

A HISTORY OF KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH C. G. I. T. read at their fortieth Anniversary Banquet

May 5, 1966

"As a Canadian girl in training, under the leadership of Jesus, it is my purpose to Cherish Health, Seek Truth, Know God, Serve Others, and thus, with His help become the girl He would have me be."

Our records show that C. G. I. T. was organized in Knox Presbyterian Church, Ripley, in the year 1926, under the leadership of Miss Mary Hannah MacKenzie (Mrs. R. Martyn). "Goforth C. G. I. T." was the name by which this Group was known. It had a membership of nineteen. Miss MacKenzie served seven years as leader.

It was not until 1927 the church school room was built and up until that time C. G. I. T. meetings were held in the homes of the members. Goforth C. G. I. T. made quilts for sale, had a table at the annual bazaar. They also put on a play. The proceeds were spent on church furnishings and kitchen aids. In 1927 they purchased and hemstitched the linen for the Communion table, and in 1928 purchased two chairs to complete the Communion Service of the church. Tea towels were embroidered and saucers donated for kitchen use. Cash donations were made to missions. During this period Mrs. J. D. Bryce with assistants Mrs. George W. Connors and Mrs. Alex MacLeod were the leaders.

Following is a list of leaders as recorded:-

1934 - Mrs. Robert McCormick
1935 - Mrs. Robert McCormick, Mrs. Ellis Gossel
1936 - Mrs. W. D. MacLeod, Miss Mayme Bell
1937 - Miss Mayme Bell, Mrs. Allan MacAuley
1939 - 1940 Bertha MacLeod (Mrs. J. Napper), Gladys Huston, (Mrs. D. Cameron)
1952 - Mrs J. A. MacDonald served with leaders from Anglican & United churches
1953 - Mrs. (Rev.) J. R. MacDonald, Florence MacDonald
1954 - Mrs. Lovell Huston, Mrs. Geo. MacLennan
1955 - 1958 Mrs. R. Bradley (Mrs. A. Stillwell), Mrs. J. D. MacKay
1958 - 1959 Mrs. J. D. MacKay, Kathryn Cameron
1959 - 1960 Mrs. J. D. MacKay, Mrs. Geo. MacLean
1960 - 1961 Mrs. Geo. MacLean, Mrs. David Murray
1961 - Mrs. David Murray
1962 - 1966 Mrs. David Murray, Mrs. Wm. McCreath

During these years the girls, under the faithful guidance of their leaders have endeavoured to follow the aim and purpose of our program. We have contributed to many and varied projects of our program. We have contributed to many and varied projects relating to our obligations in the church, and with a concern for those in need in the world about us.

We have always enjoyed our work as a group, such as raking leaves, washing the Communion Service, folding Tuberculosis seals, serving at teas, and sometimes wedding dinners.

It is always a special privilege to go carol singing for the shut-ins at Christmas time; Then, too, our candle light service at that season is always a special occasion.

Perhaps the highlight of our year is the mother and daughter banquet at which time our mothers and grandmothers are our guests.

Tonight at our fortieth anniversary it is a special delight to be entertaining all former leaders who were able to accept our invitation to celebrate with us.

We have been reviewing the years of work in our own church and we are proud of the part former C.G.I.T. members are now taking in the active work of our church. We are confident that with God's grace and guidance our program will continue to bring girls into closer contact with Christ and His Church; and will help them become the girls He would have them be.

FOLLOWING IS A LIST OF OFFICERS FROM 1966 to 1967

March 1967 - Donna Stillwell led the C.G.I.T. girls for four years.

1971 - 72 . Mrs. Norine MacKay, Mrs. June Elliott

1973 - 74 Mrs. Adeline Hackett, Mrs. Norine MacKay. By 1974 the membership was down to four. Because of this they joined St. Andrew's C.G.I.T. group. During 1970 the following C. G. I. T. members took turns helping with the girls' study periods:- Florence MacDonald, Mrs. Gladys Cameron, Mrs. Annie Mackinnon, Mrs. W. J. MacKay and Mrs. Effie Sutherland, which was a change from the regular routine.

In 1973 a flowering plant was sent to the family of Mary Hannah Martyn, in loving memory of her service to C.G.I.T.