

# A Further Chapter In The History Of Bedeque United Church

Compiled by a Committee from Bedeque Charge  
United Church of Canada.

The history of Bedeque United Church by E.S.D. as published in The Charlottetown Guardian this Winter and destined for book form this Spring, has the whole-hearted approval of the Official Board of the charge which feels however that a fuller record of our history would be appreciated.

Cape Traverse

Bedeque Circuit which has seen many changes during the years welcomed back Cape Traverse in 1893. The present Cape Traverse Church was erected in 1889. It was dedicated to the Glory of God in July, 1890, replacing the little pioneer meeting house which was sold in December of the same year to Montague Muttart for \$65.00. Rev.



REV. W. BURTON CROWE, B.A.  
Minister Bedeque United Church

H. P. Cowperthwaite was the minister at this time and Cape Traverse was a part of the Tryon Circuit. The trustees of the new church were Lewis Muttart, Wm. Silliker, Charles Wright, Ephraim Bell, Charles Macintosh, Wm. Muttart, Alex Robles, Reid Lewis, and Alex Strong, Secretary. Among the young men who early identified themselves with the work of the Church were Ephraim Bell and William S. Muttart.

Rev. J. K. King succeeded Mr. Cowperthwaite. During the ministry of the former a revival was held which enriched the life of the Church.

An Auxiliary of the Woman's Missionary Society was organized as well as a strong Sunday School. Josiah Howatt was Superintendent. He was followed by Ephraim Bell and he in turn was followed by W. S. Muttart, who, with the assistance of his brother Albert, carried on the Sunday School for about forty years. The Sunday School had a devoted and faithful secretary-treasurer in the person of Ernest W. Harper, a native of New Brunswick and son-in-law of Mr. W. S. Muttart. He held office for seventeen years. At this time the lamented death of Mr. Harper was a severe loss not only to the home but to the Church and community where he was highly esteemed. Shortly after this sad bereavement, Mr. and Mrs. Muttart with their daughter, Mrs. Harper and grandson Allison, removed to Summerside where they remained for some time. A few years later they returned to Carleton Place where they now reside and continue their work in the Cape Traverse Church. Mr. Muttart celebrated his eighty-eighth year on March 2, 1948.

It is worthy of note that the Rev. Artemas C. Bell, S.T.B., was a native son of Cape Traverse and the only one from that community who entered the ministry of the Methodist Church. He was born on December 7th, 1852. He was ordained in 1887 and passed away in Halifax on January 23rd, 1943. He is survived by his widow who was Minnie Howatt of Bedeque, a niece of David Rogers whose record as a lay preacher is recorded in this history.

The Cape Traverse Church has suffered loss in the removal of several valued members. Among them were Mr. and Mrs. Charles Doull. The former was a trustee and elder and the latter a member of the Woman's Missionary Society. Mr. Albert Weeks was a trustee and elder, secretary-treasurer and steward of the Church for many years. Mrs. Weeks was a member of the Woman's Missionary Society. They moved to Bedeque in June, 1944. Mrs. Thomas Bell who had been organist for some time has gone to the States. Her place is being filled by Mrs. Ernest Harper and Mrs. John Haslam. Cape Traverse was a part of the Bedeque circuit for exactly fifty years being made an appointment of the Tryon charge in 1893.

### Borden

A few miles north of Cape Traverse, Carleton Point boomed suddenly in 1917 into the Island's newest village. Borden was named in 1916 in honour of Sir Robert Borden, who was Prime Minister of Canada at the time this island terminal for the Car Ferry crossing from Cape Tormentine, N. B., was opened. The community, now Borden, grew rapidly from a small beginning of only a few buildings. Now it is an incorporated town. It has a four-room school, a large hotel, stores, etc. There is a Roman Catholic Chapel and a large hall which is used for holding religious services and for various other purposes. There is at present no Protestant Church building in the town. The Protestant people are divided up into two or more denominations.

Early in 1933 the Official Board of the Bedeque United Church of Canada expressed a willingness to assume responsibility for the pastoral oversight of the Protestant people if they so desired. Accordingly arrangements were made to have Borden added to the Bedeque Charge as a fourth appointment. At this time, because of rearrangements of Circuits, Tryon had only two appointments, Tryon and Crapaud. This made a heavy financial burden for those loyal people to bear. As it appeared, the Bedeque pastor had too much work with four appointments and the Tryon pastor had too little.

In order to improve the situation it was agreed to have the Tryon pastor give one service each Sunday to an appointment on the Bedeque Circuit, preferably Cape Traverse. This plan proved feasible and satisfactory and was continued for about ten years. The ministers who rendered good service were Rev. J. L. Lund, Rev. Fred Young and Rev. W. H. MacLean. Bedeque Official Board took charge of all finances and paid these ministers a certain amount for their services. From 1932 till the present time Borden has been getting a service every Sunday. There is a large Sunday School as well as C. I. T. and Youth Rangers groups. It is hoped that in the not-distant future a Protestant Church will be erected in the town.

Early in 1938 attention was centred on another problem and one



Bedeque, sometimes called Centreville, is ten miles from Borden on the paved highway to Summerside. Bedeque United Church whose storied past was a feature in The Guardian this Winter may be seen in the left centre of the picture with the parsonage directly across the road. In the distance are the rich farm lands bordering the Dunk

whose southern branch may be seen in the mid-picture. The clay road on the left leads to Lower Bedeque. At the corner where it joins the pavement, is Bowness's Store, and diagonally across the road the home of Vernon Craig who lives in Bedeque House, one time Hooper's Inn when Bedeque village was called Hooper's Corner.



Central Bedeque, nine miles from Summerside on the paved road, is centred as this photograph shows, around the Calbeck Store. Almost directly below in smart white point is the Dunk River Creamery.

Bedeque Rink is partly shown at the lower left hand corner. On the centre left of the picture may be seen Central Bedeque Hall next to the Baptist Church—just across the road from the Baptist Cemetery.

rather out of the ordinary. It was the matter of moving the Searle Church building to Albany, a distance of some two and a half miles. The building had many hallowed memories associated with it and to suggest moving it might naturally arouse strong opposition from those who were life-long members or adherents. But the people in the community realized that the Church at Albany could render a much greater service. So they very graciously agreed to have the building moved to that locality.

To accomplish this worthy end a strong committee was set up by the Official Board of the Charge: viz. James Henderson, (Chairman), Lewis Wright, Hermas Myers, Albert Weeks and Major Lowther. This committee was authorized to have the building moved, a site selected and a man secured to do the work. This man was Adelbert Palmer who in due time had the job completed. The cost was borne by the whole circuit. The results have justified the undertaking and the privilege of a religious service every Sunday is much appreciated by the people of Albany Village.

Mr. Hermas Myers, the devoted superintendent of the Sunday School at Searle town for several years continued in that capacity after the Church was moved to Albany until his sudden death on August 20th, 1947. His work in the Sunday School covered more than 40 years. Earlier superintendents in the Searle town Sunday School include Hiram Trueman, Lewis Trueman, and George M. Wright, all deceased. Teachers who likewise gave of their best in this school include Major Lowther, Mrs. George M. Wright and Mrs. Walter Wright.

Outstanding workers in the Sunday School at Bedeque include a long line of faithful superintendents: John Beer who took up the work

over ninety years ago, A. M. Wright, William Callbeck, who gave forty of his best years to this work, and the present superintendent J. Harrison MacFarlane. Devoted teachers in Bedeque Sunday School include many who have gone to their reward: Colin Wright, Mrs. John Beer, Mrs. A. T. Wright, Mrs. H. S. Vickerson, Mrs. A. M. Wright, Mrs. Thomas Hodgson, Mrs. Robert Reeves, Mildred Callbeck and Thomas Moyle.

Others who faithfully served the circuit were the secretaries of the Official Board, an office frequently filled in the early days by the Superintendent minister. Later on, as the records show the duty was performed by the Circuit Steward who was also treasurer of the Circuit. The first mention of "Recording Steward" appeared in the minutes in 1893 when S. Hiram Trueman was appointed. He was followed in 1892 by John Craig whose well-kept minute book was handed to Colin Wright in 1910. Upon the resignation of Mr. Wright in 1927 Thomas Moyle took over the duties for four years, being succeeded by Colin Craig who continued in the office of Recording Steward up till 1926, the year of his death. His successor in this important task of the church, Wallace N. Jenkins died three years later to be succeeded by the present recording steward, J. Arnold Henderson.

The Bedeque Circuit adopted the Budget system in 1927, and, with the exception of the period, 1934-1936 inclusive, when it reverted to duplex envelopes, it has been found best adapted to the Charge's needs and obligations.

In July, 1945 Rev. E. S. Weeks and his estimable wife came to Bedeque and identified themselves with the Church and various act-

ivities. After nearly forty years of service in the Methodist and United Church he retired from active work and after five years in his native Province of P.E.I. and Sackville he decided to return to his native Province of P.E.I. and made a home for himself in Bedeque. Mr. Weeks is a member of the Session and renders invaluable service in Prayer Meeting and Sunday School, while Mrs. Weeks is president of the Woman's Missionary Society and a teacher in the Sunday School.

One who did splendid service in the Bedeque Church for some years was Wallace N. Jenkins whose lamented death took place in 1939. He was recording steward for some years, teacher in the Sunday School and leader of Young People's Work. His wife, who is a daughter of Mr. Thomas Moyle, was for many years a soloist in the Bedeque Church choir as well as active in Y.F. work. She now resides in Vancouver, B.C.

The Bedeque Charge of the United Church of Canada carries on the good work started so many years ago, in praiseful agreement with the hymn-writer whose words challenge our future:—

"Creation's Lord, we give Thee thanks  
That this Thy world is incomplete;  
That battle calls our marshalled ranks;  
That work awaits our hands and feet;

That Thou hast not yet finished man,  
That we are in the making still,  
As friends who share the Maker's plan,  
As sons who know the Father's will."

## Islanders I Have Met

By  
'Islander Abroad'

Winnipeg — On learning that there were some folk living in Winnipeg from the Southport section of P. E. I., I made enquiries, and discovered that on Banning St., lived Mrs. John Rieve — the former Maud Stewart — and her sister, Miss Ada Stewart, formerly of Cross Roads, daughters of the late Robert and Mary (MacKay) Stewart.

On visiting their comfortable home, I received a most cordial welcome, and a pleasant evening was spent in conversation of Southport and vicinity—past and present.

The Stewart family are descendants of emigrants under Lord Selkirk who came to the Island on the "Polly". The late Mrs. Stewart — the former Mary MacKay — was from Crapaud, P. E. I., and a sister of the late Mrs. John (Black John) MacSwain of New Argyle and Charlottetown.

Mrs. Rieve, who came West in 1908 from P. E. I., is a graduate of the Charlottetown Business College and for a time, acted as a general secretary to the operator of a theatre, which was then in the Market Building. Later she was employed at the (Harold) Jenkins' Grocery Store on Grafton Street, Charlottetown.

Mr. Rieve passed away in 1927; and since that time, Mrs. Rieve has been employed in the Hudson's Bay Land apartment.

Mrs. Rieve has one son, John, who was a Lieutenant in the artillery in World War II.

Miss Ada Stewart came West in 1912 from the United States. In 1907 Miss Stewart graduated from the General Hospital, Brockton, Mass., and before coming to Winnipeg, practised in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The Stewart sisters have a sister, Miss Annie in Brockton, Mass., and a brother, Alfred in Cross Roads, P. E. I.

### HAMILTON SCHOOL

Monthly report for Hamilton School for the month of March:

Grade IX, A.—1, Lorne Ramsay; 2, Reginald Eyranson.

Grade IX, B.—1, Matilda Morrison.

Grade VIII.—1, Nancy Sinclair; 2, Beatrice Jordan; 3, Jimmy Hunter.

Grade VI.—1, Theresa Bryanton; 2, Edith Craig; 3, Nelson Morrison.

Grade IV.—1, Billy Cummings; 2, Kathryn Morrison; 3, Wallace Bryanton.

Grade II.—1, Earle Lockerby; 2, Jackie Crozier; 3, Shirley Jordan.

Pupil with highest average in Grade 5 to 9—Louise Ramsay 95%. Pupil with highest average in Grade 1 to 5, Earle Lockerby 94%. Perfect attendance this month—Earle Lockerby.

Teacher—Edythe E. Donald.

### PRINCE STREET SCHOOL

Honour Roll for March.

Grade 10:—1, Ann Worthy; 2, Jean Rogerson; 3, Joyce Proctor.

Grade 9:—1, Marleen Warren; 2, Shirley Downe; 3, Edith Brown.

Grade 8:—1, Billy MacCannell; 2, John MacDougall and Ewen MacDougall; 3, Joanne Tanton.

Grade 8-1:—1, Jean Diamond; 2, Helen Massey and Marjorie Hurs; 3, Beryl Woodside.

Grade 7-1:—1, Janet Cameron; 2, Gordon White; 3, Mary Whiteside.

Grade 7-1:—1, Elizabeth MacLean; 2, Dawn Messer; 3, Gloria Humphry.

Grade 6-1:—1, Mark Ladner and Donald MacLeod; 2, Helen Cooke and Harold Kemp; 3, Kenneth MacPhail.

Grade 6-1:—1, Theresa Presley; 2, Jean Bevan; 3, Marjorie Pickard.

Grade 5-1:—1, Lucie Sims; 2, Rollie Lee; 3, George Ward.

Grade 5-1:—1, Carol Cameron; 2, Ian Scrimgeour; 3, Lorna Messer.

Grade 4-1:—1, Sandra Currie; 2, Winnifred MacPherson; 3, Maida Rogerson.

Grade 4-1:—1, Beryl Shelfoon; 2, Gertrude MacDonald; 3, Jack Hobbs.

Grade 3-1:—1, Barbara Worth; 2, Ann Michael; 3, Jimmie White.

Grade 3-1:—1, Alan Dunbar and Joyce Hemphill; 2, Carol Thompson; 3, Norma Robbins.

Grade 2-1:—1, Roger Worth; 2, Susan Whiteside; 3, Isabel Downe.

Grade 2-1:—1, Hilda Chappell; 2, Janet Gay; 3, Patsy Jane MacDonald and Gail Partridge.

Grade 1—No tests.