

And the topic was plants

by Ruby Williams

The October meeting of Saltfleet Women's Institute held at the home of Mrs. W. Turk was well attended. Mrs. L.A. Wilson, 1st vice president, presided. She welcomed the guests, also members who had not been able to attend lately. She also welcomed Mrs. C. Leavens, one of our members and a past president, who has come back to reside in Stoney Creek after living a few years at Sudbury. Mrs. Wilson also welcomed a new member, Mrs. L. Hurren.

The secretary Mrs. C. Kott read an invitation from Blackheath W.I. to a card party on Nov. 7. The roll call was answered by bringing an old school book. Miss Lottie Jones brought the oldest book which was a reader dated 1869 belonging to her father, Mr. Alva Jones.

Mrs. V. Beachin, curator of the Erland Lee Home, told us that a W.I. member from England was at the home and gave her a 1978 diary of their Women's Institute convention. Mrs. Beachin presented it to our branch.

As Education and Cultural Activities was the theme of the program, Mrs. R. King, the convener, introduced the speaker Miss Martha Veldhuis who is with Veldhuis greenhouses at Dundas. Her family has been in the florist business for a great many years. Her topic was plant culture.

Miss Veldhuis had a very large and beautiful collection of plants on display, especially small cacti. She showed foliage plants that come from many tropical countries, plants that grow in trees, in rock fissures. Two unique plants that were in bloom were the parlour maple with leaves like a maple tree and a Thanksgiving cactus.

Miss Veldhuis expressed her joy at working with flowers and gave us valuable information on the amount of light the different plants need and also the importance of knowing how to water them. In the 1950's Miss Veldhuis was in mission work in northern Ontario, at Thunder Bay.

In her closing remarks she gave a biblical quotation expressing how flowers can be such an important part of our lives; how the giving of one rose can mean so much to someone who is ill.

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THE
REDEEMER
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November 4, 1977
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11:30 a.m.

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