

BUS TRIPS

The Coronation Women's Institute chartered a bus and members and friends attended the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Institute at Guelph in June, 1947.

On July 4, 1954 a bus was chartered and Institute members and friends enjoyed a trip to Queenston Heights, Niagara Falls, Niagara-on-the-Lake and points of interest along the route. Each carried a picnic lunch and stopped for dinner at night at Killarney Country Club, near Oakville, on the Lake Shore Drive.

Thirty-seven ladies boarded a Parkinson bus at 9 a.m. on July 6, 1955, to attend the Shakespearian Festival at Stratford. Individual lunches were taken for noon. Hot water was provided at the park and a lovely picnic lunch was enjoyed beneath the trees. In the afternoon all attended the Merchant of Venice in the famous theatre tent. From there we drove to the Knox Presbyterian Church where tables were reserved for supper, after which we again boarded the bus for the trip back to Bolton, arriving at 10 p.m. and feeling that it had been a perfect day in every way.

GRANDMOTHER'S MEETING

A highlight of our 1955 activities was the grandmother's meeting held in the Town Hall May 19, 1955. All those taking part in the programme were asked to come dressed in old time costumes. Crinolines, basque waists, trailing lined skirts, hoops, bustles, boas, plumes and precious jewelery as worn fifty to one hundred years ago were some of the treasures that were collected and donned for the afternoon.

Thirty members were present and each one brought as her guest a grandmother. Beautiful corsages, under the direction of Mrs. Chas. Bruce, were pinned on the guests by Mrs. B. R. Snider and Miss H. Jaffery. The former was in a black lace gown and exquisite lace shawl one hundred and fifty years old, and the latter in a calico gown such as her grandmother wore in her day.

Mrs. Henry Wilson, the president, looking quaint in a complete wedding costume of the 1880's presided over the meeting which was opened in the usual manner. Mrs. C. B. Wilson at the piano assisted by Mrs. R. A. Schaefer led in singing a group of songs of yesteryears. "When you and I were young Maggie" "Silver Threads" "Grandfathers Clock" "The Band Played on" and "Juanita" were the favorites.

The roll call was answered by each member introducing her guest, also telling of grandmother's remedies, which revealed that goose grease, onions, coal oil, sulphur and camphor were the accepted cures for head and chest colds.

The President gave a reading "Boys were boys and girls were girls" but nowadays Grandmothers are girls also. Mrs. Wilson then presented three guests each with a potted double petunia, to Mrs. Sam Elliott, the oldest lady present and proud grandmother of thirty-three, to Mrs. W. T. Hardwick who was celebrating her birthday and to Mrs. Roy Arlow, the most recent grandmother present.

A highlight of the meeting was a reading by Miss Jaffary in which the writer likened life to a patchwork quilt. The gaily colored patches were compared to cheerful people, friends, good homes and kindness, while sorrows and disappointments were the dark patches. Yet these are used in a quilt to bring out the bright colors. When the quilting pattern is chosen and ultimately all is bound together, it should follow the Master's plan for life and be an offering acceptable to Him.

There followed a humorous half-hour programme when eleven members in period costume enacted a skit called "An Old-Time Institute Meeting" with the following cast of characters:

- Mrs. Samuel Doolittle - President - Mrs. G. Porter
- Mrs. Miranda Donothing - Secretary - Mrs. Fred Tingley
- Mrs. Geremiah Brown - Mrs. C. Wakely
- Mrs. Matthew Dowell - Mrs. R. A. Schaefer
- Miss Hettie Higgins - Mrs. Neelands
- Mrs. John Smith - Miss Lillian Rutherford
- Mrs. Joshua Jones - Mrs. R. Haines
- Mrs. Timothy Finnegan - Pianist - Mrs. C. B. Wilson
- Miss Hattie Thompson - Mrs. Wm. Addison
- Mrs. Ephriam Doless - Mrs. A. Hutchinson
- Miss Matilda Grey - Mrs. L. Bowes.