

History of the Bruce Centre District W. I.:

The following article is copied in part, from the Minute Book of the East Bruce District Women's Institute, and is dated April 26th, 1956:

"The President, Mrs. Jasper presided".....

"The dividing of the present East Bruce District was proposed and discussed. It was then moved by Mrs. Maundrell, seconded by Mrs. McVittie that a recommendation be made to the Provincial Board that this District be divided into 2 separate District Organizations. Carried.

"Executive Meeting, May 24th, 1956:

"A special meeting of the Executive of East Bruce District Women's Institute was held at the home of the President, Mrs. Jasper, at Mildmay, on Thursday, May 24th, at 8 p.m., with 14 members present. Also present was Mrs. R.J. McKellar, the F.W.I.O. Board Member for this sub-division (12).

"This meeting was called on receipt of a communication from Mrs. McPhatter, F.W.I.O. President, advising that the District Officers proceed under the guidance of the Board Director, with the details of dividing 31 Branches of the existing East Bruce District into 2 District Organizations, as they consider will best suit the needs of the Branches involved.

"The following recommendations were passed:
1. That 12 Senior Branches and 2 Junior Institutes be grouped to form the Organization to be known as Centre Bruce District W. I., namely ; Allenford, Arkwright, Brucedale, Burgoyne, Elsinore, Southampton, South Saugeen, Tara, Port Elgin, Underwood, West Arran, White School, Arran-Tara Jr., and Port Elgin Jr.

2. That 14 Senior Branches and 3 Junior Institutes comprise the Organization which will continue to be known as East Bruce District W.I., namely - Bradley, Chesley, Elora Road North, Dobbinton, Malcolm, Mildmay, Mount Hope, Paisley, Finkerton, Solway, South Line Brant, Walkerton Sr., Walkerton Evening, Williscroft, Mildmay Jr., Paisley Jr., and Walkerton Jr.

"It was moved by Mrs. Teasdale, and seconded by Mrs. Maundrell, that this meeting appoint a Convenor of Nominations for each recommended District to prepare a tentative slate of officers and present this at the Annual Meeting. Carried.

"These appointees are Mrs. Maundrell of Southampton for Centre Bruce District, and Mrs. W. Jacklin of Chesley for East Bruce District.

"The meeting adjourned on motion of Mrs. Maxwell and Mrs. Cameron.

"President Mrs. Grace Jasper.
"Secretary Mrs. Anne Cornish".

The following article is copied from the Minute Book of the Centre Bruce District W.I., and is dated June 6th, 1956, Walkerton, Ont.

"The District of Centre Bruce Women's Institutes was formed at the Annual Meeting of the East Bruce District, on June 6th, 1956, held in the town of Walkerton. The Centre Bruce District Organization is comprised of the following 15 Branches - Allenford, Arkwright, Brucedale, Burgoyne, Elsinore, Mount Hope, Port Elgin, Southampton, South Saugeen, Tara, West Arran, White School, Underwood, Arran-Tara Jr., and Port Elgin Jr.

"The following is the Executive Officers elected for the year 1956 - 57:

President - Mrs. O. C. Gateman, Southampton.
1st Vice - Mrs. Wilmer Ribey, R.R.4, Paisley.
2nd Vice - Mrs. H. McDougald, R.R.3, Tara.
3rd Vice - Mrs. Don McKay, R.R.3, Tiverton.
Sec.-Treas. - Mrs. Gordon Crawford, R.R.1, Southampton.
Federated Representative - Mrs. A. Maundrell, Southampton,
Alternate Representative - Mrs. Murray Chappell, R.R.1, Port Elgin.
Area Delegate - Mrs. James Wallace, Port Elgin.

Standing Committee Convenors:

Agr. & Can. Ind. - Mrs. Alex. MacDougall, R. R. 2, Turners.
Cit. & Education - Mrs. Percy Patchell, R. R. 1, Allenford.
Comm. Act. & Public Relations - Mrs. R. Scott R. R. 2, Port Elgin.
Health & Home Ec. - Mrs. Jack Pierson, R. R. 2, Port Elgin.
Hist. Res. & Current Events - Mrs. I. Stewart, R. R. 4, Paisley.
Resolutions - Mrs. Wallace Gammie, R. R. 2, Tara.
Jr. Inst. Convenor - Miss Doris Barclay, Tara.
Auditors - Mrs. Adam Maas and Mrs. C. Doll, R. R. 1, Southampton."

"The President of Mount Hope Branch expressed the desire of the members to belong to the Centre Bruce District, and this correction was made, being the only change from the set-up recommended at the Executive Meeting.

"It was then moved by Mrs. Maundrell and seconded by Mrs. H. McDougald that this division be accepted and established. Carried."

In passing, we wish to note that the District will in future be referred to as "Bruce Centre".