

Jarvis District Community Hall Is Officially Opened

Jarvis: The new Jarvis District Community Hall was opened officially on Friday evening, February 12th, when nearly 400 people attended the dedication ceremony, at which Arthur B. Blight was chairman.

The spacious hall was attractively decorated with ferns and spring flowers, the gift of Landon's Nursery, Simcoe, and T. A. Ivey, Florists, Port Dover. The Patten Spring Ensemble conducted by Mr. Patten of Scotland provided several musical selections during the evening. Rev. Mr. Richardson, of St. Paul's Anglican Church, offered the Dedicatory prayer, followed by a solo "God Bless This House" by Mrs. Beulah Welt, accompanied at the piano by Miss Meta Mac Murtry.

The presentation of the keys to Reeve George W. Walker was made by Edward Montague. In his remarks, he said that he felt the golden key was symbolic of happiness which lies behind the doors and it was the fulfillment of a dream which originated about five years ago.

Appreciate Co-operation

Reeve Walker stated it was a pleasure for him to accept the key on behalf of the community and it was his hope that much pleasure would be derived in the community from its use. He expressed gratitude for donations of money, labour, and co-operation of all committees and individuals who had made possible the fine new hall.

Lloyd G. Holmes, president of the Lions Club, presented Lea Marshall, chairman of the Building Committee, an Achievement Award plaque from the Lions Club as an outstanding citizen of the community who through his business experience and knowledge has been a great asset to the Club and Community. He has served as chairman of the Building Committee and it was through his efforts and encouragement that the Community Hall was a reality.

Mr. Marshall in accepting the plaque gave credit to the committee who worked with him. He thanked the Lions Club for bestowing this honour upon him. Mrs. Arthur B. Blight was called to the platform and presented with flowers as a small token of appreciation for the assistance she had given the Building Committee in drawing up the plans and planning the small details of the building.

James N. Allan, M. L. A. for Haldimand - Norfolk, was also an honoured guest seated on the platform and expressed his pleasure at having the opportunity to share the pride in the opening of the hall. It was his hope that the youth of the community would enjoy this community centre and it would long be remembered. The community is very satisfied with the completion of the building and it is hoped that the combined community effort will make it possible.

Keen and Newton Marshall and proved very amusing. The program was concluded by a musical number from the Patten String Ensemble, followed by "The Queen," after which refreshments were served which had been prepared by members representing the various community organizations. A social time was enjoyed and the gathering was given an opportunity to inspect the building.

Modern Structure

It was during the summer months of 1953 that the building committee and the finance committee were appointed to proceed with the erection of the building which is constructed of cement blocks, has an auditorium large enough to accommodate 500 people, a large convenient adjoining kitchen, equipped with two gas stoves, an electrically controlled warming cupboard, spacious counter tops covered with rose arborite, adequate cupboard and drawer space, also double stainless steel sinks in the centre of the kitchen. The stage is very spacious with dressing rooms on either side and the stage curtain, given by the Jarvis Women's Institute, is rose velvet which adds an attractive appearance to the setting. There are matching drapes at the auditorium windows.

At the front of the building is the lobby, off of which are two wash-rooms, ticket office and a check-room. The auditorium is heated by a large oil furnace which is located in a room at the front of the building. A committee room is on the second floor.

The floor of the auditorium is cement which is a specialized job done by experienced workmen from Toronto. It is waxed and is an excellent floor for dancing.

The actual construction of the building was supervised by Charles Buck, contractor of Simcoe, and is built on the Jarvis baseball grounds which provides ample parking accommodation.

The chairman, A. Blight, in expressing his welcome, stressed that this new hall was a community project and the committees responsible are proud of their accomplishment and he hoped they had pleased the majority. There are still many smaller details to attend to yet such as coat-racks, dishes, cutlery, scenery, completion of electric warming closet in kitchen, ground levelling and the building of sidewalks.

Workmen have contributed, many hours of free labour and the merchants have been generous in providing much of the material at cost. The Lions Club have been a main contributing factor in the finances as they have contributed \$5,000 in addition to an estimated \$3,000 worth of material. Indications show that not more than \$3,000 is required to completely finish the job.

1954

W. T. T. e n
M. A. S. J. a m e s C. Brown



*Lettering made and fastened on face
of hall by James C. Brown*