

1934 - 1935

Rodney, Crinan and West Lorne Branches, with an attendance of 100, gathered in the Rodney Hall for the Summer Meeting. Mrs. Hayes of Georgetown was in charge. Her subject was "Institute Work", under the headings - "Education, Community and Social Work". Mrs. Lemon of West Lorne, sang very sweetly "'Tis the Spring of the Year". The President, Mrs. Wray, was in charge.

The annual meeting brought a new President, Mrs. F.W. Janaway, and the new Secretary-Treasurer was Mrs. J.T. Murray.

Another Grandmother's Meeting was held with 200 in attendance. Mrs. E.J. Schmid and Mrs. Wm. Purcell were in charge. Old Time Music was given by Mrs. J. Somerville. Mrs. Eggert made a presentation to Mrs. Purcell, and Mrs. Wray gave a gift to the Grandmother present, having the greatest number of Great-Grand children. This prize went to Mrs. C. McArthur, and was presented by Mrs. Crawford. The Grandmothers treated the audience to a sample of "Old-Time Dancing" which won great applause.

A Kiwanis Supper, in November, netted the Institute \$40.01.

1935 - 1936

Mrs. H.C. McKillop of West Lorne, spoke on the "Influence of Music on the Community Life", in February, with 101 present.

The annual meeting was very encouraging. The report of the Community Improvement Committee showing receipts of \$133.37.

Officers at this time were :

Honorary President	- Mrs. E.J. Schmid,
President	- Mrs. F.W. Janaway,
First Vice-President	- Mrs. J. Kruppe,
Second Vice-President	- Mrs. C. Martini,
Secretary-Treasurer	- Mrs. Murray,

" RODNEY BRANCH of WOMEN'S INSTITUTES -- YEARS 1936 - 1938. "

Reported by
Mrs. C.A. Wray.

1936 - 1937

The Branch purchased 50 song books called "CANADA SINGS".

Mrs. D. Graham gave an instructive paper on "Research of the Township of Aldborough", and her daughter Grace sang "When I Grow Too Old to Dream."

1937 - 1938

Mr. and Mrs. E. McMillan lost their home by fire and the Institute took great interest in planning a shower of household necessities for them, and also several quilts were made and quilted.

The Executive for that year was :

President	-	Mrs. Janaway,
First Vice-President	-	Mrs. E.G. Lusty,
Second Vice-President	-	Mrs. C.W. Martini,
Secretary-Treasurer	-	Mrs. J.T. Murray,

Mrs. C.A. Wray.

Historical Research
Rodney Women's Institute Meeting. 1949



Left to Right.

Mrs. O. Touge, Mrs. D. Roe, Mrs. N. B. McMillan, Mrs. A. J. Leibner,
Mrs. B. McGuigan, Mrs. E. G. Lusty, Mrs. C. A. Wray.



Rodney Women's Institute June 1951



Reported by

Mrs. Frank Graham.

1938 - 1939

1939 - 1940

President - Mrs. E.G. Lusty,

Secretary - Mrs. J. Murray,

Membership - 95,

A larger membership, and renewed interest on the part of many old members, brought especially good meetings.

Among the highlights were :

An address on "Women's Rights" by Mr. E.B. Stirling;

An address on "Municipal Laws" by Mr. K.W. McKay; Mr. McKay was from St. Thomas;

Several catering undertakings;

And, a larger picnic at Memorial Park with West Lorne, Clachan, and Muirkirk Institutes as our guests. At this picnic Mrs. R. Beattie and Mrs. E.G. Lusty led a "Grand March" to supper, playing Mouth-organs.

Mrs. Bisnett was made a "Life Member".

And last, but not least, was the need of new cupboard space in the Institute Kitchen for Red Cross Supplies, as World War II had made it necessary that the rooms be used by the Red Cross women workers of the village. This was accomplished.

1940 - 1941

1941 - 1942

1942 - 1943

President - Mrs. C. Martini,

Secretary-Treasurer - Mrs. J. Messerschmid,

The retiring President and Secretary were presented with Flowers at the 1940 Annual Meeting, Mrs. Murray having given

six years of her time as Secretary-Treasurer.

Mrs. B. McGugan and Miss Gillies were made "Life Members" and presented with pins.

Large donations of Honey were purchased and sent Overseas.

A large and successful Rummage Sale was held to raise money to help the Red Cross.

Other Institutes were entertained.

1943 - 1944

1944 - 1945

President	- Mrs. Kruppe,
Secretary-Treasurer	- Mrs. G.J. Kotzenmeyer,
Membership	- 63,

Meetings were well attended, by Sixty-three active women.

A visit was made to the R.C.A.F. Bombing and Gunnery School at Fingal.

Mrs. Haines was Guest Speaker at an Officer's Rally, when Crinan, Clachan and West Lorne were our guests.

We made and filled "Ditty Bags" for the Navy.

A play was prepared and given to raise money for Red Cross Work.

Thirty-five cases of Honey were bought and sent overseas.

Mrs. T. McCallum presented the Institute with a "Red Cross Flag from H.M.S. Lady Nelson" to be put on the wall of the Institute Room for the duration. Her son, Dr. T.A. McCallum sent it to her.

A decision was made that we attend a church service annually, taking in a different denomination each year. The first walk to church to-gether was to the Rodney Baptist Church.

Though not undertaking War Work as a unit, much clothing and many quilts went for Russian Relief. Donations of money for Milk for Britain, and blood for the Blood Bank were forwarded to the necessary depots. Tag Days were held for the Navy League, and for the Blind.

1945 - 1946

1946 - 1947

Mrs. Wm. Katzenmeyer was President and Mesdames J. Lowery and W. McMillan were Secretary and Treasurer.

"THE TWEEDSMUIR BOOK" was talked about, and a committee chosen to commence the undertaking.

New chairs were bought for the Institute Room.

The Child Health Clinic was made a regular monthly privilege for all mothers with pre-school children. Mrs. Lorenzo Smith and a group of assistants, together with the County Public Health Nurse - Miss Winchester were in charge.

Waterworks having become a reality in the village it was installed in the Institute Kitchen.

1947 - 1948

1948 - 1949

President	- Mrs. Frank Graham,
Secretary-Treasurer	- Mrs. W. McMillan,
Members	- 60,

THE FORTY-FIRST ANNIVERSARY of the Rodney Branch was held in the United Church Basement. Eighty attended a supper and programme.

The Charter Members were honoured on this occasion. Mesdames J.D. Paterson, McLevey, Tough and Hood lit the candles on the Cake, which was cut by Mrs. McGugan who also gave a History of the Institute. Mrs. McGugan was given flowers by the Past President Mrs. Wm. Katzenmeyer.

A bus and car load of women attended "THE FIFTIETH JUBILEE OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES" at Guelph. Twenty-five took in this great event.

A Girls' Garden and Sewing Club was started under W.I. leadership.

Extra dishes were purchased, and Stationary having the W.I. Crest on it was bought.

A Comfort Room was installed in the Institute Room.

One Hundred and Sixty women were entertained upon the occasion of the District Annual Meeting.

1949 - 1950

1950 - 1951

President - Mrs. Stanley Haines,

Secretary - Mrs. Frank Graham,

Treasurer - Mrs. A.C. Miller,

The Warden's Banquet, The Agricultural Society Banquet and The Kiwanis' Charter Night Banquet were catered for.

The Institute Rooms were redecorated, and a new sink and more cupboards installed. A new stove was purchased for \$205.00.

A play was presented, and a Tag Day held for the Blind.

A debate, "Resolved that Old-fashioned Hospitality is better than the New" was a very enjoyable feature of a regular meeting.

A demonstration was given by a representative of The Singer Sewing Machine Co.

The Experimental Farm at Ridgetown was visited by a large group of members.

At the "Citizens' Meeting" guests were the members of the Rodney New Canadian Club, with Mr. Lucas as the speaker.

At the Winter Picnic at Talbotville, a bus load went from here.

Rodney Branch put on a playlet which was much enjoyed.

A short course in "Dressmaking" was well attended.

The District Conference was held here, when the topic stressed was "Brighten Your Home with Colour".

And, another "Life Member" was added to our list, when Mr. Cameron Lusty presented his Mother, Mrs. E.G. Lusty with a Life Membership and Pin.

Bessie Parker Graham

Mrs. Frank Graham.