

when other institutes were organized in the township to "Stoney Creek Womens' Institute and thus the first Womens' Institute was founded.

Coming back to our own branch, we find that it was organized in Lucknow in February 1908, that is thirty nine years ago last February by Miss Laura Rose, now Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen of Ottawa. For thirty five years she lectured at the summer meetings in Ontario and organized Womens' Institutes in several provinces. It is doubtful if any one person has contributed more to the development of the organization than Mrs. Stephen. Our motto "For Home and Country" which was chosen on the advice of Mrs. Hoodless was Mrs. Stephen's suggestion. It is interesting to note that for twenty nine years the Womens' Institutes of Ontario had men as Superintendents.

Mrs. Garnet Armstrong, now of Toronto was the first president of the Lucknow branch. She held office for one year and was succeeded by Mrs. W. E. MacDonald who held the office as far as we know for six or seven years and was succeeded by Mrs. Moorhouse Mitchell. In 1918 Mrs. Ewen McKenzie was elected president and it is from that date that we have the minutes to go by. Following Mrs. McKenzie was Mrs. R. T. Phillips. Then Mrs. K. A. Gollan, Mrs. J.E. Agnew, Mrs. Wm. Murdie Mrs. J.L. McMillan, Mrs. George Andrew, Mrs. W.J. Douglas, Mrs. Charles Stewart, Mrs. Temple Clark, Mrs. W.B. Anderson, Mrs. G. Ostrander and Mrs. Philip Stewart. Our present presiding officer is Mrs. Armstrong Wilson.

During our thirty nine years it has been our privilege to take part in many worthwhile projects. The Lucknow branch was responsible for an agitation for better sanitary conditions in the schools and backed it up with contributions of money which was raised from concerts, booths etc. Some twenty five years ago Lucknow branch undertook the education of an Armenian boy at a cost of \$1000.00. They had the privilege of naming the boy and the name given was