

Saltfleet Women's Institute 50th anniversary

By Ruby Williams

The 50th anniversary of Saltfleet's women's Institute was held in the Fireside Room of Stoney Creek Church on Wednesday, May 26.

Guests were welcomed at the Golden Anniversary party by the President Mrs. A. Oswald and past presidents Mrs. F. Felker

and Mrs. J.E. Jones. In charge of the guest book, where 81 names were registered, were Mrs. W. Turk and Mrs. W. Zinzer. While guests were assembling, popular music of the past was played by Mrs. R. Williams.

The President, wearing a lovely corsage, a gift of the members of Saltfleet W.I.,

opened the meeting with the singing of the Ode, repeating the Mary Stewart Collect and the Lord's Prayer.

It was the pleasure of the President to welcome past members of Saltfleet W.I. the District Officers and members from the Branches of Wentworth South District Women's Institutes. Two minutes silence was ob-

served for departed members followed by an impressive solo, Beyond the Sunset, sung by Mrs. L. Wilson.

Mrs. Oswald also expressed her pleasure for the presence of Miss Lottie Jones, a present member and a life member, her sister Miss Hattie Jones, a present member who is a patient of

St. Peter's Centre, Hamilton, also their brother Tom Jones of British Columbia, who so proudly told us that their mother, Mrs. Al Jones, was a Charter Member of Stoney Creek Women's Institute.

The President took as her theme for the program - Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow. Mrs. Oswald called on the secretary, Mrs. E.J. Corman, who gave an interesting resume of the work that had been done by Saltfleet W.I. over the years. She then gave the roll call of the first meeting in 1926. Past members were then asked to stand and give their maiden names and to speak on their memories of Saltfleet W.I. Dorothy Thomas (Mrs. W. Lang) was the only charter member present. She served as secretary treasurer several years.

The President then told of the forming of the Branch. It started out in 1925 when the Department of Agriculture held a three month short course for girls on Home Economics, sewing, millinery, rapid calculation, public speaking and writing. It was held in the old Cheyne Church. In 1926, May 26, they formed the first Junior Institute organized by W.G. Marritt and Miss Olive Langton. The meeting was held at the home of Misses Lazelle and Pearl Krick with 30 girls present. Eleven years later, this Branch was allowed to assume Senior

Status, thus keeping the original organization intact and was known as Saltfleet Women's Institute. The charter members were daughters or relatives of the original members of the Mother Institute. The family of Erland Lee, whose idea culminated in the founding of the Women's Institute, has been actively interested in the Saltfleet Branch.

Saltfleet W.I. was an extremely active group. Some of the activities were quilting bees where by 1959 the members had made 1345 quilts which were given to the Red Cross, Children's Aid and disaster areas. Some were sold. Pearl Krick received a Red Cross pin from the Society for her leadership in this work. The members competed in dramatic contests and won a silver rose bowl, silver cake basket, and a silver cup. A successful street dance was held in 1944 to raise money for jam for Britain in the war years. A huge bingo was held, banquets catered to, held card parties, bake sales and a mammoth cooking school was held in the local theatre.

The Institute was honored when their President of 1959, Mrs. C. Hickmore, was one of three hostesses who was introduced to Queen Elizabeth II on the occasion of her Majesty's visit to Battlefield House.

Mrs. Oswald told her audience that it was an honor for her to be President for this memorable Golden Anniversary. She stated the the W.I. has never turned down a genuine plea for assistance and that we shall go forward with courage and dedication of purpose and hope that Saltfleet Women's Institute will be around for another 50 years.

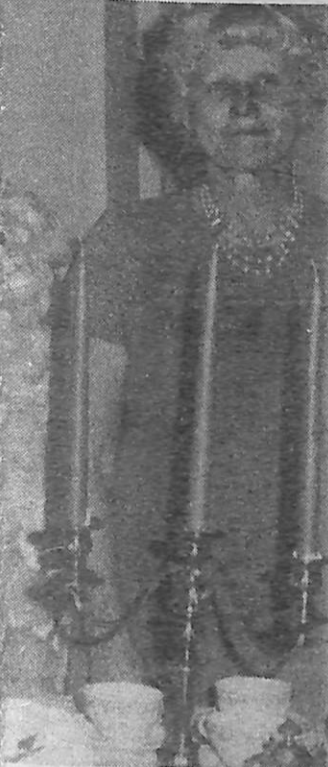
Mrs. D. McKibbin, the new president of Wentworth South District Women's Institute was called on and brought greetings from the District.

The President thanked all the committees for their help on this memorable day. The meeting closed with God Save the Queen, followed by a delightful social hour.

The Fireside Room was beautifully decorated for the occasion. The birthday cake was displayed on a central table with a gold and lace cloth, silver candelabra with blue and gold candles. Pouring tea were the President and Secretary, Mrs. A. Oswald and Mrs. E.J. Corman. Mrs. G. Rush and Mrs. C. Lackhart, Institute members, were the conveners for the delightful lunch served.



Saltfleet W.I. members, from left, Miss Lottie M. Jones, life member; Mrs. Aletha Turk, past president; Mrs. Fred Felker, past president;



Mrs. A.M. Oswald, president; Mrs. J.E. Jones, past president; Mrs. Dorothy Lang, member.



Attending the 50th anniversary of Saltfleet Women's Institute are, from left, President Mrs. A.M. Oswald, Miss Lottie M. Jones, life member of the Saltfleet W.I. and her sister, Hattie I. Jones, long time member of the Saltfleet W.I. and her brother Tom H. Jones.



Saltfleet Women's Institute President, Mrs. A.M. Oswald, centre, takes the first cut in the Institute's 50th anniversary cake assisted by Miss Lottie M. Jones, life member of Saltfleet W.I., on left, and Mrs. J.E. Jones, past president of the Saltfleet W.I.



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Program committee members for the 50th anniversary celebrations which took place on Wednesday afternoon at Stoney Creek United Church are, front left, Saltfleet W.I. President Mrs. A.M. Oswald, Mrs. Ruby Williams and back, Mrs. Eve Wilson, Mrs. Theda Rush, Mrs. Dorothy Lockhart, Mrs. Mary Zinszie, and Mrs. Mary Corman.