1962

History of Lochwinnoch Womens Institute

A branch of the Women's Institute was first organized in Lochwinnoch Church in 1913 and was among the first branch of the W. I. to be organized in Renfrew County.

The membership was drawn from Castleford, Horton, Goshen, and Lochwinnoch and carried on successfully until membership grew too strongly towards Castleford, when it was felt by the Goshen members that the distance was too far to travel to Castleford to attend the meetings.

Travelling in those days was not by automobile, but by horse and buggy. In fact, many women often walked to attend the meetings.

When a branch was organized in Goshen on September 17, 1914, the original branch changed the name from Lochwinnoch to Castleford as the majority of members lived in that community where there is still a very active branch.

The minutes of that first organization meeting showed the following officers: President - Mrs. Alex Johnston, Castleford; 1st Vice Pres. - Mrs. Jas. Miller, Jr., Goshen; Secretary- Mrs. Wm. Neil, Castleford. The organizing officer was Mrs. Jas. Stringer of Burnstown.

Re-oranization:

The present branch of the W. I. was organized on May 15th, 1939, in Lochwinnoch School Hall with District Officers Mrs. Walter Galbraith, presiding and Mrs. John E. Miller assisting as secretary. Mrs. Galbraith explained the aims and objects of the W. I. and installed the following officers:

President - Mrs. Lindsay Storie
1st Vice Pres. - Mrs. Morris Storie
2nd Vice Pres. - Miss Janet McGregor (now Mrs. (Rev.) Walter Brett)
Sec. Treas. - Mrs. John Normand (now residing in Renfrew)
Branch Directors - Mrs. Jas. F. Storie, Mrs. Clifford Phillips
Miss Frances Storie (Mrs. George Lavallee)
Auditors - Miss Phyllis Young (Local teacher, now Mrs. Bond of Ottawa)
Mrs. R. J. McGregor

FIVE members who joined this and are now deceased are: Mrs. Wm. Phillips, Miss Rose Phillips, Mrs. Edward Quast, Mrs. John McGregor and Mrs. Jas. Early.

The members were very proud of the Girls Club Work in our community and a great deal of the credit is due Mrs. Robert M. McGregor, under whose capable leadership the girls won special honours. This has been an asset along educational lines as well as the social life in the community.

The members have always been interested in the work of our local school. Working in harmony with the teachers and co-operating