

Fiftieth Anniversaries

SOME of the interesting historical notes reported at **Haileybury's** fiftieth anniversary party were that the branch was organized by Miss Laura Rose, the first Women's Institute lecturer, now Mrs. Stephen. The first minute book was destroyed in the Haileybury fire of 1922 but it is known that the membership fifty years ago was large, as the Institute was the only women's organization in the town at that time. In 1908 the Institute sponsored an exhibition with classes in sewing, knitting, darning, fancywork, amateur photography, painting, garden vegetables, canaries, crystal works (whatever that may be), butter, eggs, preserves, house plants, wines and summer drinks. The only surviving charter member, Mrs. Robert Campbell was at the party which closed with a turkey supper.

Hanover Institute which celebrated its fiftieth anniversary in January has the honour of being the oldest women's organization in Hanover. It was reported that when the late Mrs. William Bartleman moved to Hanover in 1906 she missed the Institute in her former community and was instrumental in having a branch organized in Hanover. The history of the Institute as given by Mrs. F. A. Glebe named such work as presenting to the library a service flag bearing the names of all the service men and women from Hanover in the two world wars. (The work was done by the late Miss Emma Clarke.) Other projects were placing two drinking fountains in the town, putting up street signs, equipping the community hall with dishes, silverware and an electric stove; establishing and maintaining a room in the local hospital.

Barrie Island had two charter members at their fiftieth anniversary tea; the other living charter member was unable to attend. Mrs. John Long gave the address of welcome. The roll call was "When I joined the Barrie Island Women's Institute." Mrs. Cecil Runnalls and Mrs. Lewis Runnalls read interesting minutes from old minute books and Mrs. Art Lane read a paper on "Our Local Institute." Songs by Mrs. Wes Grunman, Mrs. John Lane, Mrs. Lloyd Lane, Mrs. K. Montgomery completed the programme. The birthday cake was decorated in the Institute colors, blue and gold.

At **Orillia's** golden anniversary, it was recalled that when the branch was organized on



—Photo by Doug Camp, Owen Sound Sun-Times

Mrs. James West, aged 94, charter member of Kemble who in the Women's Institutes' Sixtieth Anniversary Celebrations "took a most interesting and informative part in Owen Sound's CFOS radio programme and appeared on Wingham's CKNX television show where she again impressed her audience with her keen mind." Mrs. West still lives on her home farm with two of her sons.

February 6th, 1907 it derived its membership not only from the town of Orillia but also from Hampshire Mills, Rugby, O'Connell, Ardtrea and Warminster. When the district was organized in 1910 other branches were formed and Orillia's members came entirely from the town. Reference was made to the leadership of Mrs. Wm. Todd, branch president from 1914 to 1919 and the first F.W.I.O. provincial president, elected to this office in 1919. A special project of this Institute is the furnishing of the children's ward in their Soldiers' Memorial Hospital. Dr. Margaret McCready, Principal of Macdonald Institute spoke on "Fifty Years in Home Economics."

Cainsville celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on February 5th with a tea at which Mrs. R. D. Hendry, F.W.I.O. board member, was guest speaker. Mrs. George Fox, a charter member and one of the first presidents cut the birthday cake and reviewed the Institute's history. All past and present presidents and secretaries and the guest speaker were presented with sterling silver spoons.