

WINTANERTA METHODIST CHURCH JUBILEE.

[Contributed.]

The jubilee celebrations of the Wintanerta Methodist church were held on Sunday and Monday, September 28th and 29th, and in every way proved to be a great success. The present secretary of the Church Trust (Mr W. G. Beare) assisted by members of the church, spared no effort to make it an outstanding event in the history of Wintanerta, and the way in which people all over the State responded to the invitations extended to them to be present at the services, was very gratifying.

"Memorial to Pioneers."

The ministers of the Kadina circuit, to which Wintanerta belongs, conducted the services on Sunday. The Rev. W. J. Walker in the afternoon, and Rev. F. W. Brasher at night preached to crowded congregations, and stressed the sanctity of the church building, as being a visible form of the religion of its congregations, and a memorial to those pioneers who "paved the way" and built a church to the honor and glory of God, which ever since, to an immeasurable extent, had exerted an influence for good.

The church choir contributed its share of the success of these services by rendering several anthems, and Mrs J. Gilding, of Auburn, and Mrs J. K. Nicholls, of Kadina, kindly assisted by singing solos which were very much appreciated, as was also the duet given by Mrs Nicholls and Mr A. Beare.

Grand Re-Union.

On Monday, September 29, a further stage in the celebrations was reached when at 5 o'clock a grand re-union high tea commenced, and about 300 people enjoyed themselves to the full. A large marquee had been erected alongside the church specially for the occasion, and the satisfactory arrangements generally reflected much credit on those who had charge.

The Public Meeting.

The services came to a climax when at 8 o'clock a public meeting was held, and reminiscences formed most of the program. Mr J. T. Beare, who was present at the service when the church was opened fifty years ago, was chairman, and delighted the large gathering with his stories of the old days. The sec-

retary of the church trust read a large number of apologies and greetings which had been received from invited guests who were unable to attend. Mr J. Gray, of Adelaide, who owing to ill health was unable to attend, prepared an outline of the early history of the church, and his daughter, Miss Gray, read this at the meeting. Messrs J. A. Cowley, W. J. Cowley, D. Bald, J. Glasson and A. Brice also spoke, and were heartily applauded. Elocutionary and musical items were rendered during the meeting and were well received.

History of the Church.

The following information in connection with the history of the church will be of interest. The meeting at which it was decided to build was held in July, 1880, and the Rev. J. Haslam was the superintendent of the circuit at the time. Land upon which to erect the church was given by Mr Thos. Butson, and stone and other necessary material for the walls were placed on the ground free of cost by the trustees. The contractor was Mr Baums. The original trustees were Messrs Francis Gray, R. W. Nicholls, J. J. Tank, W. Putland, G. E. M. Putland, H. Johnson, J. Beare, T. Roberts, R. Williams and T. Butson.

Church Opened in 1880.

The Church was opened for public worship on Sunday, October 24, 1880. The Rev. J. Haslam conducted the morning and evening services, and the Rev. J. Rock the afternoon. A tea and public meeting were held on the Wednesday following. The Taylor Street, Kadina, church choir provided special music on Sunday, and at the public meeting. It was decided to have service every Sunday afternoon, and also a week evening meeting.

Past and Present.

The original officers of the church were Messrs F. Gray (treasurer), and R. W. Nicholls (secretary and church steward). None of the original trustees remain. The following appointments were made in 1918:—Messrs A. J. Cowley, A. G. Dix, J. A. Poulis, S. D. Crosby, J. A. Cowley, C. E. Beare, and W. G. Beare, the last named being the present secretary and treasurer. Other office bearers of the church are Messrs L. C. Beare (organist), A. J. Cowley, A. G. Dix and S. D. Crosby, stewards. The present superintendent of the Sunday school (Mr J. A. Cowley) has held the position for forty years.

The church has continued its work unbroken since its inception; and its influence throughout the years, and at the present time, is ample evidence of the value of such churches to the community in which they stand and bear

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