

LOCHWINNOCH FARM FORUM

By Mrs. Arthur Storie

The Lochwinnoch Farm Forum was organized on December ⁷~~13~~, 1941, by Nat Lindsay and Alex Jamieson of Renfrew at a meeting held in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Storie. Those present were: Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Storie; Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Storie; Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Lindsay; Mr. & Mrs. R. M. MacGregor and Mr. & Mrs. Roland Phillips.

The date of organization should be easily remembered, as the broadcast that evening was interrupted by the grim announcement that the Japs had bombed Pearl Harbour.

Meetings were held each Monday night and attendance was good. In the March report in 1953 there were 24 members with an average attendance of 20 - and it was reported that in 12 years only one or two meetings were missed.

On the start forum members travelled in sleigh loads over unplowed roads to meet in homes dimly lit with kerosene ^{lamps}. Now with practically all roads snow-plowed and cars active in winter and with all the advantages and improvements hydro has brought, the Forum has sunk into oblivion.

Over the years, some of our speakers and entertainment reads as follows: Mr. Walter Ford, retired farmer; Mr. Alva Rintoul, Vice-Pres. of Hog Producers Association; (guests of Glasgow Forum); Mr. A. A. McLean, Q.C., of Arnprior; Mr. Gordon Gibson and Mr. H. Williams of the Regional Hydro Office, Cobden; Dr. G. B. Burwell of Renfrew on Health and Hospital Insurance; Mr. Chas. McInnes of the Hog Producers Association, (shared with Glasgow); Mr. Charlie George, Manager of the Royal Bank, Renfrew; Mr. Leonard Laventure, Co-operators Insurance Agent on Farm Insurance; Mr. John Butler, Associate Agricultural Representative; Mr. Allan McNab, Renfrew Barrister, legal proceedings pertaining to farmers.

Films were shown by the following: Mr. Stone of Arnprior (had Dewars as guests); by N. E. and Mrs. Lindsay after being dinner guests in their home; Mr. Jimmie Woods, field man for Purina Feed Company; by Leonard Laventure, and illustrated talk on North West Territories; By Bill Connery (three National Film Board pictures, with Castleford as guests).

Other Social Events: Annual Forum Picnics held at Nat Lindsay's cottage which also included others outside Forum in the community. A pot luck supper and skit rehearsal in the church basement. A house party in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Mervin Miller was a rather unusual event. The entertainment and elaborate supper was provided and served by the men, who even washed the dishes.

A social evening at Christmas time in the home of Mr. & Mrs. Lindsay Storie. At Christmas time, 1952, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Ford celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary, and the Forum made a presentation and assisted with their "At Home" celebration.