

### New Presbyterian Church at Bradalbane Dedicated

On Sunday, June 24th, the new Presbyterian Church at Bradalbane was formally opened and dedicated. The three services, 11 a. m., 3 p. m. and 7 p. m., were under the direction of Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, M.A., B.D., Minister in charge and were all very largely attended.

At both the morning and the afternoon services large numbers were unable to secure admission. At the evening service, although the weather was very threatening the building was taxed to its utmost capacity.

The morning service was conducted by Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, M.A., B.D., during the earlier part of the service the Church was dedicated by Rev. Mr. Stavert to the Glory of God and to the service of mankind.

The dedicatory sermon preached for the occasion from the text Matt. XVI. 18: "Upon this rock I will build my Church and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," was a very fitting as well as a very eloquent and inspiring one.

Mr. Stavert made it very clear—that the only church that can stand the test of the ages is the church that is based on the principles of the teaching of Jesus, Christ "In seeking to bring in the Master's kingdom, any attempts at making progress or acquiring spiritual gain by way of deceit, or double dealing, or fraud of any kind is doomed to destruction."

"Therefore let no one who remains faithful to the teachings of the Master ever be disheartened or discouraged in any way, although the coming of the Kingdom, may at times seem to tarry. The rock upon which His Church is built is the Lord, for 'Other foundation can no man lay than that is laid which is Christ Jesus.'"

"And His church is that redeemed host who love the Lord and who serve Him day and night. His church is this, it might be added here, and nothing else. Those who profess to love and to serve Him and do not are no part of His Church.

"Based thus on the rock Christ Jesus and made up of those whose strength is in Him and in Him alone, the position of the church is impregnable. It cannot be moved. Although all the forces of evil are arrayed and take counsel against it, they cannot prevail."

"And as far as church government is concerned," said Mr. Stavert, "while others may have whereof to boast, we more so. We as Presbyterians can trace our democratic system—our rulership by Elders—back in an unbroken line to the early Christian church—yea, even back to the Synagogue where the Master Himself worshipped."

"And that this democratic system was appealed to the good common sense and judgment of men the world over is proven by the fact that the Presbyterians are the largest Protestant body in the world—numbering upwards of one hundred millions in all."

"Some three years ago, said Mr. Stavert, an attempt was made to destroy this democratic system in Canada.

"But that attempt, as is now well known, was a failure. This so-called huge and lamentable blunder."

"It is indeed pitiable," said Mr. Stavert "to have to realize that a number of men in Canada who were supposed to be leaders of Christian thought were, apparently brought under the same mistaken influence to such a degree as to have reached to that level in their thinking, where they were determined to attempt to turn the old clock of time backwards and to hurl us out of a region of democracy, bought for us by the blood of our forefathers, and sanctified and rendered for us forever sacred by the sacrifices of our sixty-three thousand soldier boys on Flanders' Fields—all of whom fought and bled and died to make the world safe for democracy—and bring us back under autocratic rule and call such an attempt or movement progress."

"But because of this great tragedy or blunder," said the speaker, "the Presbyterians of Bradalbane, having lost their former church, were compelled to build this new one for the formal opening and dedication of which we have met here today."

The Summerside Quartette, Messrs. Wm. Forbes, George Bowness, Albert Huestis and Ewen M. Nicholson sang two selections, "The Wayside Cross" and "Just Outside the Door." Both were very beautifully rendered. The young men received many words of commendation and of praise.

For the special numbers, Miss Helen Peters of Summerside very acceptably presided at the organ. The local choir under the direction of the organist, Miss Lillian Matheson, gave a splendid account of themselves in the rendering of the regular hymns.

The service throughout was a very solemn and impressive one.

At the afternoon service, Rev. W. Bruce Muir of St. James Church, Charlottetown, chose for his text Isa., LX—13, "I will make the place of my feet glorious."

The sermon was a very appropriate one for the occasion and was delivered in Mr. Muir's usual forceful and striking style.

Mr. Muir congratulated the Presbyterians of Bradalbane on having refused to submit to the thralldom foisted upon them by an Act of Parliament, and commended them very highly on having erected, in the face of great obstacles, a place for the worship of the Living God, which was indeed glorious.

Rev. C. E. Armstrong, pastor of the Christian Church at Bradalbane, was also present. After Mr. Armstrong had conveyed greetings from the Christian Church and had extended his own hearty congratulations to the Presbyterians of Bradalbane on the success they had met with in completing such a beautiful edifice, he gave a short address from the text, "The glory of this latter house shall be greater than that of the former."

The address was a very fitting and uplifting one and was thoroughly enjoyed by all. At this service the choir of St. James' Church, Charlottetown, was in charge of the music. The duet by Misses Jacqueline McDonald and Marjorie Wood, was listened to with rapt attention. All the music was of a high order.

The preacher at the evening service was Rev. Chas. J. St. Clair Jeans of the Presbyterian Church, Summerside. Mr. Jeans centred his address around the two texts, II Kings IX—16, "And John said come with me and see my zeal for the Lord," and verse 31, "But John took no heed to walk in the law of the Lord God of Israel."

To the Presbyterian congregation of Bradalbane, Mr. Jeans gave words of encouragement and wise counsel. He urged them to see that their zeal for bringing in the Master's kingdom would be not of the transient type, but of that kind which endures to the end. The sermon was a very thoughtful and inspiring one. Mr. Jeans made a splendid impression.

The music was under the direction of the local choir. All of the hymns were well rendered. The one selected as a voluntary was especially highly spoken of.

Two of the Student Catechists employed by the Presbytery were also present at two of the services. Mr. H. E. Wolfson, B. A. of Bradalbane, took part in the morning service, and Mr. J. H. Bergen, B. A. of Kensington, took part in the afternoon service.

All three services throughout, were very helpful and inspiring, and the memory of this day will live long in the minds and hearts of the Presbyterians of Bradalbane and vicinity.

The Presbyterian people of Bradalbane and vicinity deserve great praise for the way in which they have carried on the work of building their new church.

With a strong building committee, consisting of Messrs. Malcolm Buchanan, Robert McLeod, Murdoch Graham, Hector McKenzie, Kenneth Graham and McKenzie Matheson, advised and encouraged by Rev. R. Hensley Stavert, they began work in October last and had the building ready to be occupied early in January. Although the Bradalbane congregation is only small in numbers they all have been willing to make great sacrifices for their church.

The St. James' congregation, Charlottetown, too, has been very kind. The people of St. James' congregation have presented the people of the Bradalbane congregation with a pulpit, with pulpit chairs and a pulpit Bible. A number of the Presbyterians of Summerside have also presented the people of Bradalbane with another pulpit Bible.

The offerings of the day amounted to a little over \$180.00. This will go towards building Fund. Although there is considerable yet to be raised on the building, the people are facing their task in a manly way and with the assurance of friends outside the congregation may expect that in a few years they will have paid off all indebtedness.

The new church just completed is a splendid addition to the many fine Presbyterian Churches now on P. E. Island.

In a little over a year, thirteen Churches have been added to the list existing at the time of the disruption in 1925.

Nine out of these thirteen—namely the Presbyterian churches at Kensington, Freetown, Tryon, West Point, and Marshfield and the Methodist Churches at Montague, Mt. Stewart, Alberton and Dundas were secured through the Prince Edward Island Church Property Commission Board.

The Presbyterian Church at Clyde River was handed over by an agreement of two committees representing the two churches, and this said agreement was confirmed by the Church Property Commission Board.

The Presbyterian Church at Lot 14, about the ownership of which there was some dispute was secured by the Presbyterians through the Civil Court.

Besides the new church at Bradalbane another very beautiful new church was built at Malpeque about a year ago.

Through the Commission Board, the Manasses at Marshfield have been secured, as also were the Parsonages at Montague and Mt. Stewart.

Only quite recently has the St. James' congregation built a new

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