

THE SUNDERLAND WOMEN'S INSTITUTE.

THE Sunderland Women's Institute was first organized in Feb. of 1926, They held their first regular meeting on March 18/1926. At that time it went under the title of Junior Girl's Institute. With Mrs. Herb. Baker as the first President and Miss Beatrice Baker as the first Secretary. The first meeting was held in the school room of the United Church at 3 P.M. afternoon. Miss Iva Bagshaw a member acted as pianist. They moved to the council chambers in May of 1926 for their meetings, and have held them there or in the banquet hall ever since, unless at some members home.

At their Dec. meeting of Dec. 16/26 they had Ethel Chapman as the guest speaker.

In 1927, Mrs. Lorn Pinkham was President and Mrs. Herb. Baker, Secretary.

In 1927 the Women's Institute put up slides and swings in the school yard, and donated lumber for an open air rink in the school grounds.

Miss Slichter of Toronto was the guest speaker for the Feb. meeting in 1928. The Dec. 1932 meeting the guest speaker was Mrs. Lenore of the Institute for the Blind. In Aug. of 1932, the regular meeting was held in the Park, in the form of a picnic, and all the Ladies of the village were invited. At the Nov. meeting 1932, Mr. Anderson K.C. of Lindsey gave an address "The punishment of crime by law".

Then in June of 1933, they changed from Junior Girls Institute, to the Sunderland Women's Institute, with Mrs. Lorn Pinkham still Pres. then for the 1933-1934 year Mrs. Wm. Bagshaw took over as President and was Pres. for 12 years. At that time they had over (40) forty members, but have decreased to around twenty.

In September of 1933 at their Sept. 9/33. they moved that the Women's Institute have music in the schools, and the Institute took over and paid for same, for the whole year, and they also paid in 1934. They also put new floors upstairs in the Township Hall in 1933. In 1935 they made donations to the Public Library. In 1935 they took up current events, but dropped them a few years later. In 1936 they sent \$25.00 to the Moose River Rescue fund. Also in that year of 1926, they put new cupboards in the kitchen.

Then in 1936 they changed to evening meetings, and have continued ever since. In 1936 at their meeting Nov. they had Mrs. Sleep of Seagrave give a talk on "Nursing". The Sunderland Institute have given eleven "Life Memberships and pins" to their old time members. Three of which have passed on. Mrs. Dunsheath, Mrs. Robt. Haney and Mrs. George Johnson.

They have given an incubator to Lindsey Hospital and paid \$300.00, to Uxbridge Hospital to help obtain one of the larger incubators, costing over \$700.00. They also donated a wheel chair to Fairveiw Lodge, Whitby, as well as a three prong walking cane. They also helped the District Institute to pay for the Radio-Phonograph donated to Fairveiw Lodge.

Their community activities have been many and varied, a few - Putting swings, tables and sand boxes in the park. Paying for boys sweaters for the hockey team, paying for time at the skating rink for children to skate free.

Several of our Sunderland members have served as District Presidents.