

Indians Cont.

Prior to 1650 the Attewandaron Indians inhabited the region along Lake Erie for some 30 to 40 miles inland. The French called this tribe the Neutrals. The Iroquois living south of Lake Ontario called them Kakkwas.

The Iroquois waged constant war against the Wyandots or Hurons as the French called them. These Indians lived along Georgian Bay. The Attewandarons remained neutral being related to both Hurons and Iroquois. In 1623 the Attewandarons numbered about 14,000 and had 40 towns or villages. The remains of 7 or 8 have been found in Middlesex and Elgin. It is said that their last great chief could put 4,000 braves on the warpath. History says his principal town was in the centre of his domain. The extensive earthworks at Iona bear indications of its being the remains of a fortified town of great strength, probably one of his chief fortifications. The missionaries called it St. Alexis. Another palisaded town was discovered south of the village of Middlemarch.

The Iroquois almost completely destroyed the Neutrals in 1649-51, with very few escaping. All that is found to-day are the meagre remains of their stockaded villages, stone and bone implements, pipes, broken pottery and flint weapons, and so until the coming of white settlers in the early 1800 this fertile region with its magnificent forests was virtually uninhabited.

While the centennial celebration was held in St. Thomas it may be of interest to record some of its highlights in our Tweedsmuir book. Many of our Institute helped with displays, teas, and the pageant and the entire proceedings were of historical interest to all of us in Elgin.

The week of Aug. 3-10, 1952 was chosen for the one hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Elgin and St. Thomas as separate Municipalities.

To insure the success of the big undertaking preparations were begun well in advance. Committees were set up and in the ensuing work the W. I. of Elgin played no small part.

An invitation was sent to Lord and Lady Elgin of Elgin and Kincarine Scotland. Lord Elgin is the grandson of the Lord Elgin who was governor general of Canada in 1846-54. Invitations were also sent to Elgin's native sons and daughters scattered across the continent and elsewhere.

The Fonger studios in Toronto were contacted and arrangements made for presenting an historical play. Homes throughout the city and county were brightened up with paint and floral display. The Centennial theme was carried out in many city flower beds. A group of young St. Thomas men forgot about shaving and cultivated various shapes and sizes of beards even as their forefathers, earning for themselves the title Mossbacks. Not to be outdone several young ladies donned hoop skirts and paraded on Talbot St. on various occasions before and on the actual week of celebration. Attics were searched for relics, treasures, old clothing. Many of these costumes were used in the pageant, while many antiques including jewellery, kitchen utensils, dishes, fire arms, farm implements, Indian relics, books, furniture etc. were displayed in store windows. On Fri. Aug. 1, 1952 the Times Journal published its largest edition, some 18,000 copies consisting of 136 pages containing local historical sketches, stories and incidents of by gone days. It carried a greeting from Canada's Prime Minister the Hon. Mr. Louis St. Laurent.

Many guests arrived in the city even prior to the week of the planned celebration, Lord and Lady Elgin arrived Sat. evening Aug. 2, and were greeted by Mayor Currah and Warden Ronald McNeil. During their visit they stayed at the home of Mr. Mrs. Hunter on Margaret St. They were the first to sign the guests' register in the Centennial Book at the City Hall. The work on the beautiful illuminated page of this book was done by Miss Carolyn Curtis daughter of Dr. Mrs. J. D. Curtis St. Thomas.

A large interdenominational religious meeting at Pinafore Park marked the beginning on Sun. Aug. 2. of the week's activities, very fitting since Elgin's pioneers had deep religious convictions. Rev. Mr. Svackhammer of Centre St. Baptist

St. Thomas

The Centennial cont.

church. Elgins only native son in the ministry in the county at that time gave the address and Lord Elgin read the lesson. The Salvation Army Band was in attendance.

The weatherman was most kind during the week. Showers fell Sun. evening and part of Mon. but clear skies prevailed until the following Sat. evening. A centennial Trap Shoot was staged Mon. in St. Thomas and Caledonian games held in Dutton in the afternoon. Premier Leslie Frost was to have opened these Caledonian games but was unable to come on account of the weather. Lord Elgin ably opened the proceedings. On his return to the city he with Lady Elgin paid a visit to the Talbot Estate shown about the grounds by Mr. W. D. Metler the Estate foreman.

Tuesday was Port Stanley Day with a fishing fleet and Yachting regatta featured. A civic luncheon given by St. Thomas industrial and business men, was held at Alma Villa Port Stanley and by the Bank of Montreal Managers of St. Thomas at the Grand Central Hotel St. Thomas.

At 7 O'clock Tue. evening the cornerstone of the new \$3,500,00 St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital was laid by Lord Elgin with the Hon. Paul Martin National Minister of Health and Hon. Mackinon Philipps Ontario Minister of health present.

On Wed. came the big parade. Thousands jammed the streets and many happy greetings were exchanged that day, as friends and acquaintances met in many cases for the first time in years. Approximately 175 floats and 7 bands from the city and East and West Elgin took part. Trucks were there in many disguises, some fashioned as churches, or schools and one even carried a replica of the Port Burwell light-house. There were floats from railroads, business and industrial firms. The W. Institutes, Girl Guides, St. John ambulance and others were featured. All kinds of horse and motor propelled vehicles, many of ancient vintage were there. Many comic outfits including Fifi and Moppets (clowns) added to the fun. In and near the forst of the parade rode Miss Marjorie Kelly (Miss Canada of 1951) and with her Miss Mary Carmichael of R.R.#8 St. Thomas who was later crowned Miss Centennial by Miss Kelly as a result of a contest sponsored by the Kenneth Lucas Chapter I. O. D. E. Following the parade a thrilling air show was given at the Yarmouth Centre Airport. 84 paratroopers made the drop from four big C. 47 Dakota R.C.A.F planes in a mock attack on the airport, defended by the Elgin Regiment. That evening a civic reception attended by about 200 was given for Lord and Lady Elgin at the Grand Central Hotel. Lord Elgin was presented with a copy of "The Talbot Regime" written by Judge C. O. Ermatinger and he in turn presented Mayor Currah and Ronald McNeil with tartan scarves.

The Centennial cont.

Warden McNeil was also presented by Lord Elgin with a Elgin watch from Elgin Illinois. This watch was to be worn later by successive wardens.

Thursday was designated Reunion Day when the schools of the county were open to residents and former pupils. Many visited old classrooms. Alma College held open house all week and art treasures and old documents brought by Lord Elgin and which had belonged to his grandfather when he was governor-general were on display. On Thursday morning Lord and Lady Elgin visited Bannackburn farms and Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Hepburn. Mr. Hepburn was premier when Lord Elgin had visited here previously. Thursday evening a reception in the Officer's mess at the armories was tendered the distinguished guests. Lord Elgin being their Hon. Colonel. Lady Elgin graciously accepted the invitation to be Hon. Rigent of 25th. Elgin Chapter I.O.D.E.

A centennial golf match was held at the Golf and Country Club at Union Friday. The Flower Show too opened and continued through Sat. One of the new glads was the Lord Elgin created by Miss Teeple of Aylmer. Horse rading was featured at Aylmer Friday evening while at the same time members of former football teams, Elgins, Tigers and Yellow Jackets held their first re-union and banquet. They were addressed by the Hon. Mitchell Hepburn and had a photograph taken.

A motorcade of former St. Thomas and Elgin residents living in the Border Cities arrived in the city Sat. morning and an Old Time Baseball Game was held at Pinafore Park Sat. afternoon. New Glasgow was the scene of a Pioneer's Reunion that same afternoon. The "Pride of Elgin" a quilt made by one of the W. I. of Elgin was presented there to Lady Elgin. This was one of the twenty quilts made by Institute members of Elgin for the Elgin W.I. Scholarship Fund. "The pride of Elgin" was made bt Central Yarmouth W.I. and was designed by Mrs. J. Mackenzie, a member. The quilts were displayed on Anderson's Third Floor. and some sold there. The designs were lovely bearing such names as "Road to St. Thomas" "Mohawk Trail" "Primrose" "Morning Glory" and others. Our own was a tulip design and was later disposed of through our own Institute.

Tea was served at Anderson's each afternoon by different institutes in turn. Our Institute worked with Port Stanley Thurs. afternoon. The proceeds from these teas as well as from W. I. booth at the Athletic Grounds were all given to the Scholarship Fund, some 2000 dollars. We, assisted by Port Stanley W.I. were in charge of booth at Athletic Grounds Sat. afternoon and evening. On Sat. evening it was estimated that about 8000 attended the Military tatoo in Athlêtic Park. The Elgin Regiment was host there to 14 Military bands. Rain began to fall during the performance but many remained to see the fireworks that concluded the week's activities there.

The Centennial cont.

But perhaps the most memorable event of the entire week was the brilliant pageant presented nightly at Athletic Park. The script was prepared and read by Mr. Ross McCance and the spectacle presented by Fonger Studios, Toronto assisted by Mr. E. Adams tenor of C.B.C. Opera Company, ballet dancers, soloists and local talent. In successive tableaux was unfolded the history of Elgin County from the arrival of Col. Talbot to the present. A caste of 800 took part many of them W. I. members. Ladies from different organizations looked after the costumes behind the scenes. Some of these were borrowed locally while the studios supplied the remainder.

The setting of the pageant was perfect. Many of the entrances to the stage at the east end of the park were made from the winding hill at the left. The finale was outstanding. As the long procession wound down the hillside the stage opened up revealing a flight of stairs down which the Air Force filed, followed by airwomen. (From Aylmer Base) carrying flags of the United Nations, while above the trees behind the stage rode the full August moon in the clear summer sky.

Sunday marked the closing ceremonies with services in all churches. After placing a wreath at the base of the Cenotaph at Memorial Hospital. Lord and Lady Elgin left early Sun. morning.

So closed centennial week, a busy happy week, friendships renewed, family groups re-united, memories, family treasures brought out and Elgin's history re-lived through the pageant.

When the next centenary 2052, arrives all our generation except perhaps a very few of the youngest will be history. We have paid tribute to those of 1852 and so may those living 100 years hence pay tribute to our generation.



Setting Up a County Museum

In the spring of 1954, at the District Annual meetings of both East and West Elgin, Mrs. J.R. Fitcher, a past president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, proposed the county pioneer museum project as a follow-up of work on the Tweedsmuir histories.

In October the Institutes of the county arranged for a showing of historic articles in a department store in St. Thomas. They took over practically the whole second floor. Twenty-three Institutes participated with a space of better than two card tables allotted to each, room behind to display quilts and space in front for small furniture. These exhibits were laid out in a large ellipse and the enclosed space was arranged as part of a pioneer home with braided rugs and old time furniture. During the time the exhibit was on display different Institutes served tea each day and raised \$450 to give a start to a fund for the project.

In November at a meeting of the Historical Research conveners of the Institutes of the county, it was decided to go ahead and promote a county museum and that this museum should be located in the county seat, the city of St. Thomas. They had yet to find a suitable building. A prospect of special interest was the historic Saywell home in the old part of the city. The house was 115 years old and on the same property, but not the same house, where Dr. Charles Duncombe lived, who with Dr. Charles Rolph founded the first medical school in Canada in 1824. Dr. Rolph left St. Thomas to found the Medical School of Toronto University.

In January 1955 two boards were set up to promote the museum project: an honorary board and an active board consisting of representatives of each Women's Institute in the county, representatives of the defunct Elgin Historical Society, local historians and interested business men. The Saywell home was bought for \$10,000.

Then came the campaign to raise funds for the project. In two winters, largely through teas and similar affairs, the Institutes of the county raised \$3300. A planned canvass of rural Elgin in the early summer brought in \$4500. Letters to former Elgin citizens and to a special list of men and women in St. Thomas resulted in donations of several thousands. Because the I.O.D.E. is interested in preserving local history their co-operation was enlisted. Mrs. Fitcher--who by the way had been elected Chairman of the museum committee---spoke to each of the seven I.O.D.E. chapters in St. Thomas and they made a canvass of the city that brought in approximately \$4000.

Because the museum building is so old it required a lot of renovation. Fortunately it provides space for an apartment so that the curator can live in. There is also space for a small tea room. The apartment, the tea room and the lavatories had to be modernized and the whole place re-decorated; and because the cost of this work is so high the women decided to do a great deal of it themselves. For some time they held weekly bees, papering, painting and doing odd jobs themselves. As an example of what this means to the budget, Mrs. Fitcher explains that in a room where the plaster had broken away

Setting Up a County Museum cont.

it would have cost \$170 to re-plaster it. The women, using gypdex, "plastered" it themselves at a cost of \$7.60.

Plans for the maintenance of the museum have been laid soundly. The County Council last fall accepted ownership of the building, making it eligible for a grant of \$600 a year from the Department of Education. The County Council and the City Council will each give a grant of \$500 a year. The Women's Institute branches of the county have each pledged a token amount of \$10 to \$25 Yearly until the museum no longer needs their help. This will add about \$400 to the budget. And there will be some income from the admittance charge of 25 cents to adult visitors.

To keep the museum before the people of the county, Mrs. Fitcher has a weekly column of "Museum News" in the St. Thomas Times-Journal. Here, she says, she can keep the public informed of both developments and needs, and often she can report some item or story of local history. When the museum is opened no doubt this column will be an effective means of attracting visitors.

Note: The Elgin County Pioneer Museum was formerly⁴¹ opened on April 6. A full page spread in the St. Thomas Times-Journal shows pictures of the attractive stone-face building--once a spacious, gracious home of colonial design; a fireplace, which had been removed from a home built in 1857 with its accompanying cooking equipment; a melodeon imported from Enbland in 1819; and views of the "medical room" with a local doctor explaining the "monaural," forerunner of the stethoscope and the same doctor demonstrating the use of the mortar and pestal once used in filling prescriptions. On another page is a picture of the museum tearoom, special project of North Yarmouth Institute, and a recognition of the work of their president, Mrs. J. Govan Young. The editor pays a special tribute to Mrs. Fitcher "who first broached the subject of setting up such a museum to the Women's Institutes of the county nearly three years ago, and whose vision and dynamic leadership have seen the big task through." The editor also says: "Together with accepting the responsibility as chairman Mrs. Fitcher has been among the foremost in the hard, practical work which has been a joint effort of many energetic, devoted people."

GUEST BOOK WILL MARK CENTENNIAL

Beautiful Bound Volume Ready at City Hall.

The city of St. Thomas now has a guest book of which it can be proud, and the first signature that will be inscribed in it will undoubtedly be that of Lord Elgin. Lord and Lady Elgin are reaching Canada on the Empress of Scotland next week and are due to arrive in St. Thomas about July 31, for the Elgin and St. Thomas Centennial.

The guest book, which has been in preparation some two years, was delivered, Tuesday afternoon to the Mayor's office. It is a handsome production, bound in maroon calf, with gold leaf edged pages, and with a beautifully illuminating inner frontispiece. The illuminating was done by Miss Carolyn Curtis, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. J.D. Curtis.

The inscription at the bottom of the illuminated page is particularly appropriate. It is from the Epitaph that has been read on St. Thomas's Day for the last 1,200 years at least. The inscription reads; "Now Therefore Ye Are No More Strangers and Foreigners But Fellow Citizens."

This epitaph is read on St. Thomas's Day in the Anglican Church and also appears in the Roman Catholic ritual.

The guest book is of sufficient size to serve, it is expected, for 100 years. It will be a Centennial book in every sense of the word, marking St. Thomas's first century of incorporation.

S.H.A. Sparling, the city's industrial commissioner, has been requested to go to Montreal next week and meet Lord and Lady Elgin on their arrival from Scotland and to escort them to St. Thomas. Mr. Sparling was chosen as he made Lord and Lady Elgin's acquaintance while serving with the Elgins overseas.

Centennial Aug. 3-10 1952.

The 50th. Anniversary of the River Road Women's Inst.

The 50th. Anniversary of the River Road Women's Inst. was celebrated at the Y.W.C.A. on April 24, 1971, with a smorgasbord dinner and program.

The banquet opened by singing the Inst. grace, and after the banquet Mrs. K. Fulton president of River Road Women's Inst. welcomed everyone present. The head table guests, Mrs. L. Jones Trea. of River Road W.I., Mrs. F. Joiner charter member of R.R.W.I., Mrs. Dr. C. Brown charter member of R.R.W.I., Mrs. W.A. Metler charter member of R.R.W.I., Mrs. H. Butler Pres. of West Elgin W.I., Mrs. G. Gow Vice. Pres. of West Elgin W.I., Mrs. K. Fulton Pres. of R.R.W.I., Mrs. V. Pow Past Pres. of the London Area of W.I., Mrs. H. Jackson Past Chairman of the Elgin County Women's Inst. Rally, were introduced by Mrs. Catherine Lindsay Vice. Pres. of R.R.W.I.

Mrs. John Palmer and Mrs. John Begg accompanied by Mrs. Helen Campbell sang a duet "In a Rose Garden"

Mrs. V. Pow gave a very interesting speech and thanked R.R.W.I. for inviting her to speak at their 50th. Anniversary a very momentous occasion. Mrs. W.A. Metler thanked Mrs. V. Pow and presented her with a gift.

Mrs. Dr. C. Brown a charter member spoke of the work that Mrs. W.A. Metler has done in the Inst. over the past 50 yrs. and presented her with the floral centre piece from head table.

A sing song of old songs "Flow Gently Sweet Afton", "Comin' Thro' the Rye", "Old Folks at Home", "Silver Threads Among the Gold", "Under the Shade of the Old Apple Tree", "The Old Oaken Bucket", "Old Black Joe", and a round song "Billy Boy" was conducted by Mrs. G. Wogan.

Five members of R.R.W.I. Mrs. D. Bryden, Mrs. J. Coombs, Mrs. T. Cook, Mrs. C. Thacker, Mrs. B. Veenstra put on a short skit called "Too many Cooks." which was very amusing.

Mrs. L. Jones thanked the ones taking part in the entertainment and the staff of the Y.W.C.A. for the lovely supper.

A door prize, a glass candy dish with a gold leaf design, was drawn for and won by Mrs. Carl Woolley.

The program closed with a toast to the Queen and singing "God Save the Queen". A display of the Tweedsmuir History books of River Road Women's Inst. proved interesting to those looking at them.

Mrs. N.D. Campbell thanked the committee for the work they had done in arranging for the banquet.

54 guests were present from Dresden, Komoko, Blenheim, Guelph, Fingal, Talbotville, Pr. Stanley, St. Thomas and the River Road Community.

A group picture of everyone present was taken and a picture of the three charter members. Mrs. W.A. Metler, Mrs. F. Joiner, Mrs. Dr. C. Brown cutting the Anniversary cake, by Mr. J. Cowland of 35 Ross St. St. Thomas.

Mrs. W.A. Metler put the write up of the 50th. Anniversary of the River Road Women's Institute in the St. Thomas Times Journal.

CHARTER MEMBERS OF RIVER ROAD W.I.



Mrs. W. A. Metler Mrs. (Dr.) Colin Brown Mrs. Frank Joiner



50th Anniversary Picture of River Road W.I. 1971

PROGRAM
50th ANNIVERSARY

of

River Road Women's Institute

Music - Mrs. G. Beattie

Institute Grace- We thank Thee, Father for Thy care
Food, friends and kindness we share;
May we forever mindful be
Of "Home and Country" and of Thee.

Dinner - Y.W.C.A.

Welcome by Mrs. K. Fulton , Pres. R.R.W.I.

Introduction of head table guests - Mrs. C. Lindsay

Greetings from - West Elgin W.I. Pres. Mrs. H. Butler
West Elgin Sec. Mrs. R. Campbell
West Elgin Vice. Pres. Mrs. G. Gow
Elgin County Women's Institute Rally,
past chairman Mrs. H. Jackson

Sing Song - led by Mrs. G. Vogan

After dinner speaker - Mrs. V. Pow

Duet - Mrs. John Palmer
Mrs. John Begg

Skit - "Too Many Cooks"

God Save the Queen

Display of Tweedsmuir Books

1- Flow Gently, Sweet Afton

Flow gently, sweet Afton, among thy green braes;
Flow gently, I'll sing thee a song in thy praise;
My Mary' asleep by thy murmuring stream,
Flow gently, sweet Afton, disturb not her dream.
Thou stock-dove whose echo resounds from the hill,
Ye wild waisting black birds in yon thorny dell,
Thou green crested laving, thy screaming forbear,
I charge you, disturb not my slumbering fair.

2- Comin' Thro' the Rye.

If a body meet a body, Comin' thro the rye,
If a body kiss a body, Need a body cry?
Every lassie has her laddie,
Nane they say Ha'e I;
Yet a' the lads they smile on me,
When comin' thro the rye.

3- Old Folks at Home

Way down upon de Swanee Ribber, Far far away
Dere's wha' my heart is turnin' ebber,
Dere's wha' de old folks stav.
All up an' down de whole creation Sadly I roam,
Still long-in' for de old plantation, An' for de old folks at home.
All de world am sad and dreary eb'ry where I roam
Oh! darkies, how my heart grows weary,
Far from de old folks at home.

4- Silver Threads Among The Gold

Darling I am growing old, Silver threads among the gold,
Shine upon my brow to-day, Life is fading fast away,
But, my darling you will be, will be, Always young and fair to me,
Yes my darling you will be, Always young and fair to me.

5- Under the Shade of the Old Apple Tree

Chorus: In the shade of the old apple tree,
Where the love in your eyes I could see,
When the voice that I heard, like the song of the bird,
Seem'd to whisper sweet music to me.
I could hear the dull buzz of the bee,
In the blossoms as you said to me,
With a heart that is true, I'll be waiting for you,
In the shade of the old apple tree.

6- The Old Oaken Bucket

How dear to this heart are the scenes of my childhood,
When fond recollection presents them to view.
The orchard, the meadow, the deep-tangled wild-wood,
And every lov'd spot which my infancy knew.
The old oaken bucket, the iron-bound bucket,
The moss-covered bucket that hung in the well.

7- Old Black Joe

Gone are the days when my heart was young and gay;
Gone are my friends from the cotton fields away;
Gone from the earth to a better land I know,
I hear their gentle voices calling "Old Black Joe!"
I'M coming, I'M coming, For my head is bending low;
I hear their gentle voices calling, "Old Black Joe!"

Guests at 50th. Anniversary
of
River Road Women's Institute

- 1- Mrs H. Jackson Elgin Rally.
- 2- Mrs E. Mae Lanning Mandeville, St Thomas
- 3- Mrs Ethel Joiner Pt Stanley
- 4- Mrs Neil Campbell 17 East Ave St Thomas
- 5- Mrs Wallis Carter River Road.
- 6- Mrs Bertha Dowd River Road
- 7- Mrs Kenneth Russ South Yarmouth N.S.
- 8- Mrs Gordon Jan Tyngsboro N.S.
- 9- Mrs. Catherine Lindsay River Road N.S.
- 10- Mrs. Leslie Jones River Road N.S.
- 11- Mrs. Pearl Foster Glenora
- 12- Mrs Clara Chute Dalhousie
- 13- Mrs Alma Moore Fingal
- 14- Mrs Tom Hill Fingal
- 15- Mrs Jean O'Brien. River Road.
- 16- Addeline Compton.
- 17- Lillian Ross
- 18- Irene Reid
- 19- Mrs. Reta McLaughlin
- 20- Mrs. Marquette Young. RR 6 St. Thomas
- 21- Mrs Morley Blewett
- 22- Mrs Albert Mc Intyre
- 23- Mrs. A. Butler
- 24- Mrs E. Binks
- 25- Mrs. Eleanor Campbell
- 26- Mrs. Keith McLean
- 27- Mrs. Mary Logan
- 28- Mrs. Gerald McHugh
- Mrs. Vernon Peck

Guests at 50th. Anniversary
of
River Road Women's Institute

- 29- Margaret Begg.
- 30- Mary Haley
- 31- Pat Bryden
- 32- Mary Veenstra
- 33- Ethel McPherson
- 34- Mildred Woolley
- 35- Mary Palmer
- 36- Helen Campbell (sister)
- 37- Mrs. Jean Brown
- 38- Mrs. Colin Thacker
- 39- Kay Metter
- 40- Kathy Metter
- 41- Doris Lavombs.
- 42- Leahy Cook
- 43- Lena Cook
- 44- Thelma Campbell
- 45- Jean E. McPherson
- 46- Ellora Beattie
- 47- Jean Barrens
- 48- Marguerite McIntyre
- 49- Mrs. B. Begg
- 50- Mrs. H. A. Metter
- 51- Mrs. H. Sulton
- 52- Mrs. R. Sackey
- 53- Mrs. J. A. Douglas
- 54- Catherine Lindsay
- 55-
- 56-



The pleasure of your company
is requested
on April 24, 1971
at 6 o'clock
at 7 H. C. St. Thomas
occasion 50th Anniversary of
River Road Home's First
Smorgasbord dinner \$2.50
Please reply by April 12

X. I. Work - R. R. N. I. 1957-67.

During the years 1957-67 we have enjoyed many speakers, films, demonstrations at our meetings as well as participating in various social activities.

Speakers included Mrs B. Brown, Mrs M. Best, Mrs J. G. Coe, Mrs H. B. Backwell on Civil Defence, Mrs M. Cairn "Trip to New York" and "Mexico". Miss Gladys Elliott "Ireland", Mrs Row Lotie, who came from Ukraine on "Work among New Canadians", Miss Lillian Rose, "Trip to California", Mrs Row "Tea and Coffee", Mrs Beck "Jugo Slavia", Mrs Muller "Early Local History", Mrs M. Austin "Education", Mrs Geo. Thorman "White Cross Work", Mrs J. H. Lewis "Handwriting Analysis", Mrs H. M. McCormick of Redmond Motors on "Business", Mrs B. G. Thacker Elgin St Thomas General Hospital on "Work of Retarded", Mrs H. Anderson "Trip to Montreal to Canadian Museum Convention", Mrs Howan Young, "Public Relations", Mrs Mabel Stillwell "Inall Gains", Mrs Galloway and Mrs Harper "Film on Cancer", Mrs Bergsteinson teacher of Home Economics A. U. S. Mrs Mabel Harder "St John's Ambulance", Mrs N. Campbell "Trip to California", Mrs Clara Skilton "Trip to Florida and Nassau", Mrs Claude Moore "Trip Through Africa", Mrs N. H. Campbell "Trip to Charlottetown", Mrs N. D. Campbell "Film on Trip to California", Ellen Anford "Trip to B. C."

Two of our members Mrs S. A. Gulton in 1965 and Mrs Jas. M. Pherson in 1966 attended the Office Conference at Dulph.

Many interesting papers were given by

Our 40th anniversary in 1961 was celebrated at the Marquee in St. Thomas. We had a turkey dinner. At the head table were seated the first Pres. Mrs. G. Campbell, the first sec. Mrs. W. G. Miller and the 1961 officers: Mrs. C. Lindsey, Pres. Miss Lillean Ross, Sec. and Mrs. Clarence Mutton Treas. The tea table was centered with an anniversary cake, yellow candles and grape hyacinths.

Mrs. J. W. Galbraith Pres. of St. Elgin Institute was present and brought greetings. Cards were played following the business meeting.

The 45th anniversary of ~~in 1966~~ was celebrated Apr. 20 1966 at the home of Mrs. Helton Banks 10 Third Ave. St. Thomas. Mrs. Carol ^{a graduate of Guilford} ~~Lennington~~ gave a talk on the 4 year course for girls at Guilford University.

An anniversary cake and ice cream were served to the fifteen present.

our own members. Often the convocations of standing Committees gave excellent papers or demonstrations in their particular subject.

We enjoyed our afternoon meeting with Middlemas N.S. Members attended Area Conventions mostly in London but in 1964 the 50th anniversary of the London Area Convention was held in St. Thomas at Grace United Church in 1965 at Stratford in 1966 at Goderich.

During the years we attended winter picnic district annuals, teas, parties, with neighboring Institutes.

We entertained members of several Institutes at the U. N. C. A. had Christmas parties, and celebrated 32nd and 40th and 45th anniversaries ^{guest from opposite page} helped at least at Museum and assisted at the International Flowering Match at Springfield, at the Carnival at the O. H. We have entertained the residents at Elgin Manor, held card parties at the O. H. for the patients and assisted in the Tuck Shop at the Elgin Manor.

We have donated to the the Cancer Fund, U. N. C. A. Pennies for Friendship, Shedd's Fair Board, Mr. Saul School of Nursing, St. Thomas Elgin General Hospital School Bus Trips to patients at the O. H. and residents of Elgin Manor, to the Elgin Manor Auxiliary. The sick, shut-ins, and bereaved in the community have been remembered as well as donations to a needy family. We also gave going away gifts and gifts to newly-weds.

We usually met in members' homes but held some meetings

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in the Museum, at Elgin Manor and at Southwold School No. 1. Methods of making ^{money} have included rummage, food sales, card parties donations and percentage of Cosmetic Sales.

Three Life Memberships were presented during the years 1957-67 to Mrs M.A. Metter, Mrs L.A. Fulton, Mrs W. W. Campbell.

In this summary it is impossible to list all the activities and topics taken up but it is quite evident that there have been a profitable and enjoyable ten years in N.S. work.

From the treasurer's report we find the receipts from 1957-67 have been approximately £765.76 and expenditures £1509.26.