

Evelyn Barber (Montgomery)

## **Mrs Clifford Barber**

Mrs Clifford Barber (nee Evelyn Minnie Amelia Montgomery) was born on May 17, 1912 on Lot 89 of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Concession of Ameliasburg Township in Prince Edward County. Her parents were William Henry Montgomery and Mabel Bertha Weese. Evelyn received all her schooling at the school in the Victoria community.

In June of 1930 Evelyn was married to Clifford Potter Barber of Huffs Island and went there to make her home. Before her marriage she had attended Institute meetings of the Rednersville Branch with her mother, Mrs Henry Montgomery, who was a very active member. As soon as she move to Huffs Island she joined the Mountain View Branch and soon was taking an active part in its activities. Over the years she held the office of Secretary-Treasurer from 1932 to 1934 and the office of President from 1946 to 1949. Also she was convenor of various Standing Committees.

As well as carrying out the duties of a wife and mother and helping on the farm, Evelyn has given generously of her talents and shared them in Institute and church activities. Evelyn was gifted with a lovely voice and frequently sang in choirs as well as singing solo numbers. In addition to encouraging her children in 4H and Junior Farmer activities, she herself was a leader for a number of 4H Girls' Club projects. The Barber home on Huffs Island was the scene of many pleasant gatherings for Institute, church, 4H and Junior Farmer activities as well as family occasions.

Her elder daughter, Marilyn, became a school teacher and now is Mrs Gordon Fox of Bloomfield. Her son, John graduated from O.A.C at Guelph and then studied law at Osgoode Hall. Following post-graduate work at Yale he was appointed Professor of Law heading the Family Law section at Osgoode Hall in Toronto. Jean, her younger daughter, is also a school teacher and married Charles Kingston of Belleville. They now make their home in Ancaster. Evelyn served as District Director of Mountain View Branch from 1953 to 1957 and again from 1962 to 1964. In 1959 she was elected District President for a two year term. In so doing she was the first, and to date the only, member of Mountain View Women's Institute to hold this office. During her Presidency she instigated the establishment of a scholarship to be given to a Prince Edward County 4H Homemaking Club girl to help further her education. This involved a great deal of time and effort. The first award was given in 1965 and the scholarship has been awarded yearly since.

In 1965 in recognition of her valued membership and all her effects on behalf of the Mountain View Branch, Evelyn was made a Life Member. Even through her activities have been numerous at District and Area Levels, she has always been active in her local Branch helping with programs for meetings and other institute gatherings.

In 1969 Evelyn was elected President of the Trent Valley Area for a two year term. During this term she attend the Triennial Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada which was held in Winnipeg.

In 1971 at the Trent Valley Area Convention Evelyn was elected to the position of Provincial Board Member. Even though her home is now in the City of Belleville, Mrs Barber continues to play an active role in the affairs of the Mountain View Women's Institute.

October 19723.....Submitted by Mrs Robert Barber, Mountain View W.I.