

to the Great Beyond. So that it was with a touch of sadness that, in planning our program tonight, we realized that there were only two of the charter members left. But the two of us are not entirely alone. As you will have noticed in the introductions given by our president, we have two members still with us who joined later in that first year, Mrs. Milton Stewart and Mrs. R. A. Stewart, and two others who are still members, but of a neighbor Institute, Mrs. John Watt and Mrs. John Wright. In addition, we have one quarter-century member, who joined in 1946 - our new district president, Mrs. J. A. Young.

The following year there was a break in the membership, when a new branch was formed at Stewartville, and some women from that locality, who had been loyal and active members in the Glasgow group, left to take offices in what was then their home branch. The loss was felt keenly, but it was felt that there was a need for two branches in this corner of the district, and both are still carrying on as good friends and neighbors, as Glasgow and Stewartville have always done and it is hoped always will.

Through the years that have passed, much interest has been taken in community work and many worthy causes. Exhibits have been entered in local fairs, and short courses sponsored. The Glasgow branch has been especially interested in the production of stage entertainments and plays, which its members feel have not only been a means of enjoyment for their audiences and a source of revenue, but even more have been of great value and satisfaction to those taking part. As well, members have been always ready and willing to accept offices on the district board when asked. Mrs. W. H. Hamilton served as district secretary from 1951 - 1956. Other members have acted as district conveners and on committees, and as I have already mentioned, our present district president, Mrs. J. A. Young, is a Glasgow member. A Tweedsmuir history has been kept up, under the skilled hand of Mrs. Christine Carswell, which makes interesting reading for the present generation and those who will come after.

A fine community spirit has been built up by this branch, with everyone interested in Women's Institute work. Even those who feel unable to take part as active members are always ready and willing to lend a helping hand when the need arises. This, it would seem, exemplifies in a humble way the last lines of the Mary Stewart Collect:

"May we strive to touch and to know the great human heart,  
common to us all; and O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind."

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