

waited upon the Township Council to request a grant to the library and when this was refused, rates to rural subscribers went up.

For some reason not stated in the minutes, the library was closed for five months and when it reopened the Board members -W.H. Barnum, Dr. Cameron, Dr. Cascadden and Dr. Patton. There is a record of only one meeting in 1902 and 1903 and on March 6th, 1904, Miss Jordan was appointed librarian which position she held for a number of years. The minutes of May 8, 1906, record a successful performance of the oratorio "Queen Esther" on May 1st and 2nd under the direction of Donald Campbell, and that a substantial amount had been placed to the credit of the library.

These were the early days of our Public Library and one can see what trials beset those who were instrumental in getting it established. It might be of interest to hear who were Chairmen during the years, - After Rev. J. Steven was W.J. Robinson, Public School Principal from 1904 to 1908; M.S. Smith 1908 -1911. Between the years 1911 and 1918 nothing is recorded, then in 1918 Rev. H. Kennedy was appointed Chairman and Miss Ada.McKillop, Librarian. Following her was Mrs. Teskey, and in 1921 A.E. Roberts ~~was~~ was appointed Chairman and Mrs. J.A. Snell Librarian. 1925 A.E. Cantelon was appointed Chairman and in 1926 S. Howell. In 1928 S.C. Kirkland was appointed Chairman and Mrs. J.G. Bambridge Librarian. Following Mr. Kirkland was Mr. A.E. Cantelon, then J.T. Johnston, B.E. Downey, and the present Chairman, Rev. W.L. Nichol,-May 1946 .

The Board adopted a fixed rate of \$1.00 per single plot per year and \$25.00 per plot for perpetual upkeep, and resolved that accounts should be sent out every spring to all plot holders not having perpetual upkeep, that arrears would be included in the accounts till paid, and also that all arrears had to be paid before accepting a plot for perpetual care, and that money received for perpetual care was to be sent to the Public Trustee in Toronto for investment, so that the money paid in could not be used for anything else. There had been a wonderful response to the perpetual fund, especially from those at a distance.

When the Cemetery Board was appointed, they had approximately \$400.00 on hand, now they have to the credit of Fairview Cemetery over \$11,000. Some people ask, "Is it necessary to go on collecting so much money when they have so much money on hand?" and give that as an excuse for not paying the yearly rental. Surely they do not wish others to assume their responsibilities. There are other expenses than that of caring for the plots. Fences and roads have to be kept up, and walks trimmed. There is an unfailing spring of water in the lower part of the cemetery, and some years ago they had the hydro brought in, and an electric pump installed, hydrants put in different parts of the cemetery for the convenience of any having flowers on their plots or taking flowers there. Three or four years ago they had a landscape gardener put shrubs and ornamental pine, or ground spruce and perennials in the circle in the centre of the cemetery. They also filled a low corner with low growing trees.

There is a plot set aside for soldiers' graves and The Canadian Legion sees that they are properly marked.

This year there has been a power mower added to the equipment, and the board plans to build better roads to and through the cemetery whenever material and labour are available.

The cemetery now presents a very creditable appearance under the care of Mr. Wm. Weston.

DUTTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

WAR WORK

With the outbreak of World War II in September, 1939, our Institute members realized there would be great need of our services, and began to consider the most effective means to support the war effort.

This is a record of our decisions and of the way in which we carried them out. We have purposely omitted names, as it was felt that, while some acted as convenors and members of committees, others gave financial help, and all were equally determined to carry on for the duration.

We discussed the possibility of Red Cross work, and called a meeting of all interested in such a project. At a second meeting the entire village of Dutton and Township of Dunwich organized a Red Cross branch with units later formed in the village and in all parts of the township. This branch began active work in January, 1940. Many of our members worked faithfully during the entire war period, cutting garments, repairing and packing, taking charge of knitting and aiding in keeping the Red Cross rooms open.

A number of our young men enlisted for war service during that first fall and winter, while the Elgin Regiment, as a Reserve Unit, carried on drill each week in our village. When this regiment was transferred to the active list in June, 1940, many of our lads went into training with it in London.

It was decided to send boxes to these boys and our first committee was appointed to deal with the matter. In October, 1940, we packed twenty-one boxes for boys in training in Canada. From this time our overseas work increased, and we added cigarettes to our contributions until such time as the local branch of the Canadian Legion began to send them.

We adopted as our motto, "One box each month for every Dutton boy overseas", and grateful letters amply repaid us for the expenditure of time and money involved.

At first our members personally contributed the contents of the boxes, but as the work increased we devised new plans, establishing a special fund operated under the War Charities Act.

During these years of war operations we sent overseas 1322 boxes valued at \$2818.95, the largest number in any one month being 44 in April, 1945.

At this time, too, a steady and consistent collection of salvage was being made, our headquarters being the barn loaned to us by Mrs. Thomas Shipley. We were very grateful indeed to the teachers and pupils of the Public School, who undertook to notify each home and collect all the salvage. Mr. Hogland and Mr. Curtis also helped in these collections, and Mr. Russell Green trucked huge loads to London for a very nominal sum of money.

This part of our work was dirty and laborious. We shivered in the cold weather and perspired in the heat, but kept doggedly on, knowing the paper, rags, metals and rubber were urgently required for the war effort. Then too, we could make good use of the money from the sales for our overseas boxes. Even this had its occasional funny side. Will we ever forget some of the odd things that wandered into our barn—the box with its collection of dust and dirt snuggled in the bottom of which were several tins of a good brand of peas and corn. Then there was the woman who came wildly demanding her coal oil container gathered in mistake from her porch, the frantic search for school books lost in piles of junk, the mysterious disappearance of our good knives and scissors.

We also have pleasant recollections of the kind neighbours who carried in the pot of tea in the cold weather or a cooling drink in the heat.

All told, we collected and sold 147,706 lbs, or over 74 tons, of salvage, realizing \$789.23.

Frequently we found articles too good for salvage prices, and these, along

with donations from homes in the village, were sold at very successful rummage sales. It is our proud boast that we emptied all the attics and the basements in Dutton and vicinity. Garments and shoes left over were packed and donated to Russian and Greek relief.

We consider our two big war tasks were the collecting and sale of salvage, and the steady flow of boxes overseas. But in addition we contributed to the Central Women's Institute Fund and thus to Seeds for Britain, a mobile kitchen for overseas, and the furnishing of wards in overseas hospitals. We held Tag Days for the Navy League, and provided honey and sugar for jam to be sent overseas by the Red Cross Society. We contributed funds to the local Blood Donor Clinic; we aided the Canadian Legion Cigarettes Fund by presenting our plays at West Lorne and donating the proceeds, \$54.55, to it; we took charge of a food sale at a public auction and a food booth for a street carnival, netting over \$300. for our local Welcome Home Fund.

This record would not be complete without a reference to our own members who put on plays, euchres and dances; and to the men of the village who donated proceeds from a hockey night at the rink, a masquerade frolic, a sawing match, and collections at ball games; and to the many individuals and local societies who gave goods and money. During the period of rationing and scarcity of goods only the generosity of our local merchants, who supplied our items at cost price from a lowered quota, enabled us to continue our work.

The sudden end of hostilities left us with a surplus in our fund of about \$800. As this money had been collected for a specific purpose, the sending of boxes to the boys overseas, we, as an Institute, decided the money should be used for these boys. With the approval of the War Charities Co-ordinating Board, we presented each of 53 boys with \$15.00 worth of War Savings Certificates. Feeling that parents of boys who did not return would prefer a plaque bearing their names to be placed in our Dutton High School, such a plaque was purchased. At our High

School Commencement Exercises on December 3rd., 1946, this plaque was officially presented by one of our number to a representative of the High School Board and accepted by him on behalf of the school. The small balance of our funds remaining was donated to the Memorial Hospital at St. Thomas.

Lest we forget that we enjoy even the privilege of writing such a report as this through the service and sacrifice of our boys who joined the Navy, the Army and the Air Force, this record would not be complete without these names that follow in the order of their addition to our overseas mailing record:

1. W. R. Keck	23. E. P. Halpin	45. M. Scouler
2. L. M. Keck	24. A. J. Orchard	46. G. Ford
3. R. H. Richardson	25. A. E. Roberts	47. H. Oliver
4. J.M. Hockin	26. C. M. Waucaush	48. Allan Burslem
5. H. W. Hockin	27. C. T. Moyer	49. Jack Milton
6. W. S. Beer	28. B. I. Hillman	50. R. Johnston
7. V. M. Shipley	29. L. R. Burns	51. Wm Ross
8. John B. Ruston	30. H. K. Hoffman	52. Mac Ford
9. W. G. Montgomery	31. A. A. Howell	53. Joe Brown
10. Geo. W. Hefford	32. W. Haines	54. Vern Graham
11. E. M. Waucaush	33. H. Haines	55. Ed McCallum
12. D. D. Graham	34. J. W. Hodder	56. Don Hillman
13. H. R. Beer	35. J. A. Hillman	57. R. A. McKillop
14. H. MacGinnis	36. C. A. Milton	58. Ralph Mulder
15. A. C. Scott	37. W. C. Johnston	59. David S. Porteous
16. W. J. Smith	38. Frank Ruston	60. Jas. Brown
17. Leo G. Gibson	39. K. D. Duncanson	61. Don Hockin
18. D.M. Treadgold	40. Dave Moore	62. Ralph Bailey
19. E.P. Halpin	41. Harry Jones	63. Robert Pinner
20. W.R. Sutton	42. Guy Saunders	64. George Mortin
21. E. J. Sutton	43. John Bambridge	65. Jamey Crawford
22. M. W. Keck	44. Grant Graham	

It is with deep regret that the final paragraph in this record must be written. As always, war exacted its bitter toll, and our village was saddened by news of the death in action of eight of our boys. May their sacrifice induce in us a greater desire to be of service and a sense of our own failings and shortcomings in our dealings with our fellow-men.

" They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old;
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn."

Pilot Officer John Benjamin Ruston	Sept. 21, 1941	
Flying Officer Leo Garth Gibson	Feb. 13, 1943	
Private George Cole Hefford	July 10, 1943	
Flight Lieutenant Donald Duncan Graham	July 30, 1943	Flight Lieutenant
Private Harold Kenneth Hoffman	Sept. 7, 1944	Bruce Ivan Hillman,
Private Kenneth Donald Duncanson	Sept. 14, 1944	accidentally killed
Flight Sergeant John William Ross	Feb. 2, 1945	on July 14, 1945.
Lieutenant Allan McKenzie Burslem M. C.	Apr. 12, 1945	