

Societies and Lodges.

The order of the Masons No 259 was instituted in 1871. The charter members were, Silas Babcock, J. B. Lucas, Peter Charlton, Charles Donaldson, J. Hoffman, Robert Mc Kinney, George Lindsay. They enrolled some 60 members.

Independent Order of Odd Fellows was instituted June 2nd 1909. Charter members, F. E. Martin, Arthur Barons, Edward Vincent, George Stewart, Elgin Moore, Arthur Baker, Clarke Rockey, Wesley Collins, Charles Brooks.

Arkess Rebekah No 168 instituted June 8th 1916.

Charter members.
P. and C. Rockey. — L. and W. Collins
F. E. and Ada Martin — E. and S. Vincent
Charles and A. Brooks — Mrs Elva Lindsay
Tyler and E. Leeson — O. and S. Lindsay.
Ann and K. Lindsay.

Independent order of Foresters in 1885.

Royal Templars in 1884

Good Templars in 1885

The Knights of Macabees in 1892.

Agricultural Society was instituted in 1878. Sanford Woodworth was the first Secretary Peter Charlton the first President. It was first started on the old flax mill property north of the village. It was then moved to the John Yoder farm opposite the school, and the former Canada Methodist church moved their and served as a hall. The fair Board bought the first site back again and had Hall moved. This Hall was burned down. The present root and flower shed was formerly part of the old cheese factory.



J. B. LUCAS

The man who made the fair.
This is the 35th year that
Mr. Lucas has been secretary.

Mr Lucas was clerk of the village
of Springfield for 38 years.

- Public School -



Decoration Day

Renovation of Cemetery An Early Accomplishment

THE Springfield Women's Institute of East Elgin was organized in 1907. The late Mrs. F. C. Muller was the first president. Mrs. Shaw first secretary, and the late Mrs. W. I. Atkin first district director.

In the early days of the institute the work of cleaning and improving the East Cemetery was undertaken. The grounds were thoroughly cleaned, new buildings erected, all fallen tombstones cleaned and erected in proper positions. The members did the painting of the buildings themselves. Flower beds were dug and planted. They also made an annual donation to the Cemetery Board. They instituted a Decoration Day service. Meetings were held in the homes of the members until the Institute outgrew the size of most homes. The local school board then gave them permission to use the school auditorium for their meetings. As this sometimes interfered with examinations and the school was closed during holidays, it proved unsatisfactory.

The council granted them the use of one of the downstairs rooms in the council chamber. These rooms were fitted up for their meetings and also equipped for serving suppers. Clinton Young gave them their first

The Children's Shelter, St. Thomas, benefitted from their showers of fruits, eggs, canned goods and clothing. They also supported an Armenian refugee during World War I. Northern Ontario received bales of clothing and quilts. Chairs were bought for use in the school auditorium. During World War I the branch sent boxes and parcels regularly to the boys overseas and knitted and sewed for the local Red Cross.

The Institute has been a friend to all unfortunate people in their distress, and their

bee" of willing helpers of the village and had the building raised. They had foundations laid, new roof, new windows and doors, painted and decorated inside and out. Gas was installed for heating and cooking. They bought a piano and chairs, and installed kitchen equipment. Today the members are proud of their home.

During recent years, and especially during the second war, the Institute set to work once more to sew and knit in conjunction with the Red Cross. Parcels and gifts again found their way to soldiers. More than a ton of jam was made in the kitchen for overseas, and honey was bought and sent.

After the erection of the local airport, the Institute on several occasions entertained the boys from the airport at chicken suppers and concerts.

The officers for 1947-48 are: President, Mrs. Ida Harris; first vice-president, Mrs. E. Vincent; second vice-president, Mrs. A. E. Davies; secretary, Mrs. T. Leeson; treasurer, Mrs. G. Craik; district director, Mrs. J. Hodgson.

After 40 years of service for "home and country," these members are still carrying on the good work established by the pioneer women who started the Springfield Women's Institute.