

## Belmont Women's Institute Observes 50th Anniversary <sup>Nov. 1965</sup>

The Belmont Women's Institute celebrated its 50th Anniversary Tuesday afternoon in the Havelock Legion Hall with representatives from Trent River, Warsaw, Hall's Glen, Havelock, Norwood, Westwood, Keene, Selwyn, South Smith, Buckhorn, Chandos and Nephton branches as guests. The tables were attractively decorated with the Institute colours of blue and gold, and large potted yellow mums were used to decorate the hall. Large golden candles flanked the large anniversary cake suitably decorated with white and gold.

President Mrs. Horace King presided and extended a welcome to all visitors, former members and past presidents. Reeve Walter VanSteenburgh spoke briefly extending his welcome to all who came to honour the Belmont Women's Institute, and mentioned that since approval has been received from the Dept. of Highways and the Centennial Comm., \$5100. will be spent in renovating the Township Hall.

Mrs. John Beatty sang "A Chain of Golden Memories" and "This the 50th Anniversary."

One minute's silence was observed for all departed members and "Blest be the tie that binds" was sung.

District President Mrs. Howard Hamilton of Hall's Glen extended the District's and her personal congratulations.

Several favourite hymns were sung with Mrs. Wm. Anderson at the piano and Mrs. Wm. Smith playing the harmonica.

Reynolds of Apsley, formerly Mac Ketchen, and Mrs. Hazel Hartin. The other charter members, Mrs. J. Longmuir, Mrs. L. Keene, Mrs. Jas. McMillan and Mrs. Wm. Hinds (formerly May Clark) were unable to be present due to ill health. Corsages were presented to the charter members and to the 16 past presidents who were present, and a corsage with a piece of the anniversary cake were sent to the charter members and past presidents who were unable to be present.

During the years the amount of work accomplished is outstanding. Large bales of quilts and good clothing were sent to the fire sufferers in Northern Ontario; 90 feather pillows and many bales were sent to the Red Cross. In November, 1916, 16 boxes were sent to the local soldiers overseas, each one containing home knit socks and other warm articles of clothing. Yarn and flannelette were purchased, pyjamas made and sent through the Canadian Red Cross while the knitted articles were sent direct to the district soldiers overseas. In October, 1917, parcels were sent to the value of \$60.00, each one valued at \$4.00, this when \$4.00 meant as much money as \$10. does now. \$300. in cash was sent to the British and Canadian Red Cross and \$60 to the Navy League. The late Miss Alice Sexsmith knitted 120 pairs of socks and 16 helmets as well as many other articles. The late Mrs. Jos. Seabrook knitted more than 100 pairs of socks,