

Fourteenth Street  
Christian Reformed Church



TWENTY-FIFTH  
ANNIVERSARY  
SOUVENIR



1902—June twenty-fifth—1927



## FOURTEENTH ST. CHRISTIAN REFORMED CHURCH

gregation was organized, 33 families and 15 individual members leaving 14th St. to relieve the over-crowded condition in our church. The 14th St. Congregation gave them \$4,000 to help them towards building a place of worship. The records show that fully 150 families still belonged to our congregation after the departure of the families to the Maple Ave. Church.

In Jan. 1915, our pastor, Rev. Hoekstra, announced to the congregation that he had accepted the call extended to him from the First Chr. Ref. Church at Paterson, New Jersey. He preached his farewell sermon on Sunday, Feb. 14, 1915.

In order to secure a pastor as soon as possible the consistory petitioned Classis for permission to call. This request, of course, was granted, and the first call was sent to the Rev. E. J. Tanis, who declined. The next call was sent to the Rev. W. Stuart; but Rev. Stuart went to Grand Rapids. Next Rev. W. P. Heeres was called, again a disappointment.

Then a call was sent to Rev. H. Hoeksema, at that time a candidate for the ministry. This call was accepted. His ordination and installation took place on Sept. 16, 1915. During the time that Rev. Hoeksema was our pastor, the congregation grew to such numbers, that there was considerable talk of enlarging our church building, but it was mostly talk. The congregation did, however, buy the lot just west of the church building for \$1,200. On Feb. 15, 1920, Rev. Hoek-

sema preached his farewell sermon, having accepted the call from the Eastern Ave. Chr. Ref. Church at Grand Rapids.

It may be an easy matter for a minister to accept a call. But when a congregation is calling it seems to be much easier for a minister to decline the call than to accept. If you listen to the following names perhaps you will agree with me. Calls were sent to these ministers after

Rev. H. Hoeksema left: Rev. G. Hoeksema, Rev. H. Kuiper, Rev. H. Bel, Dr. H. Meeter, Rev. G. W. Hylkema, and Rev. H. Tuls. These six ministers were called in the order named but so far none of these has served as pastor of 14th St.

On Feb. 21, 1921, a call was sent to the Rev. J. M. Van de Kieft, and, as we all know, he accepted the call and came to Holland on the 18th of May. On the 19th Rev. Van de Kieft was installed as pastor of our congregation. The pastors of the five sister churches in the city taking part in the installation.

During the time that Rev. Van de Kieft was our pastor the question of seating all our people at the regular Sunday services was again discussed by the consistory and congregation, and it was decided to build an addition to our church building. Well, now that our church was going to be made larger the question arose, "What about our organ?" So it was decided to make a thorough job of the whole matter and sell our old organ and buy a new one.

The total cost of remodeling our



*Rev. H. Hoeksema  
Sept. 16, 1915 to Feb. 15, 1920*