

## HISTORY OF THE PURPLE VALLEY INSTITUTE

It was organized on the evening of December 6, 1934 by the District President, Mrs. A. B. Samells of Allenford and by Mrs. Ethel Gilbert of Wiarton, District Secretary, at the home of Mrs. Charles H. Gilbert.

There were fifteen ladies present. The following officers were elected:

President	-	Mrs. Herb Gilbert
1st Vice	-	Mrs. Wm. Talbot
2nd Vice	-	Mrs. George Hyatt
Secretary Treas.	-	Mrs. Russel Holler
Assistant Secty.	-	Mrs. Samuel Pruder

It was decided to hold the meetings the second Thursday of every month. The first meeting was held at Mrs. Talbot's home on the Kilbourn farm at MacIvor settlement. At this meeting the MacIvor community joined with the Purple Valley Institute.

The following spring (May 27) the first District Meeting at Park Head was attended by: Mrs. Thos. Coveney, Mrs. Russell Holler, Mrs. George Hyatt, Mrs. Herb Gilbert, Mrs. Wm. Talbot, Mrs. Vesta Urbshott, Mrs. Chas. H. Gilbert, Mrs. Ben Howe, Mrs. Dalton Wright, Miss Eva MacLean. Mrs. Talbot and Miss MacLean, the "chauffeurs".

Membership has always been at least thirty till the outbreak of World War II when some families moved away and some members entered the services.

The school sections of MacIvor and Purple Valley compose the Purple Valley Institute. Agriculture is the chief industry of the community. Sheep and cattle grazing form a chief branch of agriculture. Lumber and fuel is obtained from the forest found on almost every farm as is the maple products ; sugar and syrup. Many excellent fish are procured by the community from the Indians of the adjoining Cape Croker Reserve.

The community can be divided into two settlements: (1) The Purple Valley (2) The MacIvor.

### THE PURPLE VALLEY SETTLEMENT: (as compiled by Mrs. T. Coveney)

It has been pretty well established that the late Peter Cameron with his wife and family were the first persons to settle in what is now known as Purple Valley (1870); their first home was for many years on what is now known as the Johnston place. A few years later they moved to the farm where the youngest son, Donald Cameron and his wife now reside. There Peter Cameron and his wife reared their family and cleared and cultivated the farm on which they lived until