

George H. Armstrong
1858-1958

THIS is the story of a humble and quiet man amidst the tumult and turmoil of Toronto. . . .

His minister, in the closing years of his life, remembers him as the shy and reserved elderly gentleman who silently slipped into a back pew at Sunday services. . . .

But his name is likely to be kept alive in the hearts of Toronto churchgoers long after more colorful names have been forgotten!

George H. Armstrong was born in January, 1858.

As a young man he entered the school-teaching profession and in 1890 was added to the teaching staff in Toronto.

In 1912 he became one of Toronto's Inspectors of Public Schools and during the following thirteen years was well known to thousands of school students who are now the fathers and mothers of today's scholars. . . .

He was superannuated in 1925. . . .

Back before World War I, about 1910, he served several years as Sunday School Superintendent of famous Carlton Street Methodist Church and was also a member of the Board of Trustees of that strategic church at one of our downtown crossroads. . . .

He was a bachelor, and when he died in April, 1938, at the age of eighty, his will bequeathed the residue of his estate "for the purpose of establishing new churches in the outlying districts or suburbs of Toronto". . . .

The United Church of Canada set up a Board of Trustees of the "George H. Armstrong Church Extension Fund", and the life savings of this quiet school inspector—amounting to almost \$100,000.00—are now being used to provide loans for the establishment of new causes on the expanding borders of a great city. . . .

In recent years, sums from the "Armstrong Fund" have been loaned to Forest Hill, Leaside and Cosburn Avenue congregations to make possible the erection of beautiful new churches in these sections—and in the near future additional churches will be erected in northern and western suburbs with the helpful aid of George H. Armstrong's gift to make such churches possible. . . .

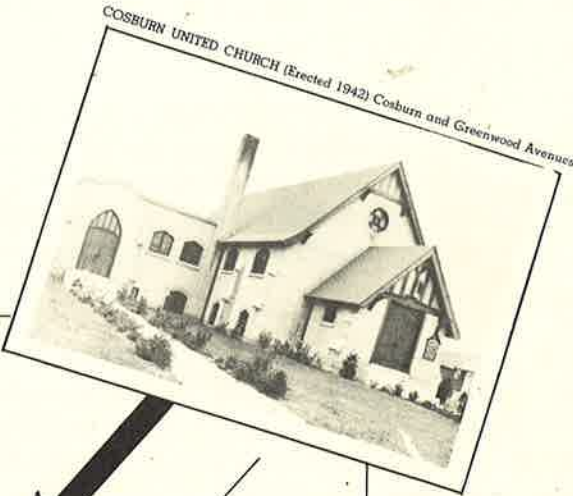
And, as all these churches gradually repay the loans which have helped them to become established, the replenished "Church Extension Fund" will be available to encourage the erection of still other new churches in the suburbs of tomorrow which at the present time are farms and market gardens four or five miles outside of the city. . . .

Twenty, forty, sixty years hence, people as yet unborn will be entering the portals of stately churches near their homes to worship God in beauty and loveliness through the foresight and devotion of George H. Armstrong. . . .

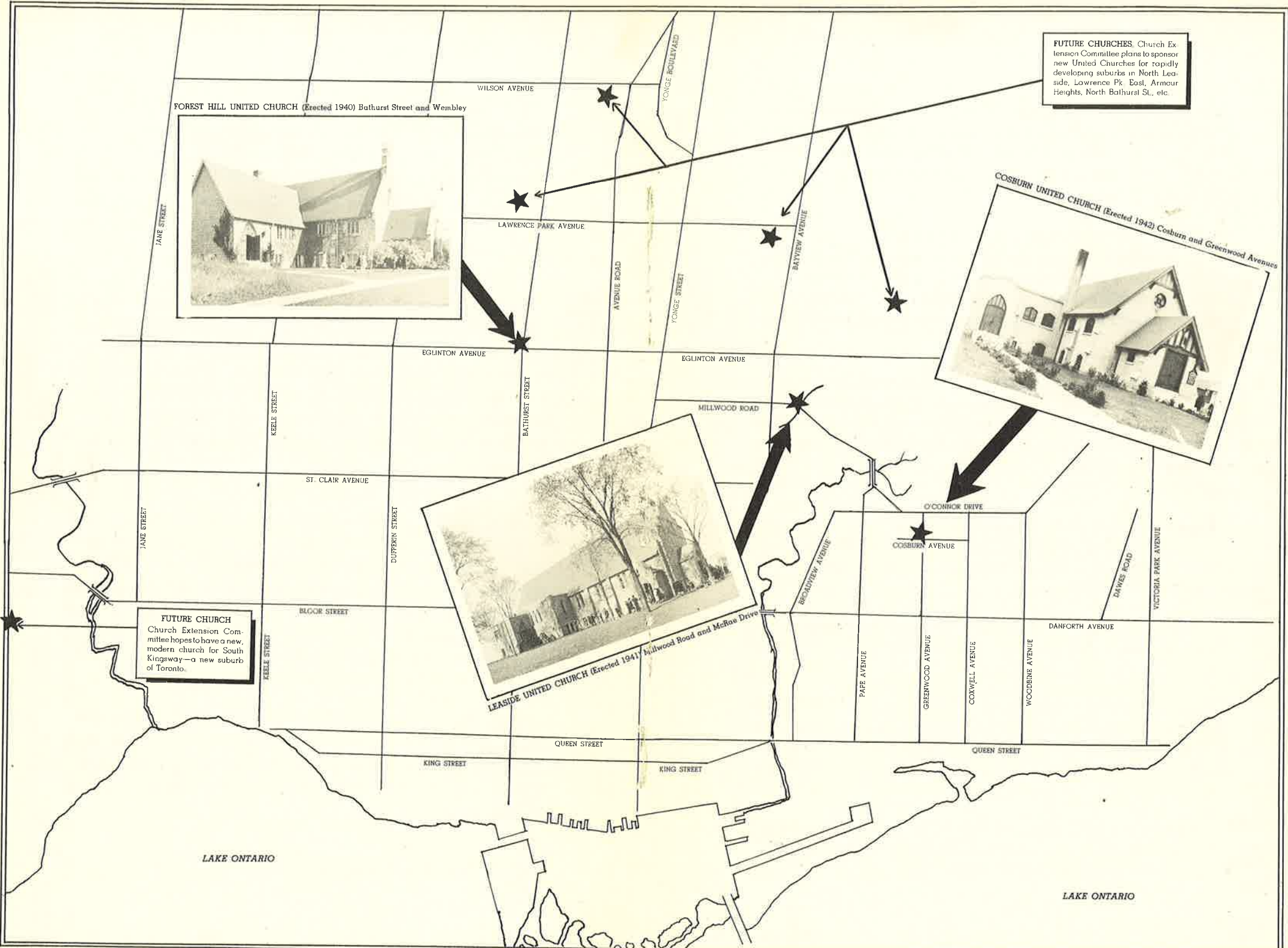
Truly his name will live on and on. . . .

FUTURE CHURCHES. Church Extension Committee plans to sponsor new United Churches for rapidly developing suburbs in North Leaside, Lawrence Pk. East, Armour Heights, North Bathurst St., etc.

FOREST HILL UNITED CHURCH (Erected 1940) Bathurst Street and Wembley



FUTURE CHURCH
Church Extension Committee hopes to have a new, modern church for South Kingsway—a new suburb of Toronto.



The Toronto Home Missions Council is an incorporated body for the administration and expansion of Home Mission enterprises of The United Church of Canada within the three Toronto Presbyteries, and is authorized to seek and administer funds for the work under its jurisdiction. . . .

It may be that the example of George H. Armstrong's great gift to the enlargement of the church life in Greater Toronto may prompt you to a re-examination of your plans for the eventual distribution of the material resources which God has given you—whether such distribution is to be made during your lifetime or after. . . .

Your Church needs the generosity of other men and women who will make possible the perpetuation of other enterprises of the Church in the same way as the "Armstrong Trust Fund" has aided and will aid in the establishment and building of creditable sanctuaries of worship in the centres of new suburban communities. . . .

There are a few more projects comparable with that of the "Armstrong Church Extension Fund"—as well as scores of smaller spheres of work—awaiting the generous gifts of other United Church people. . . .

Some of the major needs are listed on the next page. . . . Others of smaller scope can be suggested to you in conversation. . . .

If you would like to discuss some of these needs of The United Church within Greater Toronto, we shall be pleased to have one or two laymen who are familiar with this work meet with you and take you to see the enterprises which are of greatest interest to you. . . .

A telephone call, or letter, to Rev. J. C. Torrance, Secretary, The Toronto Home Missions Council, 139 Jarvis Street (Elgin 9022) will bring further information to you. . . .

SOME HOME MISSION "NEEDS" OF THE UNITED CHURCH IN TORONTO

VICTOR HOME FOR GIRLS This United Church Home for Unmarried Mothers and their babies needs extensions to its buildings and equipment, as well as endowment funds to assure its future maintenance. . . .

LAKE SCUGOG CAMPS These camps for mothers and children who are unable to afford a summer holiday without financial help from others requires a complete new "unit" for girls (ten sleeping cabins, dining hall, recreation hall, craft house, clinic, counsellors' cabin, staff house, etc.) as well as a new dining hall and other buildings at "North Camp" (to make it more suitable as a "unit" for boys) and new recreational facilities at "South Camp" as a "unit" especially serving mothers and small children. . . .

SPARROW LAKE CAMP This unique camp for boys, girls and adult young people from middle-class homes needs a recreational hall, equipment for teaching handicrafts, additional sleeping cabins, new boathouse and boating equipment, counsellors' cabin, and other camping equipment. . . .

INSTITUTIONAL CHURCHES A fund is needed to facilitate the merging of downtown churches and converting centrally-located buildings into modern institutional churches to better minister to the spiritual, moral and physical needs of children, adolescents, adult young people, middle-aged and elderly folks in the congested and marginal areas of a huge city like Toronto. . . .

CHURCH EXTENSION The demand for new churches in suburban subdivisions during the next twenty-five years will far exceed the ability of the "George H. Armstrong Church Extension Fund" to make loans. . . . Two or three additional "trusts" are required for this same purpose. . . .

ORGAN FUND Four "electric organs" are needed for loaning to these new churches until they can organize their congregations to buy and instal permanent church organs of their own. . . . These organs will be moved to other new churches as they are built from time to time—and will also be available for massed rallies of United Church people of Toronto upon special occasions. . . .

CHAPLAINCY SERVICE The services of Hospital Chaplains, calling upon United Church members and adherents in the various Toronto Hospitals (and especially upon those from out-of-town who are a long distance away from friends when they are sick and lonely), is a very effective missionary endeavor. . . . \$5,000.00 will enable the Council to engage a superannuated minister to visit the sick in two or three hospitals for more than twenty years. . . .