

FRIENDSHIPS RENEWED

as told by Mrs. Myrtle Reid

Wellington Centre WI members accepted an invitation from the WI members to visit them in the South Vancouver Island District.

Rain drops were falling after a 39-day drought, so there were many reasons for the smiling faces of the women who greeted our twenty-five member group.

Boarding a bus, heading north to Duncan, Jean Robinson a former district secretary pointed out the sights along the way—the salmon streams, the totem poles, the acres of daffodils—one beautiful scene after another.

Duncan has a large Forestry Station, one of 8 in the Province. The Forestry Service had a modest beginning 40 years ago, virtually now all seedlings are grown in nurseries maintained and operated by the Service. Actual seedlings planted have risen from 7 million in 1960 to 52 million in 1972.

Cowichan Sweaters. There was a chance to visit an Indian store specializing in the famous Cowichan sweaters. (made from raw sheep wool with its original lanolin making them water resistant). Sights never to be forgotten such as walking among the famous Douglas fir trees, towering 180 feet and measuring five feet in diameter; seeing the Earth stations for Canada's domestic satellite communications system, the saw mills in Alberni and visiting the beautiful Butchart Gardens.

Hospitality. Branches and individuals were most generous in making the stay enjoyable. Ida Boyd, Provincial Secretary met the group at the Provincial office previous to being dinner guests of the BC Ministry of Agriculture. Later there was a chance to eat clam chowder, shrimps and salmon served by Kay Maughan at an open house.

Sooke Region Museum

As the result of a community effort, local organizations including the WI under the leadership of the Lions Club formed an Historical Society to build a museum. The countless hours of volunteer work by the whole community has resulted in the completion of a fine project which all were happy to visit.

The Ontario WI members were able to see and enjoy many of the regular tourist attractions, see the sights that tourists see. But, because it was WI members, the visit had a special flare and warmth that could only be extended by members of the Women's Institute.

70th

Sebringville celebrated their 70th year with two events. A special anniversary dinner and a bus trip to the Erland Lee Home.

The dinner meeting held in Mr. & Mrs. O. C. Zehr's log cabin provided a lovely setting for the historic 70th. Mrs. Ronald Boyce, President was presented with a WI cup and saucer.

Special candles depicting special events and various levels of WI were lit in a candle lighting ceremony. The traditional sing song and resume of activities over the years, revealed the organizational meeting was held in the IOOF Hall with Mrs. Valentine Stock of Tavistock the organizer. The first president was the late Mrs. B. F. Kastner and the late Miss Marie Kastner, secretary.

The first street lights erected in Sebringville in 1919 were paid for by the Women's Institute. Because of the WI's urging, a tennis court was built in 1948, also, 4-H Homemaking clubs have been sponsored by the branch since 1948.



70th Sebringville Perth South District presented life memberships to (seated), Mrs. Edgar Babb, standing L-R, Mrs. Lorne Babb, Mrs. Norman Aitcheson, Mrs. R. M. Keena who has belonged for 59 years and had the honour of cutting the cake. Stratford Beacon Herald.



Mountsberg, Wentworth N, celebrate 25 years since formation. At the first meeting 35 ladies joined, of this group 6 are still active. As a special honour life memberships were bestowed on L-R Mrs. A. Hulme, Mrs. C. Warner, Mrs. J. Bell, Mrs. A. Page, Mrs. W. Revell, Mrs. A. Elliott. There is a membership of over 30 still and report they are attracting many young members.