

NEW CHURCH DEDICATED.

Charter Oak's
 Handsome Presbyterian Edifice
 Dedicated to the Service of God.

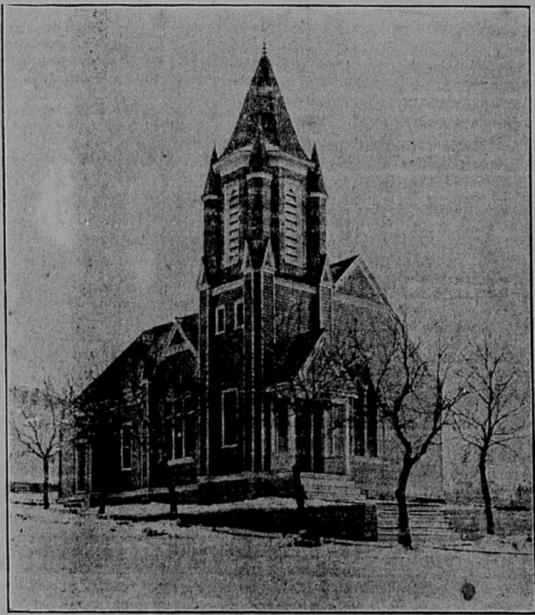
Last Sunday was a day long to be remembered by the Christian people of Charter Oak, for it witnessed the final dedication of one of the most handsome and complete church edifices in any city of the size in Iowa. For a long time the Presbyterians of Charter Oak, true to their religious tenets, have clung to and strengthened their church organization. They were beset with difficulties as every small congregation is, but prosperity has attended the efforts of the church members and citizens and to-day they look back with a smile at the old furniture store, with its rough rafters and unfinished walls, where they formerly held service, and go gladly to their new house of worship which is at once the pride and glory of their town.

The new church was filled from doorway to gallery, when the choir began the glad Anthem of joy and thanksgiving. Rev. Thos. Carson then read impressively from the Holy Word, which is the inspiration and the common heritage of all our Christian creeds. Miss Florence Abbot rendered a solo with such a sweet and tender voice as to form a fitting prelude to the sermon of Dr. T. S. Bailey, the Synodical Missionary, who preached the dedicatory sermon. No man is more dearly beloved by the Presbyterians of Iowa, and no man more richly deserves it than does Dr. Bailey. Early and late, rain or shine, through summer's heat and winter's snows he is ever faithful to this work.

We cannot speak too highly of this noble man and the great work he has done in Iowa. Dr. Bailey took his text from the miracle of the loaves and fishes, and spoke of the faith required of Christians and how God always coupled his great commands with glorious promises. Although he had attended many dedications, Rev. Bailey said he had never dedicated a church before, where every minutest detail had been so completed. Dr. Bailey was a class-mate of Rev. Martyn of Denison, and he took occasion to express his confidence and esteem for Denison's pastor. He complimented the people upon the grand fulfillment of their task and then began the usually unpleasant task of raising money so that the church might be clear from debt. The building furnished complete, with furnace and lighting plant cost \$5,600, and \$1,950 remained to be subscribed. It seemed an impossible task, but this is where the surprise came in. In considerably less than an hour every cent had been raised, and the worthy Doctor had to stop the people from subscribing more. It was wonderful, especially when it is considered that about \$3,000 had already been pledged. In as many minutes three people had subscribed \$100 each, nine more quickly followed with \$50 subscriptions, then came sixteen or twenty for \$25 each, then a number gave \$10, and the \$5 subscriptions came in thick and fast. Business men gave and then gave again, they gave for their firm, for themselves, their wife and each of their children. The Ladies Aid Society pledged a large amount as did the young people's societies, and we judge there are a large number of church socials in store for Charter Oak. Finally a basket collection was taken and then time was taken to count up and it was found that all had been raised but about \$185.00. It took about five minutes to raise this and

Mrs. Martin Neal had the honor of giving the last ten dollars to complete the sum. When the people realized that it had all been done, and so quickly and cheerfully done, every man turned and smiled at his neighbor as much as to say "This is the regular Charter Oak way."

The solemn dedicatory prayer was delivered by Rev. A. G. Martyn, and then in a few impressive words by Rev. Bailey the church was formally given to God's service, and the choir sang out the



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, CHARTER OAK.

glad anthem of dedication. Rev. Thos. Carson delivered the benediction and the services were over except the hearty congratulations among those interested. Rev. A. G. Martyn preached an eloquent sermon in the evening to a large congregation, and the church was a blaze of beauty with its brilliant acetylene lights.

THE CHURCH.

As will be seen from the illustration the new church is architecturally a thing of beauty. It is in every way as complete and as comfortable as any church in the largest city. It is in fact one of the neatest and most artistic churches in Iowa. The internal arrangements are the best possible.

The auditorium is separated from class-room, gallery and the pastor's study by sliding doors. It



REV. L. C. MCEWEN.

has inclined floor, richly carpeted, heavy oak pews arranged semi-circularly, and is lighted with acetylene gas, the coming light for all public buildings, being sure, brilliant and safe. The windows are of heavy, stained glass and were chosen with care as to design and execution.

The tower supports a bell of 2250 pounds whose deep intonations summon the congregation to worship.

This splendid edifice has been built at a cost of \$5,600, and the

Presbyterian people may be justly proud of their eminent success. They are not un-mindful of the sympathy and material help given by those who are not immediately connected with their denomination, but gratefully acknowledge every favor received.

The building committee consists of the following gentlemen, all of whom are influential citizens: Martin Neal, Dr. R. J. Hart, W. F. Miller, F. L. Shumaker and D. H. McWilliams.

The contractor was Mr. L. A. Sewell of Denison, whose workmanship has been highly commended. The plans were drawn by Fisher Laurie of Omaha.

The most cordial relation exists between the pastor and the growing church; Rev. L. C. McEwen and the people among whom he has labored successfully for more than a year. Their hearty co-

operation meets all his plans for the enlargement of the work.

We are glad to be able also to present the portrait of the pastor, Rev. McEwen, to whose faithful and intelligent effort so much is due. He is greatly beloved, not only by his congregation, but by the citizens of Charter Oak.

The charter members of the church are as follows: D. H. McWilliams and wife, Dr. J. J. McWilliams and wife, I. A. Mains and wife, Mrs. D. A. Cooper, Mrs. Al. Snider, Mrs. Chas. Hardy, F. L. Schumaker and wife, B. F. Garrett, W. F. Miller and wife.

From these scant members the congregation has grown, and the present new church is a lasting monument to their Christian zeal and to the generosity of the people of Charter Oak.

MARRIED.

Married in the Presbyterian church, Monday evening at 8 o'clock, Miss Minnie Bates, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Bates and Fred Gillett, of Rodney, Iowa, Rev. L. C. McEwen officiating. Mr. R. C. Roup acted as best man and Miss Jessie Andrews as bridesmaid. After the ceremony a reception was held at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Bates; a most delightful luncheon was served. Mr. and Mrs. Gillett received a number of beautiful presents, and congratulations and best wishes of a host of friends go with them. They will go to housekeeping at Hostein, where Mr. Gillett has a position on the Advance. The out of town guests were Mr. Gillett's father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Browning, of Rodney.

Meet and Adjourn.

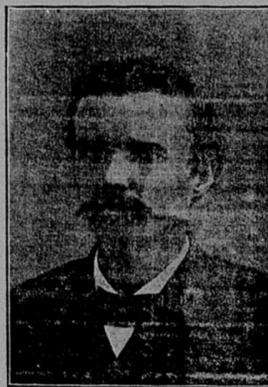
Washington, Dec. 12.—The American-Canadian commission held a meeting Monday and adjourned until Tuesday. The American members and British members each held separate sessions before the joint session. The questions considered, it was stated, were those which have been before the commissions during the past few days.

Will Manage the Giants.

New York, Dec. 12.—John B. Day, formerly owner of the New York club, at the height of its success, has been secured as manager of the Giants for next year. Such was the announcement made Sunday by Andrew Freedman, president of the New York club.

Capt. Gen. Castellanos Injured.

Havana, Dec. 12.—While Capt. Gen. Castellanos was in his bedroom Sunday evening the roof fell in and wounded him on both shoulders, the breast and face. His orderly was also wounded in the face.



This carefully selected stock of

The Largest Stock of
 Holiday Goods in
 Crawford County is at

D. H. McWILLIAMS
 & CO'S,

CHARTER OAK, IOWA.

Holiday Goods

Embraces Toilet and Manicure Sets; Perfumes and Perfume Stands; Photograph and Autograph Albums; Scrap, Gift and Juvenile Books; Glove, Handkerchief and Work Boxes; Dolls of every kind and description; Doll Cabs, Rocking Horses, Shoo Flies and Sleds, Pocket Books, Vases, Fine Stationery and all kinds of Toys.



DAVE'S PHARMACHOOT.

Jewelry, Silverware, Musical Instruments.

We also carry a complete line of Jewelry and Silverware, and Silverware Novelties. Also Musical Instruments of all kinds, consisting of Organs, Accordeons, Guitars, Mandolins, Violins, Harmonicas, etc. In fact we have the most complete line of goods suitable for Holiday Presents in this and adjoining counties,

German and American Clerks.

WHAT YOU GOING TO BUY FOR CHRISMAS?

Are you going to ouy some cheap, trifling present of no particular value or are you going to buy some

Common Sense Presents,

something that your friends will find useful and will remember the same for the good that they received from it.

We are showing one of the finest lines of

Xmas Neckties, Mufflers, Breast Protectors,
 Silk Handkerchiefs, Dress Gloves,
 Suits and Overcoats

ever brought to the county. We want to call your attention to our large line of

SUITS AND OVERCOATS.

We are offering a fine all wool Kersey Overcoats of Good Weight, Farmers Satin lining, nicely finished in blue black, tan or brown color, for \$8.00. This same coat cannot be bought elsewhere for less than \$10.00 or \$12.00. What would you think of buying a fine all wool suit nicely finished in grey or brown color, good weight and guaranteed to keep color for \$7.00? This same suit is being sold all over the county for \$10 and everything else in our store is being sold accordingly. Thanking you for your liberal patronage and wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year,

I am yours for business,

E. C. SCHELM.