To the Glory of God





St. Paul's Anglican Church

St. Paul's in Retrospect

St. Paul's, in this day, influential and not unimportant even among urban parishes, is a striking illustration of the outcome of faith first exemplified by early members of the Anglican Church in this community. As long ago as 1792, an established church service was held in this district by the Rev. Robert Addison. From 1792 to 1820 the Fort Erie communicants were dependent on missionary preachers and other pioneers to hold services in this district.

Land for the church was purchased on April 23rd, 1821, and the first building, a wooden structure, stood from 1821 to the 1870's when Canon Arnold headed a movement and erected a new stone church, which was destroyed by fire on March 1st, 1892. The rector, the Rev. Percy Smith and his people builded anew, however, and builded better than before, to give us the church we love so much now.

The first regularly appointed rector, Rev. John Anderson, came to Waterloo as a missionary priest in 1828, and was inducted as Rector of Waterloo and Bertie on May 6, 1838. St. Paul's has had only 10 rectors in the century and more of its history. These were:

The Rev. John Anderson, 1828 - 1849 The Rev. Elliot Grasett, m.a., 1849 - 1859 The Rev. Henry Holland, m.a., 1859 - 1864 The Rev. Henry Greenham, 1864 - 1870 The Rev. Canon Robert Arnold, 1870 - 1888 The Rev. Percy W. Smith, 1888 - 1905 The Rev. A. Cameron Mackintosh, 1905 - 1917 The Rev. Canon Russell Smith, 1917 - 1926 The Rev. Canon William Burt, 1926 - 1949 The Rev. Basil Irwin, 1949

Alizas

St. Paul's Centennial Celebration took place in April of 1922 (although the parish was actually 101 years old on that date). The ceremonies were an important event, not only in this community but in the diocese, for this parish is among the oldest of them all. The celebration was the occasion too, for the presentation of war and other memorials to the Church.

St. Paul's has spread its influence over the years. Church Schools operate very efficiently in St. Mary's Hall in the north end of the parish and in St. James' Chapel on Dominion Road, to the south, besides one in St. Paul's Hall (built in 1911). St. James' Chapel was Erie Beach Community Sunday School, but was acquired by the Church two years ago. It serves a rapidly developing area and is already being crowded.

St. Paul's parish will continue to grow in spiritual influence and power in the community. It is the business of the present congregation to take new heart from the knowledge that God always has been, and is now, active and triumphing. Seeing afresh the glory of the task committed to it, the congregation will serve in this field with fresh resolution and enthusiasm.

