

**Pittsburgh W.I.** and special guests celebrate 50th Anniversary. Organized by Mrs. A. W. Sirett who pioneered in organizing rural women with the motto "For Home and Country".

The highlight was the unveiling of the lovely tapestry. Past Presidents were honoured, as well as special tribute paid to Mrs. Herbert Hermer, one of the few surviving original members who was able to join in the day's festivities.

A life membership was presented to Mrs. Alan MacLean whose contributions have been many and varied, not only in the work of the Women's Institute, both junior and senior, but in 4H leadership, and community interests.

Pittsburgh W.I. have provided community leadership, sponsored 4H Homemaking clubs, Brownie groups, a social worker, public speaking contests for school children, war work, a foster child in Germany.

Dr. W. J. Nuttall MPP presented a framed scroll from Premier Wm. Davis recognizing the WI's 50 years of community service.



*Pittsburgh's 50th (L-r) Mrs. Glen Joslin, Frontenac District President; Mrs. Robt. L. Robinson, Pittsburgh President; 50 year member, Mrs. Herbert Hermer.*

### HONOUR 300TH YEAR

Mayor George Speal, on behalf of the City of Kingston, accepted a banner tapestry to be hung in the city hall from Mrs. Robert Robinson, President of Pittsburgh W.I. This beautiful banner tapestry creation was the 50th Anniversary project of the Women's Institute and was presented to honour their 50th Anniversary and also the 300th birthday of the City of Kingston.

This banner represents six months dedicated work by the members. It was designed by Antinas Tamosaitis, a Lithuanian artist, and the central theme is a huge tree with its branches representing the English and French culture. The sun overshadowing the tree stands for the universe as does the moon, stars and northern lights at the base.

Ontario's official flower, the trillium, and Canada's Maple Leaf are shown in the top upper corners. The 12 maple leaves represent the 10 provinces and 2 territories as well as the birds and animals. The Atlantic and Pacific Ocean are depicted on each border.

The roots of the tree, showing the Women's Institute crest and Pittsburgh Women's Institute, stand for the multitude of Women's Institute branches spread throughout the world.

### NASSAGAWEYA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Motto — "Watch your footsteps, for someone may be following them."

Roll Call — Where in Canada would you like to visit and why?

Programme — History of the development of the flag starting with "Never Let the Old Flag Fall", a World War I song.

The first historic references to flags were from Egypt where they had a religious significance. Later, knights in armour required some distinguishing mark and for this wore long tunics over their armour. These tunics were called "jacques" from which was derived the name "jack" which ultimately referred to the flag which was the rallying point for soldiers on the field of battle. She explained and illustrated with cutouts how the Union Jack came into being and how it incorporated the crosses of St. George, St. Andrew and St. Patrick.

The significance of the colours was also explained; the red stands for courage, blue is for loyalty and white for purity and peace. Next came the history of our own Canadian flag; how it came into existence under the Leadership of the late Lester B. Pearson, who was the Prime Minister at that time. Its colours, red and white, have been the official colours of Canada since November, 1921. The Maple Leaf Flag was proclaimed the official flag of Canada in February, 1965 by Queen Elizabeth II. Flags of other nations were shown and flag etiquette explained, emphasizing that the Canadian flag must always occupy the place of honour in Canada. A simple rule is to always treat the flag with respect.

### HONOURED BY LEGION

A certificate of merit to the **Callander Branch** of the Women's Institute was presented at a special meeting. The citation reads "In recognition of the work for the community that is conducted by the Women's Institute and for the work the Women's Institute has done in aiding veterans of World War II."



*L-r. Mrs. H. Ouellette, Mrs. Herb Alkins, Mrs. Pearl Scanlon, Mr. Archie McDonald.*

*Former Provincial Board Director, has been a member of the Women's Institute for 68 years. Mrs. Herb Alkins, life member of Callander W.I., has served in many capacities. During her years she organized nine branches and is a charter member of three, has been President of Northern Area Women's Institute as well as President of Parry Sound North District.*