

GROWTH OF MCGREGOR BRANCH WOMEN'S INSTITUTE



The first activity of McGregor Women's Institute, was a school picnic held on the McKenzie School grounds in June, 1949, for which we provided the prizes. The teacher in the one-room school at the time was Mrs. T. Konon.

Our first project was to try to obtain a Rural Mail Delivery Service, in which we were successful.

Our first resolution was to urge the Council of the Municipality of Shuniah to consider the establishing of a Health Unit, which would benefit the rural sections of this district. We received a negative reply - by return mail - at this time.

August 1949, our treasury was boosted by \$7.50 in prize money won at the Canadian Lakehead Exhibition, by MRS. HYRHOR demonstrating Punchwork Cushions and MRS. WATTY demonstrating Machine-knit socks. These ladies were assisted by MRS. AUSTIN and MRS. MCGILL.

The first venture outside of the community was questionably successful. We held a bake-sale in the rear of the Cochrane Hardware store, Cumberland Street, but as we



were not well known we found ourselves with more baked goods than customers. Our ladies worked hard at the baking, yet it is an ill wind that blows nobody some good. Through the kindness of MR. N. VICKRUCK the home-made cakes, bread and cookies, etc., were delivered to the St. Joseph's Manor to be enjoyed by the aged inmates.

December 1949, we took part in the School Christmas party and with financial assistance from the School Trustees, bought gifts for each child in the community. Mrs. Bies was the teacher at the time.

Early in 1950 fire destroyed the home of two members of the community, Mr. & Mrs. RISSANEN, and we were pleased to supply a hamper of groceries to this family.

Spring of 1950 saw disastrous floods in Manitoba, and again our members contributed readily to the Relief Fund set up.

Once again the Branch, with the help of the Goat's Club of the School Board, supplied the necessities for the School Picnic, and also an attendance prize.

July 1950, the Rural Mail Service was established. Untiring in their efforts to bring this convenience to the community were: Mr. HOWARD WAUGH, Reeve of the Municipality,