

Tea was then served to the group with the help of several members of the Kettleby 4-H Homemaker's Club.

Special guests during the day were Mrs. William Miller, Secretary-Treasurer of the Provincial Board from Highland Creek; representatives from the three surrounding districts, North York, East York and West York; representatives from both Christ Anglican Church Guild of Kettleby and the United Church Women of York Pines; and members from all the branches in Kettleby's own district, Centre York. Also present, was former member, Mrs. Howard Davis of Victoria, B. C. and Mrs. Jack Dolson of Orangeville, formerly of Kettleby.



1911

1971

Kettleby Women's Institute  
invites you to attend the  
**SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY**  
Saturday, January 23, 1971  
York Pines Church, Kettleby  
at two o'clock

Mrs. G. M. Armstrong  
Secretary  
Kettleby, Ontario

Mrs. C. B. D. George  
President

PROGRAMME FOR THE LAST MEETING OF KETTLEBY  
WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - DECEMBER 11, 1930

---

HOME: Mrs. H. Burns

POT LUCK LUNCHEON - 1:00 P.M.

GUESTS: District President - Mrs. M. Dunn  
District Secretary - Mrs. R. Petch  
Agriculture Repres.- Miss Helen Hunter

ROLL CALL: Name your favorite Christmas carol

CONTEST:

Money for Christmas gift to be used  
for the 70th anniversary.

CAROL SINGING:

HOSTESSES: Institute members



LIFE MEMBERS -  
THREE GENERATIONS

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MINNIE WALTON -  
FIRST LIFE MEMBER



BESSIE WALTON



FRANCES HUNT

LIFE MEMBERS - THREE GENERATIONS

---



LILLIAN WEST - VIOLET FARREN



EVONNE WARLOW - GRANDDAUGHTER

L I F E   M E M B E R S

---



LAURA   CARSON



KATHLEEN GREENSIDES



GRACE   BURNS



RUTH   MAGINN

L I F E   M E M B E R S

---



V E L M A   H E A C O C K

KETTLEBY INSTITUTE BOWS OUT  
AT 70th ANNIVERSARY MEETING

---

1911



1981

Kettleby Women's Institute

invites you to attend the

Seventieth Anniversary

Saturday, January 24, 1981

2:00 to 4:00 p.m.

York Pines Church, Kettleby

Mrs. N. Greenside  
R.R. 1  
Kettleby, Ontario  
L0G 1J0

R.S.V.P.

It was a sad and a happy occasion for the Kettleby Women's Institute Saturday. The gathering in the hall at York Pines United church celebrated the 70th anniversary of the branch of an organization for rural women which started in Stoney Creek in 1897 and has spread across much of the world. The Saturday gathering also was the final meeting of the Kettleby W. I.

"There is a sadness", Frances Hunt, Kettleby W. I. president said, "I think we were wishing that our families would carry on". The branch was down to 13 members, 10 of them life members, meaning they have been W.I. members for more than 25 years and gave outstanding service

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to the organization.

The Kettleby W. I. was born January 23, 1911 when 21 women gathered in Kettleby at the Sons of Temperance Hall (the building now is in Black Creek Pioneer Village) to organize the local branch. Eighteen became members and by 1956 the branch had 60 members. "That was the peak year," said Grace Burns, past president, noting that membership began declining then. "We managed to hold on until we had the 70th anniversary," Mrs. Burns said.

The decline of the Kettleby W.I. mirrors the change in the area with the land being taken over by people from the city. Still, the Kettleby W.I. apparently went out in style. About 100 women - more than were expected - attended the afternoon gathering where the program included an address on the highlights of the branch's history. The Tweedsmuir history, kept for the past 25 years by Ruth Maginn was on display.

The gathering included former members of the Kettleby W.I. and members from sister institutes in King City, Laskay, Schomberg, Vaudorf and Aurora.

The first meeting in the Temperance Hall elected Mrs. Levi Watson president, Mrs. B. Hilborn, vice-president, and Mary Elliott, secretary-treasurer. The members came to those early meetings by horse and buggy and gramophones provided the entertainment. The branch history notes that the 25th anniversary meeting was attended by seven children since baby-sitting wasn't known then.

Over the years the Kettleby W.I. has taught homemaking skills, baking, quilting, needlepoint and others to its members and others while also supporting community activities, helping 4-H clubs, providing prizes for children at fairs and working with the Red Cross in two world wars. During the second World War the W.I. adopted a branch in England and also an English family, sending them tea, clothing and other hard to obtain items.

No direct descendants of the first executive are represented in the area now. But among those present Saturday was Mrs. Violet Farren whose mother, Mrs. Lillian West, had been a member for 62 years prior to her death three years ago. Mrs. Farren, a former Kettleby resident has been a Kettleby W.I. member for 52 years. Both she and her daughter, Evonne Warlow of Aurora, are life members of Kettleby W.I.

70th ANNIVERSARY



The president Frances Walton Hunt and Violet West Farren cutting the anniversary cake with Mary Walton Corns in the back ground.



Kettleby Historian: Ruth Maginn keeps the archives for the disbanding Kettleby branch.

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE DISBANDS -  
by Alice Matravers - Toronto  
Star - January 23, 1981.

The Kettleby branch of the Women's Institute will disband to-morrow after 70 years of work "For Home and Country" - the motto of the organization founded by Adelaide Hoodless on Feb. 19, 1897, in the village of Stoney Creek. Now changes in society have made the institute redundant here as other agencies take over its job of helping women.

It was the Women's Institute that first sought a distinct Canadian flag and first lobbied for elected school trustees. Helen Rumble of the King City branch of the Women's Institute said: "The institute has been ahead of its time. We are still a little bit like Adelaide Hoodless".

The Kettleby branch held its organization meeting on January 23, 1911, when 21 women met in the village temperance hall. Eighteen of those present joined and the February meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Artemus Hambleton. Her niece, Ruth Hambleton Maginn related the details, noting that Mrs. Levi Watson was the first president and Miss Mary Elliott was secretary treasurer. Kettleby history is the specialty of Ruth Maginn a life member of the institute. For 25 years it has been her responsibility to keep the history of the Kettleby branch.

Lady Susan Tweedsmuir, wife of a former Governor General, suggested the keeping of historical records in each branch, as she feared small villages and towns in Canada were losing their identity. Helen Rumble, former provincial board member for the area said: "I can still see her (Lady Tweedsmuir) at our 1938 area convention in Toronto's Royal York hotel. She walked in with her party wearing a long wine velvet dress and wine hat - a very gracious lady".

The Women's Institute spread from Canada to Britain and then became an association of country women throughout the world, Rumble said. Now she is the one who goes to conferences as far as Australia and Nairobi. Recent projects include work to prevent infant blindness caused by poor nutrition. Rumble has just returned from Germany and will visit Vancouver in 1983. There are 8,000 branches in the world, she said, and it all started with Adelaide Hoodless.

Maginn has been hard at work bringing the Kettleby history up to date for display to-morrow at the final meeting at the 70th anniversary celebration at York Pines United Church. The book at least two inches thick will later be microfilmed by the Dept. of Agriculture.

Maginn recalled afternoon meetings in years gone by when rural women came with their children and babies. Rural youngsters grew up attending institute meetings, she said, and it's not uncommon to find three generations of a family all life members of a branch. Frances Walton Hunt, current president of the Kettleby branch, is the granddaughter of one of the founding members, Mrs. Fred Walton.

But society changes, life styles evolve and, as former president Barbara Morrow noted "This branch, which used to serve a really viable purpose, is not needed." No one wants to take office, she explained. "Needs are being met by other agencies to-day".

There are only 13 members of Kettleby institute now but to-morrow's party - by invitation only - will include all former members and recall a time when home, church and the institute rounded out rural life for women. Whenever need existed in the community the institute was there. It was the rural woman's answer to loneliness and isolation and the platform from which she battled injustice and ignorance.

70th ANNIVERSARY



A LAST LOOK

Kettleby Women's Institute member Grace Burns took one last look at the Institute Tweedsmuir history during the groups last meeting at York Pines United Church.

Scores of former members attended the meeting to mark the end of the Institute which was formed in 1911. Lack of new members forced the institute to disban the organization.

FIVE GENERATIONS



Lillian West  
Her daughter Violet Farren  
Her daughter Evonne Warlow  
Her son Blake Warlow  
His son Scott Warlow

ADELAIDE HUNTER HOODLESS

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**TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY**

**KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE**

## ADELAIDE HOODLESS HOME

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(Birth place of the founder of the Women's Institute)



*This tribute to Mrs. Hoodless was placed on a plaque at the Homestead by the Ontario Archaeological and Historic Sites Board.*

**"Adelaide Hunter Hoodless 1857-1910"**

*Adelaide Hoodless was born in this farm house and lived here until she married John Hoodless 1881. On February 19th, 1897 she organized at Stoney Creek the world's first Women's Institute. It was her belief that in this organization rural women could discuss their problems and work together to improve their standard of home-making and citizenship. The movement spread rapidly throughout Ontario and later to other provinces. Mrs. Hoodless, a natural leader and forceful speaker, introduced the teaching of domestic science into Ontario schools and obtained funds for the building of MacDonald Institute at Guelph.*

*The Homestead was purchased by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada in 1959 - It is being restored and furnished in the period when Adelaide Hunter Hoodless lived there. This is a project of all Inst-*

*itutes in Canada.*

*A cairn bearing this inscription stands at the junction of Highways 5 and 24, a half mile from the Homestead.*

*"To commemorate the birthplace of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, 1857 - 1910, who founded the Women's Institute, February 19, 1897, erected by the Women's Institutes of Brant County, unveiled by her Excellency Lady Tweedsmuir, Oct. 7, 1937"*

*When the Scottish Rural Institute members made a tour of rural Canada in 1939, a flag pole and flag were dedicated in the Adelaide Hoodless Memorial Park.*

*The South Dumfries Township Council erected a plaque in 1958: "Birthplace of Adelaide Hoodless, Founder of Women's Institutes".*

*The National Historic Sites and Monuments Board erected a plaque in June of 1962 proclaiming Adelaide Hunter Hoodless an eminent Canadian.*



### "FOREWORD"

I am so glad to hear that the Women's Institutes of Ontario are going to compile village history books. Events move very fast nowadays; houses are pulled down, new roads are made, and the aspect of the countryside changes completely sometimes in a short time.

It is a most useful and satisfying task for Women's Institute members to see that nothing valuable is lost or forgotten, and women should be on the alert always to guard the traditions of their homes, and to see that water colour sketches and prints, poems and prose legends should find their way into these books. The oldest people in the village will tell us fascinating stories of what they remember, which the younger members can write down, thus making a bridge between them and events which happened before they were born. After all, it is the history of humanity which is continually interesting to us, and your village histories will be the basis of accurate facts much valued by historians of the future. I am proud to think that you have called them "The Tweedsmuir Village Histories".

—Written by Lady Tweedsmuir.

LORD AND LADY TWEEDSMUIR

Susan Tweedsmuir was the daughter of the late Honorable Norman Grosvenor, a member of the ducal family of Westminster, and also descended from a sister of the great Duke of Wellington. She wrote several books as well as being interested in drama, having written some short plays. She was Past President of the Elsfeld Women's Institute of England, and for some years was President of the Federated Institutes of Oxfordshire. She was also Honorary President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Speaking to the Women's Institute, City View and Merivale Branch of Carleton County, at the beautiful farm home of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Caldwell, ten miles from Ottawa, on March 26th, 1936, she told of the work of her own branch in England of 36 members, and said: "I cannot help but compare this comfortable meeting place to ours, which is a fourteenth century barn with a stone floor and the stove away in a corner. Our programme is like yours - the business, then a speaker or play and the social hour. Our branch is small in numbers but I like that, as there is not apt to be jealousies and cliques, and it is friendlier when we all draw up to the fire for our tea. I am a country woman and I am always happy to be with other country women. It is so good to be at a Women's Institute meeting again and I am particularly pleased to meet some of the Canadian pioneer workers here to-day, she concluded."

John Buchan was born in Scotland on August 26th, 1875, his father a minister and his mother the daughter of a minister. Bursaries helped ease the burden of sending him through Glasgow University and then on to Oxford. He was admitted to the English bar in 1901, and soon after he went to South Africa as private secretary to the High Commissioner, Lord Milner, where he learned much of the secrets of the Empire during the Boer War. Two years later on returning to England he gave up his private practice of law to join his Oxford friend, Thomas Nelson, in the publishing business. As well as his active management of the firm, he released several novels, histories, biographies and newspaper articles. During World War I he saw active service in the Intelligence Corp and was later promoted to Director of Information under the Prime Minister. After the war his literary work grew and he added to his reputation of being a great scholar that of being a distinguished figure in the world of letters.

From 1927 to 1935 he was a member of Parliament for the Scottish Universities and in 1934 was Lord High Commissioner to the Church of Scotland. In 1935 he was commissioned to be Governor General of Canada, a position lauded by all Canadians, as heretofore it had been given to those of royal blood or at least of hereditary aristocracy. But shortly thereafter John Buchan was made the first Baron Tweedsmuir of Elsfeld. He will ever be remembered by Canadians, not only through his books, but as a kindly man at home with Canadians from coast to coast, and as the only Governor General to serve under three monarchs. We, as members of the Women's Institute, will always be grateful to Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir for their inspiration to compile our village histories.

(Given at Historical Research Meeting  
March 1960)

PROGRAMME  
1911 - 1912

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KETTLEBY BRANCH

of the

NORTH YORK

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

MEETINGS HELD THE 4TH WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH

AT THE HOMES OF THE MEMBERS

AT HALF PAST TWO

FOR HOME AND COUNTRY

Nov. 22nd

Home of Mrs. H. Ramsden

Christmas Preparations - Mrs. H. Ramsden

Inexpensive Christmas Gifts - Mrs. W. Curtis

January

Home of Mrs. L. Watson

Subject selected - Mrs. C. F. Doan

February

Home of Mrs. J. A. Marshall

Social problems and how to meet them  
- Mrs. H. Davis

March

Home of Mrs. J. Tatton

Spring house cleaning - Mrs. T. Ellison

April

Home of Mrs. W. Curtis

The value of cheerfulness - Mrs. B. Hilborn

The evils of fault finding - Miss E. Hambleton

PROGRAMME - 1911 - 1912

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May

ANNUAL MEETING

Home of Mrs. B. Hilborn

How we are benefited by meeting together  
- Mrs. J. A. Marshall

June

Home of Mrs. J. Spragg

Color and its effects on interiors  
- Mrs. R. Fox

Furnishing the living room for comfort  
- Mrs. W. Bogart

OFFICERS

|             |   |                   |
|-------------|---|-------------------|
| President   | - | Mrs. L. T. Watson |
| vice-Pres.  | - | Mrs. B. Hilborn   |
| Sec. Treas. | - | Miss M. Elliott   |

DIRECTORS

|                     |                |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Mrs. R. Hughey      | Mrs. J. Spragg |
| Mrs. J. A. Marshall |                |

COMMITTEE

|                |   |             |
|----------------|---|-------------|
| Mrs. F. Walton | - | Mrs. R. Fox |
|----------------|---|-------------|



Mrs. Levi Watson - First President  
of Kettleby Branch of the Women's  
Institute



W. I. meeting held  
at Ruth Edwards Wilson's  
in Kettleby when a con-  
test of the making of  
hats from kitchen utin-  
sels was put on. These  
were some of the better  
models - Sadie Billings,  
Dora Conover, Lillian  
West, Nora Blackburn,  
Audrey Schmidt, Anne  
Sproule, Peggy Blatch-  
ford and Grace Burns.

FEB • 55 •



Canada Packers Cooking School

October 1954

FEB • 55



## NEWS ITEMS OF KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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1954 - With their respective presidents, Mrs. N. G. Sproule, Mrs. Howard Morning and Mrs. Albert Farren, 40 members of King Ridge, Snowball and Kettleby W. I. branches were guests of the King City branch on May 11th. They were welcomed by the President, Mrs. Austin Rumble. Brief highlights of the W.I. Presidents' Conference at Guelph were given by Mrs. Rumble. Mrs. Archie Campbell read a bulletin from the Canadian Consumers' Association.

Visiting branches contributed to the program when a skit was given by Mrs. Pat McGeean, Mrs. Aston and Mrs. Sproule of King Ridge. Mrs. Ken Carson sang a solo, accompanied by Mrs. Verdun Gordon, King City. From Kettleby Mrs. Robert Carson and Mrs. John Davis sang two duets, accompanied by Mrs. Herbert Webster. Miss Sheila Davison, representing the Snowball group, sang two numbers, accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Wm. Davison. On behalf of Miss Jessie Gellatly, Mrs. T. L. Williams conducted a contest for the local branch.

Mrs. E. Reddick, Snowball, district president, spoke briefly and Mrs. A. E. Jarvis thanked the visitors for their hearty response and splendid turn-out. Mrs. Norman Wade convened refreshments.

1954 - Kettleby branch met at the home of Mrs. Robert Carson with Mrs. A. Farren, president, in the chair. It was decided to take the annual treat to the folk at York County Home for Thanksgiving.

The flower report was given by Mrs. R. Warlow. The guest speaker was Miss Frances Miller, public health nurse at School Area No. 1. She spoke of the great opportunities the children of to-day had through the Health Unit, and explained how this unit carried on. At her conclusion there was a question period and much valuable information was received. A piano solo was given by Robert Carson and a contest on fruits and vegetables was held.

Hostesses were Mrs. R. Jewitt, Mrs. G. Cook, Mrs. W. Hodgson and Mrs. G. Tienkamp.

## NEWS ITEMS OF KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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- 1954 - The Kettleby Branch met at the home of Mrs. G. Heacock on Thursday evening with the President, Mrs. A. Farren, in the chair. It was decided to have a penny round-up bag again this year to help the Mental Health Association.

Mrs. G. Tienkamp gave an interesting paper on African violets. The roll call was an exchange of plants and a number of violets were brought for exchange.

A demonstration of shell craft by Mrs. John Davis was given. Mrs. Davis finished a picture and made a pair of ear rings and these were donated as lucky draws. Mrs. R. Warlow won the picture and Mrs. Close the earrings. Hostesses were Mrs. C. Walton, Mrs. J. Day, Mrs. G. Heacock and Mrs. R. Hunt.

- 1954 - The annual election of officers for Kettleby Branch was held at the home of Mrs. J. Davis. Officers are as follows: president - Mrs. A. Farren, vice president - Mrs. J. Davis, 2nd vice president - Mrs. R. Hunt, sec. treas. - Mrs. W. Hodgson, Assist. - Mrs. H. Burns, pianist - Mrs. Murray Cook, assist. - Mrs. H. Webster.

The meeting was in favor of making a house to house canvass for the Salvation Army, and accepted the invitation to the King branch on May 11.

The hostess took pictures with her movie camera and will be shown at a future meeting. The next meeting to be at the home of Mrs. Gene Polkinhorne on May 26th.

- 1954 - A number of girls, members of the Sunday School and six boys took part in the evening service at Kettleby United Church, when they rendered Mother's Day songs, on April 8th. Mrs. A. Marshall read the scripture reading, Margaret Davis, John Maginn and Ray Marshall took part in the responsive reading. The service ended with the church choir singing a Mother's Day anthem.

- 1954 - The Kettleby Branch heard two fine reports at the May meeting at the home of Mrs. G. Polkinhorne on the evening of May 26th. Mrs. R. Hunt reported on the district annual at Temperanceville and Mrs. A. Farren on the Presidents' conference at Guelph. Mrs. Carol Proctor was the winner of second prize in the art exhibit at the district annual.

The canvass and donation from the branch totalled \$137.60 for the Salvation Army appeal. The proceeds from the W.I. booth at the girls softball dance were turned over to their club. The purchase of \$6.00 worth of plants for the cenotaph

## NEWS ITEMS OF KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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- 1954 - and the new school. Mrs. H. Burns won the guessing contest. The next meeting will be at the home of Mrs. H. Burns on June 24th.
- 1956 - Kettleby Women's Institute met at the home of Mrs. J. Tienkamp on Thursday evening with Mrs. A. Farren, president, in the chair. Plans were made in regard to the District Annual Convention to be held at Kettleby this year, Mrs. F. Beatty, convenor of Historical Research and Current Events announced that April 12 was the date set for the branch to visit Mrs. Neil's museum at Thornhill.

Mrs. R. Graham explained the motto. Mrs. H. Webster gave the flower report and Mrs. J. Davis showed movies of her trip to Florida. Roll call for this meeting was "bring an item for the Tweedsmuir History book." Current events was given by Mrs. N. Blatchford. The date for a euchre was set for March 20th.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. J. Harmon to the hostesses, Mrs. J. Davis, Mrs. G. Tienkamp, Mrs. A. Hay and Mrs. J. Tienkamp.

- 1956 - This branch will met at the home of Mrs. Gordon Cook on Feb. 23rd. The Motto, "Tomorrow is another day, make it a good one" will be taken by Mrs. E. Blatchford. Roll call "bring your own recipe". There will be a demonstration of making "Hungarian Goulash".

Mrs. Fred Hare of Temperanceville will be the guest speaker. The program has been planned by the Home Economics and Health committee, convened by Mrs. H. Heacock. Hostess will be Mrs. N. Blatchford, Mrs. S. Richardson, Mrs. W. Wilson, Mrs. L. Blackburn and Mrs. G. Polkinhorne.

KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE - MEMBERS AS OF MARCH 1st, 1957

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|                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Kathleen (Webb) Armstrong       | Eliza(Barker)Hodgson       |
| Elizabeth (Oliver) Armstrong    | Edith(Mount)Hollingshead   |
| Muriel (Crawford) Beatty        | Frances(Walton)Hunt        |
| Joyce (Reynolds) Black          | Gertrude(Hughey)Hunter     |
| Nora (Cull) Blackburn           | Dora(McClure)Jewitt        |
| Maureen "Sue"(Carroll) Blackett | Mildred(Dooks)Jewitt       |
| Marie (Jewell) Blatchford       | Ruth(Hambleton)Maginn      |
| Margy (Brown) Blatchford        | Myrtle(Jardine)Mitchell    |
| Grace (Brown) Burns             | Dahlia(Kerr)Polkinghorne   |
| Laura (Black) Carson            | Dorothy(Lake)Pleasance     |
| Maureen (Snell) Cherry          | Bernice (Webster) Proctor  |
| Mrs. F. Crane                   | Carol (Innes) Proctor      |
| Margaret (Hay) Davis            | Vera (Kritzer) Richardson  |
| Mabel (Walker) Day              | Audrey(Tatton) Schmidt     |
| Hazel (Sharp) deVries           | Loyis (Routery) Tienkamp   |
| Mrs. L. deVries                 | Dorreen (Funnell) Tienkamp |
| Violet (West) Farren            | Alice (Groot) Valentyne    |
| Edith (Dolson) Geer             | Bessie (Jamieson) Walton   |
| Betty (Webster) Gillham         | Fern (Preston) Walton      |
| Eleanor (Murphy) Graham         | Evonne (Farren) Warlow     |
| Kathleen (Black) Greensides     | Merna (Geer) Webster       |
| Ruth(Jackson)Hamilton           | Dorothy(Wiley) Weldrick    |
| Elinor(Pattenden)Hay            | Lillian (Mount) West       |
| Lyda(Dutcher)Harmon             | Ruth (Edwards) Wilson      |
| Velma(Close)Heacock             | Ermine (Wasley) Wilson     |

Kettleby Women's Institute met at the Anglican Hall on September 25th, 1958, with Mrs. H. Burns, the President in the chair. The motto was explained by Mrs. M. Cook. Flower report was given by Mrs. R. Jewitt. It was decided that each member should donate a gift to be taken to York Manor for the men and women there, as a Thanksgiving treat. Also, a program is to be put on, convenor to be Mrs. J. Davis. Members are asked to leave gifts with Mrs. G. Armstrong, Secretary, as soon as possible.

Mrs. F. Weldrick was elected as delegate to the Area Convention to be held in Toronto in November. Mrs. G. Shoults, District President, gave a short address and greetings were brought by the District Secretary, Mrs. G. Smith.

The meeting was in charge of the Historical Research Committee with Mrs. J. Maginn as convenor assisted by Mrs. E. West, Mrs. G. Heacock, Mrs. F. Schmidt, Mrs. M. Cook, Mrs. H. Webster, Mrs. N. Greensides, Mrs. R. Hunt and Mrs. F. Beatty. All wore old fashioned costumes and re-enacted the first meeting of the Institute at Kettleby, using the officers and members names at that time. "Flashes from the Past" were given by Mrs. N. Greensides. An ice cream social was planned, the charge to be .10¢. Also, a delegate sent to the convention for three days - \$1.50 being allowed for her expenses. A poem "My Grandmother's Apron" was given by Mrs. E. West. Applause showed the enjoyment of this skit.

A contest was won by Mrs. H. Proctor and Mrs. J. D. Conover. Lunch was served by the Historical Research Convenor and assistants and consisted of tea biscuits with jam, honey, brown sugar and cinnamon, apple pie and cheese and tea.

A vote of thanks was moved by Mrs. G. Tienkamp.

(Aurora Banner)

FEB 59



SEPTEMBER 25, 1958.

FEB 59



RE-ENACTING THE FIRST KETTLEBY W.I. MEETING  
OF JANUARY 1911 - SINGING THE OPENING ODE -  
(from left to right) - DORIS GEER COOK,  
RUTH HAMBLETON MAGINN, VELMA CLOSE HEACOCK,  
KATHLEEN BLACK GREENSIDES, MURIEL CRAWFORD  
BEATTY, FRANCES WALTON HUNT, AUDREY TATTON  
SCHMIDT, LILLIAN MOUNT WEST, and MERNA GEER  
WEBSTER (at the piano)

FEB 59



SEPTEMBER 25th, 1958.

FEB 59



MRS. BERT HILBORN AND  
MRS. ARTHUR MARSHALL,  
ORIGINAL MEMBERS, WITH  
MRS. W. CRANE, OUR OLDEST  
MEMBER AT THE PRESENT  
TIME IN THE CENTRE.

## GEMS OF HISTORY ARE LOCAL HAPPENINGS

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(Motto at meeting under Historical  
Research and Current Events - Feb-  
ruary 1958)

The village of Kettleby got its name from events connected with the mill pond, which, of course, is now just a memory. Mr. Tyrwhitt and Mr. Eaton, who were in partnership, built the 3½ storey mill that was burned in 1950. The pond afforded skating in winter and swimming in summer, and, of course, the dam made the power that ground the farmers' wheat into flour and chop for their animals. Five times that we know of the pond went on the rampage and the dam was washed out. Finally hydro was installed and the water power was not needed. The name - Kettleby Mills - was given to the village by Mrs. Eaton, naming it after a village in England. The 'Mills' part was dropped in later years. Kettleby boasted two hotels, two stores, a telephone office, cheese factory, a tailor shop employing three tailors, two blacksmith shops, and a nursery, at one time in its history.

How many can remember the dredging of the canal in the Holland Marsh? Professor Day had great plans and faith in the marsh. It always seems a pity when men such as he do not live to see their dreams come true, although perhaps it was just as well he did not live to see the terrible things that Hurricane Hazel did to his beloved project. How many remember the marsh fires in the fall of the year?

When the Holland Marsh was still a young project as far as growing vegetables were concerned, the townline from the fifth through to the eighth concessions was opened up for their convenience and others who used it to shorten the trip from Newmarket through to Schomberg. Until this time it was a narrow trail made of railway ties and unfit for cars or trucks as it is now.

The Christian Baptist church used to hold their garden parties in the Ramsden orchard just south of the church and I can remember well before there was electricity they had torches in the apple trees to light the orchard for the program which was held on a temporary platform built for the evening's entertainment.

When we first heard that the new Super Highway 400 was coming through our community we weren't sure just how it would effect us. It has proved a quick means of travel into Toronto and points north. I only wish that the sign at the Aurora Cloverleaf saying "Aurora" had a small addition saying "Kettleby".

## GEMS OF HISTORY ARE LOCAL HAPPENINGS - Cont'd.

Then, of course, the highway necessitated the forming of a school area. The four local schools were closed and dwellings made of them. I never will get used to seeing a washing hanging out at the back, television aerials on the roof, and curtains on the windows.

These are just a very few of the events that have happened in our community that can go down in history, but we like to think that our W. I. with its own long history adds to the interesting story.

(Given by Kathleen Greensides, a member of  
the Tweedsmuir History Committee)



Pyjama party - Back row,  
left to right: Ann Harmon,  
Mary Blackburn, Mary Walton,  
Minnie Rae, Martha Archi-  
bald, Hilda Blackburn.

Front row: Gertrude Blackburn,  
Merna Geer, Mary Smith, Leila  
Webster, Mary Barradel.



Special group of west  
and north concession  
members of W.I. at a  
party at Ruth Maginn's  
in July 1960.



Bessie Walton, Frances Hunt, Laura  
Carson, Marjorie Black, Doug. Brookes  
and Vince DeVitta putting up the  
Women's Institute welcome sign across  
from the Anglican church in Kettleby.

April 1976

1911



1961

Kettleby Women's Institute

INVITES YOU TO ATTEND THE

Fiftieth Anniversary

Saturday, January 21, 1961

ANGLICAN HALL, KETTLEBY

at two o'clock

MRS. G. M. ARMSTRONG  
Secretary  
Kettleby, Ontario

MRS. HARRY BURNS  
President

# KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

## HAS 50th BIRTHDAY PARTY

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Cars filled the churchyard and lined the Kettleby main street last Saturday afternoon, January 21, 1961, when Christ Church parish hall was filled to capacity with over 250 Women's Institute members who came to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Kettleby branch.

This happy event recalled the day, exactly 50 years ago on January 23, 1911, when 21 women from the hamlet and farms of Kettleby gathered in Sons of Temperance Hall to form the W.I. branch which has functioned ever since, through two wars, a depression and a hurricane disaster, as well as through happier days and whose motto at all times is "For Home and Country".

"It was a day like this, cold with maybe more snow", remembered Mrs. E. Clarkson of Newmarket, a charter member, who returned to take part in this celebration with another charter member, Mrs. A. Marshall of Kettleby. Both ladies wore golden corsages, and similar corsages were sent to two other charter members, Mrs. A. Hilborn and Mrs. William Robertson, who were unable to be present.

Looking at the women who represented the local branch, and five representatives of the other 12 W.I. branches of Centre York District, presidents and secretaries of four York Districts, and former members who returned for this occasion, it was inspiring to observe their interest in the proceedings and to note the fashionable attire of all present. The thought must have been with some of the older members that this was a more gaily dressed group than the small gathering at Kettleby 50 years ago. Hats on this day in January were more colorful than on a cold day in 1911, and to be sure, skirts were inches shorter than were worn when the ladies arrived in their horse drawn sleighs on January 21, 1911.

President, Mrs. Harry Burns, wearing a black silk suit and jaunty black hat, presided and introduced the two charter members and regretted the absence of two charter members. She also introduced life members, Mrs. E. West, Mrs. A. Farren, Mrs. R. Carson, and Mrs. L. Blackburn, also Mrs. Robert Graham, who is a life member of the Stayner branch. All wore corsages of yellow mums. Mrs. Burns also introduced

## 50th BIRTHDAY PARTY

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Mrs. C Hooper, Vice-President York East District; Mrs. H. Wood and Mrs. M. Roden, President and Secretary West York District, Mrs. Ross Armitage and Mrs. G. Smith, President and Secretary Centre York District.

Past President, Mrs. Albert Farren, former provincial board director and former regional vice president of Ontario FWIO, was convener of the program and read letters of regret from 15 invited guests who included provincial president Mrs. Lila Lymburner of Port Colborne, chairman of Central Area, Mrs. Carl Moynes of Oakwood, provincial secretary treasurer, Mrs. Ida Holder of Mona Road, and a former member Mrs. Phyllis Davis of Vancouver.

Mrs. Farren also introduced Mrs. Elton Armstrong, provincial board director, who is also a member of York Centre. In bringing greetings from the 33 members who sit at the provincial table, Mrs. Armstrong added that the provincial level is just like a regular W. I. Meeting "Some say too much and some just sit". She congratulated this branch, first in the area honored when a member, Mrs. Farren, was elected to the provincial board.

Mrs. Farren also introduced Mrs. J. Hermanson, Vice Chairman, Central Area and secretary of radio committee, who brought greetings from the Toronto area.

First speaker of the afternoon was Reeve William Hodgson, who added his congratulations to the township's thanks for the many times ~~that~~ this branch has aided the community, especially at the time of Hurricane Hazel. A beautiful basket of yellow flowers was the gift from the township.

Final speaker was Mrs. Wm. Hodgson, who made a graceful courtesy speech of thanks to all who contributed to the program, not forgetting Sharyn Beatty who danced the Charleston in a handsome beaded gown, complete with swinging beads, of the early 20's and Nancy Greensides who played the piano during the guests arrival. Also, Mrs. M. Hunt of Bobleton, who was accompanied at the piano by Mrs. Albert Hill, when she sang "Road to the Isles"; "Home Sweet Home" and two Negro Spirituals.

Names of all past presidents were read by Mrs. William Gillham and "As at all happy family gatherings there are empty seats

## 50th BIRTHDAY PARTY

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Mrs. Robert Graham conducted a memorial service, "with love and affection for the 42 members who shared in the forming and building of this W.I. who are no longer here". As the names were read a moment of silence was observed.

No anniversary would be complete without reminscences, and some of the highlights of this branch were read from the Tweedsmuir Book by Mrs. Norman Greensides. This began with the first meeting when 18 women of the 21 present became charter members, and Mrs. Levi Watson was elected president, to the Christmas party that was held at the home of Mrs. John Davis at the end of last year.

First hostess was Mrs. Artemus Hambleton. First fees were .25¢ and lunch was not served during the first year. Vocal solos provided entertainment with sometimes gramophone records added for novelty. Debates were popular, one debate "That fashions were more detrimental to the community than tobacco" cost fashion the vote. One meeting discussed "How to spend winter evenings".

In 1912 a pie social was held, admission price being .10¢. When the branch provided not noon dinner for King Township council the roast beef cost \$1.37 says the records.

At one time there was just \$2.08 in the treasury at the end of the year, and another year a donation was given so that there would be a bank balance. In 1931 a speaker dealt with a new term "communism". Although frightening, this subject seemed too remote for Kettleby ladies. In 1935 Kettleby branch paid \$1.50 towards their delegate's expenses at the annual convention.

At the 25th anniversary, Mrs. Charles Doane, who conducted the first meeting, returned to cut the anniversary cake. There were 35 ladies and 7 children present at that occasion.

During the first war Kettleby branch formed a Red Cross group. In the second war they adopted a W. I. branch at Horsel, Surrey, and an English family and sent parcels of comforts regularly. Mrs. Young of Horsel was their visitor in 1951 when WIFO met in Toronto and she continues their friend. These were some of Mrs. Greensides' notes.

## 53th BIRTHDAY PARTY

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On this afternoon it was noticed that three generations of one family, all members, were present. They were Mrs. E. West, her daughter, Mrs. Farren, and her granddaughter Mrs. Robert Warlow. There were also about a dozen mothers and daughters all members of this branch, also former members from a distance, among them Mrs. Mary Corns of Toronto, Mrs. Ernest Fry of Streetsville, Mrs. Ernest Blatchford, Willowdale, Mrs. Wesley Sabin, Painswick. Mrs. James Archibald, formerly Olive Watson, daughter of Mrs. L. T. Watson, the first president, who brought Greetings from Elora W. I. and Mrs. Russell Hunter of London.

A most pleasant hour was spent when delicious dainties were served by daughters of W. I. members, under the direction of Mrs. Herbert Webster who was in charge of the refreshment committee. Two sets of twins, Elizabeth and Margaret Black and Gertrude and Roberta Hunt were assistants and Pauline Schmidt and Sylvia Greensides attended the head table.

Mrs. E. Clarkson and Mrs. A. Marshall, as charter members, and Mrs. Leo Blackburn as oldest Life member and secretary for 25 years, poured tea at a table that was covered with a beautiful embroidered cloth, and decorated with a handsome three tier anniversary cake that was made by Mrs. Richardson and Mrs. George Heacock and cut by Mrs. Clarkson, Mrs. Marshall and Mrs. Crane, oldest member in years.

Two bouquets of yellow and blue flowers, the colors of the institute, which were the gift of Mrs. W. E. Armstrong, also graced the table and golden candles in silver holders carried out the golden theme of the anniversary party.

## KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

NOTE: The Committee on Historical Research feel that the history of our Institute can best be portrayed through the notes and research prepared and given by Mrs. Norman Greensides (nee Kathleen Black) at our Fiftieth Anniversary.

"Madam President, Honoured Guests and Fellow Members:

To-day we are celebrating our fiftieth birthday, so, of course, it is only fitting that we should have a review of the high lights of those years. This is not an easy task, you will agree, for any member or ex-member knows that branches cannot be kept going by the more exciting events that go into history; but rather by the slow methodical procedure that is the custom of Women's Institute organizations.

Also, in preparing a history one has to avoid statistics as much as possible; then, too, one must use names sparingly for in mentioning some; others are left out. I do hope that you will find this next fifteen minutes interesting and adequate.

The first Women's Institute in Ontario was formed in 1897 (fourteen years before our own) by Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless of Stoney Creek, who felt that rural women should meet together and learn from one another. She had just lost her infant child and all because she was not aware that the milk she was feeding it was unboiled and dangerous.

Our branch here at Kettleby had its beginning at a meeting held in the Sons of Temperance Hall (which is just down the street from here) on the afternoon of January 23rd, 1911. Mrs. Charles Doan of Armitage was on hand to organize the gathering and the minutes written by Miss Mary Elliott (now Mrs. E. Clarkson of Aurora) are as follows:

"A Women's Institute was organized in Kettleby Temperance Hall on January 23rd by Mrs. Charles Doan of Armitage and the following officers were elected:

|                     |                                         |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------|
| President           | Mrs. Levi Watson                        |
| 1st Vice-Pres.      | Mrs. Bert Hilborn                       |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Miss Mary Elliott                       |
| Directors           | Mrs. Spragge                            |
|                     | Mrs. Arthur Marshall                    |
|                     | Mrs. Rankin Hughey                      |
| Auditors            | Mrs. Jas. Ramsden and Mrs. Jesse Tatton |
| District Director   | Mrs. Levi Watson                        |

First meeting to be held at the home of Mrs.  
Artemus Hambleton.

Signed - Mrs. L. Watson, Pres.  
Miss M. Elliott, Sec. Treas.

At the February meeting the opening hymn was "Blest be the Tie that Binds" and of the 21 ladies present 18 joined; and five more later in the year. Fees at this time were .25¢ per member and W. I. pins .15¢. Lunch was dispensed with for the first year.

Here are the subjects on which papers were given: "Cool dishes for summer" by Mrs. Frank Davis; "Different methods of Preparing Eggs" by Mrs. Rankin Hughey; "How to spend the Winter Evenings" by Mrs. W. Tribble; "Preparation of Salads" by Mrs. Jesse Tatton; "Poultry Raising" by Mrs. James Ramsden; "Value of Cheerfulness" by Mrs. Bert Hilborn; and a roll call "Best Months to Pack Butter and the Making of it".

Despite the fact that members travelled by horse and buggy we find that they had speakers from a distance and .50¢ was paid for their board and lodging. For many meetings gramophone selections were used for entertainment as well as piano selections and readings.

It is interesting to find that in these early years the roll call was set up in alphabetical order and then during the year they went down the list to the different members for a program committee.

A pie social with an admission fee of .10¢; ice cream 5¢ was held in 1912 while Mrs. J. A. Marshall was President.

A debate on the subject "Resolved that fashion is more detrimental to a community than tobacco" resulted in the decision that fashion was the worst offender; this was a February meeting in the Temperance Hall with an attendance of 24 ladies - the hall rent was \$1.50.

There is mention in the minutes of flowers being sent to the sick and of prizes given to the children at the School Fair.

During the years of the First World War the members worked for the Red Cross at their meetings. In October 1914 the minutes read that the President, Miss Mary Lemon, tendered her resignation but that it wasn't accepted by the meeting; the next sentence reveals that she was appointed to the Area Convention in Toronto. There seems to have been no meeting for three months

and then a motion in these records that - "the meetings be continued". The summer following a picnic was held at Bond Lake.

It is regrettable that we must now skip to 1926 because the records for the intervening ten years are missing. At this time Miss Ella Hilborn was President and Miss Aileen Marshall (Mrs. J. MacDonald) the Secretary Treasurer; Mrs. E. B. West the delegate to Area Convention and it was here that she won second prize and \$2.00 in a home-made hat competition.

Now, if you will pardon two personal happenings; it was here that my sisters and I entertained the W. I. while teenagers at home on the farm. The attendance was small - all the members could be brought with the President, Miss Hilborn, in her car. The cash on hand at the end of the year was \$2.08, and a motion in the minutes reads "that we try to carry on for another year".

The District Annual was held in Schomberg in 1931 and a car load of members were driven over by Mr. George Paxton (you will notice that we were not as efficient transportation-wise as the ladies of to-day). I can remember that the speaker's subject dealt with Communism and being a teenager (there I have practically told my age, and they say that a woman who will tell her age will tell anything), I am afraid that I had not heard the term 'communistic countries' before and thought that the speaker was frightening us about something that was very remote; exactly thirty years later and how wrong was he?

That same day there was a public speaking contest and because there were only two contestants entered I managed to win a book donated as a prize by Mrs. Charles of Aurora, entitled "Purple Springs" by Nellie McClung.

These years, of course, were the lean thirties and at the close of one year's work, the treasurer reports that a slight amount had to be donated to end the year in the black. The delegate to the Area Convention attended at her own expense. But now we have reached 1935 and the delegate was Mrs. Ernest Fry as we allowed her \$1.50 for her expenses.

It was in January 1936 that we celebrated our Twenty-fifth Anniversary and at the home of one of our hard-working and faithful members, Mrs. S. J. Heacock. Miss Annie Harmon was the President at the time and Mrs. Leo Blackburn the Secretary-Treasurer. Mrs. Charles Doan, who was on hand at the first meeting, cut the cake and Mrs. Charles was present to address the meeting. There were 35 ladies present and seven children; the hostess read letters from members who were unable to be present. The program consisted of a reading "Growing old, Growing Lovely" by Mrs. P. W. Ball, also a solo by Miss Bethel Black (Mrs. R. Marchant) accompanied by

Miss Laura Black (Mrs. Robert Carson) on the piano; current events by Mrs. E. Hollingshead.

A W. I. picnic was held at Bayview Beach and a dollar was taken from the funds for prizes; then several years later a picnic at Preston's Lake with an attendance of 10 members and a number of children. It is amusing to note that at one picnic the members donated prizes for a fat lady's race and a thin lady's race; also that the ladies were to be at a certain place to meet the truck that was to gather them up. One meeting place was "Tory Corner" - how many in this group know where that is?

It was in the thirties too that we served a hot noon meal to King Township Council and the meat for the meal was purchased for \$1.87.

First Aid Kits for the four local schools were supplied by our W.I. and kept filled; now, of course, these schools have been closed and supplies are still sent to the new Kettleby Area School.

We have now reached the time of the outbreak of the Second World War and our W. I. were again busy sending parcels to our boys overseas and working with the Salvation Army and Red Cross. We also had an adopted Institute in England and an adopted family to which we sent tea, clothing and other things. When the boys returned from overseas the W. I. along with the Community Club presented them each with a pen and pencil set. The names of two boys who did not return were engraved on the monument at the cemetery.

Almost every year from the beginning our branch has been represented at the Area Convention, and it is interesting to notice the gradual increase in the allowance that was necessary, until now it is about twenty times the original amount.

In 1946 Mrs. E. B. West was made our first Life member and presented with address and pin by the President, Miss Laura Black (Mrs. Robert Carson). Mrs. West has served many years on war work and has taken a special interest in the War Memorial at the cemetery.

The Branch has assisted with the chest x-ray unit, given a cup and saucer to members who have moved away, donated to the Salvation Army, Retarded Children, Adelaide Hoodless Fund, the Blind and many more worthy organizations which are too numerous to mention here.

Many visits have been made to the Ontario Hospital for Boys with treats; also to York Manor, particularly at Christmas when a number of our ladies give a small concert - there is always a question in their minds - they are never sure who gets the most enjoyment from the day, the entertainers or the entertained.

For the past few years our meetings have been held in the evenings, the reason being that the husbands and fathers make such fine built-in baby sitters; then too, we have had to hold our meetings in either of the two local halls because our membership has become so large that very few of the members' homes will accommodate us.

Our Branch was represented at the Guelph Conference and among the ideas our members brought back was the one where those who do not answer the roll call have to say "Dead Duck" instead. At the end of the meeting all the "dead ducks" must stand and be laughed at - the idea being, of course, that these members will make sure they are live ducks at the next meeting.

During the years we have had so many wonderful speakers and papers by the members; any number of our ladies who thought they just couldn't stand up before a meeting and speak have become very much at ease. In the past few years Mrs. Elton Armstrong gave us a day course on having to speak in public. You have, no doubt, read the comment of the Toronto T. V. columnist who wrote that Marg. Osborne, who sings with Don Messer and his Islanders, reminded him of a typical Women's Institute member. The most of us would be happy to look as pleasing as Mrs. Osborne, and we will assume that he meant the remark as a compliment.

In the year 1953 Mrs. Robert Carson was made a Life member in recognition of her many years of service both as President for a number of years and for her musical talents. Mrs. Carson has always been willing to help with whatever was asked of her.

Now we reach 1954 when Mrs. Albert Farren was elected Federation Representative for Centre York. Two years later our Branch honoured her with a Life membership and pin presented by Mrs. Norman Blatchford. In 1959 Mrs. Farren had the honour of being elected to the Provincial Board for a three year term as Regional Vice-President of Federated Women's Institute of Ontario. It was at our Christmas meeting this same year that the President, Mrs. Burns, presented Mrs. Farren with a corsage as a token of our pride in her recent appointment.

Our Branch is unique we feel in having as members a great grandmother, grandmother and mother in the same family - these ladies are Mrs. E. B. West, Mrs. Albert Farren and Mrs. Robert Warlow.

At one meeting we had Miss Burrows of King who built her own pink mud house. It was most interesting to hear of her trials and tribulations in the building period and her complete satisfaction when it was finished.

It was in the fifties that we had the pleasure of a visit from the President of Horsell Institute in England, our adopted Women's Institute of the war years. Mrs. Young attended the Area Convention along with two of our members.

A number of our members gained pen-pals as a result of having sent an aprong to the A.C.W.W. Conference in Edinburgh, Scotland.

We are proud of our new area school here at Kettleby and the W. I. has helped to make the grounds more attractive by donating several trees and the planting of flowers and bulbs.

It was during our enjoyable Christmas meeting in 1959 that we acquired another Life member, namely, Mrs. Leo Blackburn, who served many years as secretary-treasurer some years ago. Mrs. Blackburn has always helped our Branch in whatever way she could, and even though she now lives in Newmarket we still have her with us at almost every meeting. Our Branch now has four Charter Members and four Life Members.

We have had so many educational slides, travelogues, demonstrations, bus trips, and our members have helped in the Tuck Shop at York County Hospital, served as representatives from the Branch to the Cemetery Board, Hospital Auxiliary, Aurora Horse Show, Federation of Agriculture, it is a shame we have to mention them so briefly.

The only woman on our Area School Board, Mrs. Geert Tienkamp, is also a W. I. member.

This past year the Historical Reasearch group provided the meeting with an amusing fashion parade; in each of the following attires a member and in most cases her daughter appeared in street wear of the present and the past, also as a housewife, go-to-church wear, beach, wedding, party, sports and sleep-wear. Mrs. Howard Proctor (Carol) kept up a running commentary and the result was much laughter.

Then, of course, in December of this year we had our annual Christmas party. This is an event that we look forward to very much and Mrs. John Davis entertained us at her home with a tree and all the trimmings.

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Now this completes the history of our W. I.; and although we now have 50 names on the Roll Call we know that we must keep an ever-watchful eye on the words of that wonderful Women's Institute Creed that is repeated at each meeting, and practice what we say. When we celebrate our seventy-fifth birthday and then the hundredth, who knows maybe a number of those present to-day will be privileged to attend then."

January 21st, 1961.

Paper given by Audrey Tatton Schmidt (Mrs. Fred Schmidt)  
at Institute picnic at Pioneer Village July 28th, 1961.

When I thought of Historical Events I didn't think I would need to go back too many years for my own family to think it historic.

I am going to start with my own family as that is what I know the most about. Our family is the fifth generation on our farm and the fourth house to be built on the farm is the one in which we live. The house previous to the present one was burned in 1931. The others were a log house at the north-west corner of the barn, and one in the south-west corner of the farm near the road by Cook's farm.

My Grandmother used to get up in the morning, do up her work, take a basket of butter and eggs and walk across the fields to Kettleby and be back home to get dinner, but in those days they got up at four or five o'clock.

I moved to this farm in 1929, and if we saw a car or horse and buggy coming north of Cook's gate we knew it was coming to our place as the green grass was growing up in the centre of the road past our farm and there was no road across to Schomberg. The only house on the marsh was a couple of shacks known as Rolls in the centre of the marsh. In order to have the telephone installed my Father had to dig the post holes and supply posts from Cook's gate to our house.

Of great interest to me was the ice cream parlor in Kettleby which my Grandmother, Mrs. Major Stephenson, had in the old house between the store and the blacksmith shop. It was always quite an event to see them cut the ice in the mill pond, haul it up and store it in saw dust in an ice house between the store and house.



Fashion Show by Historical Research Committee plus a few other members at the annual Convention held at the Royal York Hotel, November 1963, with members using the apparel of the past representing a housewife, church, afternoon calling, sports, wedding and formal, with the younger generation in the modern attire.



Sharyn Beatty, Ruth Maginn, Lillian West, Audrey Schmidt, Maureen Cherry, Kathleen Greensides, Betty Gillham.



Nancy Greensides, Eliza Hodgson, Doris Cook, Frances Hunt, Vicki Beatty, Bonnie Warlow, Violet Farren, Sandra Maginn, Roberta Hunt, Gertrude Hunt, Betty Gillham.

HISTORICAL RE-  
SEARCH FASHION  
SHOW

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At the Royal York  
Hotel - Convention  
November 1963.



Frances Walton Hunt



Roberta Hunt



Gertrude Hunt

HISTORICAL RE-  
SEARCH FASHION  
SHOW

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At the Royal  
York Hotel -  
Convention of  
1963.



Eliza Hodgson



Audrey Tatton Schmidt



Doris Geer Cook

ACTIVITIES DURING 1964 TO 1977 OF  
KETTLEBY BRANCH OF THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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The activities of our Institute, whose membership has decreased over the years, has been varied and interesting. Our Diamond anniversary was celebrated at York Pines United Church on January 23, 1971, sixty years to the date of the inaugural meeting, with one of the two surviving charter members present, and the special address was given by the late Mrs. E. Armstrong.

Many interesting speakers brought information during the above thirteen years on the work amongst the Indians, on pollution, estate taxes, growing and use of herbs, women and the law, politics at the municipal level, on mining, telecare, trip to the A.C.W.W. in Australia and Norway, educational problems, a librarian, consumer consultant, designer and maker of dolls.

Special meetings which might be mentioned are that of Dr. Norman Alcock, founder of Canada Peace Research Institute; Mrs. A. Gillham, author of "Early Settlements in King Township"; speaking on "Carrying Place" in the township of King. Also, the celebration of the United Nations 24th anniversary with a cake surrounded by the 126 flags of the nations and 24 candles, with the guest speaker, a delegate to the United Nations and a resident of our community; Mr. Price Erichson-Brown; a meeting at the home of Mrs. Franc Joubin, wife of the discoverer of uranium, who is a talented hobbyest with a "hobby building" on their farm. Robert Burns' birthday celebrated at the Scottish home of Mr. Lloyd MacPherson with Scottish dances and ceremonial haggis; as well as a meeting on the metric system.

Movies of various trips of the members; of Indian and Eskimo people of the North West Territories, as well as the conventions in Norway and Australia.

Tours were taken to McMichaels Gallery with afternoon tea at the Doctor's House; Sterling Drug Company, Pinecrest Foods, the log house of a dealer in antiques where we had our meeting and a lunch as it would have been fifty years ago.

Trips were taken to Niagara Falls, to Holy Trinity Church, Toronto, to see the Christmas story; McLaughlin Planetarium; Atwood Interiors at Thornhill. We also saw the Sound of Music at Eglinton Theatre and attended plays at St. Andrew's College and the Factory Theatre.

Our special doings were Penny Sales, a Fun Fair, picnics at members' cottages, dinners and luncheons at various eating places; attending Bradford's salad supper.

Christmas meetings took the form of special programs at members' homes, a smorgasbord in Aurora, a progressive dinner; visiting a nursing home with Christmas goodies. We also sent Christmas gifts to the sick and shut-ins and remembered those over the age of eighty.

Book reviews were given from Dr. Ethel Chapman's writings. Also, on "Rural Roots" which contains much about King Township and Kettleby, some of which was taken from our Tweedsmuir History. This was given by Mrs. Harry Burns.

A 4-H Club was formed as well as a Welcoming Committee for the community.

Centennial year was celebrated by a tea, and our project was a fence surrounding what was formerly Kettleby pond. We also had erected "Welcome" signs to the village of Kettleby. A pageant was written by one of our members, Mrs. Dora Conover, and given by 60 pupils of Kettleby Public School, representing every nation now residing in the Dominion.

Ruth Maginn, Curator,  
Prepared for the  
District level of the  
Women's Institute.



Meeting under convenorship of Mrs. Gordon Cook, Citizenship and Education, held in York Pines Auditorium October 1967, with the children of Kettleby Public School putting on the pageant "Canada - our Home" written by Mrs. J. D. Conover at the request of the Centennial Committee of the Ontario Provincial Government.



Adelaide Hoodless and the Women's Institute 1897 - a dialogue by two members of Woodbridge W. I. at meeting held in York Pines Auditorium under convenorship of Mrs. Gordon Cook, Citizenship and Education, October 1967.



"Centennial Village" a play written by Mrs. J.D. Connver and given at the above meeting. Players - Mrs. C. George, Mrs. Murray Cook and Mrs. D. Brookes.

## KETTLEBY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CELEBRATES DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY

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Sixty years to the date the Kettleby Women's Institute celebrated its Diamond Anniversary Saturday afternoon, January 23, 1971. About 150 people gathered at York Pines Church auditorium in Kettleby in honor of the occasion.

On January 23, 1911, the inaugural meeting of ladies in Kettleby's Institute was held in the Temperance Hall of Kettleby which then stood in the village. This building is now one of the buildings restored at Pioneer Village. Since the first meeting the ladies have met monthly over the years and have established a substantial record of achievement in Institute work.

A prayer was offered by Rev. Don Sterling of York Pines Church to open the more formal celebrations of the afternoon. This was followed by a presentation of a corsage to Mrs. J. A. Marshall of Barrie, who is one of the two surviving charter members of the Kettleby Institute. The presentation was made by Mrs. Robert Ogden, the Vice-President. Another charter member, Mrs. William Robertson of Long Branch, the former Mary Lemon, was unable to be present.

A poignant address to the group was then given by Mrs. Elton Armstrong, now of Newmarket, who is well known in the Institute for her work and her capable handling of almost every office. Mrs. Armstrong opened her talk with a short discussion of the contemporary drug problem, and urged the Institute to be aware of it and attempt to help to solve and not ignore the problem.

She then used the letters L.S.D. to signify three needs which all people have, both as individuals and within our groups. They are love, security and discipline.

The President, Mrs. Christopher George, was then presented with a plaque to honor the occasion. It was donated by the Ontario Government. Mrs. Harry Burns made the presentation on behalf of M. P. P. William Hodgson. Mrs. Burns then read the In Memorium for all who, while living, were members of the Kettleby Institute.

A skit, written by a member, Mrs. John Maginn, was then performed by the special program committee for the day. The scene was the first regular meeting of the Women's Institute of Kettleby, held on February 25, 1911, at the home of Mrs. Artemus Hambleton, an aunt of the author. It was amusing and a pleasant conclusion to the ceremonies.