

SHEDDEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE
TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

P R O Newspaper Reports
October 1985 - 2009 April 2010

Pictures of Old & New Library
Pictures of Anniversaries of the Inst.
Pictures of Special Occasions

Photocopies of Institute Programmes
from 1914 -

Except for 1918 - 1922

1925
1934 - 1936
1939 - 1949
1954 - ~~2009~~



Shedden
Women's
Institute Tweedsmuir
History



Volume Three

1985 ~~ 2010

200 books seeded library's growth

Oct/85

Carol O'Connor, librarian for Elgin County Library, Sheddin, located at the intersection of Highway 3 and County Road 20, was the speaker at the October meeting of the Sheddin Women's Institute, which was held in the library.

Mrs. O'Connor with Mrs. Joyce Boughner and Mrs. Dora McArthur staff the library Tuesday and Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. and on Wednesday, Thursday and Saturday from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Mrs. O'Connor said there are about 8,000 books on the shelves with a monthly circulation of over 1,000. Sheddin is one of 11 libraries in the county and has large-print books and talking books for the vision impaired to enjoy. A medical certificate is requested to take out the talking books which number 150, mostly fiction.

There is a large reference section of local histories and these can be read in the library in a quiet spot located at the back of the room.

Mrs. O'Connor said that the first library was made possible by the late Sydney Silcox, who started the former Mechanics library with 200 books. These books were kept in private homes now owned by Mrs. Sydney Orchard and Mr. and Mrs. Scott.

The late William Morrison was the assurer of this library and he presided over it for over 40 years. The late Mrs. Arthur McIntyre was president of the library board for more than 30 years and bequeathed a painting by Mrs. E. S. Down to the library in memory of Mr. Morrison, Miss Elsie Hamilton, a long-time librarian, and Mrs. McIntyre.

Mrs. O'Connor was thanked for her talk and presented with a gift by Mrs. Allan Murphy.

The meeting was in charge of the committee on cultural activities, Mrs. Carl Chamberlain, Mrs. Murphy and Mrs. Purcell Willson. Mrs. Chamberlain conducted a sing-song and Mrs. Ronald Gordon conducted the business, assisted by Secretary Mrs. Murphy and Treasurer Mrs. Donald Vicary.

Reports were heard from the 4-H club. The achievement day is Nov. 30 at Locke's School with a bake sale at 2 p.m.

Mrs. H. Parks reported from the Elgin Manor Auxiliary that a new residents' party will be held Oct. 28 with 25 new residents being honored. Nov. 8 is a complimentary coffee break

for all the volunteers who help out at the manor, this will be from 10 a.m. to 12 noon.

Mrs. Parks also reported from a recent Elgin West District WI meeting.

Mrs. VanPatter, board director for Zone 22 asked that meetings be published and that membership cards be used. She urged that each member be given a handbook. *unpublished*

Elgin naturalist is guest

Times-Journal

Nov 85

Lifestyles

Lorne Spicer presented members and friends of the Sheddin Women's Institute with his pictures and commentary of many beautiful trees, birds, animals, and aerial view of events in Elgin County and the surrounding area. Mr. Spicer is an avid naturalist and bird watcher and has documented the largest and the most unusual trees in the area. Mr. Spicer was introduced by Mrs. Donald Vicary, who with her committee Miss Margaret Campbell, Mrs. Alex Turner and Mrs. Ted Silcox, was in charge of the program on the theme of agriculture. Roll call was answered by naming your favorite woodlot or provincial park.

Mrs. Vicary read an article written by the late Mrs. Arthur McIntyre on trees and Miss Campbell conducted a contest on trees of Elgin County. The meeting was held in Bethany United Church on Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Ronald Gordon presided for the business and was assisted by the secretary, Mrs. Allan Murphy and the treasurer, Mrs. Vicary. A letter of thanks for help given at the International Plowing Match was read by Mrs. Murphy, who also thanked the Institute for the help in getting the Neighbourhood Watch program started. This organization is now continuing on its own and a party for the community will be held in February. Signs denoting the town as a Neighbourhood Watch community have been erected at the four entrances to the village and convenors for the areas are Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. S. Garvin, Mrs. Gordon and Mrs. M. Silcox.

Reports were heard from convenors Mrs. R. Palmer announced a coffee break at the museum on Dec. 6, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Christmas crafts, baking and decorations will be for sale and the museum will be decorated for the festive season. A new

program will be started at the museum for pre-kindergarten children in the new year and all are urged to visit the museum to view the exhibits. Heritage Day will be Feb. 18.

Mrs. Palmer said that Mrs. A. Malkert has made and donated a ceramic Christmas tree to the Institute and tickets for it are available from Mrs. Palmer. The draw will be made at the Christmas meeting.

Mrs. Malcolm McArthur reported that three meetings had been held by the committee to save the Talbot Estate for Elgin County and that it has as yet not been sold. She also said that the writings of the late Mrs. McIntyre have been reviewed and will be assembled into a booklet later.

Mrs. Silcox reported on the London area convention and the 1986 convention will be hosted by East Middlesex, Oct. 16 and 17.

Mrs. Gordon announced that the 4 H achievement day will be held Dec. 7 starting at 2 p.m. at Locke's school and will feature a sale of food baked by the members. The next club project is to be Etiquette in the 80's, and the training school will be held Dec. 18.

Mrs. H. Parks reported from the Elgin Manor Auxiliary that a Christmas party will be held Dec. 10 for the residents with gifts, favors, program and refreshments provided.

A tape recorder has been purchased for use by the adjutant and bird feeders will be in place soon.

Several donations were made to:

Save the Children Fund for Jamaica, Daffodil Auxiliary, Elgin Cancer Society, and Children's Hospital in London.

The winter picnic will be held at community hall in Wallacetown with a pot-luck dinner starting 7 p.m. A committee to plan our program was named and feature members of the past Parks, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Vicary, Mrs. Gordon will be in charge.

Refreshments were served close of the meeting and the meeting will be held on Dec. 7 p.m., in the home of Mrs. Parks.

A Christmas program will be given by the executive and there will be a white gift shower. Christmas Care program, change of dozen cookies or squa be a feature.

Mrs. McArthur reports on meetings to save Talbot Estates

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Several donations were made to: Save the Children Fund for use in Jamaica, Dafodil Auxiliary to West Elgin Cancer Society, and to the Children's Hospital in London.

The winter picnic will be held in the community hall in Wallacetown, Jan. 7 with a pot-luck dinner starting at 6:30 p.m. A committee to plan our parts of the program was named and will feature members of the past. Mrs. Parks, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Vicary and Mrs. Gordon will be in charge.

Refreshments were served at the close of the meeting and the next meeting will be held on Dec. 18 at 8 p.m., in the home of Mrs. Parks.

A Christmas program will be convened by the executive and there will be a white gift shower for the Christmas Care program.

Shedden WI celebrates Christmas

The December meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was held in the home of Mrs. H. Parks on Wednesday evening with a large attendance of members and guests. Mrs. Ronald Gordon and Mrs. J. Cardy were in charge of a program of fun and games.

An exchange of Christmas cookies was a feature as well as a shower of articles for the St. Thomas Christmas Care organization. A draw for a Christmas ceramic tree, made by Mrs. Allan Malkert and donated to the Institute, was made and Mrs. Duncan McLaughlin was the recipient. Mrs. Carl Chamberlain led in singing several Christmas carols.

Mrs. Gordon presided for a short business meeting assisted by Mrs. Allan Murphy, the secretary, and Mrs. Donald Vicary, the treasurer. The

leaders for the next 4H project will Mrs. W. Pennings and Mrs. Gor and there are three boys taking project as well as several girls.

The next meeting will be held in school room of Bethany Un Church, Shedden, with the Commi for Resolutions, Mrs. McLaughlin, Mrs. C. Silcox, Mrs. S. Orchard Mrs. W. Hepburn in charge. Date the meeting is January 22, 1986 p.m.

At the close of the Christmas party refreshments were served by the committee and a social hour was enjoyed. A feature of the meeting was a display of decorative balls made by Bessie Clements. Mrs. Clements made many decorative balls as well as doing other fine crafts and is one of the older members of the community.

Leisure time debated

The subject "Resolved that women had more time in the 30's for personal interests than women do in the 80's," was debated by four members of the Shedden WI branch at the January meeting.

The Resolutions committee, Mrs. Duncan McLaughlin, Mrs. Clayton Silcox and Mrs. Sydney Orchard were in charge of the program. The moderator for the debate was Mrs. Ralph Palmer and for the affirmative Mrs. Donald Vicary and Mrs. Murray Silcox presented interesting and amusing arguments which were refuted by Mrs. Malcolm McArthur and Mrs. Currie Oldham. The judges declared a draw since each team had such convincing material for their time period.

Mrs. McLaughlin read an article on resolutions to be made at the start of the program and conducted a contest on trivia of Ontario.

The meeting was held in Bethany United Church and was well attended by members and friends. Mrs. Ronald Gordon presided for the business meeting, assisted by Secretary Mrs. Allan Murphy and Treasurer Mrs. Vicary. A letter was read from the president of FWIO, Mrs. Charlotte Johnstone, with recommendations for changes in the format of the Women's Institute. These will affect all levels of the FWIO and will be implemented by 1987. Mrs. H. Parks, FWIO, gave a list of the accomplishments of the FWIO.

which she sent to all branches. Mrs. Jamie Campbell showed the input the Women's Institute has on making changes in the laws for the betterment of everyone.

Mrs. Palmer reported on a meeting held at Paynes Mills recently, of interested persons trying to put agriculture in the schools. Mrs. Donald Carroll will be representing the WI on the committee to oversee assembling agriculture kits to be placed in the schools in Elgin County. Mrs. Gordon said that 23 girls and boys are taking the 4-H club, etiquette in the 30's, and a contribution was made for the expenses of the club.

Material on Jamaica was received for WI sponsorship with the Save the Children Fund. Erland Lee Homestead days will be June 1, 4 and 5 from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and members are urged to visit if possible. Mrs. McArthur reminded us that she would like to have the house logs in by the May meeting.

At the close of the meeting the committee served refreshments during the social time. The next meeting will be Feb. 26th and will take the form of a family night starting with a potluck supper at 5 p.m. The committee in charge is Mrs. Pete Bathurst, Mrs. W. Coutts, Mrs. Steve Garvin and Mrs. Cliff Ballam. Members are asked to bring a picnic basket including dishes and eulogy.

Family night held by Shedden W

Family night was held for members and friends of the Shedden Women's Institute recently, beginning with a delicious potluck dinner. The committee for the evening was Mrs. Pete Bathurst, Mrs. Steven Garvin, Mrs. W. Coutts and Mrs. Cliff Ballam. The meeting was held in the school room of Bethany United Church at 6 p.m.

Donna Littlejohn of Wallacetown, showed pictures and gave interesting commentary about EXPO 86 in Vancouver B.C., from May to October.

Pre-school children were entertained by Mrs. Bathurst and Mrs. Garvin during the program. Mrs. Bathurst introduced the speaker and Mrs. Coutts thanked her.

Mrs. Ronald Gordon presided for the business assisted by the secretary, Mrs. Allan Murphy. Mrs. Murray Silcox gave the treasurer's report. Mrs. Ralph Palmer reported from the Museum that a new furnace has been installed and is working well.

The next 4-H club project was announced and will be a garden club From Feed to Shelf. Leaders are Bonnie Pennings and Mrs. Dan Loggie, anyone wishing to join the club is asked

to contact the leaders before May 10th.

Achievement Day for the winter is April 9 at Southwold Central sch at 7:30 p.m. A nominating committee — Mrs. Silcox, Mrs. Alex Turner & Mrs. Clarence Hunter — was appointed and will bring a slate of officers for 1986-1987 to the May meeting.

The March meeting will be devoted to the Canadian Cancer Society with Mrs. Palmer and the executive in charge of the program. Cancer canvassing kits will be given out. Southwold township canvassers & the speaker for the evening will be Mrs. Earl Morden, Clachan. The date of the meeting March 26 at 8 p.m. Bethany United Church, Shedden.

Education theme for meeting

Education was the theme of the April meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute, held in the school room of Bethany United Church. Mrs. Alice DeBoer and Mrs. Lois Oldham were in charge of the program. Mr. Tony DeKoster, principal of Ebenezer Christian School, St. Thomas, spoke to the members explaining the structure of the system of education used in the Ebenezer school using slides to illustrate his talk. Mr. DeKoster said that Ebenezer school is an independent school and that it is not a preference but a conviction to attend this school.

1986 is the 25th anniversary of the school and open house will be held next week. There are approximately 130 students with 68 families supporting the school, enrollment is open to anyone who agrees with the policies of the school. Mr. DeKoster said that the home is the center of education but all work together for the good of the children. Mr. DeKoster was introduced by Mrs. DeBoer and thanked by Mrs. Oldham.

Mrs. Ina Gordon presided for the business, assisted by the secretary Mrs. Barbara Murphy and treasurer Mrs. Beth Vicary. Invitations were accepted to the Mother's Tea at Elgin Manor on May 7 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.; to Kensington Club Dessert Tea May 7 at 7:30 p.m. in the Lawrence Station Hall and to the annual meeting of the Elgin West District to be held May 14 at Kintyre Church with Clachan WI as hostess branch. Delegated to the meeting are Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Pat Palmer, Mrs. Jean Palmer and Mrs. Murphy with Mrs. Vicary in charge of the tables for Friendship.

Volunteers will staff the Tuck Shop at Elgin Manor May 12. Tickets for membership in Elgin County Museum were purchased and may be obtained

from Mrs. Vicary. The Strawberry Social will be held on June 18 at the museum and each branch will host a special event in support of the museum.

Mrs. Brenda Silcox will be the representative of the branch to assist with the kits to be used by the teachers of grades 4 and 5 to teach agriculture in the schools of Elgin County. Contributions were given to the three groups of the 4 H Club project being held in the community.

The officers for 1986 - 1987 were installed into office by Mrs. Margaret Turner who thanked the retiring officers for their good work during the past year. Officers are: president, Mrs. Pat Palmer; vice presidents, Mrs. Brenda Silcox and Mrs. Cheryl Garvin; past president and district director, Mrs. Carol Gordon; secretary, Mrs. Barbara Murphy; treasurer, Mrs. Beth Vicary; PRO, Mrs. Madeline Parks; alternate, Mrs. Jean Palmer and Mrs. Parks; remembrance concenors, Mrs. Ilene Orchard and Mrs. Ina Ross; Tweedsmuir History Curator, Mrs. Dora McArthur; rep. to museum, Mrs. Turner; rep. to Elgin Manor Auxiliary, Mrs. Parks; branch directors, Mrs. Ruth Hunter, Mrs. Maxine Silcox and Mrs. Dorothy McLaughlin. Standing committee convenors are: Agriculture, Mrs. Vicary; Canadian Industries, Mrs. McLaughlin; Family and Consumer Affairs, Mrs. Murphy; Education, Mrs. Oldham; Cultural Activities, Mrs. Maxine Silcox; Citizenship, Mrs. Kay Chamberlain; Family Night, Mrs. Gordon; Trip or Tour, Mrs. Brenda Silcox; Resolutions, Mrs. Jean Palmer.

The next meeting will be in the charge of the Tweedsmuir History committee, May 28.

Recording history interests WI members

Mrs. Beth Vicary spoke to members of the Shedden Women's Institute about the keeping of a Tweedsmuir story book and explained many fine points for the curator, at their meeting recently. It is important to go to the source of the information, she said, and put a name on the item. Do not put an original document in the book but a photocopy. Mrs. Vicary had the books about the Shedden community on display and she urged the members to complete house logs. Mrs. Vicary is assistant to the district and to the area Tweedsmuir history curator. Mrs. Dora McArthur, Tweedsmuir history curator for the branch, then read an article about the origin of surnames and Mrs. Jean Vine read two poems. A Name contest was conducted by Mrs. Madeline Parks. The committee in charge of the program was Mrs. McArthur, Mrs. Vine and Mrs. Parks, in whose home the meeting was held.

Mrs. Pat Palmer presided for the business assisted by the secretary, Mrs. Barbara Murphy and the treasurer, Mrs. Vicary. Invitations were accepted to the 175th anniversary tea at Bethany United Church on June 3 at 7:30 p.m. and to the strawberry social at the museum on June 18 from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Mrs. Margaret Turner and Mrs. Vicary will assist at the social.

A committee to raise funds for the museum was appointed, Mrs. Jean Palmer, Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Parks will serve. A quilt block for the Erland Lee Homestead will be made by Mrs. Maxine Silcox. Mrs. Pat Palmer will be in charge of the exhibit for Shedden Fair. A donation to the prize list for the fair was given.

Mrs. Murphy reported on the recent annual meeting of the Elgin West

district and announced the annual (odil) Auxiliary Tea and Coffee I will be held in the United Church Fingal, with Boxall branch WI hostess on Sept. 10 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tickets are on sale for a draw and may be obtained from the secretary. There will be a workshop for presidents, presidents, district directors assistants at St. Helens Church, Lorne on June 4 from 7:45 p.m. to 9 p.m. and a workshop for Tweedsmuir history curators at the Community Hall, Wallacetown on August 5.

The next meeting of the branch will be held in Bethany United Church June 25 at 8 p.m. with our twin Elgin East branch as guests, with the family and consumer affairs committee. Mrs. Murphy, Mrs. Margaret Carder, Mrs. Ilene Orchard in charge of program. The speaker will be Mr. Wragg from the Family Resource Centre, St. Thomas.

Shedden WI told of operations at Resource Centre

June/86

Shedden Women's Institute entertained their twin Elgin East branch at the regular meeting on June 25 with ten members from Central Yarmouth branch in attendance.

The meeting was held in Bethany United Church with the Family and Consumer Affairs committee in charge of the program, including Mrs. Allan Murphy, Mrs. A. Carder, and Mrs. S. Orchard.

Mrs. Mary Wragg from the Family Resource Centre, 7 Morrison Drive, St. Thomas was the speaker and she said that the resource centre is a drop-in centre that provides information and a variety of equipment, toys, books, tapes for families in Elgin County. These are suitable for children of all ages and may be borrowed, at no cost, for a period of time.

Toys are disinfected after being out on loan and there are no stuffed toys available.

Mrs. Carder presented the speaker with a contribution to the centre and thanked her for her presentation. Mrs. Carder also conducted two contests.

Roll Call was answered by all by naming your favourite toy as a child.

Mrs. Leneord Palmer presided for the business assisted by the secretary Mrs. Murphy and the Treasurer Mrs. Donald Vicary.

Members volunteered to staff the Tuck Shop at Elgin Manor on July 14 and September 8 and a committee was appointed to work with a committee from the United Church Women to make plans for the booth at Shedden Fair to be held August 23 and 24, including Mrs. Steve Garvin, Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Murray Silcox and Mrs. Ralph Palmer.

Mrs. Clayton Silcox showed the quilt block which she had made for the Erland Lee Homestead quilt and it is being sent to the home. Mrs. M. Silcox had the puppets which had been made by members of the branch on display, these puppets are for the use of teachers of grades 4 and 5 to teach the rudiments of agriculture to school children in Elgin county. Mrs. Silcox is the co-ordinator for this project in Elgin County.

Mrs. Palmer reported from a recent meeting of the Museum committee. July 11 is children's day at the museum and July 27 is Heritage craft day. There will also be a summer display of

folk art. A student will be hired for six weeks.

Seats are still available for the play Annie at Grand Bend theatre on August 21 and anyone interested should contact Mrs. Mary Gow, Wallacetown, the bus leaves the Museum at noon and also picks up at Talbotville.

Mrs. Herbert Parks reported that the Family Day picnic at Elgin Manor will be held on July 6 from 1:30 to 4. A program of music and fun is planned and there will be refreshments, strawberries and Ice Cream, as well as draws on a grocery hamper and a cake for sale and a fish pond for the children.

Mrs. Parks also reported from a recent Elgin County WI Rally meeting.

The fall fun night will be held in early October at the Southwold School at 7:30 with the members who attended the A.C.W.W. meeting in Kilarney, Ireland in charge of the program. The next regular meeting of the rally will be held October 25 when the awards for the Safety Posters will be presented.

Mrs. Currie Oldham reported further plans for the exhibit to be shown at Shedden Fair and Mrs. Palmer said that a fund-raising event will be held July 27th in the afternoon at the community centre to go towards the Medical Centre. A slo-pitch ball game with CFPL celebrities playing against local dignitaries, as well as other entertainment will provide fun for all.

Mrs. Ronald Gordon reported from a workshop for Presidents, district directors and their assistants held in the community hall Wallacetown. Mrs. Gordon said that a member giving a report should give a written copy of it to the secretary for her book.

At the close of the meeting Mrs. Parks, on behalf of the branch presented Mrs. Murphy with a gift as she and her family are moving to Lambeth in July. Refreshments were served and a social hour was enjoyed as this is the last meeting until September.

Agriculture is the theme of the meeting September 24 at 7 p.m. at the home farm of Mrs. Vicary. A tour of the milking parlor will start the meeting with the regular meeting in the house. Committee in charge is Mrs. Vicary, Mrs. C. Ballam, Mrs. C. Hunter and Mrs. W. Hepburn.

Shedden WI learn about life on dairy farm

Mr. and Mrs. Donald Vicary recently hosted members of the Shedden Women's Institute at their dairy farm RR 3, Shedden.

The committee on agriculture chaired by Mrs. Vicary was in charge of the meeting.

Mr. and Mrs. Vicary, assisted by their two sons, Glenn and Leigh explained the process of their industry right from the cow to the modern milk storage room.

At the present time there are about 40 cows in production, all are pure bred jerseys and all are on R.O.P. Feeding. Care of the herd was explained and milking was demonstrated.

Mrs. Pat Palmer thanked the Vicary's for the tour and the members returned to the home of Mrs. Jean Palmer for the business meeting.

Mrs. Pat Palmer presided for the business, assisted by Mrs. Brenda Silcox. Secretary reports were heard from committees; Mrs. Carol Gordon reported from the Welcome Wagon that 14 new families had moved to the village during 1986 and that a reprint of the booklet had been made.

Mrs. Dora McArthur reported that the Tweedsmuir history book is up-to-date and that she would like House

Logs to be sent to her as soon as possible.

Sept 18/86
Mrs. Madeline Parks announced that there will be a party for the new residents at Elgin Manor, hosted by the Auxiliary on October 10 and that there will be an open house for volunteers at the Manor Tuck Shop on November 5th.

Mrs. Connie Silcox announced that over \$2300 has been cleared at the Tea and Coffee break in aid of the Daffodil Auxiliary hosted by Elgin West District Woman's Institute.

Mrs. Jean Palmer reported from the Medical Centre committee that the soft ball used at Fun Day, to raise funds for the centre, will be inscribed and will sit in a walnut stand made and donated by Mr. Ingersoll Carmichael, Fingal. The ball will have a permanent home in the centre.

A contribution was made to the USC of Canada.

The following dates are noted:

October 5 — County Caravan tour of four Elgin County farms will leave from Elgin Mall from 10:30 to 2:30, sponsored partly by the E.W.W.I.

October 7 — Elgin County Rally will meet at Southwold School at 7:30 p.m. for a dessert and program. The pro-

gram will be put on by members who attended the A.C.W.W. conference in Ireland.

October 16 and 17 — London Area convention will be held in the Ukrainian Club Hall, London with Mrs. Jean Palmer and Mrs. Gordon as delegates.

October 25 — The regular meeting of Elgin County Rally will be held in the Museum at 1:30 p.m. with the awards for the elementary school posters on Safety to be made at 3:30 p.m.

October 28 — The Leadership Training school for the course "Short Order Meals" will be held in the Elgin Labour Centre, 18 Princess Avenue; St. Thomas, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for any interested persons. This is made available by the Rural Organizations and Services Branch of O.M.A.F. Mrs. Brenda Silcox and Mrs. Connie Silcox will be our leaders.

Mrs. Gordon reported from the 4 H club project "Milk Makes It" that there are 10 girls and two boys taking the club with Debbie Loggie and Carol as leaders. A contribution was made for the expenses of the club.

At the close of the meeting, refreshments were served by Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Silcox, and Mrs. Turner.

Brazil exchange student speaks to Shedden WI

Miss Mary Donkers, Frome, spoke to members of the Shedden Women's Institute recently on her experience as an exchange student in Brazil for one year. Miss Donkers, who is a Grade 13 student at Parkside Collegiate, won a scholarship from the Rotary Club after grade 12 to attend school in Brazil for one year.

Miss Donkers lived with 3 families in the city of Curitiba, Brazil with a population of 1½ million and attended a private school from 7 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. with the afternoons free. The usual subjects were taught with typing emphasized and with no computers. The language used is Portuguese and she learned very quickly as not many Brazilians speak English. During some afternoons Miss Donkers taught English to some children.

The country is quite rolling and the scenery lovely with a very warm climate all year round. There is good bus service in the country and the accommodations are excellent. There is a class difference with a very rich and a very poor class with no middle class people.

Miss Donkers showed pictures of Brazil and had many articles of native craft to show. Mrs. Maxine Silcox introduced the speaker and Mrs. Brenda Silcox expressed thanks to her.

The committee on Cultural Activities was in charge of the program with Mrs. Maxine Silcox as convenor.

Mrs. Brenda Silcox read two poems

"Autumn Morn" and "Gingham" and Mrs. Connie Silcox conducted a contest. The meeting was held in Bethany United Church.

Mrs. Pat Palmer presided for the business and several reports were heard; Mrs. Carol Gordon reported from a recent District W. I. meeting, held in Wallacetown Community Hall, that December 5 is the date for the Coffee Break at the Museum from 10 a.m. to 12 noon, and that Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Effie Post and Carol are the committee in charge. Volunteers were obtained to help at this event.

Mrs. Gordon also reported from the London Area Convention that it had been a very informative one and that the 1987 convention will be held October 15 and 16 in the Community Centre of St. Mary's. A new executive for the Area was installed.

Mrs. Gordon announced that the achievement day for the 4H club will be held on November 26 at the Southwold Elementary School at 7:30 p.m.; Mrs. Jean Palmer reported from the D. A. Monteith Medical Centre committee that work is progressing well and that the clinic will be opened with an open house as soon as possible. Mrs. Madeline Parks reported from Elgin Manor Auxiliary that a party for 15 new residents was held recently with Mrs. Rogers, of Talbotville, providing lovely sacred music for the program.

Open House and complimentary coffee break for all volunteers who work at the Manor will be held November 5 from 10 a.m. to 12 noon by the Auxiliary and all volunteer workers will be most welcome. Volunteers were obtained to staff the Tuck Shop November 10.

The museum committee is planning an old-fashioned cook book with old sayings included and members are asked to bring recipes and sayings to the November meeting.

A contribution was made to the canvas for the Elgin General Hospital and anyone wishing to contribute through the Institute may do so and will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

Mrs. Silcox served refreshments at the close of the meeting and Mrs. Dorothy McLaughlin expressed courtesies of the evening and announced the meeting on Canadian Industries will be held in Bethany United Church November 26 at 8 p.m. with Mrs. Verlyn McQuiggan demonstrating the art of lamp shade making.

Shedden WI theme

Canadian Industries

Nov. 1986

Mrs. Verlyn McQuiggan, proprietor of "The Shade Place" R.R. #5, St. Thomas spoke to members of the Shedden Women's Institute about her craft and demonstrated the art of creating beautiful lamp shades, using rice paper, water soluble glue and a knowledge of color and design to make a one-of-a-kind lamp shade. She makes shades to order and conducts classes on Mondays and Tuesdays to groups of four to six. It takes at least three sessions to complete a lamp shade.

Mrs. Dorothy McLaughlin and Mrs. Margaret Turner were in charge of the program based on the theme of Canadian Industries.

Mrs. McLaughlin read two articles from the Canadian Consumer and Mrs. Beth Vicary conducted a scrambled name of Elgin County Industry contest.

The roll call was answered by naming an Elgin County Industry.

Mrs. McQuiggan was accompanied by Mrs. Jean Vanderbrink to the meeting which was held in Bethany United Church, Shedden.

Mrs. Pat Palmer presided for the business of the meeting and was assisted by the Secretary, Mrs. Brenda Silcox and the Treasurer, Mrs. Vicary.

Up-coming events include the annual coffee break at the Elgin County Museum on Friday, Dec. 5 from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. with helpers from the branch Mrs. Vicary and Mrs. Jean Palmer; the opening of the D. A. Monteith Medical Centre, which will serve Southwold Township and surrounding community residents, which will be held on Dec. 20 from 2 to 4 p.m.; the Rescue Van at the fire hall will also be dedicated at this time. Refreshments for this event will be in care of the Shedden Women's Institute and the U.C.W. of Bethany church. The

W.I. committee includes Mrs. Jean Palmer, Mrs. Silcox, Mrs. Cheryl Garvin, Mrs. Pat Palmer and Mrs. Carol Gordon.

Jan. 6 is the annual winter picnic for Elgin West District Women's Institute and will be held in Grace Lutheran Church West Lorne with West Lorne branch as hostess branch. A pot-luck dinner will start at 6 p.m. and a program of music and skits from each branch will follow the dinner.

Reports from committee convenors were heard; Mrs. Gordon reported that the recent 4H club had been successfully concluded and that the next club will be held in January on the subject "Surviving with style."

Mrs. Dora McArthur asked that the house logs for the area be turned in to her as soon as possible; Mrs. Palmer reported from the museum that the 30th anniversary of the museum will be observed in 1987 with several events planned. An old-fashioned cook book is being assembled and members are asked to bring recipes and old sayings to the next meeting; Mrs. Madeline Parks reported from the Elgin Manor Auxiliary that a Christmas party will be held on Dec. 9 at 2 p.m. for the residents and the new residents of the Manor.

Mrs. Parks reported that new members are always most welcome, with meetings held the third Tuesday of each month starting with a noon luncheon at 1 p.m.

The next W.I. meeting will be held in the home of Mrs. Jean Palmer on Dec. 17 at 8 p.m. with the committee of resolutions in charge.

At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by Mrs. McLaughlin and Mrs. Turner, assisted by Mrs. Vicary, Mrs. Dorothy Coutts, Mrs. Silcox and Mrs. Palmer.

Shedden WI collects old recipes

The December meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute was held in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Palmer. The home was decorated for the festive season complete with a lighted Christmas tree. The committee in charge of the program included Mrs. Palmer, Mrs. Dorothy Coutts and Mrs. Laurie Bathurst and the theme was Resolutions.

The Roll Call, which was a part of the program, was answered by 21 members and three visitors by making a resolution using the initials of your name.

Mrs. Margaret Turner read a Christmas story, "Christmas is catching" and Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Bathurst read poems and articles relating to Christmas.

Mrs. Pat Palmer presided for the business assisted by Mrs. Brenda Silcox, secretary and Mrs. Beth Vicary, treasurer. Reports were given by committee chairman, including Mrs. Connie Silcox who announced that the course on Short Order Meals will be given by herself and Mrs. Brenda Silcox in January; Mrs. Carol Gordon announced that the new 4-H club project "Surviving with Style" will begin in January with Mrs. Sarah Pennings and Miss Holly Oldham as leaders, girls interested are asked to contact these leaders; Mrs. Vicary reported

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that the Museum coffee break had been well attended and a goodly sum added to the treasury; Mrs. Turner reported that she had taken a gift to a resident at Elgin Manor from the Institute and that the Christmas party had been very pleasant; Mrs. Pat Palmer reported that plans are completed for the serving of refreshments for the opening of the Medical centre, and she also requested that old fashioned recipes and sayings be turned in to the secretary for the 30th Anniversary of the Elgin County Pioneer Museum cook book, which will be available in the fall of 1987.

The annual winter picnic will be held in Grace Lutheran Church, West Lorne on Jan. 5, 1987 starting with a pot luck dinner at 6:30 p.m. Each member is to bring food, cutlery and dishes. A beverage will be provided.

Mrs. Palmer announced that a seminar will be held on Saturday, Feb. 28, 1987 at the Southwold Public School

on Community Outreach, sponsored by the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF) and Elgin West and Elgin East District Women's Institutes. Pre-registration is advised by Feb. 1 to the OMAF office or to Mrs. Hilde Morden, Rodney, RR No. 3 N0L 2C0. The cost of the seminar is \$10 which includes lunch and the seminar will feature speaker Rosalie Wysocki, a leader in the field of personal development and one of Canada's foremost speakers, as well as workshops. Mrs. Palmer urged all persons interested to make plans to attend.

At the close of the meeting refreshments were served by the hostess, Mrs. Coutts and Mrs. Bathurst assisted by Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Brenda Silcox. The January meeting will be held in Bethany United Church on January 28, 1987 at 8:00 p.m. with committee on Citizenship and World Affairs in charge of the program.

World Affairs theme for WI meeting Jan/87

M. ffie Post was guest speaker at the January meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute. She told of her experiences from her trip to Cuernavaca, Mexico. The trip was affiliated with the United Church of Canada and many poor areas of the country were visited. These people had very little, and clean water was very scarce.

The theme of the meeting was citizenship and world affairs. Mrs. Cheryl Garvin and Mrs. Kay Chamberlain added to the program with the story of Rick Hansen (thus far), and a "World Affairs" contest.

President, Mrs. Pat Palmer, presided for the business portion of the meeting. Fourteen members and two visitors answered the roll call by naming a world event of 1986 that was positive and of importance to world progress and peace.

Once again, the institute will sponsor a community project through CanSave in Haiti. A donation was made to the 4-H club Surviving with Style. There are 11 members.

The 90th anniversary of the founding of the W.I. is in 1987. In honor, the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario have planned a provincial convention to be held in North Bay on July 6, 7, 8 and 9. The theme will be "Women's Institutes Building for Tomorrow."

All institute members who live on a farm, are urged to complete the survey, "Farm Family Forum." This was put out by Agriculture Canada and MP John Wise.

A Valentine lunch is to be held by the Tyrconnell WI at Wallacetown hall on Feb. 11 at 12:30 p.m. Tickets are \$4.

The short course, "Short Order Meals" will be held at Bethany United Church at 6:30 p.m. on Feb. 11. Cost is \$4. For more information contact Connie or Brenda Silcox. Everyone in the community is welcome.

Next month is "Family Night" and the meeting will be held at Bethany United Church at 6 p.m. Supper will be "pot luck" and the guest will be from the National Institute for the Blind. She will be showing a film and bringing her guide dog.

Aids for blind explained at community dinner

A family night and potluck supper was held for the February meeting of the Shedden Women's Institute. After the supper, the convenor for the evening, Mrs. Carol Gordon, introduced guests from the Canadian National Institute for the Blind — Mrs. Norma Cowell and Mrs. Yvonne Orris, and guide dogs Abby and Kiley.

Mrs. Cowell is blind and is a case worker and social worker with the CNIB in London. She graduated from university three years ago. She said there are about 20,000 blind people in Ontario and about 1,500 are affiliated with the London office.

Mrs. Cowell showed a film demonstrating how to deal with a blind person in everyday events such as crossing the street and eating in restaurants.

A guide dog should not be touched or petted by others when in harness as the dog is "working." When it is out of harness, the dog is "not working" and can be petted by others. One guide dog costs about \$6,000.00 and can work for about 10 years.

Several games, watches and other items which aid the blind were on display. Only about 10 per cent of blind people actually read or write braille.

Mrs. Pat Palmer, president, thanked the ladies and the guide dogs for their interesting and informative presentation and gave them small appreciation gifts.

Mrs. Palmer then opened the meeting portion of the evening with the institute ode and Mary Stuart Collect. Thirteen members and two visitors answered the roll call by naming

a handicapped person and telling what they have accomplished.

Donations were made to the Butler project, to livestock pictures and information in every Ontario school and to the CNIB. Museum tickets were purchased and be obtained from the treasurer.

New handbooks in loose leaf style will be on sale as as they are available. A thank you note was read from Shedden Survivors 4-H club for the institute's support.

Volunteers working in the tuck shop March 9 include: Lois Oldham, Mrs. Jean Palmer, Mrs. Ilene Orchard, Mrs. Margaret Turner, Mrs. Kay Chamberlain, and 14 ladies participated in the short course "short o meals." Hungarian Beef Stew and Chicken a la Dijon were the main course menus.

Mrs. Margaret Turner gave the museum report stated that the heritage cookbook recipes should be in March 15. The museum election of officers was held and included chairperson Mrs. Eleanor McMillan; secret Mrs. Dolly Field; member-at-large, Mrs. Beth Vicary.

Mrs. Cheryl Garvin announced that the Neighbourhood Watch will be holding its annual games night on March 11 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at Bethany United Church. There will be ping pong, yahtzee, and other games. Everyone in the community is welcome.

Thanks were expressed to our family night committee: Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Palmer and Mrs. Lori Jones.

The next meeting will be a "mystery tour" beginning at 7 a.m. March 25 from Bethany United Church.