

SEWING CLASS - 1970

On a very frosty Tuesday evening in February, the ladies met to begin their sewing course under the leadership of Lois Carroll and Minnie Livingstone. I might add, for the benefit of our visitors, that these two attended a two day short course in St. Thomas put on by the Home Economic division of the Department of Agriculture.

We all arrived looking as trim as a new ship, with our best living stretch bras on (we left the dead ones home) and our very best girdles. Lois introduced Mrs. Joan Patterson who has her degree in Home Economics. She gave a talk on how to measure for patterns and how to choose patterns, which lines best suited tall, slim people as well as the short mature figure. One bit of information that made us all feel good was hearing that patterns allow a good inch or more, that is if one measured an inch over a size 12, just forget it. Those kind pattern people have allowed for that - smart people to boost one's morale.

Joan, Lois and Minnie then showed us how to measure one another so we would know exactly what size to order. Making us held too was good for us.

The next night we arrived with our patterns, material, tracing paper, wheels, rulers, pins, etc. From then on it was trial and errors.

Here are a few highlights of the course:-

On arriving one night, we found our long tables used for cutting had been put in the basement, making room for a dance but we got them up again by first going outside and then in.

One time we decided to go in the morning, take our lunch and leave about 40'clock. On our arrival, there was a notice on the blackboard reading "A comfort station has been arranged for you in the Ladies' Cloakroom" signed by the Ontario Minister of Health and Welfare.

Jean Jamieson got very enthusiastic about cutting out some of her navy dress at home; she needed a small piece cut on the bias and proceeded to cut it out of the side panel of her dress. Luckily, Jean had extra material which saved the day or I should say saved the dress.

Here is a little dialogue overheard.

Hazel Howse saying to Rose McMurchy - there is something the matter with your machine; look- it isn't stitching right. In fact, it isn't stitching at all.

Rose:- That's funny, I never saw it act like this before.

After considerable tinkering, Lois was called on the scene. After a short inspection, she announced "There's no thread in the bobbin".

Result- two very red faces.

Muriel Carroll's machine was quite tempermental at times. One night its wheel came off but Greta Carroll came to the rescue and gave it a real good whack after she got it on. Muriel reports it has behaved very well ever since.

Then, one night when the dresses were at the trying on stage, there was a resounding knock at the inner door when we were in a state of dress and undress. Silence-- then, a quick look around showed Grace McPherson to be missing; she was up to her old tricks again.

Hazel's dress was practically completed; she tried it on for our inspection, took it off and Grace McPherson put it on. It fit very well only it was a true mini-skirt on Grace, but no one made a move to try on Muriel Carroll's dress. I wonder why? Could it be because it is size 10.

One evening, Lois modeled and original creation, was it cocktail pyjamas? a pant suit or was it just maybe a converted lace tablecloth?

Jean Jamieson had a very willing offer to mark the hem of her dress-- result, 4 or 5 inches above her knees.

Annie Isobel Tait, Grace Mc Coll and Mildred Mc Callum were our visitors on two occasions.

We had coffee which Rose and Mae looked after and a pot luck lunch each sewing night, and on our last sewing night we had a bountiful meal at midnight which was kept a secret from Lois and Minnie. At this time, we remembered our two instructors with a gift to show our appreciation of what they had done for us.

We all felt we had learned a great deal as many had only put hems up or down, mostly up these time. I think we nearly all made two dresses at this course.

No mention as to how long these classes lasted; they were late but you know it's never late until 2 then it's too late.

Sewing Class
1970



Mrs. G. Livingstone
Mrs. A. Mc Larty
Mrs. L. Howse
Mrs. H. Carroll
Mrs. G. Jamieson - Sharon Mc Murchy
Mrs. D. Mc Murchy
Mrs. M. B. Mc Coll
Mrs. K. Mc Alpine
Mrs. J. Andrews
Mrs. L. Carroll.

Display by
Area Institutes
Wedding Gowns
Through The Years
(See other side)
Picture had to be
divided for mounting.





Professor Rev. D. Keith Andrews

He was well known in this area, having made his home the earlier part of his life with his aunt and uncle, Mr. and Mrs. Dugald K. Andrews. He was the son of David and Isobel Andrews of Calgary and came to live here after his mother's death.

He attended Argyle Public school, Aldborough and Sarnia Collegiate from where he entered the University of Toronto, and was an honour graduate from Knox College in 1936.

After preaching at Innisfail and Olds, Alberta, for a time, where he was ordained as a Presbyterian Minister, he took post-graduate work at Edinburgh, Tubingin and Chicago receiving his Ph. D. degree from Chicago University.

For a time he was on the faculty of De Paul University in Indiana. In 1945 he became Professor of Old Testament Literature in Knox College, Toronto, a position which he held up to the time of his death on November 18, 1967.

The Right Rev. Dr. Finlay G. Stewart

In 1956 the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada elected as its Moderator, The Rev. Dr. Finlay G. Stewart of St. Andrew's Church, Kitchener.

Many of our ministers have come from rural areas. Finlay was born on the old homestead, (which is now a century farm) Lot 2, Concession 2, Dunwhich township, Elgin Co. Here his grandfather had staked a claim, on reaching Canada from Macrahanish, Scotland. He attended public school at U.S.S. No. 3, Aldborough and Dunwich, high school at Dutton and Normal school at London. He taught elementary school at Campbellton, Dutton and Ottawa until he entered university. He graduated from Knox College in 1933, and was ordained at Huntsville, where he supplied as a student. Here he met Miss Mollie MacInnes, who later became Mrs. Stewart.

His first ministry was at Drummond Hill Church, Niagara Falls, for three years. Then he was called to Kitchener, the largest Presbyterian Church in Canada.

In September, 1940 he joined the Services. He was a padre in C. B. Ordenance in England for one year. He served in R. C. E. M. E. in France, Belgium, Holland, and Germany until the end of the war. In 1945 he was decorated for his services in North-west Europe.

On his return he resumed his ministry in Kitchener.

In 1970 he was named for the Kitchener-Waterloo award for the outstanding citizen of the year.

DR. J. R. MACPHERSON

John R. Macpherson, M.D., at the golden age of 80 years, is still an active family practitioner in Highgate. Dr. J. R., as he is known to everyone, was born October 30th, 1892, the eldest of a family of five.

He attended public school at S.S.#10 Dunwich and entered Dutton High School in 1906. In 1910 he enrolled at the University of Western Ontario to study medicine. His application was refused at first because of his age, but he persevered and was finally accepted in the four-year medical course and graduated in 1914 with a silver medal.

He interned at St. Joseph's Hospital, London, and Toronto's Western Hospital. During the day he attended university and taught ballroom dancing in order to have some pocket money.

FIRST PRACTICE

His first venture into general practice was at Whitby in 1915, which was called Janetville until March 1916.

In April 1916 he was stationed at Deer Lake, Parry Sound, for the Canadian Northern Lumber and saw mills. In order to carry out his duties his mode of travel varied from horseback to boats, snow shoes, and dog teams on the French River. On April 15th, 1917 he went to Duart to set up practice having bought it from Dr. McLean the month previous. The transaction included a Model T. Ford.

Dr. Macpherson has been twice married, first to Hazel McKillop in January 1918, who passed away in 1945 after a lengthy illness.

FAMILY

They had two sons: Donald in 1920, and Archibald in 1927. Dr. Archie presently practices medicine in the Duart office. They also raised a nephew Ford Schweitzer from infancy.

In 1947 he married Hazel Gray. In January 1972 they celebrated their silver wedding anniversary which was the second for "J.R.".