

COMMUNITY BRANCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE AT MRS. H. COFFEE'S

Mrs. Harold Coffee of Carman was hostess to Community Branch of the Women's Institute on Wednesday afternoon, March sixth, with a good attendance. The president, Mrs. W. Rome, opened the meeting and extended a welcome to members and visitors.

The secretary, Mrs. Coffee, read the minutes of the February meeting, and the treasurer's report was given. A thank you letter was received from the Unitarian Council for the dresses that had been made for the children of the Middle East in refugee camps.

Instead of the usual penny bags a special collection for mental health will be taken at the next meeting.

Mrs. N. Chatten and Mrs. M. Bulman were chosen as leaders for the tea contest and it was decided to buy material for articles to be made for the contest. Mrs. E. Coltman is the delegate to attend the officers' conference at Guelph in May. It was decided to have a euchre in the Township Hall in the near future.

The nominating committee presented the slate of officers for 1957-58, which was accepted, as follows: President, Mrs. H. Morgan; first vice president, Mrs. E. Wright; second vice president, Mrs. A. Morgan; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. H. Coffee; district director, Mrs. W. Rome; conveners of

standing committees — Agriculture and Canadian Industries, Mrs. S. Cassan; Citizenship and Education, Mrs. E. Coltman; Home Economics and Health, Mrs. Dumas; Historical Research and Current Events, Mrs. T. Fritz; Publicity, Mrs. F. Sager; Emergency, Mrs. L. Chatten; Resolutions, Mrs. J. Miller; Directors, Mrs. J. Cochran, Mrs. T. Shephard, Mrs. Roy Morrow, Mrs. L. Vanwicklin, Mrs. M. Bulman; Sunshine Committee, Mrs. H. Ireland, Mrs. Stickle, Mrs. N. Chatten, Mrs. A. Morgan, Mrs. G. Stone; pianist, Mrs. T. Fritz; assistant pianist, Mrs. J. Miller.

A paper on the subject "Old Glass Is Beautiful" was prepared and read by Mrs. F. Sager. The roll call, a piece of antique glass or pottery with its story, resulted in many beautiful and historic pieces being shown.

Mrs. Hedley Ireland is to be hostess for the April meeting.

Mrs. Coffee and her assistants served a delicious lunch and a social hour was enjoyed.

BRIGHTON

H. Frise Recalls Start In Village 50 Years Ago



John Henry Frise, well-known Brighton merchant, is shown examining a bolt of cloth in the drygoods store which he has operated in the community since 1910, and in which he has been employed continuously since 1898.

For more than 50 years the drygoods store of John Harry Frise has been a landmark in Brighton. Mr. Frise first came to the community in 1896 and went to work for Mr. Smith who then owned the drygoods business. In 1898 they moved to the present site of the store. Then 7 years later, a scant three weeks before he was to retire, Mr. Smith suffered a heart attack and Mr. Frise took over the store. The only change he has made in the last 51 years is the series of self-serve counters he installed to make waiting on customers a little easier.

Mr. Frise was born in Lakefield in 1873 and apprenticed to a drygoods store in his hometown at the age of 16. In those bygone days his salary for the first year was \$100.00.

"I lost money the first year," he recalls, "but managed to break even the second on a salary of \$150.00 a year. The third year, when I received \$200.00, I made money."

Mr. Frise finished his training in the drygoods business by spending six months with the T. Eaton Company in Toronto. That was in the days when Timothy Eaton was still alive and the Eaton's chain of stores was just one shop in downtown Toronto. He was still with the company when he received a letter from Mr. Smith in Brighton, asking him to come there to work.

To reach Brighton back in 1896, Mr. Frise had to first journey to Peterboro by train. Then he travelled to Brighton in an open bob sled. It was the first of April but the snow was still four feet deep on the ground and the road was filled with pot holes.

In those early days, Mr. Frise recalls, Brighton was an important grain centre. Farmers would come to the marketplace with their wagon loads and stand on the seats to auction. The merchants and traders would come to sample the grain from the back and in this primitive fashion sales were concluded.