

PLEASE FILE THIS STATEMENT IN THE A.W.I. BOOK WHERE THE MEMBERS ARE LISTED when Branches

are organized. As HISTORIAN of the PICKARDVILLE BRANCH, I have contacted as many present and former members as possible since about 1970 when we started preparing for our 50th Anniversary. In 1982 I was fortunate to find the FIRST SECRETARY-TREASURER alive and well (in her mind) and she has been most helpful in researching our FIRST MEETING.

Our FIRST MINUTE BOOK was destroyed when Mr. Harrison burnt it, thinking it was just one of the children's old scribbles. Succeeding BOOKS until the Branch was dissolved in 1949 were said to have been sent to A.W.I. headquarters but I was unable to find them in the two steamer trunks in A.W.I. headquarters in December 1984.

Mrs. George A. Sylvester (known as The Duchess because she "dressed for dinner" on the farm) as Mid-Pembina Constituency Convenor (in District II) organized this Branch at a meeting held at the home of Mrs. Henry (Jean) Hill on the south side of the Correction Line N.E. of Pickardville. (The postmistress, Mrs. Richardson, told us that was the proper way to spell the P.O.) on January 19th 1923.

Mrs. Henry Hill was elected the first PRESIDENT, and

Mrs. Wm. (Isabelle) Drayton the SECRETARY-TREASURER, Isabelle was 22 at the time and had been married six years. She tells me the Branch was quite active in the community and had around 20 members during the 20's. She moved to B.C. for a few years in the late 20's. Other ladies who joined at that first meeting and so were Charter Members seem to have been:

MRS. T.P. Gillmore. ISA served at least one term as Constituency Convenor and took a very active part in local affairs.

Mrs. Robt. (Victoria) Hill, sister-in-law to Jean.

Mrs. Tom (Minnie) Pollard, Mother-in-law to Mrs. J. (Barbara) Pollard who joined in 1961 and was honored with a Branch Life Membership on the occasion of her 60th Wedding Anniversary.

Mrs. Robt. (Mary) Logue

Mrs. Cyrille Lambert

Mrs. WM. (M.....) Ellstock

Mrs. T.H. (Annie) Gower. The Branch gave her a Life Membership in A.W.I. in 1956.

Mrs. Bert (Lily) Sutherland

Mrs. J. Trethywan (Clara, wife of John)

Mrs. Sam (Elizabeth) Yeomans, Sr., Mother-in-law to Mrs. Sam (Lu) Yeomans Jr. who served as Constituency Convenor years later.

Mrs. Richard Henry (Maud) White (Later she was Mrs. Price)

There were several ladies who joined at each succeeding meeting as the word got around that there was a community club for ladies meeting one afternoon a month.

This information Corrected by Mrs. Drayton and supplied in January 1985 by Mrs. Roy (Margaret) Hanlan, HISTORIAN and Secretary of the Pickardville W.I. (Member since Jan. 1957).

*Margaret A. Hanlan*

When the Branch was re-organized May 21, 1953, the President was Mrs. Jack (Charlotte) Gower, Secretary Mrs. Ted (Jean) Anhorn.

Other members present at that meeting were Mrs. Emma Riopel, Mrs. Mossi (Molly) St. Louis, Mrs. Chas. (Elsie) Schwanke, Mrs. Doris McColl, Mrs. Irene Marshall, Mrs. Jeanette Valcourt, Mrs. Eunice Bibroski (Her name was stroked through in the record book after attending only two meetings.) The next meeting, there were four more enrolled: Mrs. Art Fortin (Irene), Mrs. Omer (Rose) Victoor, Mrs. Katie Ringuette and Mrs. T.H. (Annie) Gower.

Eight meetings were held in 1953 with an average attendance of ten.

- Margaret A. Hanlan