

Elgin West WI holds 65th annual meeting

RODNEY — Members of Elgin West Women's Institutes held their 65th annual meeting in Rodney Presbyterian Church, Rodney, on Wednesday.

The retiring president, Mrs. Gordon Gow, addressed the meeting and she stated she had visited all the branches during her term of office.

The theme for the meeting was Mirrors or Windows. This was given by Mrs. I. L. MacAdam.

The address of welcome was given by Mrs. Ivy Shaver, Rodney and replied to by Mrs. John Blakely, Wallacetown WI.

Mrs. Herbert Jackson reported the Tweedsmuir History was progressing favorably. At noon, luncheon was enjoyed.

Mrs. Elias Rick introduced the guests at the head table. Harold W. Buck, Elgin Agriculture Representative, brought greetings, and interesting facts about the Erland Lee homestead, Mrs. Gow also, showed slides of the home.

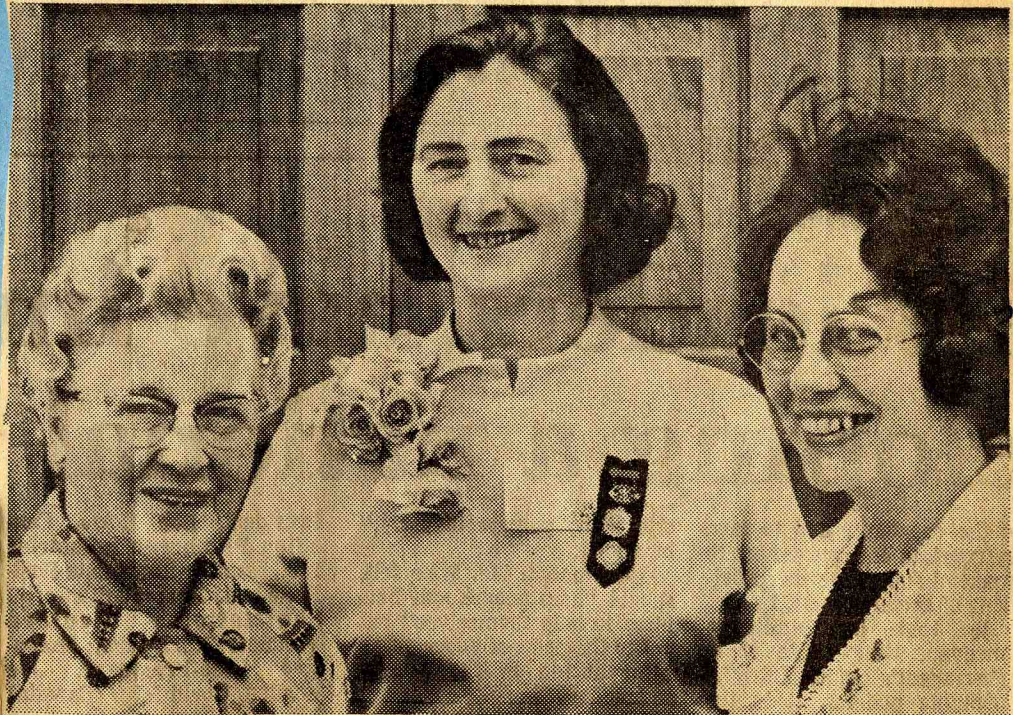
The afternoon session began with a sing song. A memorial service was conducted by Tyrconnell WI in memory of two members.

Miss Lois Ferguson, home economist for Elgin County, reported 391 girls completed the "Cereal shelf and 415 girls have just completed the course

has applied comes under the grant for which council for the job.
The grant for which council for the job.
lenders and hire contractors at least four weeks to advertise needed in the project as well as of 24 weeks, "design time" is Mr. Barrett said a minimum of 24 weeks, "design time" is tions.
sible, because of time limitations.
an architect as soon as possible, because of time limitations.
urged the board to come up with their recommendation of City Clerk Robert Barrett and Mayor Eber Rice and approval of the grant," he said.
"so anything we discuss today grant has not yet been received stressed that approval for the been mailed May 14. He from \$625,000 to \$300,000, had the cost of the new building

Campbell; federation representative, Mrs. Gow; alternate, Mrs. H. Jackson; public relations officer, Mrs. Walter MacMillan, Dutton; auditors, Miss Margaret Leitch, and Mrs. Clarence Blue, Dutton; Tweedsmuir curator, Mrs. H. Jackson, Fingal; associate, Mrs. Keith McLean, Port Stanley.

Standing committee conveners are: resolutions, Mrs. J. D. Fraser, Dutton; family and consumer affairs, Mrs. Herbert Parks, Shedden; educational cultural activities, Mrs. M. D. Walters, Wallacetown; agriculture and Canadian industries, Mrs. B. Cooper, West Lorne; citizenship and world affairs, Mrs. Purcell Wilson, Shedden.



MIRRORS OR WINDOWS— Was the theme chosen by the incoming president Mrs. I. L. MacAdam of the Elgin West Women's Institute, when their 65th annual meeting was held in Rodney Presbyterian Church on Wednesday, May 16. Mrs.

MacAdam is shown on the left with Mrs. Gordon Gow, past president of the Elgin West Women's Institute and Mrs. Russell Campbell, secretary-treasurer. (T.-J. Photo)

FWIO's 75th anniversary marked by Elgin branches

It is 75 years since the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario came into being, and the anniversary was marked in happy fashion by Elgin County WI's, last evening, when members from all points in the county gathered in the Grace United Church to view the numerous displays and enjoy the program.

A highlight of the evening was the cutting of the huge anniversary cake, and this pleasant ceremony was performed by Mrs. Keith Heipleh, chairman of the rally committee.

It was an evening of fellowship and reminiscence, as speakers recalled how Erland Lee and Adelaide Hoodless laid the groundwork for what was to become a world-wide wing of the WI took place at Stoney Creek, Ontario, and the FWIO have purchased the homes of Mrs. Hoodless and Mrs. Lee as lasting tributes to their memory.

Displays depicting the history of Elgin WI's and the areas which they represent were inspected by the many who attended the event. A great deal of work went into these displays, with most of them containing precious memorabilia whose history is entwined with that of the community they represent.

Rev. L. J. Coates, pastor of Grace Church, welcomed the assemblage and told how he had admired and respected

their accomplishments and helping to build good citizens.

"The WI is something to be admired," he said. "This year it is 75 years young. We really need what the WI stands for in these times, for it is always so alert and alive.

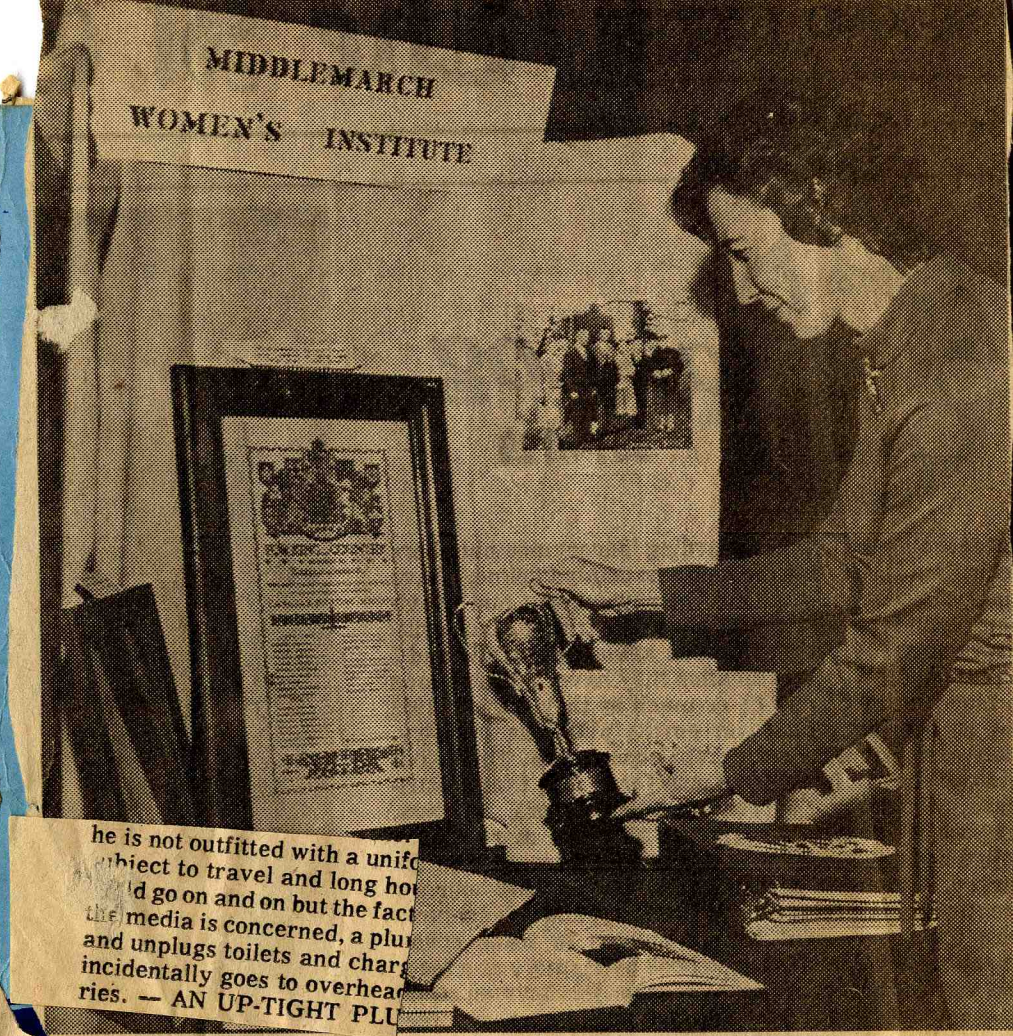
Greetings from the Provincial Board were brought by Mrs. Lorne Daniels, FWIO Board director, and from London Area by Mrs. Wallace Laidlaw, second vice-president of the area.

A. V. Langton, Elgin County's representative for the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, conveyed his good wishes and those of his department. He introduced Elgin's new home economist, Miss Lois Ferguson, who arrived in St. Thomas on Thursday, to begin her duties. She extended good wishes on behalf of Mrs. D. G. Marcou, who has been acting home economist.

A paper, prepared by Mrs. J. Robinson Fulcher, titled A Few Highlights of My WI Experiences, was read by Mrs. Herb Jackson, who also presented highlights of Elgin County Rally. The history of East Elgin was given by Mrs. J. Gowan Young, and that of West Elgin by Mrs. Vermont Pow.

A skit, The Women's Institute Story, was much enjoyed, and its presentation was given by Mrs. Roy McNeil and Mrs. Young.

MIDDLEMARCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



he is not outfitted with a uniform subject to travel and long hours and go on and on but the fact the media is concerned, a plumber and unplugs toilets and charges incidentally goes to overhear tries. — AN UP-TIGHT PLU

A LABOR OF LOVE — The display arranged by the history of the branch, but of the community as well. Mrs. Alton to the exhibit, which included items beloved by me still silent reminders of days gone by. (T.-J. Photo). nber

Singsongs, led by Mrs. Max Alton, with Mrs. E. McCurdy at the piano, were enjoyably participated in by all present, and other segments of the program which were a source of entertainment were the Dutton Highland Dancers, a ballet dance group, and the latest in fashions.

The 75th anniversary song was sung to conclude this part of the evening, and following

this, a candlelight ceremony was conducted by Mrs. George Cornist.

Another highlight was the presentation of the 1972 Elgin WI Scholarship of \$1000 by Kathy Martin, RR #1, Elgin City.

First President
Rodney Women's Institute
Mrs. E. J. Schmid.



" Presidents of the Rodney Women's Institute

from

1906

Mrs. E. J. Schmid	1906 - 1907
Mrs. A. D. McGugan	1907 - 1908
Miss M. Gillies	1908 - 1910
Mrs. Winlow	1910 - 1911
Mrs. B. Eggert	1911 - 1913
Miss S. Messerschmid	1913 - 1914
Mrs. A. D. McGugan	1914 - 1915
Mrs. M. Bisnett	1915 - 1923
Mrs. A. D. McGugan	1923 - 1925
Mrs. J. G. Gillies	1925 - 1932
Mrs. C. Wray	1932 - 1934
Mrs. F. Janaway	1934 - 1938
Mrs. E. G. Lusty	1938 - 1940
Mrs. C. Martini	1940 - 1943
Mrs. J. Kruppe	1943 - 1945
Mrs. Wm. Katzenmeyer	1945 - 1947
Mrs. Frank Graham	1947 - 1949
Mrs. Stanley Haines	1949 - 1952
Mrs. W. McMillan	1952 - 1954
Mrs. Alvin McLarty	1954 - 1956
Mrs. Hugh Degraw	1956 - 1958
Mrs. John Messerschmid	1958 - 1960

Presidents of Rodney Womens Institute
(Continued)

Mrs. Mary Downie	1960 - 1962
Mrs. Archie Brown	1962 - 1964
Mrs. Lorenzo Smith	1964 - 1966
Mrs. E. Soles	1966 - 1968
Mrs. Earl Keutch	1968 - 1972

Mrs Jerry Shaver

1972 to 1975

*Mrs Earl Keutch
1975 to 1977*

Secretaries of Rodney Womens Institute

Mrs. Olivia Tough
Mrs. G. A. McLevey
Mrs. G. S. Robinson
Mrs. G. Kotzenmeyer
Mrs. A. C. Miller
Mrs. A. Pyley
Mrs. A. McCallum
Mrs. W. B. McMillan
Mrs. Mary Downie
Mrs. Gladys Broom

Mrs Mary Downie

Mrs Bessie M^e Millan

" RODNEY BRANCH of WOMEN'S INSTITUTES -- YEARS 1906 - 1911. "

Reported by

Mrs. Ernest G. Lusty.

"The Organization Meeting June 1906."

The first annual meeting of West Elgin District of The Women's Institutes was held in Dutton, May 28th., 1906. At the time, only two branches had been formed in this area. Aylmer had organized in January 1902, and Springfield in May 1905.

Mesdames E.J. Schmid and M. Bisnett attended that meeting, and invited the speaker, Miss Helen Wells of Syracuse, New York, to come at her earliest convenience, to organize a branch at Rodney.

Miss Wells came early in June, and the meeting was held in Whitton Hall, and the Rodney Branch became a reality.

No minutes were recorded of that meeting, other than that Mesdames E.J. Schmid, M. Bisnett, D. McIntyre, and A.D. McGugan paid their .25¢ fee for membership, and the following were appointed the first executive :

President	- Mrs. E.J. Schmid,
First Vice-President	- Mrs. A.D. McGugan,
Second Vice-President	- Mrs. M. Gillies,
Secretary-Treasurer	- Mrs. B.B. Graham,

1906 - 1907

During the first year, eight regular and one special meetings were held.

The first meeting was held on June 28th., 1906, on Mrs. E.J. Schmid's lawn. Sixteen women were present. The minutes of that meeting, in part, are as follows:

It was moved by Mrs. Bisnett, seconded by Mrs. Lusty, that the Secretary write the Superintendent regarding the grant promised to the Society.

R.S.

It was moved by Mrs. Shaw and seconded by Mrs. Ralph, that the society be called "THE RODNEY BRANCH of WOMEN'S INSTITUTES".

It was moved by Mrs. Bisnett and seconded by Mrs.

Katzenmeyer that the meetings be held on Mrs. Schmid's lawn as long as the weather be favourable.

It was moved by Mrs. Bisnett, and seconded by Miss Gillies, that we take up "the canning of fruits and vegetables" at the next meeting.

Dues were paid at that meeting by the following :

Mesdames B.B. Graham, G. Katzenmeyer, Wm. Watson, J.D. Shaw, L. Mistele, N.S. Lusty, T. Davies, J.J. Mistele, E. Ralph, B. Eggert, and Misses M. Gillies and L. Morris.

The second meeting was held on July 26.

Ten members were present at Mrs. Schmid's home, and three new names were added. These were Mesdames P. McGregor, J.D. Paterson and Mrs. Whiting.

At that meeting Mrs. McGugan spoke on the preservation of Tomatoes, Mrs. Whiting on the canning of Peas, and Mrs. Schmid about the best methods of keeping corn.

The meeting closed with the National Anthem.

The Third meeting was held on August 30th., at Mrs. Schmid's home. Only three members were present. They were the Vice-President, the Secretary and one additional member. One new member joined in the person of Miss Olivia Schmid. They decided not to have a September meeting.

The fourth meeting was held on October 25th., as an indoor meeting at the home of Mrs. Schmid. Ten members were present. A discussion of "mincemeat making" and other cooking was enjoyed.