

Guests At Wilton Grove WI Celebration



Members of Wilton Grove Women's Institute celebrated the 50th anniversary of the branch at a special meeting held yesterday afternoon at the home of Mrs. Thomas Elliot. Guest speaker at the meeting was Colin McCorquodale who spoke on the early history of Westminster Township. Left

to right: Mrs. J. A. MacGregor, president of the branch; Mrs. Margaret Weatherston, one of the first members 50 years ago; Mrs. Alburn Gracey, a life member; Mr. McCorquodale, and Mrs. Elda Beattie, life member.

Wilton Grove WI Branch Marks 50th Anniversary

WILTON GROVE, Oct. 21 — George Laidlaw and Mrs. J. Casolito.

Adorned in hats of ancient vintage, members of Wilton Grove Women's Institute reminisced about the past today as they attended a special meeting marking the 50th anniversary of the branch at the home of Mrs. Thomas Elliot.

Guest speaker at the meeting was Colin McCorquodale who discussed the history of Westminster Township.

Mr. McCorquodale, whose mother's family were among the pioneers of Westminster Township, described how the area was built up and mentioned names of many people who contributed to the growth of the community.

"Basically," he said, "the ideals of those early pioneers were what has built Canada and the Canadian race. A community like this one is a good example of how our nation came into being. We have shortcomings but, in reviewing the past, we can feel proud of the courage and ideals of those who sought Canada for a home, and humbly hope that we in turn will measure up to them."

Wilton Grove WI was formed in January 1909, with 11 members, the first president being Mrs. Walter Laidlaw. Mrs. J. K. Laidlaw, daughter-in-law of Mrs. George Laidlaw, the first vice-president convened the anniversary meeting.

Corsages were presented by Mrs. Wilson Laidlaw to two life members — Mrs. Elda Beattie and Mrs. Alburn Gracey, and to two charter members — Mrs.

George Laidlaw and Mrs. J. Casolito.

The minutes of the first meeting in 1909 were read by Mrs. Arnold Beattie and Mrs. J. A. MacGregor, present president, told of some of the Institute activities in its early years.

Mrs. Wallace Laidlaw explained the motto, "Forty is the old age of youth — fifty the youth of old age."

At the social hour, tea and birthday cake were served.