

Dobbinton Women's Institute

The Dobbinton Women's Institute was organized in February 1951 by District President, Mrs. J.J. McKinnon of Chesley and District Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. Frank Kennedy of Tara. The thirty-four members were all rural ladies living along the eastern portions on Concessions 10, 12, and 14, Elderslie Township, Bruce County.

The first President was Mrs. Kenneth Farrow; first Secretary-Treasurer-Mrs. Robert Atkinson and District Director- Mrs. Cecil Farrow.

In 1953-1954, a member of this Branch, Mrs. Clifford Dudgeon served on the Bruce County Museum committee and again in 1956-57.

This Branch was very active for a few years supplying social needs to the Community it represented. They remembered the sick and shut-ins, put hydro in the Orange Hall at Dobbinton; supported F.W.I.O. projects like A.C.W.W. fund for 1953, Watt Memorial Fund; also the Bruce East projects of Television for the Ladies' Lounge at Bruce Lea Haven, Home for the Aged at Walkerton and the Bruce County Historical Museum, Southampton.

It is with regret that a Branch starting out so strongly found it necessary to disband in March 1959. The last year of activity showed membership fees paid for fourteen but not enough interest shown to secure officers. The last recorded officers were: President: Mrs. George Bailey; Secretary-Treasurer: Mrs. Elmer Walker and District Director: Mrs. Joseph Thomson.

The above information was compiled from District records by Mrs. Art Teasdale, District Curator, Bruce East W.I. 1967.