

FORTY YEARS AGO AND NOW.

Friends and neighbors gathered here,  
Please listen to what I have to say,  
I'm looking back some forty years  
And watching them in that day.

Now, many things did happen then  
In and about our Park Head.  
I've learned a lot about what they did,  
Do I see some faces getting red?

First, July 6th, 19 and 10  
Some women gathered for a meeting.  
They walked toward our Public School,  
And called to each a happy greeting.

What's this that they are gathering for,  
This must be something really new.  
Now wait while I look carefully back,  
And tell you what they say and so.

From a vantage point at a window,  
Two young lads peer within.  
Young Georgie Gray and George Sylvester,  
Are watching with a grin.

And at the store owned by Charles Rourke,  
Some men have gathered too.  
They're laughing about the Women's Meeting,  
But-rather curious too.

They think the Institute is a joke,  
And yet they sort of wonder,  
If they make too much fun of it  
Would maybe be a blunder.

Now Mrs. Farrow was first President,  
And Mrs. Charles Rourke our secretary.  
Mrs. Root District President gave a talk  
Stressing our motto, "Home and Country".

The Directors had important work.  
Mrs. Bert Rourke and Mrs. Sylvester  
Were appointed at this meeting,  
With Mrs. J. Gox, who was also a Director.

We leave this meeting but we know  
This group has made a start,  
Forward our Women's Institute,  
Of which we're proud to have a part.

Forty years ago they had romance,  
Oh, yes,- they had it that far back.  
And as I look back through the years,  
I see a young chap on the railroad track.

He's coming over from Shallow Lake,  
He often talks of those walks still.  
And as he walks towards Sylvester's,  
We see it is our Grandpa Bill.