

## HISTORY OF MARKSTAY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

In the spring of 1947, Mr. & Mrs. P. W. Shaw and Miss Gabriel Roy decided to do something about the need for a community hall in Markstay. They contacted the local Council and were advised to discuss the matter with Mr. Romeo Leroux, Agricultural Representative for the district. He suggested that the best way to start was to form a Women's Institute so that the ladies might work as an organized body.

Mrs. Shaw and Miss Roy immediately began the necessary ground work and the result was an organization meeting on June 13th, 1947. Mrs. Farquharson, Mrs. Joyce and Mrs. Williams from Capreol and Sudbury conducted the organization.

At our first regular meeting, July 16th, thirteen ladies became paid up members. Our first board of officers was as follows:

-President - Mrs. P. W. Shaw

1st & 2nd Vice-Presidents - Mrs. E. Roy  
Mrs. Wm. Hamilton

Sec. Treas. - Miss G. Roy

Directors - Mrs. F. England  
Mrs. F. Murray  
Mrs. F. McDonald

Dist. Director - Mrs. Cotnam

Auditors - Mrs. H. Cotnam  
Miss M. McCue

Our Institute suffered a great loss in Jan. 1948, in the death of Mrs. Shaw. Her happy personality and ability had succeeded in establishing our Institute, but her presence was greatly missed.

At the time of writing, (Spring 1953), we have twenty-nine members.