

THE HISTORY OF SOUTH SAUGEEN WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

After the close of World War 2, and the intense activities of local "War Efforts" and Red Cross groups had ground to a stop, the ladies of School Sections #4, #5, and #6 Saugeen Township felt themselves at a loss for a community effort of some description. They keenly missed the happy

fellowship they had enjoyed at their regular meetings, and that feeling of "working together"-ness, that knits a community into the garment we call "Canadianism". So it was, that in June 1947, under the leadership and inspiration of Mrs. Mel. Black, the South Saugeen Women's Institute came into being.

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The following article is copied from the Minute Book, and describes the organizational meeting of our Branch:

"On the afternoon of June 25th, 1947, the ladies of this district met at the home of Mrs. Mel. Black, for the purpose of organizing a branch of the Women's Institute.

"Mrs. Thomas Darlington, District President, presided.

"Mrs. Charles Thomas, District Secretary, was also present. We opened the meeting with community singing, after which Mrs. Darlington gave a short talk on Institute work. This was followed by the election of Officers:

"The following Officers were elected:

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|---------------------|------------------------|--|
| President           | Mrs. Mel. Black.       | <u>Convenors of Standing Committees:</u> |
| 1st Vice-President  | Mrs. James Brunton.    | Agriculture & Can. Industries            |
| 2nd " "             | Mrs. James Cluley.     | Mrs. Harold Sutherland.                  |
| Secretary-Treasurer | Mrs. Arthur Reoch.     | Citizenship & Education                  |
| District Director   | Mrs. Wes. Howe.        | Mrs. Grant Clazie.                       |
| Institute Directors | Mrs. Moffatt Jamieson. | Historical Research                      |
|                     | Mrs. Thos. Lawrie.     | Home Economics                           |
|                     | Mrs. Howard Nelson     | Mrs. A. McCulloch.                       |
|                     |                        | Social Welfare                           |
|                     |                        | Mrs. N. Schildroth.                      |
|                     |                        | Publicity                                |
|                     |                        | Mrs. R. Turnbull.                        |
|                     |                        | Pianist                                  |
|                     |                        | Mrs. A. Cluley.                          |
|                     |                        | Ass't Pianist                            |
|                     |                        | Mrs. J. Brunton.                         |
|                     |                        | Auditors                                 |
|                     |                        | Mrs. Jas. Reoch                          |
|                     |                        | Mrs. Art. Schwass.                       |
|                     |                        | Press Correspondent                      |
|                     |                        | Mrs. R. Turnbull.                        |

"We decided to name our Institute "South Saugeen", and to hold our meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 2.30 p.m.

"It was decided that we hold our meetings for July and August in the school houses of S. S. #4 and S. S. #5. Homes were offered for the meetings throughout the year.

"Mrs. Chas. Thomas then read a paper, which we all enjoyed.

"Our meeting closed by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison.

"Mrs. Black then served a delicious lunch and cup of tea.

"Mrs. Thomas took pictures of those present, and we all left for home, feeling this meeting had been worthwhile".

"Attest - - Aileen Reoch, Secretary.  
Helen Black, President."



Present at the 1st meeting.