



1877 Map

PT TYRCONNELL

Meredith Conn  
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Pearce  
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John  
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B. Bate  
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S.H. Bachus  
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Ferguson  
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J. Brown  
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T. Moore  
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Mrs. Hunt  
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J. Curphis  
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Mrs. Cannell  
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P. Crane  
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R. Orchard  
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R. Prother  
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P. Gilbert  
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T.L. Pearce  
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Hector McPherson  
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W.H. Bachus  
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H. Braddon  
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Robt. Sifton  
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Henry Carbutt  
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Jas. Hanna  
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Wm. Buchanan  
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J.A. McIntyre  
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G. Rapelge  
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T. Panthier  
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Sam'l Matheson  
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D. McNeill  
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Alex. Dewar  
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WALLACETOWN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

On July 3rd, 1912, Mrs. W. J. Hunter of the Department of Agriculture addressed a meeting of the ladies of Wallacetown and vicinity, her topic being "Ways to make a home happy or otherwise." After her address she explained the aims and objectives of the Women's Institute. Miss Minnie Gow, District Secretary, presided over this meeting which opened with the singing of The Maple Leaf.

After some discussion a motion was made and carried "to duly organize a branch of the Women's Institute in Wallacetown." Mrs. D.W. Graham was elected President, and Miss Maud M. Cameron, Secretary Treasurer. The regular meeting day was to be the first Thursday of each month.

Many projects and achievements have been accomplished through the years, and many real contributions and sacrifices have been made by the officers and members in arranging and attending meetings and in carrying out the various activities. Advantage was taken of the short courses and leadership training provided by the Department of Agriculture.

During the first and second World Wars our efforts were devoted to war and Red Cross work. Donations were sent to varied War Commissions and Committees, as were food and clothing sent to all local service boys and girls; many members knitted and sewed incessantly to fill these needs.

After the second World War a modern Community Hall was built and the Women's Institute contributed greatly to its furnishings.

Assistance has been given in organizing and conducting T.B. surveys, Cancer Clinics, Baby Clinics, Radio Broadcasts, and Public Speaking contests.

The Bobier Convalescent Home in Dutton is a recipient of cash and material gifts to assist in adding to the comfort of patients and personnel. The Elgin General Hospital was given \$500 to endow a bed in the Children's ward. This was later applied on a room dedicated by the community in memory of our beloved Dr. Glanfield.

This branch entered into the spirit of the pageant held in St. George's Park, St. Thomas, in the summer of 1952, depicting the centennial of the County of Elgin, and gave valuable support. Also for the Centennial of Wallacetown Fair in 1960, a prize winning float portraying an early Women's Institute meeting was entered.

A triple-trio, under the direction of Mrs. C.C. Small, with Mrs. E. Lamb as accompanist, and comprised of Institute members, has made valuable contributions to our musical entertainment.

Sick, shut-in's, and bereaved members are remembered throughout the year, and at Christmas time this remembrance is extended throughout the community.

This branch is entering its fifty second year and is still an interesting and active organization. Our fiftieth birthday was celebrated in a fitting manner with an "At Home" for past and present members and friends.

Miss Minnie Gow was born near Wallacetown, the daughter of John R. Gow and Mary Backus, and grand-daughter of Mrs. Story who gave the land where St. Peter's Church and Cemetery are situated. She is a chartermember of Wallacetown Women's Institute.

Miss Gow was secretary of Talbot Chapter of the I.O.D.E., and later regent of this Order. In 1914 she came to Dutton and joined that branch of the Institute, serving in various offices which included secretary and president. Miss Gow then served for eleven years as sec-treasurer of West Elgin District and in 1937 was elected president, an office she held for three years.

Throughout her life, Miss Gow has always been well-versed, and well-read on world affairs, as well as having affairs of the immediate community near to her heart.

She is a loyal member of Knox Church, Dutton, serving as leader of the W.M.S. and president of the Ladies Aid.

Miss Gow has always served in any capacity where she felt her services were needed.



MRS. G. A. McLEVEY

Mrs. McLevey was the former Lillian Barnes who married Dr. G. A. McLevey, a Veterinary in Rodney for many years.

Mrs. McLevey was an early member of the Church of Christ in Rodney, and was organist for many years. She took an active interest in promoting community activities - particularly the Girl Guide and Boy Scout movements.

Mrs. McLevey served as District of West Elgin Secretary during 1920 and 1921, and as P resident from 1931 to 1935. She was a Life Member of Rodney W.I.

Mrs. McLevey died at the Barnwell Nursing Home in Ridgetown in December, 1966.



MRS. DUNCAN GALBRAITH

Mrs. Duncan Galbraith was the former Ida Bernice Lewis and was born in North Yarmouth, the elder daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Frederick P. Lewis. She attended the Glen School, North Yarmouth, St. Thomas Collegiate Institute, and London Normal School. She taught in St. Thomas, the Glen School, River Road School, and in Francis School, Fort William.

In 1928 Miss Lewis and Duncan Galbraith were married in St. Andrew's Church, Fort William, and they settled at Braithwood Farms, Iona Station.

Mrs. Galbraith became a member of Iona Station W.I. in 1928 and has been a consistent member, serving as pianist, District Director, Secretary and President.

In 1959 she was elected District President and later County Chairman, acting in that capacity at the County Rally at Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas in October of 1961. At the Area Convention in London in 1963 Mrs. Galbraith was elected Alternate Board Member.

A Presbyterian, and member of Knox Church, Dutton, she was President of the Evening Auxiliary in 1963 - 64. Mrs. Galbraith is a past Matron of Adah Chapter, 276, Order of the Eastern Star, Dutton.

Her interests are music, gardening, and reading. Projects with which she has identified herself are the Canadian Cancer Society and the Mental Health Association.



MRS. EDWARD V. DOCKER

On April 4 th, 1874, Anna Frances Backus was born into the family of Robert Backus and Jane Pearce where she already had three brothers. She was the youngest child and only daughter.

The family home was situated about a mile south of Wallacetown on the Talbot Road - here Anna lived and attended school.

On June 9, 1903, she married Edward V. Docker and lived on the farm



adjoining her father's. Anna was delicate and her formal education was mainly music. She studied organ with Prof. Wright of Ridgetown and later with Mr. Archie Duncan, a pioneer resident of Tyrconnel. She was very fond of reading, and through books from the St. Thomas library, greatly advanced her learning. She loved travel and photography, and was very fond of horses, taking great pleasure from their fine driving horses. She loved the great out

doors and spent many hours studying wild flowers - she was able to express herself in writing and gave many talks on nature study.

Mrs. Docker was a member of St. Peter's Church, Tyrconnel, where she was organist for many years. She worked in all organizations of the church and was an early member of the A.Y.P.A. and Choral Society.

On Nov. 24th, 1939, she passed away and was buried in her beloved St. Peter's Cemetery. During her life she had spent much time promoting the development of this beautiful place to make it one of the beauty spots of the community.

When the Women's Institute was organized at Tyrconnel, Mrs. Docker took an active part in many ways. She was President of the branch in 1917-18, also a District Director, and in 1930 - 1931 was District President.

PAST PRESIDENTS

ELGIN COUNTY

JUNIOR FARMERS

JUNIOR INSTITUTES

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1922 - Stewart Brown, Shedden                | 1922 -  |
| 1923 - Hugh Carroll, R. 1, Iona Station      | 1923 - Margaret Brown<br>(Mrs. C.W. Sinclair, Aylmer)                                 |
| 1924 - Duncan Turner, R. 2, Shedden          | 1924 -  |
| 1925 - Donald Begg, R. 1, St. Thomas         | 1925 - Muriel Styles<br>(Mrs. Wm. Carson,<br>2008 Altmar St., Pittsburg, Pa.)         |
| 1926 - James Campbell, R. 1, Iona Station    | 1926 - Alice Galbraith<br>(Miss Alice Galbraith,<br>1602 Bathurst St., Toronto)       |
| 1927 - George Silcox, R. 2, Shedden          | 1927 - Margaret Cole<br>(Mrs. Roy McNeil, R. 2, Dutton)                               |
| 1928 - D. Alex Turner, R. 2, Shedden         | 1928 - Lyall Walker<br>(Mrs. Murray McLean, R. 2, Rodney)                             |
| 1929 - Vermont Pow, R. 7, St. Thomas         | 1929 - Agnes Jean McCallum<br>(Mrs. Philip Campbell, R. 1, Iona Station)              |
| 1930 - William Galbraith, Mount Brydges      | 1930 - Greta Sutton<br>(Mrs. R. Allan, Talbotville, (deceased))                       |
| 1931 - Albert Orchard, Shedden               | 1931 - Belva Lewis<br>(Mrs. Lyle Cook, R. 3, St. Thomas)                              |
| 1932 - Donald M. Ferguson, R. 6, St. Thomas  | 1932 - Jean McKenzie<br>(Mrs. Delbert Lale, R. 2, St. Thomas)                         |
| 1933 - Cecil McKenzie, R. 2, St. Thomas      | 1933 - Kay Galbraith<br>(Mrs. N. J. Denholm, St. George)                              |
| 1934 - Fred Begg, Shedden (deceased)         | 1934 - Elda Mae Horton<br>(Mrs. R.K. Fatterson, 37 Stanley St.,<br>St. Thomas)        |
| 1935 - Mason Tansley, R. 5, St. Thomas       | 1935 - Winifred Randall<br>(Mrs. W. Faulkner, 41 Arthur St.,<br>St. Thomas)           |
| 1936 - Glen Dufty, R. 5, St. Thomas          | 1936 - Beulah Butler<br>(Mrs. Wm. Bodkin, R. 3, St. Thomas)                           |
| 1937 - Jas. A. McKinley, R.1, Port Stanley   | 1937 - Ruth White<br>(Mrs. Carl L. Irwin,<br>5915 McLynn Ave., Montreal, Que.)        |
| 1938 - Kenneth Bawden, R. 7, St. Thomas      | 1938 - Isobel Turner<br>(Mrs. Morrison Paulson,<br>Univ. of Kansas, Lawrence, Kansas) |
| 1939 - Gordon Lyle, R. 7, St. Thomas         | 1939 - Norah Curtis<br>(Miss Norah Curtis, 25 Metcalfe St.,<br>St. Thomas)            |
| 1940 - Kenneth Burton, 383 Talbot St. Thomas | 1940 - Helen Gloin<br>(Mrs. Murray Harris, Yarmouth Centre)                           |
| 1941 - Mac Charlton, R. 2, Springfield       | 1941 - Helen Martyn<br>(Miss Helen Martyn, R. 4, St. Thomas)                          |