

many of them the long seaman's socks. Letters were written by the Secretary to the bereaved parents who lost sons in the First World War.

Mrs. Donald Elmhirst read a history of the Branch which was organized on November 24, 1915 in the Belmont Township Hall. Miss N. V. Powell of Whitby was chairman and Mrs. C. Macoun of Campbellford assisted in the organization. There were 20 members enrolled and Mrs. John A. Sexsmith was elected president. Other officers elected were: 1st Vice President, Mrs. H. Tinney; 2nd Vice President, Mrs. James Freeman; Secretary - Treasurer, Miss Maggie Peoples; Directors, Mrs. Joseph Seabrook, Mrs. Geo. Smith, Miss Hattie Sexsmith; Auditors, Mrs. M. Rylott and Mrs. Wm. Anderson. Scrutineers for the election were Miss Mae Ketchen and Miss Maggie Peoples

Mrs. Sexsmith held the office of president until 1926. Her husband was elected and served for a number of years as federal member of Parliament for the then riding of East Peterborough and it was largely through her efforts that the Institute was organized.

Miss Maggie Peoples was married and moved away within a month of the organization, then Mrs. Joseph Seabrook was elected to the position of Secretary, an office she held for 23 years.

Three of the seven charter members were present: Mrs. W. Anderson, at whose home the first meeting was held, Mrs. J.

The grounds of the Township Hall have been landscaped, and one maple tree planted in the name of each township son who died overseas in the first war. Most of these trees are still growing and are beautiful shade trees. The men planted the trees while the Institute members held a clean-up bee inside the hall. The application of soap and water and paint soon made the hall more presentable. A kitchen was built, cupboards and sink installed, stove, dishes and silverware purchased.

Many needy families have been helped as well as fire sufferers. For many years a school fair was sponsored which was held in Havelock. It attracted large crowds, each rural school competing against the other to win the most points and win the coveted award, a shield on which the name of the winning school was placed.

During the Second World War a large number of quilts were sent to the Red Cross, and socks, gloves and sweaters were also made.

Mr. and Mrs. Jos. Seabrook were honoured on 2 occasions: on their 50th wedding anniversary and on

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