

FIRST PRESIDENT FWIC

On June 14th 1978, a bronze plaque was unveiled in Cookstown, Ontario. This was a joint project of the Simcoe County Historical Association and the Cookstown Historical and Heritage Society, assisted by the Councils of Simcoe County and the village of Cookstown. The plaque reads:

EMILY MURPHY ("JANEY CANUCK")
1868-1933

Emily (Ferguson) Murphy, born on a nearby farm, was raised in Cookstown. In 1887 she married Rev. Arthur Murphy, whose work took them to many Ontario towns, and to England. Later they moved west, settling in Edmonton in 1907.

A successful author, she wrote "Janey Canuck in the West" and other books and articles. A pioneer feminist, she fought daringly and stubbornly for Women's Rights.

In 1926 she became the first woman Police Magistrate in the British Empire and Judge of the Alberta Juvenile Court. She was the first President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada 1919-21. She led the movement for recognition in 1929 of women as persons eligible for appointment to the Senate.

Her character was warm, happy, determined and compassionate. "Janey Canuck" was an outstanding citizen, a great person.

GILBERT MILLS W.I., PRINCE EDWARD DISTRICT—took their annual bus trip to Kitchener, Elmira and a special tour through Mennonite country.

The group went to a Mennonite church, saw a film on their way of life and then toured the country side, seeing farms, the market and the Kissing Bridge at West Montrose.

HARWOOD W.I., NORTHUMBERLAND WEST DISTRICT have two 4-H Homemaking Club members who received Provincial Honours, Trudy Chernuk and Ursula Haworth.



Seaforth W.I., Huron South District, celebrate 50th. L-r President, Viola Lawson and Thelma Dale, only charter members who have been active for 50 years, and Helen MacKenzie who was responsible for the W.I. history.

Members of the **SEAFORTH W.I. HURON SOUTH DISTRICT**, celebrated the 50th anniversary by including former members, District guests and F.W.I.O. President, Mrs. Clarence Diamond, speaker. It was a family affair with the husbands and sons attending.

The birthday cake was cut by President, Mrs. Viola Lawson and the first Vice-President of 50 years ago, Mrs. Eva McCartney. Mrs. Ruth Papple, London Area Vice-President, chaired the Saturday evening celebration.

Old photos took the audience back through the years, while Mrs. Helen MacKenzie reminisced about W.I. activities and projects stating that the W.I. has lobbied locally for everything from public restrooms to high quality movies.



Williamsburg W.I., Dundas District, sponsored a quilt show in the Williamsburg schoolhouse. One of the quilts on display is shown by L-r back row—Hilda Whittaker and Jean Casselman; front row—Ruth Hogaboam and Alma Strader.