

Membership Totals 44 In Brown's Institute

LAKE SIDE — Brown's Women's Institute of North Oxford district has a membership of 44 and hold meetings in the Sunday School auditorium of Brown's United Church. The institute is divided into five groups with nine in each group. Ten meetings are held each year with an average attendance of 30.

In September the group observed its 50th anniversary with Miss Angela Armitt as guest speaker. Annual meetings take the form of a noon pot-luck dinner, followed by a business session.

This past year district director, Mrs. George Towle, attended the Guelph conference as a delegate of Brown's W.I. Members participated in the

local leaders' training school. Donations were made to the Canadian Save the Children Fund, the local fair board, Pennies for Friendship, Foundations, scholarships and bursaries. Shut-ins and needy in the community also received gifts.

Several years the group corresponded and exchanged gifts with the Elsfeld W.I. in England, but this has been discontinued as the Elsfeld W.I. has been disbanded. In memory of a deceased member, a contribution was made to the organ fund of Brown's United Church.

A library of books by Canadian authors has been started and material is being gathered for use in the Tweedsmuir history

Brown's Women's Institute Celebrates 25th Anniversary

Brown's United Church was the scene of a gala evening last Tuesday, Sept. 24th, when Brown's Women's Institute was celebrating its 25th anniversary. Some 100 ladies joined in this occasion when guests were invited from the neighboring branches of Lakeside, Uniondale, St. Marys, Wellburn, Thorndale, Harrington, Kintore; former members who have moved from the community; the district president and secretary and the county president. Mrs. Harvey Darling, convener of the Historical Research group was chairman for the program which opened with an address of welcome by the president, Mrs. Marion Munro.

The guest speaker for the anniversary was Miss Angela Armitt of the University of Western

Ontario, who entertained every one with a most humorous address on "Keeping Young In Heart." One couldn't help but feel younger, if the little things in our lives were all looked at more humorously, as she suggests. Her words contained much food for thought.

Miss Armitt was introduced by Mrs. Harvey Darling and thanked by Mrs. John S. Brown. Our anniversary had many laughs during it, as Mrs. Stanley Switzer proved to be another entertainer as she delighted everyone with her reminiscing back through the 25 years of the W. I. Many happy memories were revived with her "Do You Remember When?" feature.

Mrs. Earl Darling kept in the same line of merriment with her reading on "My get up and go has got up and went" and was enjoyed by all.

The other members were: Mrs. John Hawkesworth, Mrs. Hubert Uren, Miss Viola Elliott (Mrs. Ed. Dinsmore), Mrs. Edward Pearson, Miss Thelma Taylor (Mrs. John S. Brown), Miss Frances McMurray, Mrs. Donald Stewart, Mrs. Ruth Kingdon (Mrs. Thomas Aikens), Miss Joyce Burgess, Mrs. T. L. McMurray, Mrs. Wm. Stewart, Mrs. Marion Munro, Mrs. Thos. Leadman, Mrs. Clarence Darling, Mrs. Calvin E. McKay, Miss Kathleen Elgie (Mrs. Allan Hutton), and Mrs. Stanley Switzer.

Serving the delicious refreshments were the vice-presidents, Misses Freda Conn and Joyce Burgess and the Historical Research group, Mrs. Harvey Darling, Mrs. Earl Darling, Mrs. George E. McKay, Miss Ruth Gill, Mrs. Stanley Switzer, Mrs. Keith Beavers and Mrs. John S. Brown.

Delightful musical selections were contributed by Mrs. Walter Jones and daughter Phyllis of Thorndale with piano duets and Mrs. Alvin Wells of Lakeside with lovely solos. Mrs. George McKay led in lively sing songs with Mrs. Hubert Uren at the piano. Greetings were extended from the various visiting branches and representatives.

A brief business period was conducted by the president, Mrs. Marion Munro and the secretary Mrs. George Martin, before the anniversary program commenced when it was decided to send a donation to the St. Marys Agricultural Fair Board, to supply a model for the district project, a fashion show in Woodstock in October, and also to donate the five pounds of candy asked for by the District. The collection of some twenty dollars was taken up by Miss Joyce Burgess and Mrs. Reg. Martin.

The church auditorium was decorated with lovely fall bouquets arranged by Mrs. Harry Elgie and Mrs. Reg. Martin of the Public Relations group. Welcoming the guests at the door were Mrs. Harvey Darling, Mrs. Wilford Rumble and Miss Freda Conn.

As this milestone is reached and many memories of years gone by come rushing back to many of us, we had a feeling it was good to have been a member of the Women's Institute. The next 25 years will very likely present many challenges to the members, but we are sure will be worthy of the deepest and sincerest thoughts and efforts of each.

Brown's Women's Institute started with a membership of twenty in 1938-39 and now in 1963-64 it is forty-four. May the ladies of this community always enjoy the fellowship of meeting at the Women's Institute.

Following the program which had been held in the auditorium of the church, all assembled in the basement where tea tables had been set up and attractively decorated with fall flowers, and here a social hour was enjoyed. On the tea table were two beautiful bronze and yellow flower centres adorning the lovely anniversary cake with candles glowing on each side. Pouring tea were life members, Mrs. T. L. McMurray, Mrs. Thos. Leadman, Mrs. Wilford Rumble and the present president Mrs. Marion Munro.

Mrs. John Hawkesworth, the first president of Brown's W. I. (1938-39) had the honor of cutting the cake and spoke briefly of the pleasure of being a member of the W. I. Alice also read the membership of charter members that first year. Of these, four are deceased, Miss Ethel Rumble, Miss Grace Darling, Miss Marion Davis, (Mrs. Gordon Mon-

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