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1936

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FOREWORD

Anticipating the actual fiftieth anniversary of the building of St. Luke's Church, which will take place in 1940, we publish this booklet, and present it to the members and friends of the congregation under the happy influence of other anniversaries, each of which has had its effect upon the life of the Church at large, and one of which has been, and still remains, the support and strength of the Church in Algoma.

1935 marks the twenty-fifth anniversary of the accession to the British Throne of the late King George, who in public and private life, set an example at all times to his people, of the duty and privilege of Divine Worship. May he rest in peace, and may light perpetual shine upon him.

It is of interest to recall the fact that this year is also the anniversary of an event of great moment to the Twin Cities, for it was in 1886 that the first through train made a run from Montreal to Vancouver on the C. P. R.

Fifty years ago, the revised version of the Old Testament was published, a notable achievement of scholarly research and accuracy.

The Society to which the Church, not only in Algoma but throughout the whole of Canada is so greatly indebted, and which is this year celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, is the Woman's Auxiliary to the M. S. C. C.

As our present Bishop said in his charge to the Synod last year "Many of our Missions could never carry on their work without the help which the W. A. gives, and I can never adequately express our thanks to the officers and members of that association."

Under this inspiration then, the life of a beloved Sovereign whom all learned to love, respect, and revere, the opening of communication from East to West, a forward movement in the work of the Bible Society, and last, but far from least, with the inspiration of fifty years active service by the women of the Church, we send forth this little memento of Church life and activity in the Parish of St. Luke's.

May the knowledge and memory of the past be both a challenge, and an inspiration to every member in the Parish to work and pray without ceasing for the extension of Christ's Kingdom.

"The Lord hath been mindful of us, He will bless us."

As I write these lines, we approach one of the greatest festivals of the Church year, Whitsunside, the Birthday of the Christian Church. God grant to us a fresh outpouring of His Holy Spirit, that we may go forward into the future with renewed faith and courage.

Faithfully yours,

S. F. YEOMANS



REV. S. F. YEOMANS
Rector, St. Luke's, Fort William
Inducted June 23rd, 1932

My Church

Here, through beautiful Services, I come close to God and to my human comrades in fellowship.

Here in many ways I learn the truths by which I may live a brave, happy and useful life.

Here I gain strength by which I become that which I have learned I ought to be.

Here I find comfort in my sorrows, courage in my struggle, joy in my victories.

Here I come into union with Christ, my Master and Friend.

Diocese of Algoma

1872. Set apart from Toronto as a Missionary Diocese.

Episcopate

1873. Rt. Rev. Frederick Dawson Fauquier, D.C.L. consecrated first Bishop of Algoma, October 28th. Died 1881.

1882. Rt. Rev. Edward Sullivan, B. A., D. D., D. C. L., consecrated second Bishop of Algoma, June 29th. Resigned 1896. Died 1899.

1897. The Most Rev. G. Thorneloe, M. A., B. D. D. C. L., consecrated third Bishop of Algoma, Epiphany, Jan. 6th. Metropolitan of Ontario, 1915. Retired 1927. Died Aug. 3rd. 1935.

1926. Rt. Rev. Rocksborough Remington Smith, M. A., D. D. consecrated Coadjutor, Bishop of Algoma, Sept. 21st. Installed as fourth Bishop of Algoma, Sault Ste. Marie, Jan. 9th, 1927.

Lakehead Early Missionary Priests

1872. Rev. C. D. Deudas, Incumbent of St. John's Port Arthur.

1877. Rev. J. Ker McMorine, Incumbent of St. John's Port Arthur.

1885. Rev. C. I. Machin, Incumbent of St. John's Port Arthur.

Rectors of St. Luke's, Fort William

1887. Rev. M. Chas. Kirby, First Incumbent of St. Luke's.

1893. Rev. H. J. Harper, First Rector of St. Luke's.

1900. Rev. H. Frankland.

1911. Rev. S. N. Rankin.

1912. Rev. Canon Burt.

1919. Rev. Canon J. C. Popey.

1932. Rev. S. F. Yeomans.



THE MOST REV. GEORGE THORNELOE, D. D., D. C. L.

Lord Bishop of Algoma, (Third) 1897-1915

Lord Archbishop of Algoma, (First) 1915-1927

Metropolitan of Ontario, (Second.) 1915-1929

Died, August 3rd, 1935. R. I. P.

HISTORY

IN seeking to link up the Parish of St. Luke with the early Missionary Work carried on in the Thunder Bay District, I find that many of the early records have been destroyed by fire, thus making the task of a consecutive story very difficult. From available records, and from information given by some of the older inhabitants I am now able to present the following brief summary of events leading up to the establishment of St. Luke's Parish.

The following information as to early days in Fort William is taken from a letter written by Miss McIntyre, whose father was Governor of the Hudson Bay Fort at Fort William. He had a room arranged over one of the store houses, and in this room services were held from time to time. When Colonel Walsely and troops were quartered in Port Arthur, the Chaplain conducted services here. If a clergyman was on board the steamboat which made its call on Sundays, his services were requisitioned for the purpose.

The first available records are the Church records of St. John's Church, Port Arthur, then known as Prince Arthur's Landing. In 1853 the Rev. C. D. Duval was incumbent of St. John's, and apparently ministered to all Church of England people throughout the district; ministrations and services being recorded at Silver Islet, the town plot Fort William, and at Oliver.

The Rev. J. Ker McMorine followed in 1877. Mr. McMorine used to drive to West Fort William every Sunday afternoon and conduct his services in what he called the "Upper Room". This room was over Mr. Brown's telegraph office situated on a lane running east from Brown Street. An organ was purchased by Mr. Edward Ingalls, one of the members of the choir, and Mrs. Knappin was the organist. The dining room of the Ontario house was kindly lent from time to time for entertainment purposes.

The Rev. C. I. Machin came to St. John's in 1885, and regularly visited Fort William. The first public school was built near what is now the subway, and services were held here for some time. Later a more commodious school was erected where the Bank of Montreal now stands and services were held in an upstairs room. Mr. Machin generally walked over from Port Arthur and was driven home by some one of the members. Services were also conducted at West Fort William in various buildings. Smith's Hall, the school house, and the Presbyterian Church being places mentioned at different times.

Bishop Sullivan visited Fort William in June 1887 and at a meeting of church members which was held in the Presbyterian church West Fort, he spoke at some length of the work of the church in the Diocese of Algoma. In 1873 he said there were only seven clergy in the whole diocese, and what little work had been done on the North shore, was largely through the use of the "Evangeline", a boat presented to the Bishop by friends in England. The announcement was then made by his Lordship that Mr. Murdock Charles Kirby was to be ordained August 7th and would be stationed at Fort William.



THE RIGHT REV. ROCKSBOROUGH REMINGTON SMITH, D. D.

Coadjuter Bishop of Algoma (First) 1920 - 1927

Lord Bishop of Algoma (Fourth) 1927 -

Rev. Chas. Kirby 1887-1895

Mr. Kirby arrived from England and conducted his first service in the school-house in September 1887. He served as Deacon under Mr., afterwards Canon Machin till his ordination to the priesthood in June 1889, when he was given full charge of Fort William and Oliver. He was married in England in 1889. During his incumbency Mr. Kirby lived first at West Fort and about the year 1894 he took possession of St. Luke's first parsonage, a house which had been erected on what is now May Street, but then little more than a frog pond.

A few of the highlights recorded during Mr. Kirby's term of office may prove interesting to our readers. The following advertisement appears in the Fort William paper under date April 27, 1889:

ENGLISH CHURCH

FORT WILLIAM WEST—Preaching every Sunday evening at nineteen o'clock, Sunday School at fifteen o'clock. Choir practice every Friday at twenty o'clock.

FORT WILLIAM—Preaching services every other Sunday at 10.30, every other Sunday afternoon at fifteen o'clock.

Service at Oliver every other Sunday at 10.30 o'clock.

(Sgd.) Rev. Charles Kirby, Pastor

At the annual vestry meeting in Fort William held in 1889, Mr. Machin occupied the chair. Mr. Ed. Carpenter and Mr. Redding were appointed wardens. Mr. John Weigand and Mr. R. Reavely as sidesmen.

In his report to the vestry, Rural Dean Machin stated that he had asked at the last vestry meeting for a thirty per cent. increase in contributions, and that far more had been raised.

Special mention was made at this meeting of the musical and other help given by Mrs. Kirkup. An interesting account of the wedding of Cyrus Kirkup to Miss Louisa Richards is given in the issue of March 30, 1889 of the Fort William paper. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. C. J. Machin and the happy couple left for the West after a reception in their honour. Mrs. Kirkup is referred to as a faithful worker in the Sunday School and other branches of church work.

At a meeting held in West Fort William in 1889, the vestry passed a resolution to undertake the building of a church in the autumn, to be called after the Apostle St. Thomas. The foundation stone was laid by Mrs. Kirby on June 24, 1890. All labour with the exception of one paid carpenter was given free. The church was officially opened on Advent Sunday 1890.

St. Luke's did not lag far behind. A grant of land had been given by the C. P. R. to the Bishop of Algoma in his corporate capacity for the purpose of a church building. The land is designated as lot 9, block 22, C. P. R. and Hudson's Bay Co. sub division plan number 54. Construction work was commenced Sept. 17, 1890 when the block was placed in position by Miss McIntyre. This block was taken from the old trading post which dates back to 1737. The opening services were held on Dec. 14, 1890. The Rev. M. C. Kirby preached in the morning and the Rev. E. Jackson of Port Arthur in the evening. The anthem "How Manifold are Thy Works" by Goss was sung. The collection amounted to \$52.00. The W. A. furnished the organ and carpet, a red altar hanging was the

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gift of Mrs. Plummer. The lectern was given by Mrs. Kirby, and a brass cross sent from England by the Archbishop of York an uncle of Mr. Kirby. Thus commenced the life and activities of St. Luke's parish.



St. Luke's Church. (Original Building) From Photo taken about 1892

The first recorded baptism in the church register is that of Albert Edward Gilmour of the Neebing Hotel, Fort William, born April 28th, 1887 and baptised on August 11th of the same year. The first burial from the same record was that of Mary Weigand of Neebing Additional, who died May 27th, 1888 and was buried in the town plot cemetery May 29th. The first confirmation was held in the Presbyterian Church, West Fort on December 2nd, 1888, the Right Rev. E. Sullivan, Bishop of Algoma, officiating. The funeral of Miss Charlotte Weigand who was one of the candidates presented at this service, was held from St. Luke's Church on June 10th, 1936. Ernest John Brimmell and Henrietta Marie Byrne, both of West Fort William, have the honour of being the first recorded in the marriage register, the wedding taking place on July 4th, 1890. The first vestry minutes are of the year 1893 and a notation is made to the effect that all previous records were destroyed by fire in Mr. B. G. Hamilton's office, he being church warden at that time.

Matters of Interest from the Vestry Records

Evidently the poor are always with us. At the first recorded meeting the Rector and others suggested setting aside one offering each month to establish a poor fund, but after discussion the proposal was abandoned. The work of building a Rectory seems to have been in hand by this time, as a report was made by the committee and a discussion took place on the same. A resolution was passed stating that the committee had been given authority to expend \$1,500.00 but as further expenditure was necessary, they be allowed to make same but not exceeding \$250. March 1894. A motion by Mr. R. Reavely that a sheet be placed on the table for anyone to sign as members of the Church of England, and stating how much they would subscribe for the ensuing year received no seconder. At a meeting held

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the following month a motion was passed requesting the Bishop to allow women to vote at vestry meetings on the same qualifications as men. February 21st, 1895. At this meeting a report was presented by a committee which had been appointed to canvass for subscriptions in order that St. Luke's might become self-supporting. The report being satisfactory a motion was passed that the mission become self-supporting, that the salary be \$800 and a house, and that Rev. E. J. Harper be chosen as rector. Mr. Harper conducted his first service on June 23, 1895.

Rev. E. J. Harper 1895-1909



The original church was a frame building facing north and south with the main entrance on Cameron Street. Soon after its completion the question of desirability of location was raised, a question which has been and still remains a potent influence in the life and progress of the parish. In December 1895 a committee was appointed regarding the purchase of a lot on May Street near Victoria Avenue for another church site. Again in 1903 the following motion was passed—that "Whereas the town of Fort William is now making rapid progress as regards building, standing and reputation, and has during the past year increased 25%, and whereas the appearance, location and size of our present church works an injustice with regard to attendance, and does not fully represent the standing of the Church in this town and is in our

opinion not conducive to the best interests of the Church of England in this parish, therefore it was resolved to at once select a site, appoint a committee to solicit subscriptions, obtain plans and specifications, and all necessary arrangements to secure for the parish a new church with a seating capacity of not less than five hundred. February 1904, another motion was carried by the vestry that they purchase the corner of Victoria Avenue and Archibald Street, lots 59 and 60 east Archibald Street, 109 by 93 for the price of \$2,300 for church purposes.

In presenting his report at the annual meeting in April the Rector said he was satisfied that with more room and a better locality for the church, there would be a far larger increase to report. Reports were later presented by a special committee on subscriptions obtained, and Mr. Wells asked the meeting to work heart and soul for the new church, and stated that the committee would be in a position to make a complete report in three weeks. Plans were shown but not approved and the following resolution was passed—"that the subscription committee continue to function, and if the sum of \$7000 be secured, that the plans and statement be submitted to the Bishop for his approval, total sum to be expended on the buildings and site not to exceed \$12,000.

Congratulations from

**N. M. Paterson
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Fort William, Ont.

It is with sincerity that we congratulate St. Luke's Anglican Church and our many friends in the congregation on the splendid contribution it has made to Fort William and district during the past fifty years

**James Murphy Coal
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PHONES :

South 8, 84, 88

The promised report was given on April 27 which showed the sum of \$3150 promised and subscribed. Reports stated a great deal of indifference had been shown to the canvassers, and that if the congregation would take a keener interest in church matters, the project would be easy of solution. While the committee felt they could raise the amount of \$4000 by further work, the report stated that unless a large percentage of the congregation will come forward voluntarily and subscribe, it would not appear that the time for building is opportune. It also advised purchase of site without delay, and building to be proceeded with as soon as the necessary funds were promised. The report was adopted and the building committee continued in office.

Discussions on the subject were carried on at subsequent meetings. Letters passed between the Bishop and the Rector, and on October 20, 1905, a congregational meeting was held at which Bishop Thorneloe was present. Previous to the meeting a request had been made to the Bishop asking permission to mortgage the church property, in order that they might proceed at once with the erection of a new church. This petition was not granted, but the Bishop offered financial assistance to the building of a church under certain conditions, some of which I cite—He would be responsible for one quarter of the total sum required, provided it cost not more than \$8000 and not less than \$5000. There must be no mortgage or lien of any kind upon church or site. The church to be built upon present site.

Along with this offer he also suggested keeping expenditure as low as possible on the present site, and the wisdom of securing at once if possible, a site in the western part of the town, in view of the possible need of two churches in the future. The outcome of the congregational meeting was a resolution to refer the offer to the select vestry, they to report as early as possible to the congregation.

For over fifteen years this question of a more desirable site for the church had made the work of consolidation very difficult, and finally resulted in the establishing of St. Paul's Parish in 1908. Construction of St. Paul's was commenced in 1907. The church was opened in 1908 with the Rev. H. G. King as Rector. A baptismal service was conducted in the basement on March 9, and that evening the marriage of H. S. Hancock and Sarah Elizabeth Edwards was solemnized. The first service was also conducted in the basement on March 15, and on April 20th the church was officially opened, and the induction of Mr. King took place at the evening service.

So much for the aspirations of St. Luke's, but let us return and see what actually took place in the Parish during this time.

April 1806—An offer of the W. A. to assume control of the parsonage fund was accepted. Mr. Harper requested an increase in salary of \$100, but the vestry decided they were unable to grant this request. The question of enlarging the church by an addition of 30 feet to the south end was discussed at a meeting in May, and in June plans and specifications of the work at an estimated cost of \$600 were laid before a congregational meeting and the Incumbent was authorized to solicit subscriptions and report. Specifications and tenders were submitted in July. The tender of A. H. Dale was accepted, and Messrs F. Brown and H. Sellers were appointed to supervise the work.

Alterations to choir seating and Chancel were authorized in September, also the banking and painting of the base of the church. A new chimney was built, and the south wall of the church was replastered in 1806. A fence around the church property was the gift of Messrs M. Sellers and W. Tully in 1800. At this

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time the question of building a Sunday School was raised, but lack of funds prevented any action being taken. However in 1900 the suggestion of a gallery in the church was brought forward, and accepted with the proviso that the Sunday School bear expense of same. This was accomplished under the active influence of Mr. G. H. Coo, who was Sunday School Superintendent at the time. Further room for the Sunday School was again under discussion in May 1906, when a proposition was brought forward to fix the basement of the rectory for use of the infant class, but no action was taken.



St. Luke's, Showing Open Rafters Before Fire

In May 1906 new seats were ordered to replace the chairs then in use. At this time the Scandinavian congregation were being allowed use of the church for their services, a nominal charge being made for light.

The next step taken was to move the church to the present position, place it on a foundation, and brick veneer it. The suggestion was first brought forward in Sept. 1906 but it was not finally carried out until June 1910. During the interval several warm discussions had taken place in regard to the project, and other alterations to the building had been made. In October, 1907 the project of a larger vestry for the choir was under discussion, and the Wardens were empowered to proceed with the building of same, the A. Y. P. A. promising at least one-third of its cost. In 1909 the idea of a new church seems to have once more come to the front as an interim building committee was appointed in April of that year to consider ways and means. Plans were presented and approved by the meeting. Nothing however was done, and in March 1910 Mr. G. Allen urged the necessity of at once moving the church and fixing the basement, so that there would be a place for meetings to be held, and they would be in a position to attract many young men whom he thought were drifting away from the parish. Mr. Coo reported that plans had been posted in the church lobby, which seemed to meet with general approval, some tenders had been submitted, and the decision was to leave the matter open for later meeting.

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were in place for the Easter Service. On April 4 the A. Y. P. A. reported holding no meetings, as they had no room for their gatherings. This probably had some little influence in bringing the matter once more into prominence, and quite a discussion took place on the report of the building committee. A special meeting was called a week later to consider the report. In presenting same Mr. Coe stated that five years ago the W. A. built the rectory at a cost of \$5700, and he urged the men to take an active interest in this matter of moving the church, and appealed that the work should be proceeded with at once. In the discussion that followed several motions were presented pro and con, but Mr. Coe refused to accept defeat. In a spirited speech he told of how the early settlers of Ontario had by pluck and perseverance turned a trackless forest into beautiful cities, farms and homes, with many beautiful churches and felt sure that if the congregation of St. Luke's said "We will do this", it was then practically accomplished. This clinched the matter, and the report was adopted. A finance committee was appointed and commencement of the work was promised as soon as frost was out of the ground. The first meeting of the Sunday School in the new basement was held on July 10, 1910, the church then facing east and west in its present position.



We turn back once more to 1896 to note matters of interest in the life and activities of the parish. Growing pains were being felt in more directions than one. St. Thomas' congregation felt they were not being treated fairly in regard to services, while St. Luke's felt they were now big enough to have full time services of a priest. A meeting of representatives of the two congregations was held September, 1896, at which Bishop Sullivan was present and heard their complaints. His ruling was that services should be held at St. Thomas' church every second Sunday in the month at 9 a. m. and first and third Sundays, when there are four Sundays in the month, and first, third, and fourth, when there are five Sundays in the month at 2.30 p. m. The matter was taken up again in Mr. Harper's time with the Bishop, and discussed at a number of subsequent meetings. In 1899 St. Luke's was still advising the Bishop that they required the whole of Mr. Harper's time. I have not been able to trace any further record, but it would appear that the union was not severed until the appointment of Rev. S. M. Rankin to St. Thomas' in 1906.

When churches have growing pains, the life of many things is short. A new organ had been purchased by the W. A. when the church was first built, but six years later a committee was appointed to inquire as to prices and report on possibility of obtaining another. On their recommendation a Doherty Reed organ was purchased in 1897.

The first parsonage as already stated was built on May Street and occupied first by Mr. Kirby, and then by Mr. Harper. In 1898 the question was raised of having the building moved to a better location and nearer the church. However it was decided in 1899 to sell the parsonage, and buy the lot on which the present rectory stands. The lot was purchased at the price of \$175.00, the old building was sold, and a house now used as a fruit store on the corner of Brodie and Victoria Avenue was rented by the W. A. for Mr. Harper's use. In 1904 the present commodious rectory was built due entirely to the indefatigable zeal of the W. A.

The financial state of affairs was never too promising, as meetings were called from time to time to discuss this problem. At the annual meeting in 1909 a deficit of \$300.00 was reported. This however was deemed quite a good showing considering the fact that it was the first year of complete separation by St. Paul's. Questions of ceremony also arose, and a meeting was held in February, 1909 to decide as to the lights which had been placed on the altar on the Feast of the Circumcision. Rev. Canon Hedley presided, and a motion was passed that the lights be retained. On October 21 the Rural Dean again presided at a meeting when the resignation of Rev. E. J. Harper was presented, he having received appointment to the Parish of Haileybury. The resignation was received with expressions of regret. A concurrence committee was named in October, and the new Rector, the Rev. H. Frankland conducted his first service on January 1, 1910. During the interval services were carried on by the Ven. Gowan Gillmor, Archdeacon of Algoma, and neighboring clergy.

Rev. H. Frankland 1910-1911

Rev. S. N. Rankin 1911-1912

The first report of the chancel guild was presented at the annual meeting in 1910. The musical part of the church service received particular attention at this meeting, and growing pains were again in evidence when Mr. G. Allen proposed the purchase of a new organ, turning in the two present ones in exchange. Objection was raised to any further expenditure at that time but as Mr. Allen guaranteed to be responsible for raising the necessary amount, the motion was finally passed. The new organ was procured and placed in use on July 10, 1910.

A piano had been purchased by the A. Y. P. A. but finding it difficult to procure a place for meetings they asked the vestry to assume responsibility for the balance of payment which was finally arranged. An excursion to Kakabeka Falls, which continued as an annual affair for some years was arranged for May 24. An least window, the gift of Mrs. Tharle, was placed in position October, 1910. The Rev. H. Frankland conducted his last service on February 19, 1911, returning to the Diocese of York, England.

Mr. Rankin, who had been in charge of St. Thomas' was appointed to St. Luke's and the Rev. J. C. Poppy was appointed locum tenens at West Fort William. Bouquets were presented to St. Luke's by both gentlemen at the first annual meeting, when Mr. Rankin said that without doubt St. Luke's Sunday School was the best in the Twin Cities, and the way the children answered questions was a delight. Mr. Poppy in response, said that he was of the opinion that the children took after their parents, and were the nicest looking children he had ever seen (applause). Mr. Rankin asked for six months vacation to visit his mother in England and as they had such a popular gentleman among them as Mr. Poppy, he thought it might be arranged.

On motion of Mr. John Merton the rector's stipend was raised to \$1200. A united service was held at St. Paul's church on June 22, 1911, the day of the coronation of King George V. The total contributions received for the patronal festival services was \$1500. (Present wardens and congregation please note). Mr. Rankin preached his last sermon in St. Luke's on Whitsunday 1912 and left shortly afterward for England. For about six months the church had temporary supply: H. N. Nowell, L. C. Streatfield, Archdeacon Gillmor and R. C. Bartels. The Rev. Canon Burt conducted his first service in St. Luke's on Friday, November 29, 1912.

Canon W. A. J. Burt 1912-1919

The period of the Great War was one in which practically the whole world was implicated. This period was during the rectorship of Rev. Canon Burt, and in various ways reports of St. Luke's Parish give an inkling of the part taken by the members in those dark days. Several of the men enlisted, some made the supreme sacrifice, and others returned home to suffer in later years, as the occupancy of the Legion ward in McKellar Hospital now testifies. Some of these men were active leaders in the church, and their absence was felt in many ways. The ladies of the congregation carried on a great work under the name of "St. Luke's Patriotic Sewing Society". A list of the various memorials placed in the Church will be found on another page. On Nov. 11th, 1918, St. Luke's again joined with millions of people throughout the world in thanksgiving for peace. Whistles were blown and bells rang throughout the city at six a. m. and services of thanksgiving to God continued from November 12 to December 1. During October and part of November all churches were closed in the Twin Cities owing to the severe epidemic of Spanish influenza.

The old question of a new site for the church was again brought forward at different meetings during the time of Canon Burt. Space was needed for the Sunday School, but the vestry decided it was better to clear off all debt on the church and rectory first, and then make an effort to build a new church. Again in 1914 the vestry agreed that a movement should be made to procure suitable lots for a new church, and to find ways and means of financing same. The Canon reported having a communication in regard to the purchase of six lots on Archibald Street and said that at some time or other we would have to get a larger building, and that it was best to buy now when property was cheap.

In January 1914 permission was requested of the vestry to erect a club room on the vacant land west of the church. The members of the Brotherhood of St. Andrew had undertaken to have this building erected, the idea being to have a place apart from the church, where a Bible class could be held on Sundays and used as a reading room for the men during the week. The rector also stated that the building would be of a kind which could be moved, in case other lots were purchased more in the centre of the parish, and used as a Mission until a proper building could be erected. Permission was given, with the proviso that the financing was not to fall on the vestry. Work was commenced immediately, and the club rooms were opened with a social and smoker on February 19, 1914, about seventy men being present. An extension was made to the building that fall and steam heating installed connected with the church boiler. After the church fire which occurred on February 19, 1916, services were held in the club room until the following Easter. In 1917 various debts had accumulated and a loan of \$600.00 was secured from the church to pay off the various individuals and consolidate the debt.



On February 19th, 1916 St. Luke's received a set-back by fire which did a great deal of damage to the interior of the church, especially the sanctuary. Fortunately the club room was now available, and as already pointed out, services were held in the club room during repairs. These were affected and the church re-opened for services at Easter, many improvements having been made. In the discussions that took place over the work of renovating it was decided to repair the building as cheaply as possible, and to place the balance of the insurance received in a savings account toward a new church. The amount so reported in 1917 was \$1504, and \$900. of this was loaned to the club, the balance being invested in bonds.

During 1917 Canon Burt had a much needed vacation of about two months when services were carried on by the Rev. Owen Jull and the Rev. W. H. Trickett. Mr. Trickett again relieved the Canon, this time for nearly four months in 1918. In February 1919 a letter was received from the Bishop, announcing the coming departure of the Canon, and a concurrence committee was appointed for the selection of a new Rector. Canon Burt officiated for his last service at St. Luke's on March 30, and the Rev. J. C. Popey, the new incumbent, held his first service on May 4th. During the interval services were conducted by the Rev. W. H. Trickett and the Rev. R. C. Bartels.

Rev. J. C. Popey 1919-1932.

At the first annual meeting, Mr. Popey suggested consideration of purchasing a bell and pulpit for the church, and also the repairing of the church fence. The latter was done by voluntary labor. In 1920 a motion was again brought forward to procure lots for a new church site, but as there was no second-er, the motion was dropped. It was thought better to try and fill the church on its present site, before thinking of a new one. \$2000 was reported raised in the parish toward the Anglican Forward Movement.

At a meeting held in June the committee in charge of the men's club offered to hand same over to the Wardens, as owing to a lack of interest they felt unable to continue the responsibility. It was pointed out that the club was already the property of the parish, and as the club was indebted to the church by loan which could not be redeemed, the only thing possible was that the wardens should take over things as they stood. After some discussion a committee was appointed to carry on in conjunction with the Rector and wardens. Help came from an unexpected source. The Board of Education found themselves short of accommodation and rented the hall for school purposes.

1921. At the annual vestry meeting, the women of the congregation had a vote for the first time, this now being synodical law. The Altar Guild provided new cassocks and surplices for the choir. Collections through the mite boxes for the Lenten season 1921 amounted to \$122.00.

Annual financial reports present very familiar reading. There were between forty and fifty envelope subscribers, and a deficit of over \$600.00 was reported. Result of discussion, a motion that statement of affairs be sent the W. A., and their generous support requested in meeting this obligation.

A new boiler and heating equipment was installed in the church, the interior was calcolmined and some painting done. The greater part of this expense was met by the W. A. and the Altar Guild. During the rector's vacation from Sept. to Nov. the Rev. John Tate acted as locum tenens. Suggestions to build a chancel as a war memorial were brought forward in 1922 and a committee appointed to bring in a report. Nothing further seems to have been done in that matter.

In 1923 a campaign was put on to canvass the parish. This was carried out by six teams, having as their objective \$1000. They also canvassed the non-envelope subscribers at the same time, thus killing two birds with one stone. The campaign must have proved a success, for in 1924 a committee was formed to go into the question of a new pipe organ. Mrs. Backus said she thought the W. A. would only be too willing to go into this matter in conjunction with the church providing the new organ be installed as a war memorial. A report was presented by the committee in October, and action passed authorizing purchase of organ from Messrs Lye & Sons of Toronto at a price of \$2100.00 and that the congregation pledge themselves to raise the initial payment of \$1000.00 immediately, the balance within two years. On question being raised by Mr. Shapton the committee assured the meeting the purchase would not be made till the first payment was in hand. On behalf of the W. A., Mrs. Backus advised they would donate \$400.00 toward initial payment.

The next step was the building of an organ chamber which was carried out that same year, being built on the south side of the chancel, and having the Rector's vestry beneath. The cost of the building was \$663.00 and wiring for the organ \$104.00, the expense being met from the building fund. The organ was installed in 1925 and was used for the first time on Palm Sunday. At the evening service Mr. Lye gave a recital. The service of dedication took place on April 13, Mr. C. D. Acherman releasing the large Union Jack which enveloped the front of the organ, this was followed by the singing of Psalm 150. The first half of the order for Evening Prayer was taken to the accompaniment of the old Reed Instrument and when the new 2 manual organ was unveiled Mr. Acherman took his seat at the console. Rev. Eric Montizambert of Port Arthur preached the sermon from Hebrews 12 and at the conclusion of the service, Mr. W. G. Whale, organist of

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St. Andrew's church, Port Arthur, gave a short organ recital. Another memorial gift filled a long felt want, when the Kirkup family placed a beautiful pulpit in the church in 1924, in memory of C. D. Kirkup, who had made the supreme sacrifice. Violet hangings for the altar were presented by the Altar Guild, and a carpet by the Brownies and Mrs. Humphreys.



RECTORY, HALL AND CHURCH, 1936

The question of necessary repairs to the church, rectory and hall was once more raised, and in 1926 a committee was appointed to report on the prospect of a new building. The committee later reported that to build a one story structure, which could be later used as a basement for a new church, would cost \$10,000.00 to \$12,000.00, and advised building of a two storey hall, at a cost not exceeding \$6000.00. Plans and specifications were prepared, tenders received, permission obtained from the executive in regard to mortgage, and the present hall was built in the same year. The accepted tender was for the sum of \$5291.00. To obtain the money a mortgage was placed on the rectory. Forty-eight men signed bonds of \$250.00 each, and a loan of \$6000.00 was secured from the Great West Life Assurance Company for a period of 10 years, at 7% interest.

During the discussions on the project it is interesting to note that the question of repairs to rectory and church, though brought forward from time to time, received little consideration. Also interesting was a registered objection by Mr. Shapton, who questioned the advisability of attempting to raise extra money when salaries for the past month remained unpaid.

The motion authorizing the building was as follows—"that the vestry of St. Luke's church build a new parish hall on the site where the present club room stands."

1929. A very successful Mission was conducted in the parish by members of the Church Army in October.

1930. A new furnace was installed in the rectory, the window in the east end of the church, which had been destroyed in the fire, was replaced as a memorial to Mrs. Tharle, proceeds being obtained from the building fund.

At the annual meeting January 1932, Cannon Popey announced his resignation after thirteen years as Rector. A concurrence committee was appointed Feb. 21 and Mr. Popey conducted his last service in St. Luke's on Easter Sunday, March 27th.

It is with sincerity that we
congratulate St. Luke's Church on
this, the 50th Anniversary

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Rev. S. F. Yeomans 1932

Rev. S. F. Yeomans arrived from Massey on April 1, and conducted his first service on the 3rd.

May 30 to June 3, the diocesan convention of the W. A. was held in St. Luke's. On Nov. 22 Mr. John Thomas Weigand, the oldest resident of Fort William, having lived here for sixty-three years was buried in Mountain View Cemetery. He was in his eighty-ninth year.

On April 22, 1934, the colours of the Girl Guides were dedicated and presented at the morning service, Cubs and Scouts being also present. An impressive service of admission for the Altar Servers was held on Sunday, May 11.

In June and October the Rector was in hospital with throat trouble, and during his absence services were carried on by Rural Dean Lloyd, Mr. S. Speed and Mr. M. H. Ellard. At the Easter services, April 1935 we had the pleasure of the Rev. H. S. Metcalf's presence and assistance.

On January 28, 1935, St. Luke's joined in the universal expression of grief at the passing of our King, George V. A requiem service was held in the church at 10 a. m. and the Rector and congregation attended a joint Memorial Service at St. Paul's in the afternoon.

In 1933 a bequest of \$2000 in Fort William bonds was received from the estate of the late Mrs. Margaret Norris, the money to be used for the repairs on church and rectory and the disbursement of same to be under direction of the W. A. On August 1, a loan of \$900 was negotiated with Mr. G. Coe on security of the two bonds for a period of five years at 7 per cent interest.

The money was used in carrying out the much desired project of repairing church basement and rectory. The interior work of the church basement was torn out, the floor raised seven inches, a new cement floor put in, two rooms fitted up for choir vestries, and the outside of the church painted. The rectory was painted and redecorated throughout.

At the end of April 1936 our capital indebtedness was \$2040 and \$600 owing for salaries and repairs.



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ORGANIZATIONS

Women's Auxiliary

The Women's Auxiliary to the Missionary Society of the Church in Canada, or the W. A. as it is better known, is this year celebrating its fiftieth anniversary, being organized on April 17, 1885. Diocesan organization did not take place till 1902 when Mrs. Thorneloe was elected first Diocesan president.

The object of the Association is implied in its title: To assist in the missionary work of the Church. The methods adopted in carrying out this responsibility are threefold: Prayer, Education and Giving, this also being the order of emphasis. To-day, the work is sub-divided into four main branches, Women, Girls, Juniors, and the Little Helpers or Babies' Branch. Each branch have their respective constitution, and officers, and conduct their own meetings. There is also a Members' Prayer, suitable for each grade, which is intended to be used daily by all members.

The value of this Association to the Church in Canada, and more especially to the Diocese of Algoma, cannot be estimated. In the general work of the Canadian and Foreign field, they assume responsibility for all Women and Girl workers; Assistance is given to the work among Jews and Orientals in Canada; Educational grants are made to assist children of Clergy working in Missionary Dioceses; and training of Missionaries is provided for.

In the Diocesan field, financial help is given toward a Priest or Catechist at Shegunadah, also toward assisting Widows of the Mission Clergy who are left without adequate means of support. Altar vessels and Books are provided for Mission Churches; Assistance is given the Sunday School by Post; and sums of money are voted each year for special Diocesan appeals, and the Bishop's Discretionary Fund. Besides assisting in meeting these financial responsibilities of the Organization, each Branch assists more or less in their Parochial responsibilities. Without the aid given by the W. A., the Church in Canada would indeed be faced with a very difficult and serious problem. Valued as their services are in this respect, the influence of the Auxiliary as a spiritual force is beyond measure. "Prayer" is the first requirement of the Organisation, and the W. A. can be relied upon in almost every Parish and Mission, to give a lead in emphasizing the Spiritual rather than the material.

St. Luke's

From an article written by Mrs. S. Sellers to the Fort William paper, the work of the W. A. commenced in this city about 1888, and has been continuous to the present time.

Mrs. R. Reading, who had been to Rat Portage, brought back with her the idea of collecting 25c each month from every Church woman, and the plan was put into operation in Fort William. Mrs. Reading and Mrs. Ed. Carpenter went from the Lighthouse to Graham's Mill by boat when on their collecting trips in the summer, and drove in the winter, the members being very few, and scattered.

It was from these collections that the organ and carpet were purchased for

the original Church. After St. Luke's was built, the Women's Auxiliary was organized, and meetings were held at the home of Mrs. Dickens. Mrs. Onslow was the first President. With the first money obtained after organization, Communion Linnen was purchased from England, and the Church furnished. In those days the membership was very small, six to eight women attending the meetings. Mrs. H. Sellers was elected President the next year, and Mrs. Phipps occupied the position for the three years following. During this time a great advance was made, both in regard to membership, and also the amount of money raised. The next President was Mrs. Verger, who is still a member of St. Luke's. This would be about the year 1897. Those who know Mrs. Verger personally, will not be surprised to hear that under her leadership, the Missionary aspect of the work became more prominent. Money was sent to distant Missions, and bales of clothing to Indian Homes. "Our President, (writes Mrs. Sellers) instilling the sentiment of giving into our Society, showing us we had fostered the spirit of selfishness by keeping so much for ourselves." The work thus begun has continued without a break to the present time. During the past few years the membership has been between eighty and ninety. Seven to eight hundred dollars has been paid each year toward the Church and Rectory expenses; clothing provided for an Indian girl at Chaplean School, a yearly contribution made to the Christmas Cheer Fund; from two to three hundred dollars is sent as St. Luke's apportionment to the various branches of the W. A. work; and a small sum is expended each year in sending flowers and greeting cards to members who are sick or bereaved. Two of the oldest members of the W. A., and of St. Luke's Congregation, Mrs. Kirkup and Mrs. Weigand, passed to their reward in 1935 after many years of faithful service. May their souls rest in peace. Space is not available to mention all the work done by the W. A. Suffice it to say, that it would have been impossible to carry on the work of St. Luke's as of many other Missions and Parishes without the aid so generously given.

Girls and Junior Branches

The Junior Branch of the W. A. dates back to the year 1900, while the Girls Branch is much younger, commencing about the year 1923, under the supervision of Mrs. John Mills. Mrs. Kirkup was probably the first supervisor of the Junior Branch. These both carry on W. A. work on the same lines as the parent organization, assisting in the parochial finances, and making their regular contribution to the Missionary work of the Church. Meetings of the Girls are held every other Wednesday evening, and the Juniors meet every other Friday. Both branches have a fair membership, but there is still ample room for expansion, and a most cordial welcome awaits any of our Junior or Senior Girls wishing to link up with the Auxiliary in its wonderful work.

Altar Guild

The Chancel Guild was first organized in 1869, the change of name to the "Altar Guild" being made at a later date. The work of the Guild is to beautify the Church, and to set it in order, that we may better "Worship the Lord in the Beauty of Holiness." Care of the Communion Linnen, Vessels, and Ornaments of the Chancel, is their particular responsibility. Two members each week prepare the Sanctuary, and arrange the flowers, these being provided from

the Society Funds, when not donated. It is a work of love, and provides an opening for women of the Church who desire in some special way, to consecrate a part of their time to definite work for Christ and His Church.

Altar Servers

The Motto of the Scout Association is "Be Prepared," and the intention is to train the boy for service.

The Altar Servers Guild of St. Luke's is an outcome of this idea and training, and provides an opportunity for our boys to enter upon one of the highest, and most Holy forms of Service, that of assisting at the Altar in the Service of the Sanctuary. The boys undergo a period of preparation, and a special Form of Service is used for admission to the Guild, to assist them in realizing the honour and responsibility of membership. At present, we have nine boys enrolled as active members.

Sunday School

Organized classes are provided in the Sunday School for four different grades; Kindergarten, Junior, Intermediate, and Senior. The Kindergarten Class meet in the Church basement under the supervision of Mrs. Howland. These little tots, who range from three to seven years of age, show a great interest in their gatherings, and display a loyalty in attendance which puts to shame those of the main Sunday School. The Junior and Intermediate classes meet in the Parish Hall, with a staff of six teachers and Secretary-Treasurer, while Junior Bible Classes are held in the Church. Our total enrollment is about 125, just half the number of children on our church record. What is to become of our Church in the future, if children are not trained to attend Church and Sunday School? A great responsibility rests upon the parents for present conditions in this respect, and we look for a greater measure of support to the teachers who willingly give of their time and ability to this work.

Cubs, Scouts and Guides

St. Luke's enjoys the distinction of being first in the field at the Lakehead in the organization of both Scouts and Guides. The First Post William Troop obtained its original Charter in 1919, Reverend Canon Popay, Thomas Draycot, Prof. Hunter, occupied in turn the position of Scoutmaster, the present Troop being under the joint leadership of Sid and Brian Hansock.

The training of the boys is toward the idea of "Service", and their Motto is "Be Prepared". Ample opportunity exists both in the Parish and Community for the boys to carry out their ideal of service. What the Troop needs most at the present time, is a committee of older men who will father the Movement, and direct the boys' work in fruitful channels.

The work among the Cubs is rather disappointing, owing chiefly to the lack of qualified leaders. Elgin Metcalf is at present in charge, and carrying on to the best of his ability. There is a splendid opening in this, as in all other branches of St. Luke's work, for consecrated workers, who will devote their time and gifts to the service of Christ and His Church.

The Girl Guides were first organized in October 1921 under the leadership of Mrs. J. Morgan, who ably carried on the work until June 1928. With the resignation of Mrs. Morgan, the troop disbanded as no one could be persuaded to take up the work of leadership. Organization was once again effected in 1935, with Miss Nancy Morgan in charge, under the supervision of Mrs. J. Morgan. Having obtained the necessary qualifications, Miss Nancy Morgan was appointed to full charge in 1934. The Colours of the Company were solemnly dedicated and presented to her keeping at the Morning Service on Sunday, April 22nd, 1934. Keen regret was expressed by all concerned when it became known that Miss Morgan was resigning the position of leader, owing to the fact that she was leaving Fort William. Miss Dorothy Clement, who had been an able lieutenant under the leadership of Miss Morgan, stepped into the vacant office in 1935, and is the present leader of St. Luke's Girl Guides.

Other Organizations

During the life of St. Luke's Parish, several organizations have been formed, some to last but a short time, and others have continued to the present.

During the time in which Canon Burt was Rector, the Brotherhood of St. Andrew was formed, but was eventually absorbed in the Men's Club. This was a great pity, as the two organizations were diametrically opposite in purpose. The B. S. A. is a body of laymen deeply concerned with the Spiritual side of Church work. Like St. Andrew, they endeavour to bring their brothers to Christ, in and through the Church. Beside the individual work done in this connection, their services are placed at the disposal of the Rector, to be used in any capacity for which they are fitted.

We hope to see this organization once more functioning in the Parish of St. Luke's. There is ample room for Spiritual and Social organizations to work together. What we chiefly need is leadership.

Another Society which found a place in the early life of the Parish, was the Girl's Friendly Society. This too was later absorbed in the Girl's Branch of the Auxiliary. In this case, it was really a development, as the purpose of the G. F. S. is included in the work of the G. A.

Tennis Clubs have been formed from time to time, but for some reason or other did not survive.

The A. Y. P. A. seems to have been a very strong organization in the early days of the Parish, and gave a great deal of assistance to the Church both in money, and influence among the young people. In 1907 the Senior and Junior Branches were meeting in the Forester's Hall on Simpson Street for which they paid an annual rental of \$80.00. Some of the activities of the Society have been already referred to in the History of the Parish. This is the official Church organization in the Dominion for our Young People, and we hope to see the Branch re-organized in this Parish at no late date. Here again our great need is leadership.

Conclusion

I began the work of compiling the matter for this book with great hesitancy, and trepidation. The work has been done at intervals, and in a hurried manner, and is by no means perfect. It has however, proved to be very interesting labour, and I can only hope that the matter presented will be of interest to our readers. While there are many things I would like to say, they would prove of little interest to the general reader, and I therefore forbear.

One general thought I would like to conclude with. Not only in St. Luke's but throughout the world, emphasis is needed to-day on the Spiritual rather than the material. Large congregations, numbers of Communicants, flourishing organizations, pretensions and costly buildings, these may mean but very little, if the spiritual life and activity of the Parish be dormant. We need to grow in Grace, and in favor with God and man. We need to realize more than is done at present, that the Church is the Body of Christ, that our work consists chiefly of witness through Worship, Prayer, and Giving, that Christ's Kingdom may be enlarged and extended, and that He may be acknowledged, served and worshipped by all.

As we look back upon the past, our hearts are raised in gratitude to Almighty God, for all that has been done in this Parish through the years now gone. We thank Him for the lives and labours of His many servants, who in this place cheerfully and lovingly devoted themselves to furthering the interests of His Kingdom. May they rest in Peace, and may light perpetual shine upon them. May we like them have Grace faithfully to fulfil our part, and hand on to our children, and to those yet to come, a still more great and glorious heritage.



Appreciation

The attention of the Congregation is drawn to the many firms advertising in this book. Through their generous support, its publication and distribution have been made possible. St. Luke's Church in thanking them asks its members, that wherever possible, the same generous support be given them as they have given our Church. Thanks are also due to Mr. Langworthy of Port Arthur, for his valued assistance in providing information.

F. BEECHER
W. J. SHAPTON,
Churchwardens

S. F. NEOMANS,
Rector

MEMORIAL GIFTS

- PULPIT**—Erected by the Kirkup family. In loving memory of Thomas Clifford Kirkup, Private 28th battalion C. E. F. Killed in action at Bois de Neulette, France, on Nov. 10, 1916, age 20 years. "Greater love hath no man than this that a man lay down his life for his friends." St. John 15, 13.
- LECTERN**—To the Glory of God and in memory of Herbert Wrenn who was drowned July 5, 1910. This lectern was presented by the Brotherhood of St. Andrew and Sunday School of St. Luke's Church.
- BRASS TABLET**—Erected in memory of Ellen Louise Norbury, died Dec. 19, 1919, age 23 years.
- BRASS TABLET**—Lieutenant Victor A. Stone, 8th Battalion, C. E. F., killed in action at Passchendaele Nov. 10, 1917. Erected by Mr. and Mrs. Reed, Eua and Jean.
- BRASS VASES**—presented by Mrs. Wilkinson in loving memory of Sydney Wilkinson who died July 23rd, 1930.
- BRASS OFFERTORY PLATES (two)**—In memory of Mary Eva Hardiman, died August 16th, 1924, presented by the W. A.
- ALTAR BOOK**—presented by Margaret Norris, in loving memory of William T. Norris who died March 12th, 1924.
- ORGAN**—To the Glory of God and in loving memory of the men from St. Luke's congregation who gave their lives in the Great War. "Their name liveth for evermore." P. Bland, D. Cliff, W. V. Coe, B. Curtis, E. Giles, P. W. Gibbons, R. M. Griffiths, C. D. Kirkup, M. Morgan, J. Nichols, C. Nunn, G. Prettly, J. P. Pyett, G. Robery, V. A. Stone, W. Turner, A. L. Wake, J. Whiffen, T. Whittaker. This organ was dedicated by Rev. J. C. Popey, on Sunday, April 13th, 1925.
- EAST END WINDOW**—Replaced by the church members as a memorial to Mrs. Thurlie, 1930.

In Memoriam



Sacred to the Memory
of all those
Members of St. Luke's Church
who are departed in the
true faith of Jesus Christ



*"Make them to be numbered with Thy Saints
In glory everlasting."*

Gifts Non-Memorial

- BRASS ALTAR RAIL presented by Mr. G. Allen, 1910.
BRASS VASES presented by Mrs. Sellers Sr.
BISHOP'S CHAIR presented by the W. A.
KNEELER AND DESK presented by Mr. C. Lea, at the Confirmation of his son George, 1929.
CHANCEL SCREEN presented by Mrs. Rowe.
LIGHTING UNITS presented by members of St. Luke's
SANCTUARY UNIT presented by Mr. Whitehurst.

Thessalon, May, 1936

To the Congregation of
St. Luke's Church

My Dear Friends :

The late Venerable Archdeacon Gillmour used to remark often when commencing some of his reminiscences "a hundred years ago I did so and so" I feel something like doing the same, "Time passes" as the Radio announcer says. The present Rector of St. Luke's has kindly given me the privilege of adding something to the history of St. Luke's Parish which he is about to publish, and having spent fourteen years of my life with the people of St. Luke's, there perhaps are a few interesting things I can add.

My first connection with the Parish was in 1910, when the late Reverend Archbishop Thorneloe gave me temporary charge of the Parish while the people there were deciding on a successor to the Reverend Franklin, who had to return to England on account of his wife's ill health. I lived at the Rectory for twelve months even after I had been appointed to West Fort, and the Rev. S. M. Rankin had become Rector.

Well I remember my first impressions, I think the first automobile was being run by the late Albert Sellers, whose Father and Mother lived in the Red House behind the church and lent flowers for the Altar, and also did the Rectory gardening. Mr. and Mrs. Guy Allen, Mr. and Mrs. Le Gassick, Mr. and Mrs. George Coo and Mr. W. Shapton were among my kindest friends and did all they could to make me happy in the new land. At that time I did not understand anything about furnaces and thought the people of Canada were very wasteful with wood. I have learnt much since and have burned many beautiful Canadian trees.

St. Paul's Church had not been long completed, the Rev. Harold King was Rector and a very faithful friend. I was transferred to Schreiber at the end of a year, and from there, after a few months to Haileybury where I spent a very happy seven years. The dear people at the Archbishop's suggestion called me back to St. Luke's, where for another thirteen years I was allowed to try and help the growing Parish. I found things in Fort William much improved. The old wooden sidewalks had made way for cement. The C. P. R. Depot had been removed to the present position. Automobiles had increased a hundred-fold or more and much building had been done. The church grounds were in rather a poor condition, but the people with a will helped improve the property, until the corner of Cameron and McKenzie became one of the beauty spots of the City. During my tenure the old wooden Men's Club was replaced by a small but useful brick Parish



Rev. J. C. Popey

Hall, and the Church building much repaired, an Organ added as a memorial to those who fell in the Great War, and a splendid Pulpit given by the Kirkup family.

Naturally with a connection of twenty-one years, I made many life long friends, and saw families grow, so much so that they became a real part of my life. Many still keep in touch with me, and I am happy if I can still help by advice and counsel. Many have passed along, reminding me and all that we must give an account of the things we have left undone, and the things we should not have done. May God forgive all our mistakes and cleanse us from all our sin. He knows and He understands. It was a sad day when on the welcome to Mr. Yeomans at my departure, the Parish gave me that purse of money and beautiful address. My heart is still among the people of the old Parish, and my best wishes and prayers go with this my little contribution to the forthcoming book.

So many have passed away since, and during my tenure, there were many sad connections, one family where I laid to rest the Father and two grown sons, and others whom I had learned to love and respect, this is part of the Clergyman's life. There are some whom I united in marriage, whose sons and daughters are still working in the old church. I could mention many names, but this perhaps would not be wise, and I am glad to know that many who I prepared and presented for Confirmation are still among the most loyal and faithful workers of the Church. May they continue faithful, and be a blessing and help to the present Rector and our loved Church.

Sincerely,

J. C. Popey



W. A. J. Bart, Archdeacon

Powassan,
May 15, 1936

To the Congregation of
St. Luke's Church,

My dear friends and one time parishoners of St. Luke's Parish, Fort William; you are often in my thoughts. How could it be otherwise, seeing that four years of my pastorate among you were those awful years of 1914-1918 when sorrow and affliction visited our homes caused by the world war and (in 1918) the epidemic of Influenza. Surely you and I were drawn very closely together by our common visitation, and as a consequence, our love and sympathy were enlarged.

My kindest regards to all.

Yours very truly,

W. A. J. Bart,
Archdeacon

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