

## SCHREIBER WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

---

The Schreiber Women's Institute was organized on May 6th, 1927 under the guidance of Mrs. Thos. Daley, District Director from Port Arthur and Miss E. Brulotte representative from the Department Agriculture in Home Economics.

Mrs. W. McMullen was elected the first president, Mrs. Gorden Reid as secretary-treasurer and Mrs. H. J. Stewart as District Director. Seventeen members joined. The meetings were planned to take place the second Tuesday of each month and still follows this rule. The first meeting place was the Elk's Hall on Manitoba Street. In later years the members started meeting in the town hall and still do so.

Trained representatives and instructors were sent out by the Ontario Government who sponsored a better health programme. Classes and short courses in every conceivable aspect of HOME MAKING were held. Educational literature on Mother, Baby and Child Care, Housing and Home Improvements, Foods and Nutrition have been studied by the local group.

The Schreiber Institute has had courses in dressmaking, hats, embroidery, quilts, leather and copper tooling, glove making, and cooking.

They assisted at lectures on WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR OUR GIRLS, on PUTTING ALL INTO LIFE THAT LIFE WILL HOLD, Home Nursing, and leadership courses on new skills to apply to better living.

Occasionally exhibits have been entered in the Lakehead Fall Fair, by the organization. They sponsored Poppy Tag Day, Sailor Ditty Bags, Navy League Tag Day, Trafalgar Day, Remembrance Day and Cancer Tag Day until the Canadian Legion took over most of them in 1930.

A baby scales and layette is kept in Mrs. Miller's home now since the small C. P. R. hospital was closed. For the past few years little or no use has been made of them. Since 1949 the first New Year's baby and mother has been feted with a hamper of gifts from the Institute, local stores and a silver cup from the Town Council.

The members help the needy, aged and sick with cards, flowers, food, clothing and medicine. Banquets were among their accomplishments. Parties and gifts for departing friends were popular. A new venture of supporting a scholarship of fifteen dollars to a grade eight student from each of the elementary schools who passes with the highest standing was started. Informative talks on child adoptions were held. Each year a wreath is put on the Cenotaph by our president when Memorial Services are held on Remembrance Day.

By Mrs. Anne Todesco, W. L. Curator