

THE BELMONT WOMEN'S INSTITUTE IS ORGANIZED

The Belmont Women's Institute of East Peterborough was organized in the township hall, November 24, 1915, by Miss N. V. Powell of Whitby, assisted by Mrs. C. Macoun of Campbellford.

Mrs. John A. Sexsmith was elected president, an office she held until April, 1926. Other officers were: Vice-President, Mrs. Harry Tinney, Mrs. James Freeman; Secretary-Treasurer, Miss Margaret Peoples; Directors, Mrs. Joseph Seabrooke, Mrs. George Smith, Miss H. Sexsmith; Auditors, Mrs. C. Rylott, Mrs. William E. Anderson.

The first meeting was held at the home of Mrs. W.E. Anderson. At this first meeting, a resolution proposed that a rural school fair be organized in the township of Belmont in 1916. This was the beginning of the rural school fair held annually in the town park which for many years to follow, attracted large crowds.

Later, during the first year of the Institute, the post of secretary-treasurer was filled by Mrs. Joseph Seabrooke due to the absence of Miss Margaret Peoples. Mrs. Seabrooke held this office for twenty-three years with the exception of one year.