound and close to one of the ports of call of the steamboats that plied the Muskoka lakes before the railways were pushed through that area.

Among the settlers who made their homes in the bush around Footes Bay and MacTier about the turn of the century was Charles Robert Clerk, an Anglican priest who with his versatile talents had adorned the ministry in four dioceses of the Canadian Church. It is time, we feel that we should honour his memory here in Algoma where he spent

the last years of his life as well as having been a missionary priest at Port Sydney for three years.

In attempting to write of his life and character we are aware of how small a part of his ministry can be understood, let alone appreciated in this day and age, so different was his time from ours. Some men's stature may be measured by the popularity and success they attained; the life of Robert Clerk was in terms of faithfulness while enduring hardship, dedication in the face of disappointment and cheerful courage in the midst of poverty.

Born in London, England, August 18, 1850, he emigrated to Canada when only twenty years of age and worked on a farm near Oakville, Ont. Industrious and frugal, he soon saved enough money to help other members of his family to come to Ontario. In

1876 he began study for holy orders in preparation for entering Trinity College, Toronto, but the next year he was appointed by the Bishop of Niagara as catechist in the Amaranth Mission, near Orangeville. There he continued his studies to such satisfaction that he was made a deacon in January, 1879 and ordained to the priesthood on April 23, 1880.

From the time he began his work in the Amaranth Mission to when he resigned as Rector of Falkland, Nova Scotia because of ill-health was twenty-one years; a comparatively short ministry, but filled with such a gruelling pace that it could only have been carried out by a man of iron stamina, governed as he was by spartan habits and struggling with poverty and debt. We may wonder why this incapacitated priest came to an underdeveloped

bush miles from the railroad, to begin farming on a lot he affectionately called "Abbecombe", after a meadow land area that lay on the east coast of Nova Scotia.

Perhaps it was the desire to live closer to nature, to meet and overcome one more challenge. He brought with him a letter from Dean Gilpin, Bishop's Commissary in Nova Scotia, certifying his resignation because of ill-health and permitting him to pursue secular work without incurring ecclesiastical censure; thus he may have been one of the first so-called "worker priests" in Canada. However, his "secular" work was soon to erect a log chapel and house where he conducted a school for students preparing for the ministry. In the *Algoma Missionary News* of January, 1905, it was described as a "Theological Log-house".

Clerk was deeply influenced by

the Oxford Movement, and we venture to guess that he found in Algoma a sympathetic response to his Churchmanship and that he had friends in the diocese who shared his convictions. He had come to Algoma when the gentle tractarian, Bishop Fauquier was Bishop; he returned soon after Bishop Thorneloe began his long episcopate. His rough lodgings were visited by several clergy, including Archdeacon Gillmor, "The Tramp", who must have found in Clerk a kindred spirit and his log dwelling a welcome "half-way house" in some of his journeys. Bishop Thorneloe also visited him at MacTier, and a visit by two clergy in January, 1905 is recorded with the comment that Clerk had entertained them in his log cabin as hospitably and kindly as if in a mansion.

(Continued, page 4A)



## The Flying Angel Mission

by Canon Alvin J. Thomson, Chairman,  
Lakehead Missions to Seamen

Thunder Bay, like many other cities, has several fine organizations serving the physical and spiritual needs of its citizens. One of the less-known of these is the Lakehead Mission to Seamen organized in 1961 to serve the needs of the hundreds of seamen visiting our port from all over the world.

This year the Lakehead Mission to Seamen expects to welcome over five thousand seamen from one hundred and fifty or more ships and to distribute ten thousand magazines, pocket novels and scriptures to our foreign visitors. In addition hundreds of these men, and a few wives and female staff, will be entertained in the house-trailer headquarters of the Mission at the Keefer Terminal. All of this work is under the direction of the lay chaplain, William Tozer, retired YMCA secretary, assisted by several dozen volunteers.

The Missions to Seamen was founded over a hundred years ago, in London, England by the Church of England for "the spiritual welfare of seafarers". Since 1856 the work has spread around the world to two hundred and fifty ports with eighty-five having buildings with facilities to entertain and house seamen on shore. In some centres a full-time staff of chaplains and helpers carries on the work, while in smaller centres the work is done on a part-time basis. It is estimated that sixty thousand ships are visited annually by Missions to Seamen chaplains and nearly a million seamen visit mission centres. These are popu-

## Help Build Church In Depression Years

James H. Burt

The death of Jim Burt of Mindemoya on April 8 marked the end of an era in that community. The son of English parents, he was born and raised on Manitoulin Island and became one of its most important citizens.

At an early age he joined the Gore Bay branch of the Bank of Montreal as a junior clerk and teller and became its accountant. He was subsequently appointed manager of the Mindemoya branch, which position he held for thirty years. There is scarcely a committee or worthwhile project in the community in which he was not involved, usually as leader, and every project he headed he carried through to a successful conclusion. At the time of his death he was Reeve of the township.

The Church of St Francis of Assisi in Mindemoya of which Mr Burt was the first warden was built in the depths of the great depression in the 1930's. It is a point of interest for many tourists who often comment on its beauty. He was its treasurer for more than thirty years and his contribution to its life and work has been outstanding.

### FAMILY CONFIRMED

In a recent Confirmation class confirmed by Archbishop Wright at St Luke's, Thunder Bay, the Rector, the Rev. H. A. Vallis presented six members of one family to receive the sacrament. They were Mr and Mrs Colin MacLean and their four children, Murray, James, Cameron and Leeta.

larly named "The Flying Angel" (inspired by the words of Revelation 14: 6, 7). Her Majesty the Queen is the Honorary Patron of the Society.

At the Lakehead "The Flying Angel" is active nearly nine months of the year from the time the first saltie arrives in port. The thirty-six foot house trailer contains a comfortable lounge, kitchen, library and small chapel for the use of the seamen. Members of the various Anglican congregations serve as hosts each evening at the trailer providing coffee and conversation for the seamen. Each saltie is visited at least once upon its arrival in port and when a ship is in port for a few days the chaplain organizes soccer games or sightseeing tours to local points of interest. When desired the crew is put in touch with the Church of their choice.

Last year in addition to British seamen we had Greek, Italian, French, Dutch, German, Swedish, Norwegian, African, Indian and Japanese crews visit our port. Some of the ships are very luxurious with libraries, recreation rooms, radio-television, and even swimming pools, but most ships have very limited amenities for their crews. All of our visitors welcomed our interest in their welfare and appreciated whatever we were able to do for them.

The work of The Flying Angel is supported by a modest grant from the Diocese of Algoma supplemented by donations from local church groups and shipping organizations. No charge is made for the services of the mission except when a bus is chartered for larger groups who wish a sight-seeing tour. Volunteers from the local parishes provide hosts for the "Evening Watch" and drivers for the car pool which is used to transport seamen to soccer games, etc. Those of us involved in this work regard it as Christian service to seafarers deprived for long periods of home and friends. It is our earnest prayer that our ministry to these men and women who travel the seas may be worthwhile and enable them to gain a favourable impression of Canadians and Christians concerned about their spiritual welfare.

Mr. Wm. Tozer, the lay chaplain of the Missions to Seamen is assisted again this year by Mr Les Harris, who took over Mr Tozer's duties last year while the chaplain was ill. Officers of the Lakehead committee for 1972 are: Canon A. J. Thomson, chairman; The Rev. D. M. Landon, vice-chairman; Mrs B. Servais, secretary-treasurer; Mr and Mrs A. Stewardson, Evening Watch and Property convener and chairman.

## ANGLICAN-ROMAN CHOIRS EXCHANGE

A very happy exchange of Church choirs recently took place at the Lakehead between St Thomas' Anglican and St Agnes' Roman Catholic Churches. On April 9, the first Sunday after Easter, the choir of St Thomas' Church sang at the ten o'clock Mass at St Agnes'; a month later the visit was returned when on May 7, Rogation Sunday, the St Agnes' Church choir sang at the eleven o'clock Choral Eucharist at St Thomas'.

## Responsibility Keynote As Women Meet

By Mrs. T. Koning, ACW Communications Chairman



Mrs. W. L. Wright

In a relaxed atmosphere of joyful thanksgiving one hundred and thirty delegates to the fifth annual meeting of the Algoma Diocesan Board of Anglican Churchwomen welcomed their Diocesan, The Most Reverend William L. Wright, Archbishop of Algoma, and installed a new executive from the Deanery of Temiskaming.

His Grace was the celebrant at the service of Holy Communion which opened the meeting held at the Church of the Epiphany, Sudbury, on May 1 and 2. The Rector, The Ven. S. M. Craymer, preached the sermon and the Archbishop was assisted at the altar by Canon J. F. Hinchliffe, The Rev. W. Ellam, and The Rev. R. Kreagar.

Archdeacon Craymer mentioned the sense of thanksgiving with which we noted His Grace's return to service after a period of rest from his episcopal duties. In welcoming the delegates the Archdeacon noted that the panel discussion in the evening would be on the role of women in the seventies and offered comments based on the role of women in the New Testament, that their example of devotion and courage will give us strength to cope with the problems which face us in this decade.

"Accept the responsibility, then scrutinize your activities. We must be prepared to discard what we have outgrown, but we must be ready to take God's grace seriously. The issues are important—the job is urgent—the time is now," said Archdeacon Craymer. "The problems of the seventies are far beyond our strength but we can meet the challenge with Christ as our Leader, to whom all power is given in heaven and in earth."

The meetings were presided over by Mrs. W. L. Wright, Honorary President, who had been acting as chairman since the resignation of Mrs. C. H. Yeomans last October due to ill health. Mrs Wright paid tribute to Mrs Yeomans for her years of devoted service to the W.A. as recording secretary and president and then as president of the ACW when it was formed in 1967. In her remarks Mrs Wright pointed out that the diocesan synod in June, 1971, was attended by fifty-seven clergy, and ninety-one lay persons of whom seventeen were women. Women can now be elected as churchwardens and synod also passed a motion for the formation of an integration committee. The ACW has women representatives on the synod councils, Missions, Christian Education and Social Service.

The national board of the ACW has advocated Church unity, and Mrs Wright mentioned the union plans of various Churches around the world, in Pakistan and North India, in England, and on this continent. "As women move into a closer relationship with our Church we must become knowledgeable. Bible study groups are

### ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

On Ascension Day, May 11, at St John's, Thunder Bay, the Rector, Canon Alvin J. Thomson, observed the twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination to the priesthood. A graduate of Trinity College, Toronto in Arts and Theology, Canon Thomson began his ministry as priest-assistant in the parish of which he is now Rector. With the exception of five years as Rector of St Thomas', Bracebridge, his whole ministry has been at Thunder Bay. He was the first priest-in-charge of St Michael's and All Angels in that city, which began as a mission of St John's Church.

sion on the role of the Christian woman in the seventies was chaired by Mrs Barbara Clay of Capreol, with panelists Mrs Aileen Grasby, Mrs Isabelle Kemp, Mrs Edith Foote, and Mrs Margaret Harche, all of Sudbury, who presented various points of view on the topic and provoked lively discussion from the hundred or so women (and a sprinkling of clergy) in the audience.

The morning session on May 2 began with a presentation of visual devotions by Muriel Newton-White of Haileybury, Devotions chairman for the Algoma board. Delegates sat in complete silence in the darkened room to contemplate illuminated words from scripture and prayers projected on a screen, a unique and highly-effective "quiet time".

His Grace, Archbishop Wright then addressed the delegates, paying tribute to Muriel Newton-White who "combines the qualities of Mary and Martha. As her bishop, as her colleague, and on your behalf, I pay tribute to her as she exemplifies all that is best in the Christian life," said His Grace. He expressed his thanks to all those who had prayed for him and sent cards and messages during his recent respite taken on orders from his doctor, and in speaking of the plans for the diocese to celebrate its centenary next year His Grace displayed his usual energy and enthusiasm.

The offering from the Communion service at which there were 163 communicants was \$256, and it was decided to divide this equally among the Archbishop's discretionary fund, the work of the Church in the West Indies, and the Carcross School project in the Yukon where Bishop Frame is hoping for enough support to turn the now empty school into a youth centre.

It was noted with pleasure that thirteen members of the clergy from across the diocese were present for parts of the meetings over the two days. All the parishes in the Sudbury area shared in the preparation and serving of meals for the delegates. Mrs G. E. Evans of the Church of the Epiphany was convener of billets.

The newly-elected officers of the board were installed during the closing service Tuesday morning by Canon Hinchliffe, Rural Dean of Sudbury. They are: Mrs Doreen Stark, Englehart, who was Temiskaming Deanery chairman, president; Mrs Annabelle Griffiths, North Bay, vice-president; Mrs Margaret Jones, Sturgeon Falls, recording secretary; Mrs Penny McCracken, North Bay, corresponding secretary; Mrs Joyce Edwards, North Bay, pro tem Temiskaming Deanery chairman.

### USED CLOTHING SHOP

Operating in the church basement for two hours each Thursday morning, the parish of Holy Trinity, Sault Ste Marie offers clean used clothing, as well as books, toys and novelties for sale. The shop is open to the public and the people who have started this venture believe there is a need for such a service in the community which the church can provide.

## Observe Half-Century of Scouting

Marking the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of scouting in the parish, St. Thomas', Thunder Bay, held a Father and Son banquet on April 17 and badges and awards were presented to several boys for their achievements in scouting. Eight members of the Cub Pack re-

cently received Religion and Life emblems.

After the banquet which was prepared by the ladies of the association, the scouts, cubs and their dads enjoyed a film and talk on survival in the woods, given by a member of the Lakehead Search and Rescue Unit.

# Unusual Priest Built An Altar In Muskoka Bush Country Should Be Remembered Among Algoma's Worthy Pioneers

See beginning of article on page 2

We can well imagine that the amazing industry of this man, coupled with his refinement of character could transform by his gifts the most common place dwelling or situation, whether in his capacity as a musician, artist, sculptor, carpenter, shipbuilder or farmer. In his mission at Amaranth he soon constructed a mimeograph which he called a "lithogram"; it was before the days of hymn books, and he printed hymns for the people to sing; the one "luxury" in his home seems to have been an organ, likely bought second-hand, which he would repair and in time would have to sell. Clergy moving expenses were not covered in those days. Also at Amaranth he had a garden and even invented an incubator for hatching chickens. One of his diary entries for a Monday reads, "Up at 8 a.m. Hoeing garden. Printed fifty copies of hymn".

## Memorable Wedding Day

Just over two months before his ordination to the priesthood he was married to Mary Jane Prowse of Oakville. The wedding took place on a Monday morning at St. John's, Norway, Toronto. The day was typical of the hectic and hazardous pattern of life that was to follow.

The date was February 9, and after a busy Sunday in his missions Clerk must have been up at 5 a.m. to make the journey by horse and cutter to Orangeville, nine miles distant. On the way in the darkness his cutter overturned in a snowbank and he was forced to travel the rest of the way on horseback, catching the 7.15 train to Toronto where he went to his sister's home to get dressed for the wedding, to another place to pick up the license, then to Union Station to meet the bride and her party. The service included a celebration of the Holy Communion, probably quite unusual in those days. There was a wedding breakfast afterwards at his sister's. No doubt he expected to be back in the mission that night, but the train had two accidents on the way involving broken axles and they did not reach Orangeville until 3 a.m. After spending two hours trying to hire a cutter, he and his bride arrived home at 6.30 a.m. Some honeymoon!

## Family and Work

His wife, who was ten years younger than her husband died on Palm Sunday, 1892, after bearing him four children, Marion, who died in infancy as a result of a fire at Port Sydney; Jack, the second child, inherited his father's love for boats and sailing, eventually went to sea and

on a voyage to South Africa injured his leg which left him lame. After a few years in Muskoka he went to the United States where he died. The third child, Carl, died in childhood of pneumonia. The fourth, Hallen, or "Hal", was to become a successful business man in Port Carling, then at South River, and finally settling at North Bay, where he died in 1954.

Clerk had a short but spectacular ministry in his first charge, building a church and mission house complex that must have been too ambitious a project for the parish; it seems that for years afterwards he was trying to raise money to pay off the debt. He took great joy in Eucharistic worship. Before his ordination his diary refers to his wife "making a stole" and though this basic vestment of a priest was probably all he ever owned, it was far from being in general use at that time. Clerk's skill as a carpenter would be seen in the building; the altar he had built himself, and he and Mary made the dossal curtain; the finishing touch was placing a cross he made and finished on the tower "in a high wind", a typical task for this man who was always fighting against "the winds of adversity".

At the official opening of his new church, Dr. Beaven, a pioneer priest of Toronto, was the preacher and was the first to arrive and he and Clerk said Mattins. Then the Bishop and other clergy came and the Holy Communion was celebrated, but Clerk notes that there were only three communicants! The custom then, of course, was "quarterly communion", and that not on a week-day!

## The Call To Algoma

Clerk resigned the Amaranth Mission on December 31, 1880 and a few days later was licensed by the Bishop of Algoma for the Mary Lake Mission. The only personal record that remains of his two years ministry there is a log book of the *Louise* for two weeks in June, 1881 when he made two trips in a boat of that name around Fairy Lake to Huntsville as far as Grassmere. It seems unlikely that he could have built the boat himself in that time, but years later in Nova Scotia he did build a boat and equipped it with a wood-fired steam engine as a means of travelling to points in his coastal parish.

## Nature Lover and Artist

He was always fond of the water and boats; one of the earliest comments in his diaries is of the lake at Oakville and even then of observing how pollution was killing the fish. He



Charles Robert Clerk  
1850-1911

was a conservationist before his time and that because he had a profound respect for all life. Years later in Nova Scotia hunters remembered how he would refuse to aim at a bird that was perched, but first startle it and then like a true sportsman, shoot his target on the wing.

The *Louise's* log refers to many people whom he met in his trips, anchoring his boat and rowing to the shore to walk miles to visit settlers, and as always, trying to collect funds. He writes then of the need for regular weekly offering envelopes. In the Church at Port Sydney, which next year will celebrate its centenary, he has left some of his handiwork in the sanctuary reredos. The beautiful lettering of the Creed, Commandments and Our Father still testify after ninety years to his artistic talents.

## Toronto and Medical School

On leaving this diocese Clerk returned briefly to Niagara, assisted at Burlington for two months and on May 1, 1883 became chaplain at St. James the Less, Toronto, his main duty officiating daily at burials in St. James' Cemetery and hospital visiting. Though this part-time work was demanding and often very depressing (there were sometimes over a hundred burials each month) it offered him an opportunity to enroll as a student in the Trinity College Medical School. Three years at classes gave him a wide practical knowledge which he often put to good use; he could minister to people's bodies as well as their souls; in his closing years at MacTier he often gave medical assistance to those in need when a doctor was not available, though he would only undertake such duty in an emergency.

## Ministering To All In Need

Work and study in Toronto brought Clerk into contact with many other clergy among whom he had several close friends. One special friend among the laity was Edgar Hallen, after whom he named his second son and who was the boy's godfather. He found time to indulge in several hobbies one of which was to use his carpentry skill in making a type of portable altar for private communions, though he seems to have had a hard job selling any to the clergy. He did a lot of

painting, taught singing at St. John's, Norway and often acted as organist at churches. He even organized a kindergarten school.

Every day he would be ministering to the sick and dying. At one time he refers to a large fire that swept through part of the city and how he spent all night ministering to the injured. He was always where the action was as long as he was able to serve. Music and other diversions were necessary changes in his routine which involved so much contact with sickness, death and sorrow. The only baptisms he performed were in extremis, and only rarely would he officiate at a marriage. One he mentions for which he received five dollars, a large fee for those times. It took place in a house, which was not uncommon then, but he used his portable altar. We note the contrast with the wedding receptions today as he describes the event: "... they dined or supped, then they were married (as a sort of relish between courses). Finished with dessert. Then they sang Sankey hymns at which they were still engaged when I left them at ten o'clock."

It is a pity that so much of his writing was lost in the fire that destroyed his house two years after he died. The small part of his diaries that has been preserved contain so many interesting observations on life in and around Toronto at that time. His last year in the city was spent as locum tenens at St. Clement's and when his duty there was completed he went back to Niagara as priest-assistant at St. Matthew's, Hamilton and as master in the church school for boys of which the Rector was principal.

## A New Life In Nova Scotia

After the death of his wife he probably looked for a change of work, and on October 1, 1882 Clerk assumed charge of the parish of Ship Harbour with Jeddore, forty miles east of Halifax in the Diocese of Nova Scotia. He took with him his two sons, Jack and Hal. Their home was on "Rectory Hill" at Oyster Pond, overlooking Jeddore Harbour. By the highway at the foot of the hill stood the home of David Mitchell who was of the same age and had the same birthday as the parish priest. The boys would often stay there with "Uncle Dave" while their father was away in his large parish. The next year he made a trip back to Ontario where he married Louise Apted of Oakville, a daughter, Mary, who now lives in Kirkland Lake, was born to them before they left Jeddore, and a son, Justus, was born at Herring Cove while Clerk was Rector of Falkland. Justus remained at the family homestead at Foote's Bay where he died several years ago.

Fr Clerk was a familiar figure in his long black cloak, and his industry knew no bounds; perhaps these last years of his active ministry were the happiest and most productive of his life. We have already mentioned the boat he built here. I suppose it was what would be now termed a "cabin cruiser" and was named the *Marion*. He would carry his portable altar with him and hold services in homes at scattered coastal villages where there was no church. With his mimeograph he printed hundreds of hymn sheets, children's papers, etc. At the end of the first year he was able to record many improve-

ments made to the fabric of the churches in his charge, and that "there was no debt incurred; all had been done by the help of pure offerings alone—no picnics, suppers, etc. . . . we desire to thank God," he wrote, "for the prosperity of the past year."

## Firmly Resists False Teaching

It was probably the only time such "prosperity" had been enjoyed in his ministry and even then he had the burden of having to contend against dissension created by Baptists who preached that people had to be "immersed" to be saved. This incited his greatest anger and he publicly refuted their teaching with all the eloquence, scriptural reasoning and pastoral concern of a St. Paul. Clearly he proved that to "baptize" did not mean to "immerse", but to "sprinkle", and defended the practice of infant baptism.

## A Curate Who Became Famous

The growth of his congregations which soon after were divided into two parishes merited some assistance and the Bishop licensed Mr Robert Norwood, whose father had been rector of the adjoining parish, to help Clerk in his work. We wonder if he encouraged in his curate the mysticism, the love of the Scriptures, of the classics, and of nature which Norwood was to show in his works; for though Norwood's later modernist views were a source of grief to the Church in his native province, he became a great preacher and poet, always inspired by the joy of the call and dedication to the priesthood. Destined to be widely known and honoured, he died while rector of St. Bartholomew's Church, New York, but Clerk after a few years was to strike for the wilderness, and content with the lowest place, live in obscurity in his Muskoka log house.

## Faithful Unto Death

In *The Memories of A Parson*, written by The Rev. G. M. Morgan, a retired priest who was a student at Foote's Bay in 1909, the author reminiscing of his life there, says, "I remember old Fr Clerk, a retired clergyman who had a stroke and was living in the woods with his family. He had a small log church on his property with a bell on it, and he kept a vigil light burning before the altar." Here on April 6, 1911, his stricken body entered into its rest. The heroic soul, content to serve in the lowest place, surely heard a gentle voice say, "Friend, go up higher".

Today all trace of his "Theological Log-house" has gone; only the bell remains over a gate on his grandson's property nearby; it was used at All Saints', MacTier until replaced by their present bell a few years ago. Elsewhere in Muskoka years afterwards was built a college and chapel that would have exceeded Clerk's greatest dreams. On the day we visited MacTier a short time ago the church's school room was being used as a medical clinic and we could almost imagine the old bearded priest there with hands outstretched in blessing on a work he would have loved. Perhaps a sanctuary lamp before the altar to welcome people to the Blessed Sacrament would be a fitting memorial of his devotion. That we honour his Lord is all he would wish.

—D.N.M.



All Saints' Church, Mactier, built the year after Fr Clerk's death.