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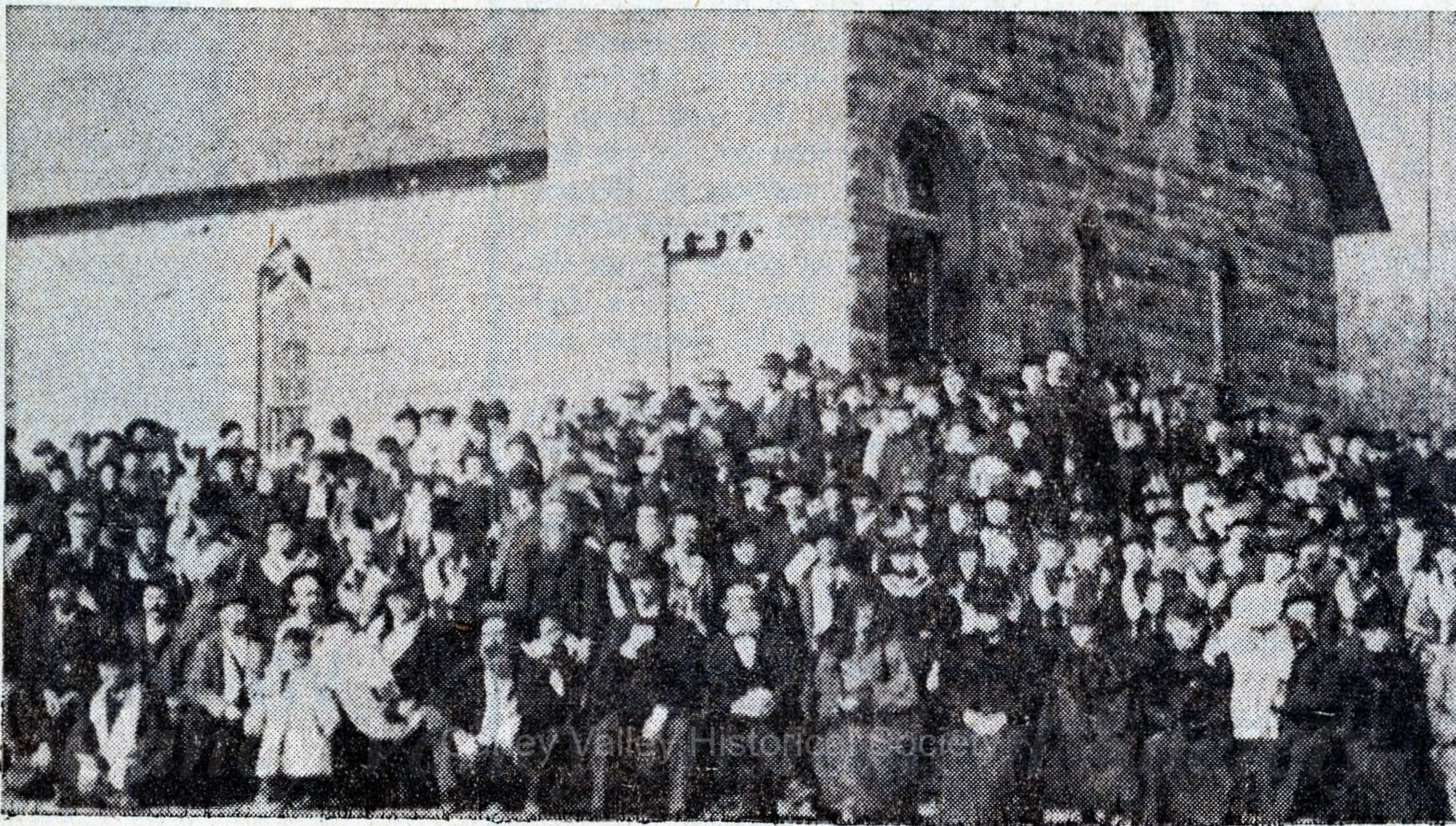
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Churches Grew With Niotaze



THIS STONE CHURCH built in Niotaze in 1895 by S. A. Bursin still stands. Shown here is one of the early day community gatherings held at the church.

By **MRS. BEULAH McMULLEN**

NIOTAZE (JNS) Communities and churches progress together. When a name finally was settled upon for Niotaze and its final location was set it wasn't long until churches grew.

In 1895 the present Methodist Church was built under the name of Odell Memorial Church. Trustees at that time were John Shouse, W. E. Abbott, W. D. Dobbs, Josie Klinger, E. Cowgill, J. D. Hapton, W. S. Sams.

Cost 1,600

The building was under supervision of the late Steve Burlson. The rock was quarried and fur-

nished by W. D. Dobbs. The cost was \$1,600. The Methodist Church was dedicated by Dr. Murlin, president of Baker University.

In 1877 the Church of Christ, better known as the Christian Church, was organized in Birch Creek vicinity. In 1895 it was organized in Niotaze and received a charter

In 1896 a lot was purchased from A. Jerome at the present location. The first meeting was held by Rev. J. R. Charlton in 1898. The church was built and dedicated in October, 1900.

First trustees were Elizabeth Rabb, E. F. Haynes, J. N. Kil-

burn, W. A. Wilson was a deacon.

Started With Brush Arbor

The Pentecostal Holiness Church had its origin in a brush arbor north of the Methodist Church in 1924. The revival was conducted by Rev. Harry Herbert and Ira McKeeney. Later, meetings were held in the Methodist Church and in some of the homes.

The church was organized by Rev. A. I. Shannon in 1925 and a site was purchased at its present location.

George Rayl was elected the first deacon and Clifford Maple, Charles Stroup and James Walk-