

20/8 9/05

community

snapshot" after the May 14, 1913 meeting. Sadly, all records are lost for the five war years from 1914-18.

But as the group moves on, the records tell the story of the time.

In 1918 Marguirite Reid knitted 41 pairs of socks for soldiers. A year later the ladies were urged to exercise their new right to vote, and to support prohibition.

An issue that seems new today, actually surfaced 80 years ago, when the women of the Institute set out to buy equipment to provide hot lunches in schools.

In 1929 Dr. McGlennon lectured 65 members of the group and 18 children on contagious diseases.

The Great Depression brought requests for assistance which they attempted to meet. And World War II saw the women saving tin and papers, arrangements for Christmas cakes to be sent overseas, and support of war charities.

In 1955 the talk was of the atomic bomb

and polio vaccine. Four years later they discussed the proposed designs for the Canadian flag, and drew their

own. Canada's centennial celebration, the new ball diamond at Castleton Public School, support of 4H and pages of other activities dot the records of the dwindling group.

And while some area W. I. groups have folded, the Castleton branch is still chugging along dozen with a members. It s a membership that sometimes goes

back three generations. In 2001, Vivian Welton donated a WI pin that belonged to her mother-in-law, Flossie Welton. Her mother, Mrs. Fred Black, was a charter member and a director in 1915-16.



This snapshot, taken at the home of Mrs. Campbell in 1921 documents most of the members. In front, fem left are - unknown, Mrs. Chas Wolfraim, Mrs. Doug Turney, Mrs. Hervie Welton, Miss Cora Goodrich. Middle row - unknown, Mrs. Doug Calberry, Mrs. G. Carr, Mrs. Al Johnson, Mrs. William Campbell, Mrs. W. Nelson, unknown, Miss pearl Church. Behind - Mrs. Dennis Lathrop, Mrs. Ross Taylor, Mrs. J. Wolfraim, unknown, Miss Agnes Creighton, Mrs. J. Millar, Mrs. F. A. Black, Mrs. Clarence Cryderman, Mrs. Ben Andrus, unknown, Mrs. Sarah Richards, unknown.

relatively new idea 100 years ago. The broader issue of the cost of living was also broached in 1907.

Even in 1907, there was some recognition that life was changing. The minutes from July 10 state that Mrs. J. Richards and her daughter "gave us a song". The question is then posed, "Where are our mother-daughter duos today?"

In 1908, 40 members discussed how men should help the women with housework, especially in winter. In how many homes has that problem been resolved today?

The Jan. 25, 1909 meeting produced the best attendance in years. Seventy-five learned that day about interior decorating.

In 1912 they agreed to pay Mr. J. Thompson \$1.25 a day to do the work he considered necessary on the cemetery grounds.

The records show that Miss Nellie Battisby invited the ladies "outside for a

Consistency brings success

Perhaps some of its success comes from consistency. Many of its executive members have served for more than one term. Mrs. William Turney appears to hold the record in that department, having been president for nine years from 1966-75. Mrs. Eunice Gaudaur served as president from 1982-88, then stepped over to the secretary's chair for another four years.

Ove its 100 years the club has given seven life memberships. The first of those went to Mrs. Black in 1948, after 42 years service. Mrs. Turney was rewarded with a life membership in 1985.