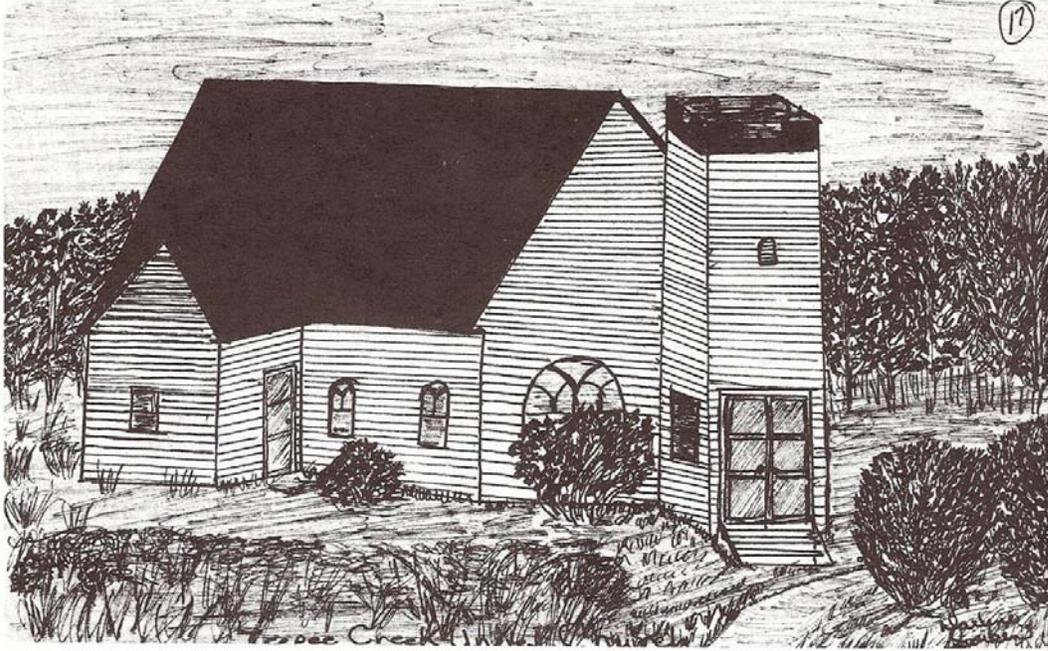


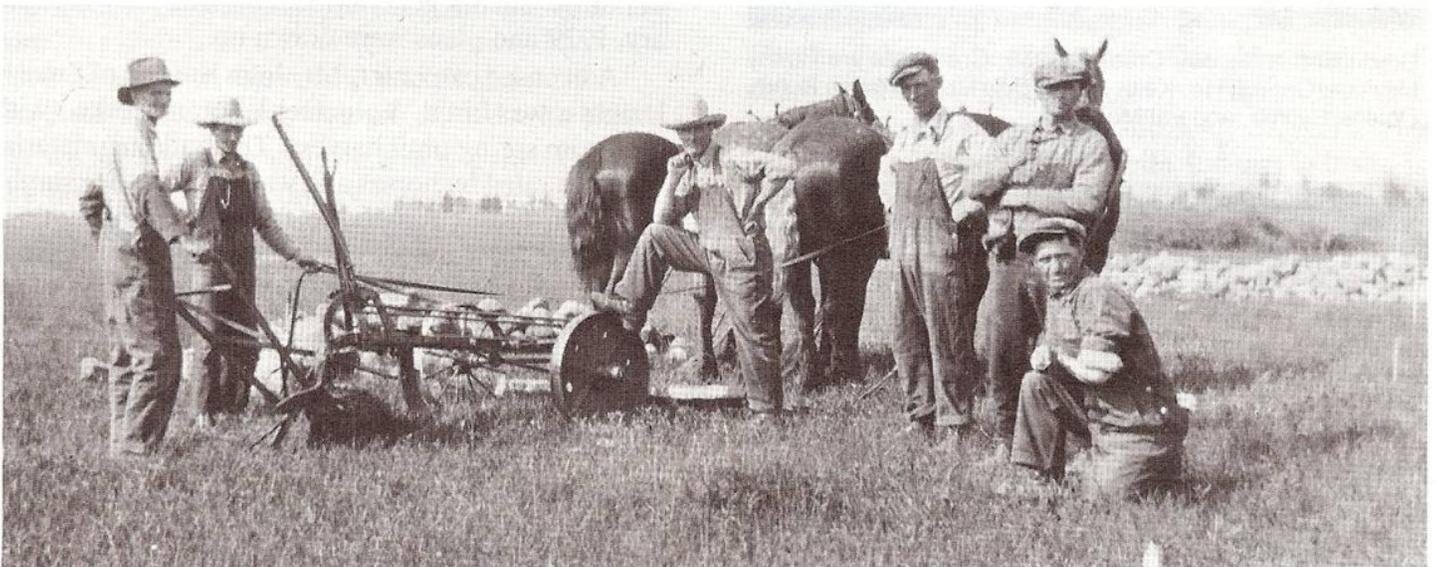
## Teepee Creek United Church



After holding church services for many years in the old log school house, (Anglican one Sunday, United on the next Sunday) the residents decided we needed a church. John Livingstone and Donald Fraser were appointed to canvass the district for donations in cash and promise of labour, or both, for the building. Then a general meeting was held in January, 1929 and plans were drawn up.

A licensed carpenter, Mr. John Hanson of Smoky Heights, was hired. Volunteer labourers worked with him from spring until harvest. The building material was all hauled by horses and wagons from Sexsmith.

Colin Fraser turned the first sod. Other volunteers were John and Dave Livingstone, Tom Nelson, John King, Milne, Donald and Colin Fraser, William Adair, and Rev. C. Rogers. Some spent



Turning sod for Teepee Creek United Church. Left to right — Colin, Donald, Burns Fraser, Tom Nelson, David and Jack Livingstone.

over 40 days working, others a little less. Many other neighbours helped for several days and were always welcome. As Burns Fraser disliked carpenter work, he broke land for homesteaders and brought the furnace for the church. The official opening was held on August 25, 1929.



Digging Church basement with horse and fresno.

We had to get a loan from the United Church of Canada to help finance the project. As the Depression struck in the fall of 1929 we had quite a struggle during the "1930's" trying to pay it off. The ladies of the district formed a Ladies' Aid Society. We held bazaars, bake sales, concerts and chicken suppers every year for years. Finally in the early 40's the mortgage was burned.

Mr. William Proctor (Mrs. Colin Fraser's father) donated his time to paint the outside of the church, a big undertaking for an elderly man. Many years later a group repainted it.



Rock pile used in making foundation for church.



Church before it was painted.

Mr. John Hanson (the carpenter) made and donated the pulpit. Rev. C. Rogers' mother gave the "Big Bible". When Rev. Miller came we went really modern as he owned a generating plant. Mrs. Fraser (the Frasers' mother) donated the material to wire the church for the 12 volt plant. Rev. Miller, with the help of the two Fraser boys, Leslie and Harold, wired the church and kitchen. Rev. Miller often had picture shows. Our chicken suppers were nicer with the brighter lights. Gas lamps supplied the light the rest of the years when Rev. Miller wasn't the minister.

We had a Sunday School most of the time. The minister's wife usually taught it. Miss Marion Boyd from Sexsmith came out with the minister for years, played the organ and taught Sunday School. The Sunday School presented the two large palms in green and gold painted buckets of wood. Mr. and Mrs. John King gave a lovely pulpit chair in memory of their son "Will" who was killed over seas.

Many funerals were held from the church. There wasn't a wedding in the church until 1952 when Annette Fraser and Gilbert Huber were married by Rev. Chubb. After that there were many local couples married. We even had one double wedding when Patricia Haag and Donald McQuaig -- Shirley Haag and Robin McQuaig were married.

In 1969 we celebrated our 40th anniversary of the opening of the church. Mr. Hugh Peck was the minister then. The church was packed. All those married in the church made a special effort to attend. Now Teepee Creek Church stands as a Memorial -closed -due to lack of attendance and financial support and one wonders just why?



Teepee Creek United Church.



First Wedding at Teepee Creek Church, Annette Fraser and Gilbert Huber — 1952.

### **Ministers at Sexsmith and Teepee Creek**

From the Conference Minutes, the following men served at Sexsmith (there is no special listing for Teepee Creek). 1929 -

- Rev. C. E. Rogers
- 1930 Robert Simons
- 1935 W. T. R. Delve
- 1938 Ernest Rands
- 1941 C. R. Corea
- 1944 G. B. Mather
- 1947 H. J. Miller

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