

# Detailed Record Of District Kept By Westwood Woman

When Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless of Stoney Creek, Ont., started a movement 50 years ago "to improve conditions of home and community and keep alive the spirit of patriotism" for the rural women of

Canada, her dreams spread farther than she had planned.

Today, the Women's Institute is Empire-wide. Her aims were advanced another step by Lady Susan Tweedsmuir when she was chataleine of Government House in Ottawa. She campaigned for the keeping of community records by responsible women and now, 20 years later, some splendid scrap-books are to be found in any number of rural centres.

One of the finest books of this type is being kept by the Westwood Branch of the Institute by honorary president Mrs. Jane Thompson.

Their first branch president, she has lived in the community for the past 83 years. She is extremely alert to the value of the rural record. Her enthusiasm and fine selection of material would lead one to believe that it is a ruling passion with her.

## FRIENDLY GROUP

The heavy leather-bound ledger has as its hand-drawn title page, "Cleich, Cleich, Clumpti," translated as the "Friendly, Friendly Group," or the Westwood Branch. With a fine touch of the historical, colored pictures of all British monarchs from George IV follow next. This fits in with the founding of the village, 1820, when the land was purchased from Oliver Church of Lot 4, Concession 4, Burleigh Township. (Church descendants still live in the Mount Julian-Haultain district.)

The village and its Post Office was known as "Asphodel" until 1861 when it was changed to "Westwood". This information is shown in a list of Postmasters and their respective terms from 1836 to date. A random selection of interesting records follow:

Old maps of the township and village and an original pencil sketch of the former John Powell home by the Rev. M. A. Farrar.

Story and picture of the district's oldest resident, Mrs. Robert Harris, who died at the age of 103 years.

late as 1904 when a massive elm was felled on the farm of Patrick Fallen. Its eight-foot butt took teams of choppers two days to cut their way through it and the huge chunk was transported by four-horse teams to the railway at Norwood. It was shipped to the St. Louis World Fair where it was viewed by thousands of people.

The story of the widow Margaret Walker Cardwell of County Antrim, Ireland, and her experiences as district mid-wife was elaborated on by Mrs. Thompson, one of "her" children.

The purchase of 20 cords of wood by the School Board for \$17 . . . The obituary notice of township assessor, Modest Elm-hirst . . . the Westwood Cricket Club that beat Peterborough in 1879 . . . Pictures and stories of district men who fought in the Rebellion of 1837, the Fenian Raids, the North-West Rebellion, the Boer War and the two World Wars, and of those who didn't return.

The entries are too numerous to mention but are vital information to Westwood's history, nevertheless. The last additions that are now being sorted and pasted into the scrapbook are this year's newspaper stories of the ancient Indian village sites at Cameron's Point on Rice Lake.

"That will certainly give the Township of Asphodel an ancient background," said Mrs. Thompson as she wielded her paste brush. "I hope I can get hold of the complete archaeological report for my files."

## Mr. and Mrs. Earl Dafoe 25 Years Married

On Friday evening of last week about 200 friends and relatives gathered at the Havelock Town Hall to celebrate the 25th Silver wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Earl Dafoe.

The evening was spent in dancing. Mr. Lorne Hornsby made the presentation of many beautiful gifts, and Mr. and Mrs. Dafoe thanked all for coming and for the lovely gifts. Lunch was then served.

Friends were present from Trenton, Lakefield, Peterboro, Toronto, Bowmanville, Campbellford, Morganston, Harold, and also from England.