

# South Renfrew WI Members Celebrate Arnprior Anniversary

*Jan 1957*  
The past and the future were toasted in song and speech Wednesday evening of last week, when Women's Institute members from all parts of South Renfrew joined with the Arnprior branch in celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Institute members and their friends to the number of 180 sat down to a bountiful birthday dinner in the Parish hall, Arnprior. Among those present were not only representatives from 15 South Renfrew branches, but, as well, members from the neighboring counties of Lanark and Carleton. Mrs. A. Scobie, president of the Arnprior WI, was chairman and toast-mistress, and the guest speaker of the evening was Mrs. Leslie Davis of Eganville.

"How are we doing?" was the subject of Mrs. Davis' address, as she reviewed the work of the Women's Institutes and urged present members to take a long look at the organization of today, as compared with the small groups started with courage and optimism in the early days. Although this was but the 25th anniversary of the Arnprior branch, the year would mark the 60th for the provincial body, Mrs. Davis reminded her audience. It was a time for taking stock, and for evaluation.

The speaker deplored the tendency in some branches of the WI to become merely social or money-making groups. They should never lose sight of the fact, she said, that the prime function of the organization was adult education. She particularly stressed the need of a deeper study of citizenship and agriculture.

A toast to the original members was proposed by Mrs. A. Dupuis, with a reply by Mrs. Myra Lindsay. Mrs. S. G. Wilson proposed the toast to the future, to which Mrs. A. Bennett responded. Greetings were brought from the provincial board by Mrs. S. G. Wilson, from the Ottawa area by Mrs. C. D. Dewar, and from the district by Mrs. A. Bennett.

A beautiful memorial service was conducted by Mrs. A. Symington and Mrs. L. Anderson, during which white carnations were arranged in a vase, in tribute to members who had died since the group was organized in 1932.

The lighting of the 25 silver candles on a three-tiered anniversary cake and the singing of Auld Lang Syne closed a pleasant gathering.

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## TWENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY

ARNPRIOR WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



Parish Hall  
ARNPRIOR

Wednesday, January 30, 1957

6:30 P.M.