

TOBERMORY WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

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TAKEN FROM
HISTORY OF
ST. EDMUNDS TOWNSHIP.

July 25th/34

"Reeve and Councillors"
Tobermory, Ontario

Dear Sirs:

I have been requested by the Institute to ask you to co-operate with us in striving to set our Young Folk a good example by passing a by-law to prohibit the wearing of indecent apparel in our village. We have their interests at heart.

Won't you please help us?

*Very Truly Yours
For Home and Country,
Mrs. Clifford Woods
Secretary of Tobermory W.I."*

In the late thirties, the women were often meeting in the public library. Hallowe'en dances were held annually and many interesting discussions were had. In 1935, dental work in the schools was discussed and Mrs. W. J. Smith was appointed as Institute representative on the Cemetery Board.

The ladies were still knitting socks in 1941, but this time they were donated to the Salvation Army. A Christmas box of 2000 cigarettes was sent to a Canadian hospital in England and later, in October, a euchre and dance night was held with the proceeds going to replenish the school medicine chest. Some of the meetings were held in the school that year. Instead of having to pay the school board for each meeting, the ladies took the option of cleaning the hall and furnishing their own wood.

Money belts for soldiers and quilts, sweaters, socks and scarves were made and donated to the Red Cross by the W.I. in 1942. Money was raised for the Red Cross through socials and card and crokinole parties so that by April of 1942, \$179.99 was the group's balance on hand for Red Cross work.

Through both wars, the women of Tobermory had worked hard so that by the end of World War II, they had knitted, quilted, played cards and raised money for over 30 years. The W.I. was eventually disbanded, but the United Church Women continued, carrying out valuable services during the later years.