

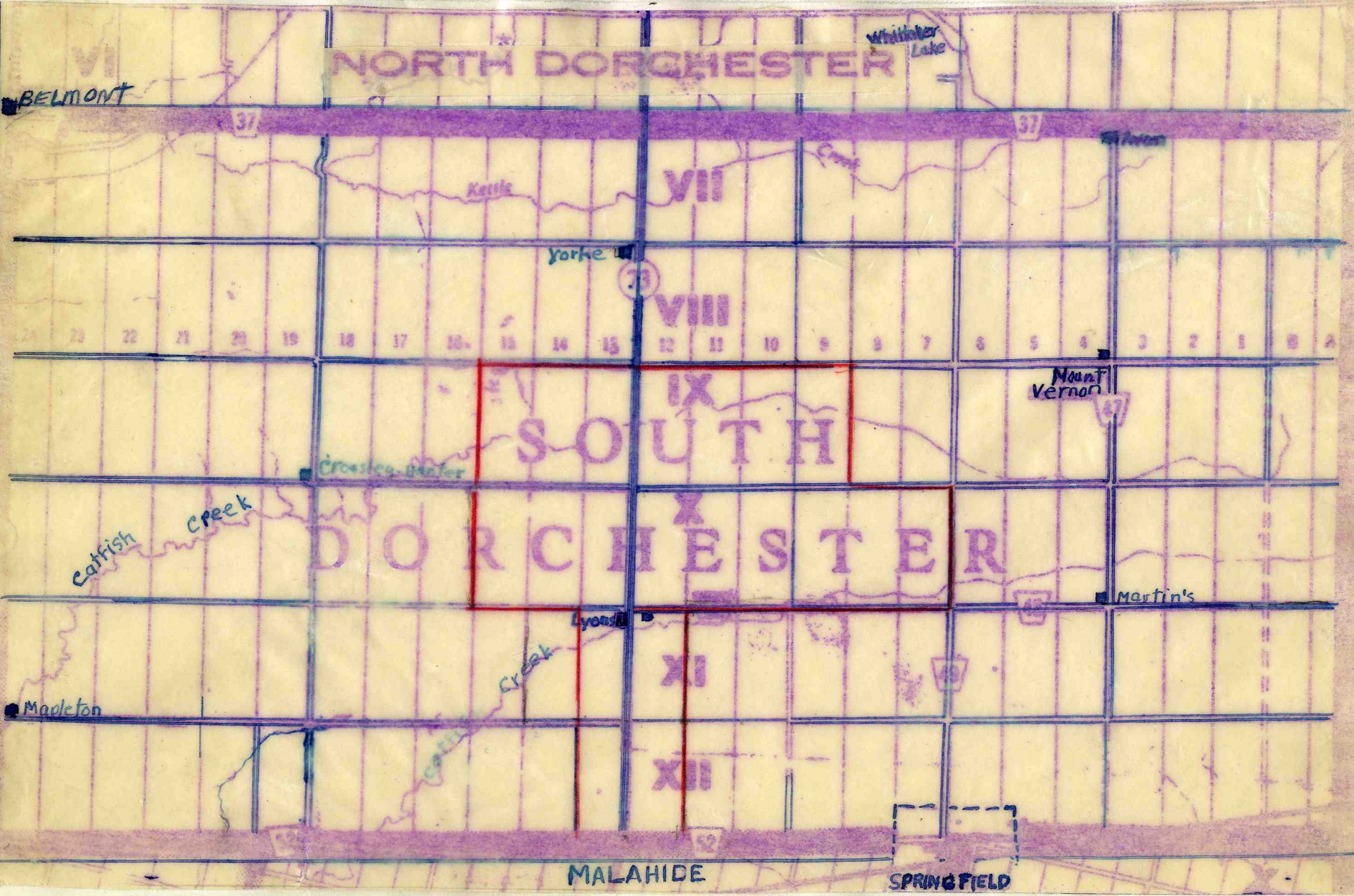
FOREWORD

When Tweedsmuir Village Histories were suggested by Lady Tweedsmuir, the Lyons' Women's Institute, under the leadership of Mrs. Earl Bagnall, began delving into the history of the Community, and much information was collected. For years these remained in a box, until Edna Baxter became Tweedsmuir Curator. Then, lest these valuable items of history be lost or destroyed, with the assistance of W.I. members, Florence Parker, Grace Tomlin, and Florence McCallum, this Tweedsmuir History was compiled.

We are indebted to many area residents and former residents for their assistance, co-operation, and donations of pictures and information included. Where possible credit has been given. For the most part Farm Histories are by the present owners. We regret any errors or omissions.

In view of the fact that over the years many of our members lived West of 73, North to Con. 8, and East almost to the Oxford boundary, history covering this area has been included.

It is the wish Of the Lyons' Women's Institute that this Tweedsmuir History be placed in the Elgin County Public Library, Aylmer.



LYONS WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

The Lyons Women's Institute was organized by Dr. A. Backus and Mrs. I. Pritchard on May 22, 1908, with Mrs. G. Winder as president and Miss A. Mitchell as secretary - treasurer, and Mrs. H. Demeray as District Director. Owing to a fire in one of the homes the minute books 1908 to 1919 were destroyed. The only records of these years are this 1909-10 program, this newspaper clipping of a meeting in 1915 and a financial statement of 1918.

Lyons W. I. Meeting.

The Lyons Women's Institute held their Jan Meeting at the home of Mrs Jas Mitchell Lyons on Wed Jan 13th. There was a large attendance and a good program.

Mrs G. Winder gave a full and very interesting report of the Women's Institute Convention in Toronto. Mrs McCredie gave a reading and musical selections were pleasingly executed by the Misses Eva Mitchell, Myrtle Putnam and Mary McNeil. Meeting closed by singing the National Anthem.

Their next meeting will be held in the church at Lyons, on Wed January 27th 1915 at 2:30 p.m., when Mrs F. W. Watts of Toronto will give an address.

A good musical program will be furnished. Everybody welcome.

1915

Officers

PRESIDENT.....Mrs. J. W. Boyes

VICE-PRESIDENT.....Mrs. E. E. Martin

SEC TREASURER..... Miss Agnes Mitchell

DISTRICT REP.....Mrs T. G. Winder

DISTRICT DIRECTOR...Mrs. Wm. Adams

DIRECTORS—Mrs. T. G. Winder

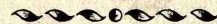
Mrs. Dewsberry

Mrs. J. J. Mitchell

Mrs. S. Weir

AUDITORS—Mrs. N. Cline. Mrs. H. Demary.

MOTTO---“If You Know a Good
Thing Pass it On.



Programme Lyons Branch Of

EAST ELGIN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

For 1909-10.



Meetings held the Second Wednesday
In Each Month, at 2 p.m. in the Hall.

Programme

1909

August 12—Go To Harrietsville.

September 1—Hospitality. Mrs. T. G. Winder.
In answer to Roll Call each member
name 5 books she likes best.

October 13—Aylmer Branch.

November 10—How to prepare Thanksgiving Dinner
Mrs Dewsberry, Mrs. L. Ackert, Mrs.
T. Winder, Mrs. W. Eaton. Mrs. J.
W. Simpson.

December 8—Suggestions for Christmas.
Springfield Branch.



1910

January 12—Report of Guelph Convention,

February 9—Address on Character Building.

Dr. Bachus.

March 9th—Harrietsville Branch.

April 13th—Vegetables for Summer Garden and their
Preparation for the table. Mrs. J. W.
Boyes. Girls Meeting.

May 11—Annual Meeting.



ECHO PRESSES, SPRINGFIELD.

Womens Institute.

For the year ending May 31st - 1918

Receipts

Cash on hand, May 31 st , 1917 - -	48.93
Members fees - one carried over - -	5.75
Grants - Govt. Grant - - - - -	3.00
Miscellaneous residue of food sale -	2.00
Contributed	.38
1 Fountain Pen on Hand	
Total - - - - -	60.06

Expenditures

Expenses for meeting, Hall Rentals etc - - - - -	
Postage & stationery	1.35
Printing & advertising food sale	.25
Lecturers' Expenses & Wages telephoning to Mrs Lindsay	.10

Total Receipts of Red Cross \$ 192.65
 " " " Institute 60.06

Total Receipts 252.71

Total Expenditures of Red Cross \$ 188.42

Total Expenditures of Institutes 39.32

Total Expenditures \$ 227.74

Total Receipts 252.71

" Expenditures 227.74

Cash on hand \$ 24.97

Miscellaneous - expenses of delegates to London Convention 3.75
 secretaries salary 5.00 \$ 8.75
 Paid Mrs T. G. Winder for Red Cross work

28.87
 39.32

Total
 Institutes Cash on hand 20.74
 Red Cross 4.23

Examined and found correct this \$ 24.97

5th day of May 1918

Mrs Jean Boyes } auditors
 Mrs A Lewis }

Mrs. W. Whili
 Secy-Treas.

One of the charter members was Mrs. P.J. Putnam, mother of George Putnam, the first superintendent of Women's Institutes for Ontario. Mrs. Wm. Boyes, also a charter member and a life member. Mrs. Boyes and Mrs. Winder served as district presidents. The district annual was held at Lyons in 1914, 1920, 1927 and 1939.

In 1921 the district presented Lyons W.I. with a \$5.00 prize for procuring the greatest number of new members during the year. George Putnam spoke at a campaign supper and membership went from 23 to 172, but dropped again to 24 in 1922.

Activities

Whenever disaster struck, the institute always stepped in to provide clothing, bedding, ect., or give financial assistance. During both wars sewing and knitting was done. Between 1940-1945 three thousand pounds of jam and 308 knitted and 820 sewn articles were made for the Red Cross. A \$100.00 Victory Loan Bond was purchased.

In 1922 sidewalks were laid in the village, the Institute paying 2/3 of the cost.

In 1926, an invitation was sent to the Minister of Health to visit the school and examine the teeth and health of the pupils.

To facilitate community entertainment, a piano costing \$120.00, electric stove, card tables, stage properties, dishes and silverware were purchased for the Municipal Hall. In 1953 a cupboard was added.

A dramatic contest was held in 1925 and 3 - one act plays which netted \$60.00 were held. Knitting classes, sewing classes and a short course in dressmaking were also held, as well as demonstrations of various phases of cooking.

In 1948 the Singer Sewing Machine Co. demonstrated how to convert an old kitchen chair into an upholstered bedroom chair. Plays, Halloween parties, dances, picnics, garden parties and card parties have been sponsored as well as the ploughing match banquet in 1939, and a venison supper jointly with W M S.

The welfare of the children has not been overlooked. In 1925 a resolution was drafted requesting the Minister of Health to provide minimum training and instructions for Home Service nurses. Later a first aid kit was provided for the school library and records for the player and book for the library. Prizes and assistance were given to the school fairs, as well as exhibits at the Aylmer fair. Each year at Christmas time, the shut-ins are suitably remembered; as are the sick and bereaved at all times.

Lyons W.I. always did their share in supporting such worthy causes as the adoption of an Armenian boy in 1920, donations to the navy league, hospitals for sick children at London and Toronto, Canadian Cancer Society, Canadian National Institute for the Blind, Red Cross, Polio Foundation and \$150.00 for the St. Thomas-Elgin General Hospital.

In 1949 a Garden Club was organized and each year since, other homemaking clubs have been sponsored.

The program of the meetings have not been changed much throughout the years.

The outline set down by Mrs. P.J. Putnam many years ago was:

1. something to hear
2. something to see
3. something to do

And so the Lyons Women's Institute has carried on from month to month and year to year, ready and willing to lend a helping hand and give leadership to worthwhile community projects.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF APPLICATION

(Do not detach from above)

The undersigned Victory Loan Salesman, Bank, Trust or Loan Company, has received a duly executed application for bonds of the Fourth Victory Loan, the essential details of which are as follows—

NAME AND ADDRESS OF SUBSCRIBER

Lyons Womens Institute (Name)

AMOUNT AND MATURITY SUBSCRIBED

R.R. 2 Springfield Ont (Address)

TRANSACTION TO BE COMPLETED AT

\$ 100.00 of 3% BONDS due 1957 and/or \$ of 1 3/4% BONDS due 1946 (Par value)

Province of Ontario (Name of Bank, Trust or Loan Company)

Aylmer Ont (Branch and address)

Date May 11 1943. Geo Levanik (Signature of receiver of application)

SPECIAL NOTE

The subscriber should carefully preserve this acknowledgment. It evidences his subscription and indicates the branch of the Bank, Trust or Loan Company where he has undertaken to complete the transaction. Subscribers should allow about five days from date of application for bonds to be available at designated Bank, Trust or Loan Company, and should then call there and take delivery; otherwise advising the Bank, Trust or Loan Company in writing as to disposition of the bonds. Complete details of the security purchased and the manner in which payment is to be made therefor will be found above and on the reverse hereof.