

Rev. James Alexander Fraser, B.A., D.D., was born in Stellarton, Pictou County, Nova Scotia, on September 25th, 1905, the son of Alexander Fraser and Eleanor Margaret MacDonald. He was educated in Stellarton High School, Pictou Academy, Dalhousie University, and Pine Hill Divinity Hall. He became a Candidate for the Ministry of the Presbyterian Church under the authority of Pictou Presbytery in August of 1924. He was graduated a Bachelor of Arts by Dalhousie University in 1928, and received his Testamur in Divinity from Pine Hill Divinity Hall in 1930. Mr. Fraser was Licensed by Pictou Presbytery, and ordained by the Maritime Conference of The United Church of Canada on June 8th, 1930.

Mr. Fraser married Dolina Eleanor MacLellan, also of Stellarton, on October 14th, 1930, and they have two sons and ~~three~~ <sup>nine</sup> grandchildren.

Mr. Fraser served in the active pastorate for twenty-five years, at Apohaqui-Norton in Saint John Presbytery from 1930 to 1939, at Scotsburn in Pictou Presbytery from 1939 to 1947, and at Woodside-Imperoyal in Halifax Presbytery from 1947 to 1955.

His activity in the wider work of the Church began when he was elected Secretary of Saint John Presbytery in 1935, in which office he served for four years, and then was elected Secretary of the Maritime Conference Settlement Committee in 1939, also served for four years in this office. He became Assistant Secretary of the Maritime Conference 1943, Secretary of the Conference in 1948, and President of the Conference in the Conference Year 1954-1955.

At the General Council level Mr. Fraser was a member of the Vacancy Committee in 1942 - 1944, Assistant Secretary of General Council in 1942, 1948, 1950, and 1952, a member of The Board of Finance in 1944 - 1946, a member of the Policy Commission in 1950 to 1954, and a member of the Executive of General Council from 1948 to 1954.

In 1955 he was elected Assistant Secretary of The Department of Pensions, and became Associate Secretary of that Department in 1956, which office he still holds.

Mr. Fraser was the first Chairman of the Municipal School Board for the Municipality of the County of Pictou, and served in that office for four years, and in this period the original plans were laid which resulted in the two rural High Schools being built in the county of Pictou. He was also active in the Home and School Association in Pictou County and Halifax County, and was Grand Chaplain of the Grand Lodge of the Maritime Provinces of Canada of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows for two terms.

He served as a Regent of Mount Allison University for ten years, from 1949 to 1958, and that University conferred on him the degree of Doctor of Divinity (Honoris Causa) on May 16th, 1961.

Retired 1968 lived in Yfx. Elder at Pt. Catherine  
Mrs. F. died 1978 James A. moved to Sydney 1980

May 29th, 1961.

Died Nov. 15/84

Buried Riverbank Cemetery Lorton L.B.

