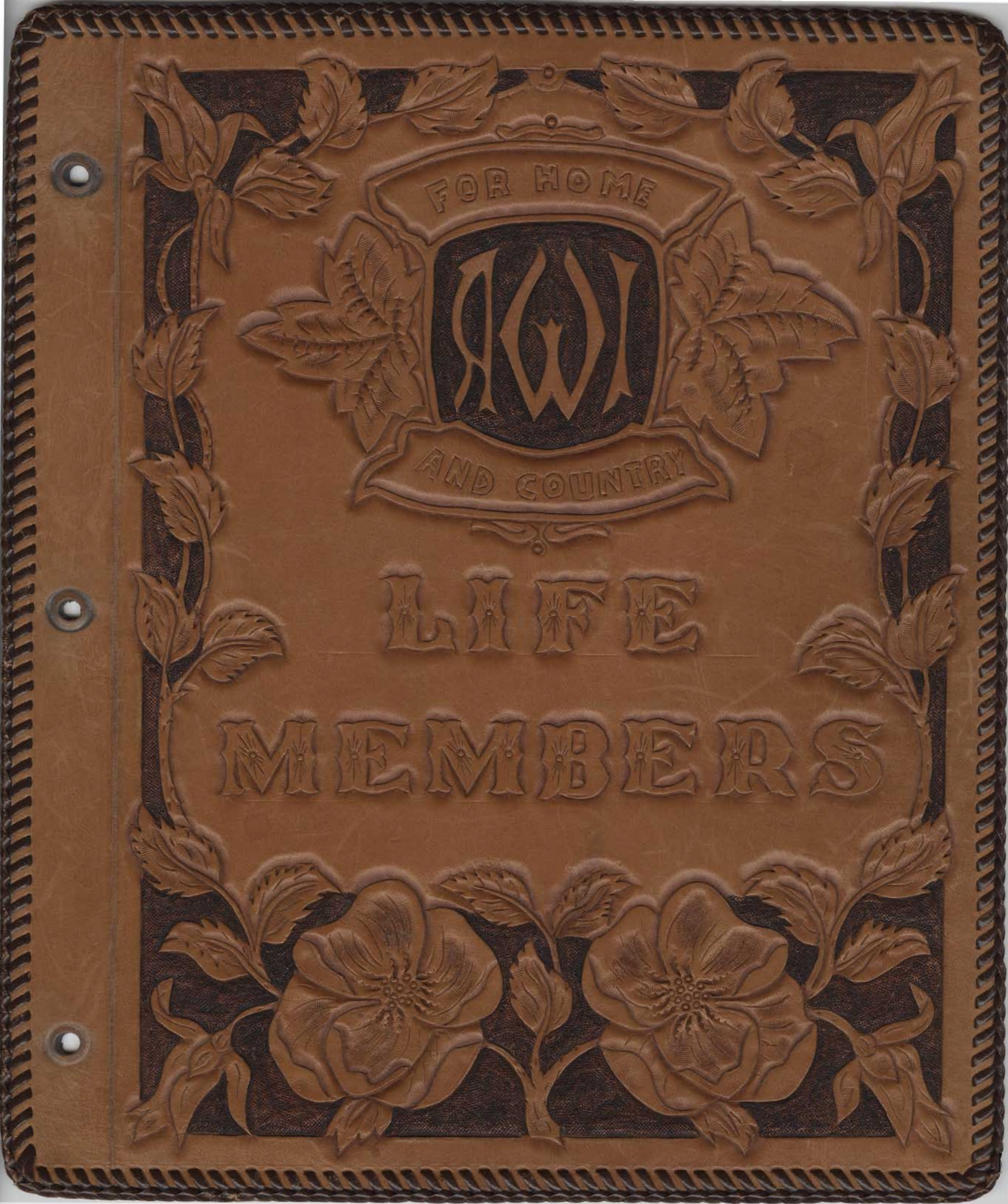

FOR HOME
AND COUNTRY
LIFE
MEMBERS

LIFE MEMBERS of the ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

## FOREWORD

This project provides a collection of the biographical sketches of those who have been the recipients of a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes.

Life Memberships were first bestowed in our organization in May I95I. No attempt was made to compile a record of the honored members until October I955 when Mrs.T.H.Howes,Provincial President, directed Mrs. W.R. Ford to undertake the task.

The work was begun immediately with the objective of obtaining life stories and photographs of all Life Members. In this we have not been entirely successful as a number of records have not been submitted in sufficient length to permit entry.

The design for the cover and the leather tooling is the work of Mrs. Myron Verburg of Sunshine W.I., Coutts.

The editing and typing has been done by Mrs. Ford, except for the years I959 - I96I when, due to the pressure of the Provincial President's duties, she delegated the editorial duties to Mrs. E.C. Hutchinson of Warner Women's Institute..

To write of those who have labored long and well for HOME and COUNTRY has been a rewarding experience.

The Editor,
Virginia Ford

15.58/5

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MRS. A. H. ROGERS



One of the earliest and most influential members of the Alberta Women's Institutes is Marion Milne Smyth Rogers of

Edmonton. Mrs. Rogers was born in Ontario of Irish-Scottish parentage. She received her early education in Saugeen and Toronto. After graduating from Harbord Collegiate and Normal School in Toronto, she taught school in Singhampton, Wellesley, and Galt, Ontario.

In 1904 she became a member of the Women's Institute at Wellesley, Ontario and she has been active in the organization since that time. In 1910 she married Arthur H. Rogers and they made their first home in Saskatchewan where, in 1911, Mrs. Rogers became the first president of the Prairie Flower Homemaker's Club at Lajord, Saskatchewan. The family then moved to Fort Saskatchewan, Alberta, where Mr. Rogers was manager of the Canadian Bank of Commerce.

In 1915 Mrs. Rogers became the first secretary of the Fort Saskatchewan W.I. The next year she was elected Director of District Number 2, and then in 1917 she was elected secretary-treasurer of the Provincial body. To this position she was re-elected each year until she retired in 1927 and became Director of District 2 again for a two-year term. Mrs. Rogers has a marvellous memory for names and faces and can recollect people and connect them with an institute instantly.

Along with her work in Alberta, Mrs. Rogers became the Corresponding Secretary for the Federated Women's Institute of Canada and then Recording Secretary from 1923 to 1935 when she retired and was made a life member and Honorary President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

Mrs. Rogers' keen mind kept the Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes at an even keel for it was her foresight and long range vision that could charter the course through the troublesome times of financial re-adjustment and planning to keep the organization solvent especially when the Alberta Women's Institutes were "divorced" from the Department of Agriculture.

It was also in 1919 that Mrs. Rogers became the Secre-

tary-Treasurer of the Alberta School Trustees' Association, a position she held until 1942. She was Editor of the Alberta School Trustee Magazine from its inception in 1930 until 1942. She was a member of the Fort Saskatchewan School Board for fifteen years.

During this time Mrs. Rogers served as President of the Fort Saskatchewan Institute and later when the Rogers moved to Edmonton she became President of the Edmonton Women's Institute. She also served as Provincial Convener of Education and Better Schools. In 1937 Mrs. Rogers, as co-author with Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, compiled "The Story of The Alberta Women's Institutes". Her voice became familiar to many when for several years she conducted the A.W.I. broadcasts over Radio Station C.K.U.A. Edmonton.

Besides these activities Mrs. Rogers managed many other interests. She was secretary of the Navy League of Canada for four years and also is a member of the Executive of the Edmonton Branch of the Canadian Arthritis and Rheumatism Society. She is a member of the Advisory Board of the Edmonton Division of the Salvation Army and was the first President of the Sunset Lodge Ladies Auxiliary. She is a Life Member of that order.

Mrs. Rogers was awarded the King George Coronation Medal and is a member of the Order of the Good Time, founded by Champlain in Nova Scotia in 1606.

Mr. Rogers passed away in 1940. There were two sons, one of whom, Asa Robert, was accidently drowned in 1926. The other, John Arthur, like his father is connected with the Canadian Bank of Commerce. There are two grandchildren, Elizabeth and Robert John, who are a great joy to Mrs. Rogers.

Mrs. Rogers is an accomplished needlewoman as evidenced by a set of dining room chairs in needlepoint of her own handicraft.

Mrs. Rogers was made a Life Member of the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1951, one of the first two members to be so honored.

She has the distinction of having received the first pin. It is only fitting that such an honor should be given to one who has been dedicated to the service of others, and who has served so well for "Home and Country".

MRS. H. J. MONTGOMERY



One of the first two Life Memberships of the Alberta Women's Institutes was that granted to Mrs. Hugh John Montgomery in May 1951.

Mary Adelaide Vaughn, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford E. Vaugh, was born in the village of Roscoe, Illinois on August 8th, 1885. She was of English and Welsh descent. Due to the ill health of the father, the family moved to new surroundings in 1894 and came to the Canadian Northwest where they found a homestead at Todds' Crossing on the Battle River about fifteen miles southwest of Wetaskiwin. To the log Alberta home, Mrs. Vaughan, who was a talented musician, brought her piano. She gave

Adelaide her first musical training.

In order to further Adelaide's education the family moved to Wetaskiwin where the principal of the High School tutored her after school so that she could complete her high school. Her ambition was to be a teacher but the nearest Normal School was in Regina and so Adelaide turned to music. The family went to Minneapolis to live for a time and there Adelaide began to study vocal music.

But she was destined to return to Alberta for she married Hugh John Montgomery on New Year's Eve 1903. Mr. Montgomery had come from Bedeque, Prince Edward Island, to Wetaskiwin in 1898. Here he established a successful mercantile business and later was a member of the Alberta Legislature for many years.

After her marriage, Mrs. Montgomery continued to study music and in 1913 received her Licentiate of the Royal Academy of Music. The following year she won the gold medal in the soprano solo competitions and the silver medal for sight singing at the Alberta Musical Festival. She was choir leader and organist in the Anglican Church in Wetaskiwin for many years. She delighted in training junior choirs.

Aside from her music and home Mrs. Montgomery's special interest was the Alberta Women's Institutes, to which she gave long years of devoted service. During conferences Mrs. Montgomery, as long as she was able, delighted the members with her gift of song. Many will never forget her singing "Trees".

In 1915 she became the first President of Wetaskiwin W.I. Later she was elected Director of District 3, an office she held for five years and then in 1929 she was elected the fourth President of the Alberta Women's Institutes. After completing the second term of office, Mrs. Montgomery was Provincial Treasurer for ten years until resigning in 1945. For several years she did the W.I. publicity for the whole province and then for a

few years confined her news to the Edmonton papers. She was also custodian of the Loan Collection for several years and in 1939 was co-author with Mrs. A. H. Rogers in compiling the History of the Alberta Women's Institutes. For several years she conducted the broadcasts over Radio Station C.K.U.A. Edmonton. She was a Life Member of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

Mrs. Montgomery was a member of the Edmonton branch of the Dickens Fellowship and the Historical Society. Being an Oldtimer herself it was natural for her to take an active interest in the Old Timers' Association of Northern Alberta. She was elected president of that body a short time before her death.

She was the mother of two sons, Lawrence who died in 1922 after a long illness, and Kenneth G. who lives in Edmonton and has two sons, Lawrence and Douglas, who were Mrs. Montgomery's pride and joy.

In her years of service to the Women's Institutes she travelled the length and breadth of the province making many warm friends. She possessed tact, kindliness and courage and a wonderful sense of humour which helped to sustain her during the many years of failing health. On January 21, 1952 death called Mrs. Montgomery. Her memory will be cherished as a kind and generous officer and friend of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

As a memorial to Mrs. Montgomery the Alberta Women's Institutes established a scholarship in music which bears her name.

MRS. GORDON LEE



Nina Shults Lee was born on a Manitoba farm. She received her public and high school education at Killarney, Manitoba, and later graduated from business college in Winnipeg. She worked as an auditor for The T. Eaton Co. Ltd. for over four years and then came west to Delia, Alberta, where she held a position in the Bank of Montreal for a period of seven years.

After her marriage to Gordon Lee she joined the Sentinel Hill Women's Institute at Delia and served as the branch secretary-treasurer for five years. After the Lees moved to Northern Alberta she joined the Boyle W.I. and served as their president for seven consecutive years. In 1950 she was elected Constituency Convener of Athabasca Constituency, a position she held for four years. The five branches of that constituency presented her with a Life Membership in 1951, this being the third presentation in the organization.

Mrs. Lee has taken an active interest in other organizations as well, having been a director of the Delia Agriculture Society, a past member of Highland Rebekah Lodge who presented her with a Past Noble Grand's Jewel, an official auditor for the Province of Alberta for many years and has been a faithful member of the Anglican Church.

Her hobbies include music, oil painting, all kinds

of handicrafts, especially knitting. She mentioned that she is particularly fond of wild life, with bird watching being a favorite pasttime.

Stricken with arthritis, Mrs. Lee manages to do her own house work. To quote her own words: "I do all my own work with God's help and my own determination". Her gallant courage is an inspiration to all who have even had a passing acquaintance with her.

Mrs. Gordon Lee is the lady on the left.

MRS. FREDERICK G. McLAUGHLIN



Mrs. F. G. McLaughlin comes of a long line of Scottish Canadians. She was born Katherine Armstrong at Ash Grove Farm in Markham, Ontario. Here she received her public and high school education and attended St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and Sunday School.

In April 1900 she came West to join her father and brothers on their ranch at Twin Lakes, Assa. Northwest Territories in the Cypress Hills. In 1908 she and Frederick McLaughlin were married and she went to live at their ranch at Elkwater Lake. In 1912 the McLaughlins moved to Irvine, Alberta, where they still reside.

When the Irvine Women's Institute was organized in 1921, she was one of the Charter Members and became the first secretary, a position she has held most of the time since. The people of Irvine associate Mrs. McLaughlin with the work of the Women's Institute as she was one of the very few who helped to maintain the branch during the depression years. She has held the office of branch convener of Citizenship for most of the life of the local organization.

Mrs. McLaughlin was the secretary of the school division for many years, first with the Cypress Division centred in Irvine and later she became the secretary of the Medicine Hat School Division. She has been a member of the Red Cross for over thirty-five years, taking an active part in raising funds and supplies during the Second World War.

She is the mother of three sons.

Mrs. McLaughlin was presented with her Life Membership in 1951 by Irvine Women's Institute, the fifth member in Alberta to be given this honor.

## MRS. STEPHEN WIEDEMAN



Maria Wiedeman is a native of Baden, Germany, where she received her early education. After spending some time in France she came to the United States where she was engaged as a governess. She came to Canada in 1916 and was married in Medicine Hat to Stephen Wiedeman who was formerly with the R.C.M.P.

She has been a member of Irvine Women's Institute since its formation in 1921 and has served the branch as President for ten years. She was also active in the Red Cross taking a leading part in its operation when she was leader of the work committee. She has also served on the Irvine School Board and was very active in the organization of the larger school division.

Mrs. Wiedeman was one of the first members to be awarded a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. The honor was conferred by her branch, Irvine, in 1951. To quote the secretary of her branch at that

time:

"No one can calculate the influence and value of such a member as Mrs. Wiedeman to the community and the country".

Mrs. Wiedeman is the mother of two sons and one daughter.

Mrs. Stephen Wiedeman is on the right and Mrs. Fred McLaughlin on the left in the picture with the U. N. Flag of Irvine W.I. as a background.

## MRS. THOMAS TAYLOR



Mrs. Thomas Taylor (Alice Taylor) was the sixth recipient of a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. It was given her by Edmonton Women's Institute for her long years of service. She was a Charter Member of the branch, having joined in 1919. She has filled all the offices in the Edmonton branch and in her seventy-nineth year she convened the Women's Institute Tearoom.

Mrs. Taylor was born in Melbourne, Quebec on the 28th day of February 1873. She was married on the 30th day of August 1893 and came west six years later, living at Cranbrook, British Columbia and Winnipeg, Manitoba, before coming to Edmonton in 1905.

She has taken a very prominent part in a number of organizations during her stay of fifty years and more in the City of Edmonton; fourteen in all and on the executive of most of them at one time. She was President of the Local Council of Women for four years and holds a Life Membership in that body as well as a Life Membership in the National Council of Women. She attended no less than nine National Council meetings. She received a letter of appreciation from the City of Edmonton for services rendered during the influenza epidemic of 1918 for nursing and making huge amounts of soup.

Mr. Taylor was an engineer on the C.N.R. until his retirement. The Taylors celebrated their Golden Wedding and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries. On the last occasion they received congratulations from Her Majesty, the Queen, and also from Premier Manning of Alberta.

She is the mother of three children: Howard Thomas lost his life in the First World War; Lillian Alice is married and lives in Edmonton; Carleton D. who served in two World Wars is now a medical doctor in Edmonton.

This extraordinary woman still drives her own car in the city; does her own gardening and in her 83rd year received a medal for the most beautiful flower and vegetable garden.

MRS. M. S. SCHRODER



Frances Edna Schroder was born at Trenton, Ontario on May 12, 1886. Her family moved to Portage la Prairie in the early nineties. There she received her early education and later attended Wesley College in Winnipeg, graduating from there in 1905. For the next eleven years she was a member of the Vancouver teaching staff.

In 1916 she married Malcolm Sterling Schrider and spent the next thirty-five years in Walsh, Alberta, retiring with her husband to Medicine Hat in the fall of 1953. One of her main interests at Walsh was the work of the Alberta Women's Institutes. She spent several years as the secretary of her branch but she is best known as the member who, as Social Services Convener for her branch and for Southern Alberta, packed thousands of pounds of clothing during the Second World War. Every spare moment she had she spent it sewing, mending and knitting. She alone knit several hundred pairs of socks during this time. It was at the same time that Walsh W.I. nearly disbanded in favor of Red Cross work and, although Mrs. Schroder had been an ardent member of the latter organization since the time of the

First World War, she strove to hold the branch together by combining the work of the two organizations. Her efforts were not in vain.

While living in Medicine Hat she was an active member of the University Club and of the Women's Auxiliary of the United Church.

She was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1952 in recognition of her thirty-five years of faithful service to her branch - the donors being the Walsh branch.

She passed away peacefully on September 7, 1955, leaving to mourn her passing her two sons: F.Lt. John Schroder of the R.C.A.F. and Raymond Schroder of Toronto. Mr. M. S. Schroder followed his wife in death on April 1, 1956.

MRS. W. F. H. BROWN




Blanche Hawks was born November 12, 1872 on a farm in Township Younge three miles from the village of Addison, Ontario. The family farm was Crown land given to the U.E. Loyalist Settlers and she was of the fifth generation of United Empire Loyalist stock.

A high school graduate of the Athens school, she attained her teaching certificate to teach in the country schools of that time. After four years she entered Brockville Business College and later worked as accountant for the Canada Carriage Co. In 1900 she married W. F. H. Brown of Carleton Place, Ontario.

Coming West for his health in 1905, the Browns settled in Edmonton and she has resided in the city since that date.

In 1919 when the Edmonton Women's Institute was organized by Nellie McClung, Mrs. Brown became a Charter Member. One of her greatest pleasures has been to work at the Women's Institute Tea Room as a hostess and enjoy the fellowship of meeting the ladies from the country who stop in to rest and chat and to get better acquainted with their city sisters.

Widowed in 1921, Mrs. Brown worked in the Attendance Branch of the Department of Education for eleven years.

Edmonton Women's Institute presented Mrs. Brown with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes December 1, 1951 - the seventh woman in Alberta to be so honored. The presentation was made by the Edmonton W.I. president, Mrs. W. Wood, at the home of Mrs. Watt where the Institute had met to enjoy their Christmas party.

Mrs. Brown says:

" I am very proud to wear the Life Membership Pin of the Alberta Women's Institutes."

Mrs. Brown died February 25, 1962 and was buried in the family plot at Carleton Place, Ontario.

MRS. W. S. MELLIS



## MRS. W. S. MELLIS

Mabel G. Fleming was born in Manitoba on May 25, 1893. Shortly after she was born the family moved to Great Falls, Montana, where they lived until she was twelve. Returning to Canada they bought a farm near Lacombe.

After completing her education, she taught at Lacombe, at Rocky Mountain House where she was the first teacher, and at Rimbey where she taught the first High School class.

On January 15, 1919, she married Sinclair Mellis, a farmer living three miles north of town. They have three children: Mary Grinde, the eldest,has six children and lives on a farm six miles north of the Mellis farm. The second girl passed away in 1936 (Margaret). The only son, Thomas, is married and farms the home farm (has two children). Mrs. Mellis has a comfortable suite in the large modern farm home.

The Wooddale Women's Institute was organized in the Wooddale School in May 1929 and Mrs. Mellis joined at the second meeting. She has attended over three hundred meetings and dozens of conferences and conventions. She has held most of the offices on the local level and has convened several constituency programs. Her interest has never flagged and she is at present the President of Wooddale W.I. branch.

Mrs. Mellis has always been very active in the Rimbey community. She was President of the Rimbey Agricultural Society for several years; is an ardent church worker and is keenly interested in the N.D.P. program. She played a large part in the establishment of the Rimbey Public Library. An effective public speaker, she is an authority on the history of Rimbey.

In recognition of her work in the Women's Institute, and in the life of the community, her fellow Institute members of the Wooddale W.I. presented her with a Life Membership on June 10, 1952.

MRS. W. G. N. JOHNSTON



Mrs. Johnston was given a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in June 1952, the ninth member to be so honored. She writes modestly of the event as follows:

"Peace River Women's Institute presented me with my Life Membership, for reasons that I do not know, but it was a very happy occasion for me.

I was born Florence Gertrude Banbury in Racine, Wisconsin, on December 19, 1884. Two years later my parents, Nellie and Edwin Banbury, returned to their native Ontario. I attended school in Toronto and in Aurora, Ontario. In 1907 I married Walter George Norman Johnston of Aurora and that same year we came to Claresholm, Alberta, where we lived for the next five and one half years. Later we moved to Edmonton for a period of thirteen years and following that we lived in Jasper. It was here

that I first joined the Alberta Women's Institutes. We moved to Peace River in 1931 where we have made our home since. We had four sons, but only one is surviving. He lives in Edmonton.

I attend the United Church and have been a member of the session for some years. I work in the Women's Auxiliary of the church and in the Red Cross. I am a member of the Order of the Eastern Star. I have belonged to the Peace River Women's Institute since 1931.

My hobbies: travelling and also doing any kind of welfare work in our lovely little town of Peace River."

MRS. H. E. JERRY



Josephine Young was born of Scottish and German parents in Fall River, Kansas. She completed high school in Gildford, Montana, and worked in her father's General Store at Gildford until her marriage to Henry Earl Jerry in 1916.

The Jerry family came to Peace River in 1920. They have one son, Robert. In 1921 she joined the local branch of the Women's Institute. Thirty-one years later Peace River W.I. presented her with a Life Membership in the organization in grateful appreciation of her faithful service as a member, director, vice-president and president of the branch over the years. She was the tenth woman in Alberta to be so honored. Mrs. Jerry was ill in bed at the time of the presentation.

Mrs. Jerry is a member of the United Church of Canada, and the Women's Association; the Order of the Eastern Star and of the Order of the Royal Purple.

Date of the Presentation - June 1952.

MRS. GEORGE PUGH



Alice May Gates was born in Stafford, England, May 31, 1892. She was educated at boarding schools at Ryde, Isle of Wight, and Cliftonville, Kent.

She came to Stony Plain, Alberta, in December 1914 and joined the Stony Plain W.I. (to which her mother, Mrs. C.A. Gates, already belonged) just fifty years ago. She has been a Women's Institute member ever since. When the Alberta Women's Institutes Girls' Clubs were formed in 1919, she was asked to form one at Stony Plain. At the 1920 Provincial Convention held in the First Baptist Church, Edmonton, was elected First Vice-President on the first Provincial Executive of Girls' Clubs.

Later, on marrying George Pugh and moving to Jasper where

there was no Women's Institute, she and two other former Institute members organized a branch (Jasper W.I.). She was elected the first president - an office she held for three years. She also served as leader of the A.W.I. Girls' Clubs of which Jasper had three and Constituency Convener. She remained a member of Jasper W.I. for thirty years from 1923 to 1953 when she moved to Vancouver, B.C.

Before her departure for Vancouver, Jasper W.I. presented Mrs. Pugh with a Life Membership in recognition of her outstanding service to the branch. The following account appeared in the June 1953 issue of Home and Country:

> "The presentation of a Life Membership Certificate and pin to Mrs. George Pugh was a feature of the Jasper Women's Institute's 29th Anniversary meeting held at the home of Mrs. David Walker. The presentation was made by Mrs. Lottie Howe, former Institute member and co-worker with Mrs. Pugh in years gone by. Mrs. Pugh was the first President of Jasper W.I. and has always been in the forefront of all its undertakings as well as taking an active part in Institute Girls' Clubs."

When Mrs. Pugh arrived in Vancouver she joined the Point Grey W.I. where she has held the office of secretary, president and is at present treasurer.

Mr. and Mrs. Pugh had three sons and a daughter.

## MISS OLIVE JEANETTE FLEMING



Miss Olive Jeanette Fleming was born in London, Ontario in 1891. In 1910 she moved to a farm in the Argyle district twenty-two miles south of Sedgewick. In 1922 the Fleming family moved to British Columbia, returning to their former home in Alberta in 1926.

Miss Fleming was active in all community work. She was a Charter Member of the Argyle Women's Institute which was organized by her mother, Mrs. Anne Fleming in March 1913. Until the time of her death in May 1953, Miss Fleming was an outstanding worker in this organization both in Alberta and British Columbia. She was instrumental in the organization of an Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Club in the Argyle district in 1917, and became its first president and also served the club in other official capacities for many years.

A devout Christian and member of the Presbyterian Church, she was active in church and Sunday School work

throughout her life. Olive's personal life was characterized by loyalty to high ideals and love and devotion to her family and inside circle of friends. In spite of failing health, her last years were spent caring for her aged mother and a sister, both of whom predeceased her.

The accompanying picture taken shortly before her untimely demise is indicative of her love of beautiful flowers and the arts of homemaking.

Shortly before her death in 1953 she was given a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes by Argyle W.I. as an expression of their love for her.

## MRS. HENRY QUAIL



Pearl Fergstad came to the Round Hill district from the United States with her parents in 1904. She married Henry Quail December 15, 1914.

Mrs. Quail joined the Round Hill Women's Institute at its organization meeting in August 1914. She tells us that this meeting was held in a tent. As the old minute books show, Mrs. Quail has held every branch office these many years. She has been a firm believer in our Creed and an ardent worker for Home and Country.

In 1953 a Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Quail by her branch for the wonderful contribution she had made to community betterment and the life of her branch. Mrs. S. Lefsrud made the presentation.

MRS. C. A. FERGSTAD



Mable Johnson was born in Brant, South Dakota, and in 1910 came with her parents to the Round Hill district of Alberta. It was here in 1917 she was united in marriage to Charles Fergstad.

She joined the Round Hill Women's Institute in 1918 and was still an active member when she was presented with her Life Membership in 1953. It is said of Mrs. Fergstad that she is the backbone of her branch and that when she misses a meeting things are not just the same. She has held every office in her branch and is a firm believer in The Creed.

Round Hill W.I. credits Mrs. Fergstad and Mrs. Quail with having brought the health nurse to the community in the early years and also with the building of the community hall which was completed in 1922.

Her Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes was bestowed upon her by her branch with Mrs. S. Lefsrud, Provincial President, making the presentation.

MRS. E. E. MORTON



## MRS. E. E. MORTON

Mrs. E. E. Morton was born Helen Forrest in St. John, New Brunswick, on November 29, 1884. Her family were of Scottish descent. She received her high school and college education in Winnipeg. Later she taught school in Winnipeg and then in Vegreville. It was here she met and married Edmund E. Morton in 1910. They homesteaded fifty miles from Vegreville. Two sons were born to their union.

In 1929 the family moved to Vegreville where Mrs. Morton took an active part in community life serving as a school trustee for many years. She was also active in Red Cross work and in the Navy League of Canada.

Mrs. Morton became widely known as an Institute member not only at home but abroad. She held offices in her own branch; was Director of District 2 for four years; served as Vice-President for four years and at the same time was acting War Work Convener for the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and later was elected Second Vice-President of that body.

In 1945 she was elected Provincial President of the Alberta Women's Institutes and was returned to office for a second term in 1947. In the same year she rose to the office of First Vice-President of the F.W.I.C.

Mrs. Morton had the privilege of attending three triennial sessions of the Associated Country Women of the World- one in Amsterdam, one in Copenhagen and one in Toronto. At the first of these she was representing Alberta, at the second she was head of the Canadian delegation acting in her capacity as President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and at the third Conference she was holding the office of Vice-President of the Associated Country Women of the World,

Besides her work in the Women's Institutes, Mrs. Morton found time to act as Vice-President of the Alberta Library

Association and as a Director of the Canadian Cancer Society. She had an amazing capacity for remembering names and people and she made a host of friends far and wide.

In 1953 Mrs. Morton was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes and was the recipient of a Coronation Medal in the same year.

During the two years previous to her passing on October 17, 1953, Mrs. Morton suffered the loss of her eyesight but she did not give up her interests in the organizations which she had so long been connected with. Mrs. Morton was a wise counsellor, a loving friend to many, and her memory will long be revered by all who knew her. Truly the minister at the funeral service expressed the thought of all: "She hath done what she could".

MRS. SWAIN SWAINSON



Mrs. Swain Swainson was born Struna Sigurdson in 1896 in the country district of Pine Hill about twenty miles south west of Red Deer. She came of pioneer stock of Icelandic parentage. Her father, Ofeugur Sigurdson and his young wife came from Iceland to a farm in the Pine Hill district in 1889 and it was here that Struna was born, one of a family of four sisters and one brother.

The Sigurdson family experienced through the years the joys, sorrows, defeats and triumphs of the early settlers.

Struna attended the country school of Pine Hill and the Red Deer High School. At the early age of sixteen she was teaching on a permit at Cayley, Alberta. Later she attended Normal School in Calgary and two years of summer school. She taught at Westholme and Fairlands west of Penhold and in the mining town of Nordegg.

In 1919 Struna married Swain Swainson, also of Icelandic origin, from the neighboring district of Burnt Lake. There they established a home and reared a family of six sons and four daughters. Their children are on farms or in business in Central Alberta, except one daughter in Nelson, B.C. In November 1953 the whole community of Red Deer West mourned with them the tragic death of their eldest son, Alfred and his wife in a highway accident. Alfred operated the old home farm of the Sigurdson's in Pine Hill and left three small children.

In January 1923 Mrs. H. R. McDougall of Penhold, Constituency Convener, organized the Burnt Lake Women's Institute and Struna Swainson became the first secretary-treasurer. Since then she has served as president, director, standing committee chairman, or in some other helpful capacity.

She became Constituency Convener of Red Deer West, then Director of District 3 from 1951 to 1955. She also served on the Curriculum Committee of the Department of Education and as Provincial Convener for the A.W.I. for Education. As a member of the Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes she made fast friends by her fair decisions and calm demeanor.

At the time Burnt Lake Women's Institute celebrated its thirtieth Anniversary, the members presented Mrs. Swainson with a Life Membership. She was the only Charter Member still active in the branch. She had been a faithful member and a good neighbor and the members felt that she personified our motto "For Home and Country". The actual presentation was made at the annual Constituency Conference at Sylvan Lake in June 1953.

MRS. CORNELIA R. WOOD



Mrs. Cornelia Railey Wood was born in Missouri and at an early age came to Stony Plain, Alberta. In 1918 she married Russel E. Wood.

At the 40th Anniversary celebration of the Stony Plain Women's Institute, Mrs. Wood was honored with a Life

Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. Mrs. Wood was one of the Charter Members of that branch which was organized December 8, 1913. She was the first secretary-treasurer and at various times through the years she has held all the branch offices. She was Constituency Convener for three terms. She is still active in her home branch. In 1949 Mrs. Wood was presented with a Life Membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada by the A.W.I. Council when Mrs. E. E. Morton was President.

In 1918 Mrs. Wood became interested in the work of the Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Clubs and from 1931 to 1935 she served as the Provincial Supervisor of that group. From 1935 to 1937 she was Provincial Convener of Home Economics and from 1937 to 1941 she was Provincial Secretary. In 1941 she attended the Federated Board meeting in Fredericton, N.B. as the A.W.I. Representative.

In 1949 Mrs. Wood was asked by the A.W.I. Council to compile a Supplement to "The History of the Alberta Women's Institutes" which had been printed twelve years previously; this she did and in May 1956 she incorporated the material in a revised booklet which brought "The Story" up-to-date. In 1953 Mrs. Wood prepared the A.W.I. booklet entitled "Conducting the W.I. Meeting."

Always interested in her community, Mrs. Wood took an active part in all local enterprises and public affairs.

She held the office of Chairman of the Stony Plain Consolidated School Board for ten years. In 1940 Mrs. Wood was elected to the Alberta Legislature representing Stony Plain Constituency; a seat which she held for four successive terms thus establishing a record for any woman in Alberta. She has also served as Mayor of the town of Stony Plain and has been Chairman of the Library Board since its foundation. Mrs. Wood is a hard worker in any endeavor undertaken.

The time spent in institute work is of great satisfaction to her and she is often called upon by her Constituency, District, or by the Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes to perform some task on very short notice. She will be remembered by the average member for her contribution to 'Home and Country' known as 'Random Thoughts of This and That' and for the capable manner in which she chairs the resolutions committee at the Provincial Conventions. Mrs. Wood was chosen by her District to act as one of their representatives at the National Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada in Ottawa, October 1957.

MRS. W. GRACE OATWAY



Mrs. Grace (Gillrie) Oatway was born in the village of Arthur, Wellington County, Ontario, the daughter of a hardware merchant of English and United Empire Loyalist stock. After the death of her father, Grace Gillrie's family moved to a farm near Spruce Grove in Alberta.

She was always interested in church work and became active as organist in the only church in the district at that time. The musical side of life appealed to her and through the years she made a valuable contribution to the life of the community through her gifts of playing and singing.

After her marriage to Dr. R. M. Oatway, she moved to

Stony Plain where for forty-five years they were both active in the life of the district. Mrs. Oatway helped with the choir work and was organist in the Methodist Church, now the United Church.

When the Stony Plain Branch of the Women's Institute was organized in 1913, Mrs. Oatway was one of the Charter Members. During World War 1 Red Cross work and raising money for the Patriotic Fund took up most of the attention of branch members. Mrs. Oatway opened her large home for any community gathering, whether for making quilts, Red Cross sewing, young people's parties and other social affairs.

Down through the years, Mrs. Oatway held many offices in the Stony Plain W.I. She was Vice-President and had to be active in that position as the President was often absent on other work. She was also President and Secretary-Treasurer for some years. At the gathering held on the 40th Anniversary of the Stony Plain W.I., Mrs. Oatway was presented with the A.W.I. Membership by her fellow members of the branch.

Mrs. Oatway began a circulating library which grew into the present fine Community Library. Dr. and Mrs. Oatway have two sons and a daughter.

The Motto "For Home and Country" was always uppermost in Mrs. Oatway's mind in raising her family and in helping all who lived near her. She now resides in Edmonton.

MRS. CHARLES BRICKMAN



Mildred (Abbott) Brickman was born on a farm at Storm Lake, Iowa, April 29, 1903, on a night when all the apple blossoms froze!

In 1908 her family moved to a farm at Tees, east of Lacombe and here she grew up. When she was eighteen the family moved into Lacombe where she went to high school. Later she attended the Olds School of Agriculture, graduating in 1924.

She married Roland Talbot in 1925 and became the

mother of one daughter, Betty. This marriage was dissolved by divorce in 1940.

In 1942 she married Charles Brickman, farmer in the Viking district and has lived there ever since. Lately they have moved into the town of Viking. They have one daughter, Mary.

She is a tower of strength in the Quinte W.I. She was the first vice-president and held this office for nine years. Since then she has been the president of the branch. As Constituency Convener of Wainwright Constituency she accomplished much. Her capable manner, friendly personality and keen sense of duty won her many friends.

Besides her work in the Institute, she is an active member of the local Home and School Association and a member of the United Church.

A Life Membership was bestowed on Mrs. Brickman in November 1953 by Wainwright Constituency in honor of her work and loyalty while holding the office of Convener. It was a well deserved tribute from her Constituency.

## MRS. RALPH LONG



At the April meeting 1954, the Lone Pine W.I. presented Mrs. Ralph Long of Didsbury with a Life Membership in appreciation of her many years of service to the branch. It had been thirty years earlier that she had helped to organize Lone Pine Institute. In the ensuing years she held all branch offices as well as serving as Constituency Convener.

Mrs. Long was born Ruth Richardson in Walkerton, Ontario, where she was a member of South Bruce Women's Institute. She married Noah Eckel in 1910 and came West. They had one son, Robert.

She was a member of Mountain View W.I., east of Didsbury from 1921 to 1924. She now resides in Didsbury but is still a member of the Lone Pine branch.

## MRS. S. LEFSRUD

Mrs. S. Lefsrud was born Jennie Ness, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Bert Ness, in Minneapolis, Minn. January 17, 1904. When about three months old she was brought by her parents to Alberta where they settled on a homestead in the Ryley district. She attended Ryley school and spent two years in the Camrose Lutheran College. Later she took nurse's training at the Royal Alexandra Hospital, Edmonton, graduating as a Gold Medalist in 1925. After graduation she was Maternity Supervisor at Camrose Hospital and at Medicine Hat General Hospital was Night Supervisor.

Jennie Ness and Sigard Lefsrud were married July 20, 1927 and took up residence in Viking where Mr. Lefsrud practices law. They have two sons: John who is a doctor; and Eric, a lawyer. There are two grandsons.

Mrs. Lefsrud joined the Viking Women's Institute shortly after her arrival in town and held the office of President on three different occasions. She was Director of District 2 for four years; was Vice-President for four years and was elected Provincial President of the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1953, retiring in 1955 mainly for health reasons.

Being musical and possessing a good voice, Mrs. Lefsrud was instrumental in starting the A.W.I. Choirs. She has a large piano class and conducts the Lutheran Choir of which Church she is a member. She is actively interested in oil painting and has won prizes for her oils. Mrs. Lefsrud is also an excellent needlewoman.

Mrs. Lefsrud has a winning smile, a quiet and unassuming manner and is loved by her fellow workers. She is generous with her praise of a task well done and is slow to criticize an error - qualities that endeared her to her Council during the two years of her Presidential term of office. She has given unsparingly of her time and talents to many public

and community projects.

Mrs. Lefsrud was presented with her Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes by Wainwright Constituency in June 1954.





## MRS.O.J. ROBERTS

Elizabeth Grace Bennett was born June 6, I868 at "The Mill" in Daventry, England. She was educated in England and took painting lessons from members of the Royal Academy.

She and her husband, Reverend O.J.Roberts,came to Canada in I898 travelled to the North West Territories by team and wagon.Following his training as an Indian missionary they moved in I905 to the Anglican Mission at Fort Chipewyan until his transfer to Gibbons inI9I2. He served as minister in the Red Water area from I9I6 to I935. Mrs. Roberts organized a Junior W.A.and was organist in each of her husband's churches.

They raised a family of three sons and two daughters.Mrs. Roberts enjoyed knitting, crocheting,sewing,embroidery and painting.At over 70 years of age she took leather tooling,copper work and basketry.

She was an active worker in the Women's Auxiliary of the Canadian Legion and was a charter member of the Silver Cross Association following the death of her eldest son in World War I.

Mrs.Roberts was a Charter Member of Bon Accord Women's Institute when it was organized by Mrs.A.H.Rogers in I92I.In recognition of her untiring loyalty to the Branch through the years she was presented with a Life Membership at the Constituency Conference at RedWater June I9,I954.She remained active in W.I.until shortly before her death June I9,I957 in her eighty-ninth year.The funeral service was at Gibbons Anglican Church,where her husband had served for years,with interment in the family plot at Bon Accord.Surviving are two sons, two daughters and two sisters living in England.

Mrs. Roberts was a real pioneer of Western Canada and was an inspiration to all who were privileged to know her.

## MRS. JACK McCARTEN

In 1918 Mrs. Jack McCarten came as a bride to a farm in the Burdett district. Since then she has given unselfishly of her time to the Burdett-Bow Island community as a member of the Bow Island Women's Institute; as an officer on more than one occasion in the Catholic Women's League and as a member of the Ladies Auxiliary to the Canadian Legion. She is never one to say "no" to any request for help.



Mrs. McCarten - left Mrs. Wallwork - right
wearing their Life Membership pins

Mrs. McCarten, nee Agnes E. Huck, is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Huck and was born in Geneva, New York, on March 18, 1885.

Mrs. McCarten was presented with her Life Membership in October 1954 by her own branch, Bow Island Women's Institute.

## MRS. WALTER WALLWORK

Mrs. Wallwork was presented with a Life Membership at a special meeting of Bow Island Women's Institute in October 1954. She had been an active and valued member of the branch since 1926 and had served as their secretary for six years as well as several other executive positions. The presentation was made by Mrs. P. Heitrich, Constituency Convener.



Mrs. Wallwork, nee Marian Pollitt was born in Southport, Lancashire, England. She came to Bow Island in 1912 with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. N. T. Pollitt. She has three children and seven grandchildren.

Mrs. Wallwork has been active in the United Church and in the Legion Auxiliary. Her hobbies include rug-making, gardening and crocheting. It is said of her that she has a ready smile and that she can always see the good in people.

MRS. W. G. SCHEIDEGGER



Helen Maitland was born in Aberdeenshire, Scotland in 1896 and came to Canada in 1910 where her family farmed in the Province of Quebec. There Helen learned the trade of dressmaking, working at this until she came west in the spring of 1918 to Ohaton, Alberta. She clerked in the Ohaton store until her marriage to Walter Scheidegger 1920.

She joined the Ohaton W.I. in March of 1920 while she was still Helen Maitland. Since that time she has been a member of the same branch except for a period when her children were small and needed her attention. One of her sons, Roy, was crippled by polio and required constant care.

Mrs. Scheidegger has acted as secretary-treasurer of the Ohaton W.I. for a number of years and also held the position of director as well as assuming convenerships of standing committee work. She was the first leader of the Ohaton Girls' Club when they were known as 'Mother's Helpers'. She served as secretary for both Sedgewick and the newly formed Ohaton Constituency.

Her family consists of two sons and three daughters. Her eldest daughter, Mrs. C. Omoth, was leader of the Ohaton Girls' Club for eight years. One daughter, Marie, won a trip to Bozeman, Montana, representing the Ohaton Club and another daughter, Doris, won a trip to the National Club Week in Toronto. A granddaughter, Barbara, is following in the family's footsteps as a member of the Ohaton Girls' Club.

Mrs. Scheidegger has taken an active part in the work of the United Church in the Ohaton community serving as secretary-treasurer for some twelve years. She was a member of the Women's Auxiliary for twenty-five years, retiring with a Life Membership in that body.

Mrs. Scheidegger was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes on August 19, 1954 by her branch, Ohaton W.I., on the occasion of the 35th Anniversary of the branch.

Mr. and Mrs. Scheidegger retired to their cottage at Ma-Me-O Beach in 1956. Mrs. Scheidegger continues her community work having joined Falun W.I. and Ma-Me-O United Church.

MRS. W. J. WAUGH



On August 19, 1954, the Ohaton Women's Institute celebrated their 35th Anniversary and honored two of their members with Life Memberships; Mrs. Waugh being one of them. A daughter, Mrs. P. T. Rawson, a member of Kelsey W.I. and leader of Kelsey Girls' Club, took part in the presentation.

Mrs. Waugh joined the Ohaton W.I. in December 1928 and is still an active member of the same branch.

MRS. HENRY PHILLIPS



Emily Louisa Phillips was born in Red Ruth, Cornwall, England, on February 9, 1879. She came to Canada in 1904 and settled with her husband on a farm in the West Liberty district near Millet. Her family consists of three daughters, one deceased.

Mrs. Phillips was a member of the Mother's Club and when that club became an Institute in 1917 she was one of its charter members. She has served as director, secretary and president of the Millet Women's Institute at various times during the years. She served four years as Convener of Agriculture for the Wetaskiwin Constituency.

For many years she was a trustee of West Liberty School

District. She is a member of the United Church of Canada and has served as Steward and Elder of the Millet Church. She has given much time to sewing for the local Red Cross and has been active in many other community projects. At the Institute Conferences she has been a consistent prize-winner for her handicraft.

Her energy, enthusiasm and business ability have been invaluable to the Millet Women's Institute. In token of their appreciation for her long years of activity for the welfare of the community, the Millet Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in August 1954.

MRS. LLOYD W. MARR



Margaret Catherine Belle Marr was born in Chippewa, Ontario, on April 14, 1883. She received her education in Chippewa and later worked there as a secretary. She moved to the Dakotas where she taught school. It was during this period that she met her future husband, Lloyd W. Marr. She returned to Ontario for three years and then came west. She was married in Calgary in 1907 and settled with her husband on a homestead in the Hillside district near Millet.

Mrs. Marr was a member of the Mother's Club and when this club became an Institute in 1917 she was one of the

Charter Members. She has served as president and secretary of the Millet Women's Institute at various times during her membership. For two terms she served as secretary of the Wetaskiwin Constituency. At the present time Mrs. Marr helps in the Millet Women's Institute Library.

She has taken an active part in the Women's Work Committee of the local Red Cross and has been active in many community projects. For many years Mrs. Marr assisted with the Hillside Sunday School acting as janitor. She is a member of the Anglican Church.

She has been a quiet willing worker whom the Institute could count upon to do more than her share. To show their appreciation of her continued and outstanding service, the Millet Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute in August 1954.

MRS. HUDSON GRANT



## MRS. HUDSON GRANT

Mrs. Hudson Grant, nee Sarah Jane Lewis, was born in Ontario but soon after the family moved to Detroit, Michigan. Here she attended school and at the early age of seventeen married Hudson Grant. Three children were born to this union.

In 1902 they moved as one of the pioneer families to the Angus Ridge district. Mrs. Grant joined the Women's Institute when it was first organized and has always been a faithful member. During the busy years when the children were small and roads very bad at times, she very seldom missed a meeting and has always been a member to be depended upon. She has served as President for two terms and as Secretary for one year.

Her fine handwork has done much to bring honor to her branch with exhibits of her work at the handicraft exhibits in Calgary, Edmonton and District Conferences. Her work has included rug making, crochet, knitting and outstanding quilting. One of her most beautiful entries was a Wedding Ring patchwork quilt, made after she was seventy-five years old. At the age of eight-five she made fourteen pairs of men's pyjamas for the Red Cross.

At the November meeting in 1954, Mrs. Hudson Grant received her Pin and Certificate of Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes from Angus Ridge W.I. with her daughter-in-law, Martha Grant, performing the ceremony.

MRS. JOHN GRIFFIN



Mrs. John Griffin (nee Lorinda UMBACH) was born in Edmonton, October 26, 1893. She attended school in Stony Plain. After her marriage to John Griffin in 1911 she made her home at Griffin Creek.

She joined the Griffin Creek Women's Institute in

1917 and served as one of the early presidents of the branch and also as its secretary taking an active part in the institute work of her community until the family moved to Armstrong, B.C. She is the mother of five children. There are sixteen grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Her hobbies include handicrafts of many kinds, such as knitting, crocheting, rug making, etc. She takes great pride in her flower garden and keeps up her interest in reading.

Of the fifteen charter members of Griffin Creek who joined at the organization meeting only Mrs. Griffin kept up her membership. In the early days when transportation was a problem she would drive around with her car to pick up the members and in winter would make the long drive with a team and sleigh.

Of her Life Membership she says:

> "Griffin Creek made me a Life Member of the Alberta Women's Institutes in October 1954 for which I am very thankful. Although I live in the sunny Okanogan I am still interested in the success of the Alberta Women's Institutes."

MRS. JOHN BROWN



Mrs. John Brown was presented with a Life Membership in November 1954 by Drumheller-Handhills Constituency.

She is a charter member of the oldest branch in the province, having joined the Verdant Valley W.I. at the organization meeting in 1912. Her life story is most interesting. She writes:

"I was born at Tyne Valley, Prince Edward Island, in 1880. As my father, Reverend John Goldsmith, was a Methodiat minister, we lived in many different parts of the Maritime Provinces. I attended high school in Alberton, P.E.I., then went to Prince of Wales College at Charlottetown in 1898-1900.

I graduated from the Provincial Normal School in Fredericton, New Brunswick and later attended the University in the same province, graduating in Arts in 1905. The same year I came west to Saskatchewan and was the first teacher in the town of Stockholm, teaching in a church as there was no school as yet.

In 1906 I married a Presbyterian minister, the Rev. John Brown, then of Esterhazy. We came to Airdrie, Alberta, in 1907 and to our homestead in Verdant Valley in 1909. My husband did mission work in the surrounding country, preaching in the homes and school houses and in the nearby towns of Rosedale, Munson and Drumheller as they came into existence. Since his death in 1946 I have resided in Drumheller."

Mrs. Brown (Violet Evelyn) is the mother of two daughters and three sons. There are eleven grandchildren.

## MRS. CHARLES TROIDL



Mrs. Charles Troidl received her Life Membership in 1955 from the Warner Women's Institute. During her forty years of service she held every branch office and also served her constituency as chairman of more than one standing committee.

Anna Pauline Pittman was the daughter of John and Mary Pittman. Her birthplace was Montgomery, Minnesota. When she was still a child her parents moved to South Dakota; it was here that she wed Charles Troidl. Their union was blessed with eight children, four sons and four daughters. They have ten grandchildren.

Amongst the Women's Institute projects that Mrs. Troidl played an active part were: sponsoring the first immunization and Well-Baby Clinic held in the Warner community; the free radium for the Galt Hospital; the building of a fence around the cemetery; opening and maintaining a waiting room for country people; securing the first local doctor; organizing the first country fair; installing the flag pole and flag at the local school; the installing of the first street lamps; erecting two war memorials for World War 1 and World War 2; knitting and sewing for Overseas parcels; raising funds for local charity; and collecting for such causes as the Red Cross and Cancer, etc.

Mrs. Troidl is a member of the Catholic Church and is an ardent worker in her church.

Mr. and Mrs. Troidl celebrated their Golden Anniversary on February 20, 1956 with many friends gathering to express their respect and affection for a grand pioneer couple.

MRS. J. A. CAMPBELL



One of the best known Women's Institute workers of southern Alberta was presented with her Life Membership at the Annual District Conference of District 4 at Lethbridge in March 1955 by her home Constituency of Warner in recognition of her long years of service in the field of Publicity both in the press and on the air.

Alice A. Hallonquist was born at Bergen, Manitoba, on November 22, 1892. She attended a rural school there, Little Mountain # 52; then continued her high school education in Winnipeg, New Westminster and Calgary. She graduated from Calgary Normal School and taught at Dalroy, Bow Island and Taber before joining the staff of one of the Calgary schools. She wed John Alexander Campbell of Dundee, Scotland in June 1920 and went to Grassy Lake as a bride.

She was instrumental in organizing Better Days W.I. at Grassy Lake as she had been interested in the Institutes while teaching at Taber in 1915.

In 1925 the Campbells moved to Milk River where Mr. Campbell was a lumber man. Gardening was their hobby and their yard became a show place in the town.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Campbell were active in community work. She is a Charter Member of Iris Chapter # 77, O.E.S. Milk River and a Past Matron of the same. Mrs. Campbell acted as Superintendent of the United Church Sunday School for a dozen or more years; was active in the formation of the Women's Institute Library in the town and helped to secure a district nurse for the community - to mention just a few of her local efforts.

Mrs. Campbell has held various offices in the Alberta Women's Institutes: Constituency Convener, District Director, Provincial Secretary for four years, Provincial Chairman of Agriculture and Canadian Industries. She commenced the W.I. Radio program over CJOC at Lethbridge and CHAT at Medicine Hat and has written a weekly column of Women's Institute news for the Lethbridge Herald for the past six years.

Mrs. Campbell compiled a History of the Milk River Community which won an Honorable Mention in the Tweedsmuir Competition and also has one of her articles included in the Alberta Anthology published in the Jubilee Year of 1955.

She was widowed in 1951 and she took a book-keeping position in a local store, but under much pressure from the County Superintendent she returned to her old profession of teaching in 1955 and accepted a position in the Coutts school.

Her hobbies are flowers, reading and enjoying people. "These are all very fascinating" to quote Mrs. Campbell.

## MRS. J. E. DeWINTER



Lizzie Smith was born September 1,1895.Following her completion of Public and High School she took her teacher training and taught for many years in country schools.

She married J.E.DeWinter and when the family moved to the Enilda area in 1928 she continued teaching.

Lizzie DeWinter was a charter member of the Enilda Women's Institute and worked for"Home and Country" for many years.

Through the years she held all offices at Branch level and served a term as Convenor for the Grouard Constituency in District One.

Mrs.DeWinter devoted much time with children's recreation programs. For her dedicated and faithful service to the Women's Institute she was presented with a Life Membership by the Enilda Women's Institute.

Lizzie DeWinter passed away August 27, 1973.

## MRS. E. T. MOE



Mrs. E. T. Moe was born in Minnesota on August 9, 1885, the eldest daughter of George and Ida Schaefer. She graduated from public and high school in that state and then took her teacher's training. She taught for seven years before her marriage to E. T. Moe in 1912. The Moes have lived at Langdon, Alberta, all of their married life. They are the parents of two children: Katherine of Red Deer and Kermit who lives on a farm at Langdon.

Mrs. Moe has established something of a record for branch secretaries as she has acted as the secretary of Langdon W.I. for thirty-two years. She helped to organize the branch in 1920 and has held the office of branch president as well as her long term of service as secretary. She never misses a meeting, even walking the two and one half miles from her farm home when the roads are too muddy. Mrs. Moe is a member of the United Church and the Woman's Association.

Mrs. Moe was presented with a Life Membership by the Langdon Women's Institute in May 1955. It took place at a special meeting when the mothers and grandmothers of the district were being honored by the Langdon W.I. and there were over sixty present when this honor was conferred on Mrs. Moe. It was a very happy occasion and a complete surprise for the recipient of the Life Membership.

MRS. RALPH CLELAND



Mrs. Ralph Cleland, nee Eva Elizabeth Vestol, was born in Webbers, Kansas. She was married in 1906 to Ralph Cleland and they came to the Wetaskiwin district in 1913 and two years later moved to a farm in the Angus Ridge area.

Mrs. Cleland joined the Angus Ridge W.I. when it was organized in 1917 and has been one of its most active members since. During the early years getting to the meetings was no easy task, but Mrs. Cleland would seldom miss even though the roads were very bad. She set a record for the

best attendance of any member throughout the years. While her children were small she took them with her to the meetings and today her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Angus, is an active member of the Women's Institute.

Mrs. Cleland has served as president and secretary and chairman of Household Economics. Her wit and good humour has been greatly appreciated and many meetings have been enlivened with her recitations. She has won many honors for her handicraft which includes rug making, fine sewing and outstanding quilting.

At the May meeting in 1955 her daughter, Mrs. Ralph Angus, very proudly pinned the Life Membership Pin on her mother. At the time Mrs. Cleland had been a member of the Angus Ridge W.I. for thirty-eight years - a splendid record which her branch was happy to recognize.

MRS. MANFRED GRANT



Angus Ridge W. I. bestowed a Life Membership on Mrs. Manfred Grant at the May meeting 1955 in recognition of her more than thirty-five years of service to the branch. She was a charter member and several times served as branch president and secretary as well as being a Constituency Convener. She also served as Provincial Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries.

Martha Imrie Wilson was born at Sunbridge, Ontario, in 1889. There she attended public and high school and took a teacher's training course. She taught for three years before coming to Alberta. After further training at the Camrose Normal School she taught in Alberta for several years.

She was married in 1916 to Manfred Grant and they have four children. They often went to the meetings with her,

travelling in all sorts of conveyances.

Always handy with any kind of needlework she has won several outstanding prizes on her work; one being a First Prize award on a quilt at the Calgary Handicraft Exhibit. Gardening has also been one of her hobbies and everyone around admires her gardens. She has always been most generous in giving her plants and seeds to other Institute members.

This worthy member was presented with her Membership Pin by her mother-in-law, Mrs. Hudson Grant.

MRS. OTTO NEIMAN



Mrs. Otto Neiman was born Ella Schamuhm in 1890 near Portland, Oregon.

In 1895 she came with her parents to live on a homestead near Leduc. She received her education in one of the first rural schools in that district. In 1917 she married Otto Neiman and came to the Angus Ridge district where she joined the newly organized Angus Ridge Women's Institute.

She has taken her place as president, secretary and chairman of Household Economics. Many a time during the early days this faithful member rode horseback or walked to meetings when the roads were otherwise impassable.

She has many hobbies in the line of handicrafts such as quilt making, sewing, crocheting, embroidery and the making of corsages from worn nylon hose. Gardening is also a hobby of hers and friends and neighbors receive many plants and seeds from her garden.

At the May meeting of the Angus Ridge W.I. this worthy member received her Pin from the hands of her daughter, Mrs. Shirley Jenson.

## MRS. GEORGE WELBOURN



Mrs. Welbourn was born in Galt, Ontario, on July 17, 1860. When she was five years of age her family returned to Keilhill, Scotland where they remained for four years before returning to Canada. They settled at Oshawa, Ontario.

When she was only sixteen years of age she began teaching a Grade One class at the handsome salary of two hundred dollars a year. She remained teaching until she had become the principal at twice the salary. She married George Welbourn on December 28, 1886.

Mr. and Mrs. Welbourn and family came to Edmonton October 4, 1891. Mr. Welbourn had accepted a teaching position with the Presbyterian Church Mission on the Indian Reserve at Winterburn. She remained in Winterburn for two years and then returned to Edmonton for five years, before moving back to a farm in the Winterburn district. She is the mother of eight children, five of whom are still living. Two sons were killed in the First World War.

Mrs. Welbourn was the instigator of the Winterburn Women's Institute in 1914; was the first branch president and held many offices in the branch during the years of her membership. She was also very active in Red Cross work.

At the fortieth Anniversary Party of the Winterburn Women's Institute, Mrs. Welbourn was presented with a Life Membership.

She now lives in Edmonton and is ninety-six years old. She is well and keeps busy and happy with her family and many friends.

## MRS. JOSEPH SUDER



Katherine Suder was born in Germany on December 6, 1870. When she was eight years of age her parents moved to Ontario where they settled at Elmira.

She and Joseph Suder were married January 12, 1891 and the following year they moved to Atim Lake district where they homesteaded. They reared a family of nine children, six of whom are still living.

Mrs. Suder was president of the Winterburn W.I. for one year. During both World Wars she took a very active part in the work of the Red Cross. She was presented with her Life Membership on the Fortieth Anniversary of Winterburn W.I. in May 1955.

She still lives in her home in the Winterburn district where she has dwelt for the past sixty-five years and keeps busy with her quilt making and crocheting.

MRS. GEORGE GROAT



On May 11, 1955, Winterburn Women's Institute presented a Life Membership to Mrs. George Groat. She had been a member of the branch for forty years and had served as a director, president and delegate on several occasions. Mrs. Groat came with her husband to the Spruce Grove district in May 1909 and has resided there ever since. She is a member of the United Church.

Mrs. Groat (Barbara Young MacDonald) was born in Inverness, Scotland, on August 1, 1884. She received all her education in the schools of Inverness before coming to Edmonton in 1907.

It was here in November 1908 she and George Clare Groat were married. They have four daughters and one son. Mixed farming was their source of income. Mrs. Groat is fond of reading and knitting and she enjoys her flock of chickens.

In receiving her Life Membership Pin and Certificate, Mrs. Groat said, "I am proud to be a member of the Winterburn Women's Institute and of the honor they have bestowed on me."

MRS. JOHN SHEPPARD



Laura Ellen Clark was born in the historic town of Niagara-On-The-Lake, Ontario, on September 13, 1886. She was the youngest of the family and so she remained at home until she wed John Sheppard on January 8, 1912. They came to the Peace River country and homesteaded in the sparsely settled district of Rio Grande.

It was when Mrs. Sheppard was attending a baby clinic held in the Rio Grande school house in 1923, along with several other pioneer mothers of the area that a suggestion was made that an institute be organized. It is believed that a Mrs. Findlay, wife of Reverend Findlay of Lake Saskatoon, a Mrs. Carlysle and Nurse Watherston were in attendance that day and talked of the advantages of the work of

the Women's Institutes. The idea was received enthusiastically and on October 11, 1923 the Red Willow Women's Institute was formed, with Mrs. Sheppard being one of the ten Charter Members enrolled.

Since then she has been a continuous member and except for the years when her late husband was ill she has attended most meetings. The branch secretary writes:

> "For the past thirty-six years our meetings have been strengthened and brightened by her sunny disposition and we had great pleasure in presenting her with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes."

Her Life Membership was to have been presented to her at the annual Constituency Conference in Rio Grande on her seventieth birthday and thiry years of continuous membership in the Red Willow W.I., but due to rain and bad roads the plans did not materialize. Due to her age the members felt that the pin should be presented to her at a regular branch meeting. This was done with the presentation being made by Mrs. L. Williams.

Mrs. Sheppard remains active in community work and especially in the Catholic Women's League.

MRS. T. H. HOWES



## MRS. T. H. HOWES

For her oustanding work in publicity for the Alberta Women's Institutes over a period of eight years, Mrs. T. H. Howes was presented with a Life Membership in the organization at the Provincial Convention in May 1955.

It was through Mrs. Howes' efforts that the feature "The Spinning Wheel" appearing in the Edmonton Journal did much to stimulate interest in the A.W.I. in the northern part of the province and it was enjoyed by everyone who read 'The Woman's Page'. She also contributed many fine articles to several farm weeklies and was Assistant Editor of the Federated News, a position which she still holds in 1955 - 1957.

Born at Alba, Pennsylvania, Ruth Beatrice Bloom was educated at Elmira Free Academy in New York State, and later graduated from Bethan College, West Virginia. She was a member of the Zeta Tan Alpha Sorority. She taught History and English in the High School at Jewett, Ohio for two years.

In 1917 she married Thomas H. Howes, manager of the Freestone Farms at Akron, Ohio, and in 1925 the Howes family moved to 'Willow Farm' near Millet where they still carry on farming operations.

Mrs. Howes, on her arrival in Alberta, immediately became interested in the Women's Institutes and served four years as Constituency Convener; as Director of District 3

for five years; as Vice-President of the Alberta Women's Institutes for two years before being called to assume the duties of the Provincial President in May 1955, a position which she was well qualified to fill. She was one of the five delegates from Alberta to the Triennial Conference of the A.C.W.W. held in Toronto in 1953 and was chosen again to attend the 1956 Triennial Conference of the A.C.W.W. in Ceylon representing the Alberta Women's Institutes.

Beside her interest in her family - she has three married daughters and several grandchildren - and her church, she has been President of the local Red Cross and a member of the Executive of the Canadian Association of Consumers. On two occasions she has taken courses in Civil Defence at Arnprior, Ontario, and has filled many places of honour as befits the President of the Alberta Women's Institutes, such as being an official board member of the Canadian Cancer Society, the Rural Education Board, the Alberta Mental Health Association and others.

Mrs. Howes holds a firm belief in the value of the Alberta Women's Institutes for the rural woman. She has untiring energy and enthusiasm which she is able to transmit to others.

Mrs. Howes was elected as Second Vice-President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada at the National Convention held in Ottawa in October 1957.

MRS. M. L. THOMPSON



## MRS. M. L. THOMPSON

The contribution made by Charlotte (Lottie) Thompson to the progress of the Women's Institutes of Alberta has been of inestimable value to the organization. She first joined Coaldale branch and in due time served as its president for three years. Then followed six years as Constituency Convener; four years as Director of District 4; four years as Provincial President and then, in 1941 to 1945, she was called to the highest office in the Alberta Women's Institutes - the Provincial President. These were busy anxious years when the members were doing much patriotic work.

Perhaps she is best known for her work as Editor of Home and Country, an office which she filled from 1934 to 1955 with the exception of the years 1941 to 1943. There is no way of determining the number of members who were first encouraged to subscribe to the paper after hearing Mrs. Thompson report on 'Home and Country' at a Provincial Convention - for her enthusiasm was contagious.

For twelve years she directed the 'Home and Country Half-Hour' over CJOC at Lethbridge. She was a member of the Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada for four years and was one of the five delegates from Alberta who attended the Triennial of the Associated Country Women of the World held in Toronto in 1953.

To show their grateful appreciation for her long years of service, she was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in June 1955 by the Council of the A.W.I. with Mrs. S. Lefsrud, Provincial President making the presentation. A Life Membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada was given her in 1949 by the Council at that time as Alberta Life Memberships had not yet been established as a way of recognizing a member's contribution.

Charlotte Bridge was born near Seattle, Washington, of American parentage claiming British descent. She married Marion L. Thompson in Yakima in 1913 and came to a farm at Coaldale in 1920 with a family of four small children.

Her interests are many: other people, reading, gardening and her grandchildren.

Although Mrs. Thompson is now retired from active duty in the A.W.I., she can be called upon to perform any part in the work of the organization and she will do so with tact and charming efficiency. Mr. and Mrs. Thompson have lived in Lethbridge for a number of years and she is still an active member of the Lethbridge Branch, as well as being a member of the United Church and a circle of the Woman's Association.

## MISS ISOBEL NOBLE



OUR FIRST PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

A love of adventure has characterized the life of Miss Isobel Noble. It was the call of adventure that lured her from the sedate life of a school teacher in Hartford, Connecticut, to the 'boom' town of Wichita, Kansas, where her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Robert Cooper Noble, were establishing a home.

Isobel was one of a family of six children: Tom, Will,

Joe, Isobel, Mary and Anne. In 1908 love of adventure again brought her to Daysland, Alberta, where she joined her brother, Tom, in his extensive farming operations.

A graduate in her native State University at Urbana, Illinois, she was well qualified to assume the high office of President when, at the First Provincial Convention February 1915, she was called to head the Alberta Women's Institute - a body of forty-two branches. Within the year the number increased to one hundred and seven. Miss Noble held this office for eight consecutive years travelling and speaking on many, many occasions - a task that she must have enjoyed. She served as Supervisor of the Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Clubs from 1924 to 1927.

In 1928, due to the failure of her brother's health, Miss Noble returned to Wichita, Kansas, where she has devoted much of her time to such activities as Community Chest, Red Cross and Cancer Society. She is a staunch Republican.

Travelling around the world has been a favorite occupation for Miss Noble and when she returned to the 1955 A.W.I. Provincial Convention, she delighted an audience for one whole evening with her graphic account of a trip to some of the little known islands of the East. She loves huge hats and possesses a fine collection of them.

Miss Noble was granted a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes by the Council in 1955 on the occasion of her visit. We look forward with much pleasure to having her attend our Golden Jubilee Convention in May 1959.

## MRS. J. I. JONES

Jessie Patterson McIvor was born at Virden, Manitoba, the daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth McIvor. She was a member of the Edmonton teaching staff before mer marriage to J. I. Jones. They have made their home in Mannville where he has a law practice. They have one daughter, Mrs. R. N. Edem of Edmonton, also a member of the teaching profession.

Mrs. Jones was president of her own branch of Birch Creek before she was elected to the office of Constituency Convener of Vermilion-Vegreville West Constituency in which she served for two years. It was during this time that she organized Lavoy, Rosemary and Wendy Brook Institutes.

Elected to the office of Director of District 2 in 1951, Mrs. Jones is well remembered as one who never lost sight of the needs of the members, especially those who were working under difficulties. She organized four more branches in the next four years, namely, Claymore, Lewood, Drayton Valley and Mayerthorpe. A grateful district presented her with a Life Membership at the close of her four years service to the organization in 1955.

One little know fact of her Council years is the honor of having been chosen to act as Chairman of Council during the absence of both the Provincial President and the Vice-President during the Triennial Conference in Toronto of the

Associated Country Women of the World in 1953. Although no emergency did arise which necessitated her taking any action, Mrs. Jones was quite capable of handling the situation had there been such.

She has been active in a number of other organizations. She is a member of the Anglican Church, the Home and School, Red Cross, Library Association and the Scholarship Committee of the Women's Institute.

For relaxation she has such interests as curling, golf, reading and bridge. She has travelled considerably having made no less than three trips abroad.

Her main interest is still in the Women's Institutes for the betterment of Home and Country.



## MRS. A. L. HOGG



Mrs. A. L. Hogg, born Mildred Lock, comes of a long line of English ancestors. Her birthplace was in Hampshire in 1891. She attended school and high school at Burton-on-Trent. On April 2, 1912, she and Alexander Hogg were wed in the Pro-Cathedral in Calgary, Alberta. To this union were born three sons, two of whom served in the R.C.A.F. in World War 11, and one daughter. The Hoggs spent the first seven years of their married life at Sundre.

She joined the St. Eloi Women's Institute in 1923 and when that group disbanded she joined Rugby W.I. in 1930. She has twice served as Constituency Convener and was given her Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes by Rugby W.I. in 1954.

Mrs. Hogg is an active member of the Red Cross and served as Convener for Red Cross work in the West Didsbury area. She writes that she manages to knit three pairs of sox and one or two sweaters each month for that organization as well as knitting an endless amount for her nine grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

She is proud she rarely misses a meeting of her branch nor fails to attend the Provincial Conventions.

## MRS. HERBERT MILLER

Mrs. Miller was born Tomora Stamper in Paris, Texas, in 1893. Her family lived for a time in Oklahoma and it was here she met and married Herbert Miller in 1913. Three years later the Miller family moved to Alberta and settled west of Wetaskiwin in the Angus Ridge district.

In 1919 Mrs. Miller joined the Angus Ridge Women's Institute and for three years she had perfect attendance. In 1926 the Millers again moved - this time taking up residence two miles east of the city of Wetaskiwin where they still reside. Mrs. Miller then joined the Wetaskiwin Branch on February 24, 1926 and from 1928 until 1937 she had a record of perfect attendance at the meetings; a very creditable record, indeed.

She was a busy farm wife and mother of six children. She held the office of branch president for several terms. She has worked faithfully and well, especially when there was any catering to be done Mrs. Miller was always right at hand.

Wetaskiwin Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1955, in appreciation of her years of loyal service.

MRS. WILLIAM THOMAS WOOD.



Emma Elizabeth, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. N. Allen, was born April 8th, 1894, at Carmen, Manitoba. Here she spent her childhood, later moving to Winnipeg with her family. She married William Thomas Wood in Winnipeg, and they made their home there until 1934, when Mr. Wood was transferred to Edmonton, Alberta.

Mrs. Wood joined the Edmonton Women's Institute in 1935, and was chosen to act as Branch Secretary the following year. She continued in that Office for five years. She was President for three years, and Treasurer for three years. Mrs. Wood was the Secretary at the District Conferences for a number of years, and for four years served as Constituency Convener.

When the Edmonton Women's Institute had the Tea Room at the Women's Building at the Exhibition, Mrs. Wood convened the Tea Room for eight years. For four years during the last war, Mrs. Wood gave half a day every week, to the Navy League work room. She also worked with the Women's Regional Advisory Committee of the Wartime Prices and Trade Board.

Mrs. Wood's other chief interest has been with what is now Westminster United Church. She was on the Session for several years, and Treasurer of the Ladies' Aid for eleven years. She was President of the Central Women's Association for two years. She served four years on the Executive of Presbytery W. A., two years as Corresponding Secretay, and two as Third Vice President.

Mrs. Wood was left a widow in 1939. She has two daughters, both are married. The elder daughter lives in Vancouver, and the younger daughter lives in Winnipeg. Mrs. Wood has one grandson.

In 1955, the members of the Edmonton Women's Institute presented Mrs. Wood with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in recognition of her many years of faithful service to Home and Country.

MRS. ROY BERNARD GREER



Mrs. Roy Greer received her Life Membership pin on March 27, 1956 from her branch, Coaldale Women's Institute.

She was born Eva May Kay at Kenora, Ontario, on June 25, 1892. On January 9, 1913 she and Roy Greer were married in Winnipeg and some seven years later they moved to the Coaldale district. Here she joined the Coaldale W. I. branch. She is the mother of one son and four daughters, two of whom, Mrs. E. Holtman and Mrs. Ralph King, are active Institute members.

Mrs. Greer served her branch as secretary-treasurer for nine years. During the Second World War she acted as Red Cross Convener and did a considerable amount of sewing and knitting for the cause. In the years 1955 and 1956



she convened the drive for the benefit of the Cancer Fund under the auspices of the local Women's Institute. It may safely be said that Mrs. Greer is ready and willing to serve her branch at any time on any committee to which she may be appointed.

Her hobbies are crocheting and rug making and she always supplies the branch bazaars with large crochet doilies for their fund raising projects.

She enjoys good health and never misses a meeting. The Coaldale Women's Institute wishes Mrs. Greer many more active years as an Institute member.

MRS. B. G. DUNN



Mrs. B. G. Dunn is a Charter Member of Sundial Women's Institute, having joined when the branch was organized in June 1937. She seldom misses a meeting and has faithfully attended most of the North Taber Constituency and District Four Conferences. In recognition of her faithful service to her branch she was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in March 1956.

Mrs. Dunn was born Cynthia Jane Custard in Willow Lakes, South Dakota on March 7, 1891. She was the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Le Grand Custard. At the age of four years her family moved to Minnesota where she received her education and in 1910 on July 13, married Benjamin George Dunn.

The Dunns filed on a homestead in the Sundial district in September 1910, and she joined the ranks of Alberta's pioneer women and became the mother of fourteen children, nine sons and five daughters. One son passed away at the age of three years. She has thirty-six grandchildren. The Dunns are now retired and living in the village of Turin.

MRS. G. S. MAIN



Mae Glidden was born to George and Mary Glidden on November 7, 1890 in Wessington, South Dakota. Her parents moved to Lethbridge area in 1909. She married Garfield S. Main on December 6, 1910 and came to homestead in the Sundial district in 1912.

The first Sundial Women's Institute was organized at Mrs. Main's home on June 2, 1937 with Mrs. Main as one of the Charter Members. She held many offices in the branch, and although she is one of the oldest members of the branch, she is still very active and helps in every way to keep the branch going. She has been a hard working farm woman and a good neighbor. During the war years she did much Red Cross work and was a member of Sundial Ladies Aid.

Sundial Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership in March 1956.

## MRS. GOLDWIN HILL



Mary McNiven was born in June 1904 in Ayr, Scotland, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Donald McNiven. She received her education in Scotland before coming to Alberta in 1924 with her two sisters and four brothers.

After living a year in Lethbridge she came to the Sundial district where she met and married Goldwin Alfred Hill on December 4, 1926.

Mrs. Hill joined the Sundial Women's Institute the first year it was organized and has been a member ever since. She enjoys attending the conferences and conventions.

With her sweet smile and quiet personality she has endeared herself to all her many friends. Her hobbies are knitting and the cultivation of house plants.

Mrs. Hill is the mother of three sons and three daughters. There are also eleven grandchildren.

Sundial Women's Institute presented Mrs. Hill with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in March 1956.

## MRS. EDWARD WILSON



Molly Wilson, born Molly C. Hagen, first saw the light of day in Minot, North Dakota, in 1887. In 1906 she and her family arrived in Alberta and settled at Battle Lake, west of Wetaskiwin. She did office work prior to her marriage to Edward Wilson in 1912. Two children were born to this union, both of whom became teachers.

Mrs. Wilson became a member of Angus Ridge Women's Institute when it was first organized. She served one year as president and all through the years she has been the official organist at meetings and other branch functions requiring the services of an organist.

She has done some outstanding handicraft, such as fine embroidery and quilting. Mrs. Wilson has always been a willing worker in the branch. During the years she has given a home to many boys and girls whose parents were forced to be away and go out to work. Mrs. Wilson could be counted upon to look after the welfare of these children and to send them to the rural school close by.

Angus Ridge Women's Institute conferred a Life Membership upon Mrs. Wilson for her long years of service to the branch, in 1956.

## MRS. ARTHUR NORRIS

Glendale W.I. at Cochrane honored Mrs. Arthur Norris, a charter member, in 1956 by conferring upon her a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. Mrs. Norris had been instrumental in organizing the branch in 1925. Since then she has served in every office of the Glendale branch, many of them for several terms, for a grand total of twenty-two years.



Susie Finn was born in Saskatchewan in the Percy area in 1892, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Philip Finn. After a sojourn in California of seven years where the mother passed away, the Finn family returned to Saskatchewan where Susie took her public school training. She completed her high school work in Calgary and graduated from Normal School there. She began teaching in 1913 taking her first school at Manor near Three Hills.

It was while she was teaching at Glendale that she met her future husband, Arthur Norris. Mr. and Mrs. Norris reared a family of three sons and one daughter.

They are now retired and living in Calgary.

## MRS. THOMAS LIVINGSTONE



Hilda Davies was born in Saundersfoot, South Wales, in 1883, one of the fifteen children of John and Mary Davies. She was working in Glasgow, Scotland, when she met a young Irishman, Thomas Livingstone. In 1903 Tom migrated to Edmonton and Hilda followed in 1906 to become his bride.

They resided in Edmonton until 1914 and three of their five children were born there. In 1914 they came to Onoway and took up farming in the Heatherdown district.

Mrs. Livingstone joined the Women's Institute in Onoway in 1920. In recalling those early days of the branch she remembers bundling up the children and driving in the buckboard or wagon to the W.I. meetings. In 1928 their home was destroyed by fire and the Livingstones moved to Ferintosh

where they resided for six years. During this time Mrs. Livingstone retained her membership in the Onoway branch. She held the office of director and vice-president of her branch and has more recently been chairman of Health.

Two of the sons served with the navy in World War Two. Of the five children, Harold and Thomas now reside in Edmonton; Stanley in Clive; Ivor and Thora (Mrs. Stanley White) in the Heatherdown district. There are six grandchildren. Mr. and Mrs. Livingstone celebrated their Golden Wedding Anniversary in August 1956.

Mrs. Livingstone is an accomplished singer, and has frequently been called upon to be soloist at church, Women's Institute and other functions. For many years she has been an active worker in the Onoway United Church, of which she is now secretary-treasurer. Until health prevented, she was an ardent curler. She is always willing to give freely of her time and energy to these and other community activities.

The Livingstones are a real asset to the community and we were proud to present Mrs. Livingstone with a Life Membership at the July 1956 meeting of the Onoway Women's Institute. The presentation was made by Mrs. C. R. Rood of Stony Plain.

## MRS. JOHN PADBERG



In her autobiography Mrs. John Padberg writes of the founding of her branch as follows:

"On a spring day in 1916 a group of women of this district (Sibbald) organized the Rush Centre Women's Institute - Rush Centre was the name of the school district and that is the name by which our Institute is still known. The branch officers when we organized were: Mrs. J.C. Christie, president; Mrs. James Travis, vice-president and Miss Ida Muhlbach was the secretary-treasurer. I, Mrs. John Padberg, nee Ida Muhlach, am the only charter member left in the district. All the others have either left the community or passed on.

The Rush Centre Institute is at present a very live branch with many members and a splendid set of officers. On August 3, 1956 we celebrated our fortieth anniversary in the Esther Hall. I was the guest of honor and received a Life Membership pin and certificate. I have held many branch offices during my more than forty years as a member.

I was born on a farm in North Dakota. The Capital of the State, Bismark, being our closest town at the time, is considered my birthplace. Two years later Wilton, N.D. mushroomed into a town and since it was only one mile from my home

it was there I received my education.

In September 1911 I came with my parents, four brothers and two sisters to this district. Here my father became the Postmaster of Muhlbach Post Office from 1912 until 1919. I was assistant postmistress until I became Mrs. John Padberg in 1917. We still live on the same farm some two and one half miles from my parents home.

We were blessed with five children and we now have eleven grandchildren, some of whom live quite near.

As an afterthought I want to mention that in 1917 I went to the Women's Institute Convention held in the Palliser Hotel in Calgary and I felt it was a wonderful experience."

The picture shows Mrs. Padberg holding her Life Membership Certificate.

MRS. D. W. PATTERSON



Mrs. D. W. Patterson has served the Alberta Women's Institutes for many years with credit to herself and with honor to the organization.

She joined as a Charter Member of Grande Prairie W.I. in 1924 and held various offices in her branch. She became Constituency Convener in 1932 and this marked the beginning of an ever-widening field for Mrs. Patterson. She was next Provincial Chairman of Legislation and International Relations

for a four-year term, then served as Director of District One from 1943 to 1949. She was elected as Alberta's Representative to the Federated Board in 1947 and attended the National meeting in Saskatoon. She was also chosen as one of the five delegates from Alberta to the Triennial of the Associated Country Women of the World held in Toronto in 1953. In 1954 she became the first Chairman of the new convenership of United Nations and Exchange Programs with Letter Friends being added to the Committee in 1955. In 1956 she brought Alberta the distinction of having won second place in the essay contest sponsored by the A.C.W.W. Presently we can her Mrs. Patterson's voice over CFGP bringing us the 'NEWS and VIEWS of the WOMEN'S INSTITUTES' each Saturday morning.

Rose Devlin was born of English-Irish stock at Nanaimo, British Columbia, October 11, 1893. Her maternal grandparents came to Nanaimo around Cape Horn from England. She graduated from Normal School in Vancouver, and in the course of time came to the Peace River Country to teach. Here she met and married D.W. Patterson, a lawyer at Grande Prairie. She is the mother of two daughters and one son who is following in the profession of his father. There are four grandchildren.

As well as her Institute work, Mrs. Patterson has taken an active part in the Women's Association of the United Church and in the Missionary Society.

Grande Prairie W.I. presented Mrs. Patterson with her Life Membership in September 1956.

## MRS. THOMAS GOWER



Mrs. Thomas Gower was born Eliza Ann Cleverley at Brampton, Ontario, on September 7, 1877 and received her education there.

She became the bride of Thomas Gower at Owen Sound in 1902 and eight years later, intrigued by tales of life out west, they moved to Edmonton. 1912 saw them journey with oxen and wagon to Pickardville, taking their three children, the youngest one being only two months old. They spent the first summer on the homestead in a tent while Mr. Gower erected a log cabin. When he returned to his job in Edmonton that fall, Mrs. Gower stayed on to chink the walls of their new home in true pioneer style.

Feeling strongly the need to weld the pioneer wives,

Mrs. Gower was instrumental in organizing the Women's Institute in the early '20's. In the succeeding years she was many times president, building an organization that has outlived many of its original members.

In 1931 her son, Jack, brought his bride, Charlotte, home and took over the farming responsibilities. Mrs. Gower had more and more time for Women's Institute work. Even today, unable to take an active part as before, she still finds great interest in keeping in touch with the members and their activities. She has enjoyed a gratifying fullness of life through her close association with the Women's Institutes and remains a staunch supporter of its deeds and principles.

Mrs. Gower was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1956 by Pickardville Women's Institute.

## MRS. W. J. THOMSON



A Proud Moment -- December 1956

Mrs. W. J. Thomson, a member of Edmonton Women's Institute, not only repeats the Creed, she lives it daily.

Jennie Olivia is the third daughter of Swedish parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Olson, now deceased. She was born at Estevan, Assiniboia, N.W.T. and trekked one and a half miles to the little Red School House to get a firm foundation in education. High school years were spent in Estevan and prepared her for Normal training at Regina and Brandon College, Manitoba. She made her

contribution to the teaching profession at Weyburn, Estevan and Shauavon where she met and married the late William James Thomson on August 6, 1919. Later they moved to Olds, Alberta, where Mr. Thomson received his degree in Agriculture in 1926. Grande Prairie then became their home for many happy years and it was here that Mrs. Thomson joined the Women's Institute in 1931. Their family of three: June, Mrs. F. A. Boyd of Calgary, James of Toronto, and Eleanor, Mrs. W. B. Purvis of Cold Lake, all continued with their education to University and are following their chosen professions.

Mrs. Thomson has been an active member of the Edmonton W.I. and has held a number of offices including that of branch president, vice-president and secretary as well as acting as Convener of Home Economics, Education, Citizenship and of the Tea Room at the Edmonton Exhibition. On the Constituency level she has served as Constituency Convener and represented the Women's Institute when the Edmonton Citizenship Council was formed. Here she made her contribution welcoming the new citizens and directing them in finding the best Alberta has to offer.

Mrs. Thomson has taken an active part in church work in the city in Metropolitan United Church, in the Women's Auxiliary, Missionary Society and as Sunday School Superintendent of the Primary Section. She has also held offices in the Edmonton Y.W.C.A. and C.G.I.T. Boards. "A conscientious worker at whatever she undertakes"; "A true Countrywoman" is how her friends describe her.

She was presented with a Life Membership in 1956 by the Edmonton W.I.

MRS. A. D. LYON



Anna Cowell Lyon was born in What Cheer, Iowa, August 19, 1899, the daughter of Robert and Amelia Cowell, of English descent. She came to Lomond, Alberta, as a young girl and it was here that she and Alvan Lyon were wed March 31, 1919. Since her marriage she has made her home in Barons. The Lyons have

two sons, Leroy and Donald, and five grandchildren, all of whom reside in Barons.

Mrs. Lyon joined the Barons Women's Institute in 1923, served as secretary in 1924; as president in 1941, 1948, 1950, 1955 and 1956. She has served faithfully as Convener of Handicraft in her branch and in Little Bow Constituency. At the time she received her Life Membership she was serving as vice-president of her branch and was also on the Board of the Auxiliary of the Senior Citizens Home in Lethbridge.

Mrs. Lyon has been an active and public-spirited citizen in the community and has assisted in promoting many of the projects of the Barons W.I. through the years, one being the financial aid given to the building of the community hall with Barons W.I. being the first local organization to contribute to this effort. She took an active part in the many clinics held in her home town, such as the T.B.; the Chest X-Ray; Baby Clinics; and Dental Clinics as well as raising funds to send a local boy East for an operation. During the Second World War she was active in Patriotic League, organizing clothing drives and food parcels and was in charge of the local tobacco fund for the boys overseas.

Her special hobbies are fancy work and growing flowers. She has a warm smile and a friendly greeting for all friends both old and new.

Anna Cowell Lyon was given her Life Membership in October 1957 at the regular meeting of her branch. Special guests were present for the occasion.

MRS. R. S. GRANT



Elizabeth Grant (nee McCaig) was born on a dairy farm in the parish of Girthon, Kircudbrightshire, Scotland, on January 11, 1888. She was one of a family of ten children. She attended the village school four miles away, then completed her education at the High School Academy. She went to work clerking in a store in her home town.

In 1912 she left her native Scotland and ventured alone to Canada sailing on the Scandanavian - a trip that required eleven days. Her first position in Canada was as a clerk in a store in Brandon, Manitoba.

She had promised her parents that she would return to Scotland in five years for a visit, but romance entered her life at a Red Cross dance when she met her husband-to-be who was in Brandon on business. Elizabeth McCaig and Ray Grant were married August 3, 1916 and travelled to Walsh, Alberta, where they took up residence at the Sarnia Ranch. Here they remained until their family was ready to attend school when they took up residence in the hamlet of Walsh. The three children are now grown and married and the Grants have three grandchildren to brighten their sunset years.

Mrs. Grant joined the Walsh Women's Institute in 1919 and has been a faithful member and co-operative worker always. During the forty years since joining she has held all branch offices and has shared the good times and the hard times in this tiny branch that is one of the oldest in the province.

Mrs. Grant took an active part in Red Cross work during the war years and still convenes the yearly canvass for that body which is a Women's Institute project in Walsh. Mrs. Grant is blessed with good health and plans to return to Bonnie Scotland in July 1959 for a combined visit with family and friends and will also attend the Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World as part of her good work for A.W.I.

Walsh Women's Institute bestowed a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes on Mrs. R. S. Grant in May 1957.

MRS. H. S. NESS



Agnes (Jensen) Ness was honored with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes after twenty-six years as a member of Falun W.I.

Of that time she had perfect attendance for ten years and she had served as branch secretary for nine years. She had also acted as director, president and as convener of health in her branch. In recognition of her faithful services, Falun Women's Institute presented her with her pin in May 1957.

She was born Agnes M. Jensen in St. James, Minnesota, on August 29, 1892. She married Henry S. Ness on September 21, 1912 and here in St. James two daughters were born. They moved to Canada in 1919, living for a brief time in Wetaskiwin before they

settled in the Falun district.

Mrs. Ness joined the Chirterwold Women's Institute shortly after moving to the Falun district and was branch secretary for a number of years before the branch disbanded and she joined the Falun W.I.

Mr. Ness passed away in 1934 and some ten years later Mrs. Ness sold her farm and bought a home at Ma-Me-O on Pigeon Lake. Her life here has been full of activity. She built up such a thriving business in home baked foods that she was forced to give it up. She has been a member of the local Boosterette Club which, for more than ten years, has equipped and maintained the children's playground in this popular resort. Her hands are never idle as she does much fancy work and gardening and is active in the Women's Auxiliary of the Ma-Me-O United Church. She has fifteen grandchildren, some of whom live near enough to visit her often.

MRS. WILLIAM STEWART



Susan Barr Vallance, daughter of James Vallance, was born at Greathill, Strathaven, Scotland. She received her degree of Master of Arts from the University of Glasgow and took post-graduate work in Lycee de Caen, France.

She was married to William Stewart in Scotland in 1913 and came to Lesser Slave Lake, Alberta. A year later they moved to Peace River Crossing. Living three hundred miles from a railway, Mrs. Stewart could unfold many a tale of pioneering on the Peace.

In 1919 she became interested in the work of the Alberta Women's Institutes and for many years was president of the Peace River Branch. She attended her first A.W.I. Provincial Convention in 1921 when the first Federated Women's Institutes of Canada Board met in Edmonton also. She served at various times as Constituency Convener and, from 1937 to 1941, was Provincial President. From 1941 to 1943 she was Editor of the 'Home and Country'.

It was in September 1939 that Mrs. Stewart and her husband were on board the ill-fated Athenia when it was torpedoed, but the Stewarts were amongst those who were brought to safety. During the Second World War in 1943 and 1944 Mrs. Stewart did war service in the German Division of the Censorship Department, Ottawa. Shortly after her return to Peace River a Life Membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada was awarded her by her home branch.

In 1947 Mr. and Mrs. Stewart moved to Victoria, British Columbia, where in the spring of 1950 Mr. Stewart was suddenly called by death. Mrs. Stewart has continued to live in Victoria. In 1955 Mrs. Stewart returned to Alberta for a visit and graced

the Provincial Convention of the Alberta Women's Institutes with her presence, taking part in the tree planting ceremony and speaking informally at the banquet. She was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in recognition of her past services.

Mrs. Stewart belongs to the University Women's Club and to her church organizations. She has never lost interest in the Women's Institutes, however, and has been a guest speaker at some institutes while residing in British Columbia.

MRS. L. D. SMITH



Mrs. Smith at the typewriter given her by the delegates at the 1957 Provincial Convention as a token of esteem

Marjory Hyndman was born in England of Scottish parentage. Her father was engaged in the wholesale business and was able to give his daughters many educational advantages such as attending a private school. During the First Great War the disruption of trade brought a reversal of the family fortunes and the Hyndmans came to Saskatchewan to make their home. Marjory, who was still a young girl, attended high school at Balcarres and Qu' Appelle, Saskatchewan, and later

took business training in Regina.

She worked for a time as a bookkeeper before her marriage to L. D. Smith at Avonhurst, Saskatchewan, in 1923. The Smiths lived in that province until 1926 when they moved to Grimshaw, Alberta. Here Marjory Smith became a Charter Member of the Grimshaw W.I. and served as the first secretary. She remained an active member until the family moved to the coast in 1939. In 1942 the Smiths came to Leslieville, Alberta, where she became the treasurer of the local Institute branch acting in that capacity for four years.

Mr. Smith, who is a grain buyer, was transferred to Penhold in 1946, and once again Mrs. Smith joined the Institute in her new home town. She held various offices in the Penhold branch and was president in 1955 - 1956.

In 1947 Mrs. Smith was appointed Provincial Treasurer of the Alberta Women's Institutes and for the next ten years she proved to be an efficient and hard working officer. She was presented with a Life Membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada by the branches in the northern part of the province in recognition of her work in arranging transportation for the delegates to the 'Blueprint for Action' Workshop held in Edmonton. In 1957 the Unitarian Services Committee of Canada presented her with their pin in recognition of her work for their organization.

'Peggy' as she is called by her intimate friends, has many fine qualities that endeared her to all who came to know her. Modest about her own achievements, unselfish and possessed of great tact, her ten years as Provincial Treasurer made her one of the best loved, if not the best known, woman in the Alberta Women's Institutes. She will be remembered by many for the little 'tuck-in' notes sent to branch secretaries with a money receipt; by former Council members for her charm and efficiency; by delegates to Provincial Convention for her patient consideration at the registration desk.

She was given a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes by the Council of that body at the Provincial Convention in May 1957. At the same time a typewriter was presented from the delegates assembled. Mrs. Smith, completely surprised and delighted, responded:

"A Life Membership and a typewriter too!"

Mrs. Smith is the mother of one daughter, Gail, who is a teacher.

MRS. JOHN BLACK



Mrs. John Black (Cinda Elizabeth Taylor) was born in Essex County, Ontario, September 9, 1889. She can claim the ancestry of hardy early settlers who came to Canada by the long, and sometimes perilous, journey by sailboat.

The fourth child in a family of seven children of Mr.

and Mrs. John N. Taylor, she attended school in Essex County until the family moved to the Red Deer district in 1910. After one year the family moved to a homestead in the Edgerton district where the children attended Giles School.

Due to the unfortunate illness and subsequent death of her mother, her schooling was interrupted at the beginning of high school studies. She took charge of the household for a number of years. In 1923 she married John Black, a farmer in the Wainwright district where they have made their home ever since. They have one daughter and two grandsons.

Mrs. Black served as a member of the Women's Auxiliary of Rosedale United Church, but most of her community work has been done in connection with Rosewillow Women's Institute. Since Rosewillow is a rural district the Institute does all the necessary work for such projects as the Cancer Crusade, the Red Cross and many other charitable organizations. She joined the Women's Institute in 1936 and has served as secretary, president and treasurer of Rosewillow at various times since.

In 1953 she was elected Convener of Wainwright Constituency in District 11, serving in that office for four years. At the end of her term of office her Constituency presented Mrs. Black with a Life Membership in appreciation of her services to the branches and the Girls' Clubs while in office. This presentation was made by Mrs. Donald Gunn of Irma at Irma on June 27, 1957.

## MRS. J. R. JACKSON



Mrs. J. R. Jackson was living in the little village of Milburn, Northumberland, when Mrs. Alfred Watt, O.B.E. came to the place to organize a branch of the Women's Institute. She does not recall the exact date, but Mrs. Jackson became a member.

In 1926 Mrs. Jackson left her native home and journeyed with her family to Alberta. She joined the D.E.L. Institute and has held every office in the branch, acting as president for ten years. Her Standing Committee papers have been one of the highlights of the Conferences. Her Life Membership pin was presented to her at the Constituency Conference June 27, 1957 by D.E.L. Women's Institute.

Mrs. Jackson is the mother of seven children, twenty grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She has always been a keen handicraft worker, particularly rugs and quilts. Although past eighty she has taken the most points in local handicraft exhibits.

MRS. R. W. PRENDERGAST



At the September 1957 meeting of the Highway W.I., the members were both proud and happy to present Mrs. R. W. Prendergast with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes for her splendid cooperation and loyalty to the branch, and for the honour she had brought them through the many Provincial offices she has held.

Hazel Dorothy Johnston was born in Kamloops, B.C. and moved as a small child with her family to Calgary where she received her education. After teaching for two years she married R. W. Prendergast and they took up residence in Red Deer. They have one son, Victor, who is a graduate in aeronautical engineering.

Mrs. Prendergast joined the Highway W.I. as a Charter

Member when it was organized in June 1938 and was the first secretary and has held office in some capacity since that time. From 1948 to 1952 she served as Constituency Convener for the Red Deer Centre Constituency. At the 1953 Provincial Convention she was elected to the position of Provincial Secretary, holding the office for the maximum term of four years. In 1955 she was elected Federated Representative and again in 1957.

Mrs. Prendergast's interests are not confined to the A.W.I.. During this time she was also a member of the Red Deer Hospital Auxiliary and has been on the Executive since it was instituted, serving as President for two years. She is a member of long standing of the Ladies' Orange Benevolent Association and was Provincial Grand Mistress for the 1951-52 term, ably filling the position. She is also on the executive of the Red Deer Cancer Society and takes a keen interest in Civil Defence activities, having taken one of their courses at Arnprior, Ontario. A capable woman with a pleasing personality her services are in deman in civic matters around the city of Red Deer.

Every branch in the province is proud to acclaim this honour that has been bestowed on Mrs. Prendergast by her own group for her contribution to the Alberta Women's Institutes has benefitted each individual organization.

MRS. E. KNUDTSON



Kate Shirer was born October 12, 1884 in the small town of Green, Iowa. She was one of a family of eight children born to Greenwell and Mary Ellen Shirer, an American couple of German descent. She met Mr. Knudtson in Lajord, Saskatchewan, shortly after her arrival in Canada and they were married on November 25, 1911.

The following spring the Knudtsons moved to Dilke, Saskatchewan, and it was here while they were homesteading

that she became interested in the work of the Institutes, joining the local Homemakers' Club and also the women's section of the United Grain Growers, taking an active part in both.

In 1937 they moved to the Champion district in Alberta where they still reside. Mrs. Knudtson joined the Champion Women's Institute the following spring. She is a very jovial person, capable but modest, and is ever ready to lend a helping hand wherever it is needed.

Her hobbies are quilt making and gardening, especially the growing of flowers of which she has many varieties.

It was at the home of Mrs. Adam Ferguson that a special gift was bestowed upon KateKnudtson. Mrs. Ella Sisson, President of Champion W.I. presented her with a Life Membership Pin and Certificate in recognition of her many years of faithful help and guidance to Champion Women's Institute. The date was September 1957 at the annual birthday party of the branch.

MRS. JOHN HADDOCK



Mrs. Maude Haddock was born in Wellington, Kansas, on November 22, 1884, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hubbard. She attended the schools of Wellington and in 1908 married John Haddock.

The Haddocks lived successively in Evansville, Indiana, for two years; in Wichita, Kansas for one year; in Craik, Saskatchewan for two years and finally in 1913 moved to the Shining Bank district of Alberta where they homesteaded. A daughter, Martha, was born in 1915.

Mrs. Haddock ran a Half-way House supplying meals to

travellers on their way to Peers from the homesteads farther north. She was Postmistress for many years at the Post Office of Haddock which was named for her husband. She joined the Women's Institute in 1920 and has taken an active part in the organization ever since.

She is keenly interested in all community projects and particularly in the health of the community. She has given a great deal of time and effort in support of the Nurses' Home in Peers and was an active helper when the W.I. sponsored Dental Clinics for the school children. She supported the district nurses' first efforts to establish immunization clinics for the school children by giving the use of her home once a month for that purpose.

Mrs. Haddock still lives on the homestead. Her son and three grandchildren live near her. Her daughter, Martha, and five grandchildren reside in Everett, Washington. Mrs. Haddock is very interested in handicrafts and makes a hobby of hand-hooked rugs, textile painting and crocheting.

On December 11, 1957 the three branches of Mahaska, Carrot Creek and Hattonford bestowed a Life Membership upon Mrs. Haddock in recognition of her many years of service "For Home and Country".

MRS. W. R. FORD




Mrs. Ford joined the Manberries Women's Institute in 1929 when, as one of the local teachers, she was persuaded to become the leader of the A.W.I. Girls' Club.

In 1938 she married Walter R. Ford of Coutts, Alberta, and the couple settled on a farm in 'The Border Country' east of the village. Here they still reside with much of their farming interests devoted to raising commercial Hereford cattle.

A Charter Member of Sunshine Women's Institute, Mrs. Ford served as the first president, holding the office for two years. She has served successively as Convener of Warner Con-

stituency; Director of District 4; Federated Representative of the Alberta Women's Institutes to the National Board in 1955 and as Provincial Vice-President from 1955 to 1959. During her institute years she organized three branches in the Warner Constituency: Writing-On-Stone, Old Chief and Hillview. Situated at the International Boundary Line, Mrs. Ford has been very aware of the possibilities for International Friendships and it was largely due to her efforts as early as 1953 that the foundation was laid for meetings between the women of District 4 and the Montana Home Demonstration Clubs.

In 1953 Mrs. Ford represented the Alberta Women's Institutes at the first Regional Convention of Indian Homemakers to be held in Alberta. This was at the Blackfoot Reserve at Gleichen. Since then she has supported the work of the integration of the two organizations: The Homemakers and the Women's Institutes and has been a loyal champion of the 'First Canadians. It was in 1955 that Mrs. Ford undertook to compile the record of the Book of Life Members and bring all past records up to date. It has been a very rewarding work. She served as Provincial Convener of Citizenship in 1958-1959 due to the resignation of the former officer.

One of the highlights of her Institute years has been the achievement of her home branch, Sunshine W.I., in winning the first Tweedsmuir Cup to come to Alberta. This trophy was presented to Mrs. Ford at the National Convention in Ottawa in 1957 .

by Senator Cairine Wilson on behalf of the branch for their winning history - 'The BORDER COUNTRY OF COUTTS'. Mrs. Ford had been secretary of the history committee throughout the years of research and writing.

Mrs. Walter Ford, nee Virginia Gow, comes of Scottish-English descent. She is the seventh child of Le Roy and Flora Gow who were a pioneer couple of the Winnifred, Alberta, district. She attended a rural school, Newdale, for both her public and high school education and graduated from Calgary Normal in 1924. She later attended Alberta College in Edmonton and many summer sessions of the University of Alberta during the years that she taught in the schools of the province - a total of fifteen years of teaching.

Mrs. Ford is an active member of the Coutts United Church and a Past Matron of Iris Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star. Her hobby is history, whether it is reading it, writing local events or compiling the record of some of the members of the Women's Institutes of Alberta who have been honored with a life membership.

In recognition of her efforts, Sunshine Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership in March 1958, the presentation being made at the banquet of District 4 Conference by a dear friend and co-worker in the branch, Mrs. Clifford Peterson.

Mrs. Ford served as Provincial President of the Alberta Women's Institutes from May 1959 to May 1961.

MRS. PETER HEITRICH



Mrs. Peter Heitrich, nee Jane Johnstone Rome was born in Duffriesshire, Scotland, near Gretna Green. She was educated in the Leslie Public and High Schools and later graduated in Home Economics from the Atholl Crescent College of Domestic Science, Edinburgh. Jane Rome and Peter Heitrich were married in the McLeod Presbyterian Church, Glasgow, in March 1943 when Peter was in His Majesty's Armed Forces in Scotland. Mrs. Heitrich came to Canada as a war bride in June 1945 and took residence at Etzikom while yet her soldier

husband was not home from overseas duty. Because of her sparkling personality and Scottish wit she was quickly accepted by the people of Etzikom.

She became a Charter Member of Etzikom Women's Institute in April 1950 and acted as branch secretary for the first three years. In 1954 she was elected Convener of Medicine Hat Constituency and during that time she organized Hoping Women's Institute and the Etzikom Rosebuds Girls' Club. Talented in arts and crafts, Mrs. Heitrich made an outstanding contribution to the handicraft displays that were sent to the Montana Stage Fair in the United States in 1953 and 1954 by District 4, A.W.I. She won more than one ribbon for the Alberta entry. She was appointed as Provincial Convener of Home Economics in 1957 serving for a two-year term. Mrs. Heitrich was chosen one of the delegates from her district to attend the National Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada in Ottawa in October 1958.

In June 1958 at the close of her four year term of office the eight branches of Medicine Hat Constituency presented her with a Life Membership certificate and pin in recognition of her devotion to her work as convener.

Mrs. Heitrich plans to revisit her native Scotland in 1959 and also attend the Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World in Edinburgh.

MRS. S. K. AITKEN



Mrs. S. K. Aiken has been connected with the Women's Institute movement since 1916 when she joined the Vera Homemakers in Unity, Saskatchewan. She was a member here for eleven years before moving to Griffin Creek, Alberta, where she joined the local institute in 1928. When the Aitken family moved from the farm to Brownvale she again joined the new branch in her town in 1954. Here the members say she is one of their hardest working members. What finer tribute? She was delegate from Brownvale W.I. in 1957 to the Provincial Convention.

Mrs. Aitken was born Rossana Steel, March 8, 1887, in Sunderland, England. She came to Toronto with her parents when she was about ten years old. She married on June 3, 1908 in Winnipeg where her eldest child, James, was born. In 1911 the call of the west drew the Aitken family to McDonald Hills, Sask. where another son and two daughters were born. Mr. and Mrs. Aitken celebrated their Golden Wedding in 1958 and on this occasion the Brownvale W.I. presented Mrs. Aitken with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes.

MRS. A. B. McGORMAN



Born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1892 of English and Irish descent, Ethel Mary Wilson came west with her parents as a small child to a farm twenty miles east of Innisfail, Alberta. Here her elementary education was obtained in a little one roomed school near her home. She attended High School in Innisfail and later Normal School in Camrose.

After teaching for two years she married A.B. McGorman and successively lived in Innisfail, British Columbia, Coaldale and Lethbridge. In 1930 they moved to the home farm near Penhold.

They lived there and in the village until Mr. McGorman's death in 1958.

Mrs. McGorman joined the Innisfail W.I. in 1916 and was the first secretary. Except for one year when she was taking care of a sick son, she has been a continuous member of the Alberta Women's Institutes ever since - at Coaldale while living there and for many years at Penhold.

An able person, she held every office in the branch and for four years was Provincial Supervisor of the Girls' Clubs in 1939 - 1943. Following this she served as District 3 Director; as Vice-President for four years, except for a break of a few months when she took over the office of Provincial Treasurer in the case of an emergency. In 1949 she attained the highest honor in the organization by being elected Provincial President.

During her term as President, she represented the organization at the A.C.W.W. Conference in Copenhagen in 1950 and was Convener of Press and Publicity for the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada when planning the Toronto Conference of the A.C.W.W. in 1953. She represented the F.W.I.C. at this world-wide meeting.

Mrs. McGorman was instrumental in bringing recognition of the value of the Women's Institutes to the province as a whole and it was the first organization to be made an associate member of the Alberta Division of the Canadian Cancer

Society, as well as being recognized as the leading group of rural women both in educational matters and welfare.

Not all her time was given to the Women's Institute, she was an ardent church supporter and served on the Board of Chalmers Church, Penhold, and held offices in the Women's Auxiliary and the Missionary Society. She has been a keen member of the Home and School and of the local Library Board.

At the end of her term of office as President of the Alberta Women's Institutes, this active woman was not content to lead a retiring life so she turned to teaching - a decision that stood her in good stead after the death of her husband.

The Alberta Women's Institute Life Membership came into being through Mrs. McGorman's efforts during her term as Provincial President. Her own Life Membership was given to her by her home Constituency of Red Deer Centre on June 20, 1959, with the presentation being made by Mrs. L. D. Smith who had served with Mrs. McGorman so many years on the Council. A host of friends and former subordinate officers were present at the time to rejoice in her well deserved recognition.

It was indeed a fortunate day for Alberta when little Ethel Wilson was brought to that pioneer farm by her parents at the turn of the century.

MRS. FRANK WILD



Mrs. Frank Wild was presented with her Life Membership at the annual Institute Birthday Party in May 1958 of the Winterburn Women's Institute. She had been a faithful and continuous member for 43 years, a true asset to the organization and to the community.

Her maiden name was Henrietta Mary Wakeford and her birthplace was Olga, North Dakota, on June 14, 1892. She married Frank Wild on April 8, 1914.

Mr. and Mrs. Wild came to Canada shortly after their marriage and bought a farm in the Winterburn district, west of Edmonton where they established a permanent residence in March 1915.

Mr. Wild died on October 17, 1944 leaving his widow, one daughter and five sons: William, James, Robert, George and John. Mrs. Wild has nine grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

MRS. MYRON KEMPER



Mata Florence Kemper is a native daughter of Alberta, having been born in Taber, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Hammer. She attended the schools of Taber and later the Garbutt Business College where she graduated as a secretary. She worked as a stenographer in the Taber Court House for several years following her graduation.

In 1934 Mata and Myron Kemper were married and they established a farm home in the Chin district of Southern Alberta and resided there for thirteen years.

It was here that she joined the Alberta Women's Institutes, becoming a member of the Chin-Cranford W.I. In 1947 the Kempers moved to Lethbridge so that their family might be near school and for twelve years Mrs. Kemper was a loyal member of Lethbridge Women's Institute.

She has served as secretary and as president of both Chin and Lethbridge branches. In 1958 the Lethbridge W.I. honored her with a Life Membership at their Constituency Conference. At the same Conference, when asked to serve as Convener, she graciously accepted the office although she was already serving her provincial organization as Editor of Home and Country which is no light responsibility. Mrs. Kemper gave South Taber Constituency stimulating leadership for two years as their Convener.

Since 1957 the Kempers have been farming again and Mata is happy and busy combining her farm home duties with those of her church and the Alberta Women's Institute.

She is known amongst Institute members as one with outstanding capabilities and friendly understanding. To meet her is to remember her -- to know her is to love her.

MRS. D. A. CAMPBELL



Mrs. D. A. Campbell, nee Agnes Law, was born at Faulkton, South Dakota, on September 8, 1896. She came to Canada with her parents in 1902 and grew up on the family homestead in the Round Hill district. She was married to Don Campbell on October 13, 1915. They moved to the farm one and one half miles north of Round Hill where they still reside.

She first joined the Women's Institute in 1919, but her growing family was taking up more and more of her time, causing her to withdraw her membership. Her family increased

to twelve, nine sons and three daughters. One son died in infancy but the other eleven grew up to become fine young men and women. Needless to say this large family meant much baking and Mrs. Campbell, at the peak time of her life, baked bread every other day using up a one hundred pound sack of flour every week.

She rejoined the Women's Institute in 1929 and has served faithfully since that time, although an attack of arthritis has handicapped her in the later years.

She received her Life Membership on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary of the Round Hill Women's Institute with Mrs. T. H. Howes, Provincial President, making the presentation, in August 1958.

Mrs. Campbell is truly a pioneer and Round Hill W.I. is proud to have her as a member.

MRS. FRANK HOHN



Mrs. Frank Hohn, nee Gwendolyn Morris, was born in North Wales, on March 3, 1896. She came to Alberta on June 30, 1920 to become the bride of the soldier she had met at Bournemouth.

In 1921 they moved to a farm in the Dodds district and here in due course five children were born. Later, in 1935 the family moved to a small farm about one and one half miles from Round Hill. It was shortly after this moved that Mrs. Hohn joined the Women's Institute and quite often she would walk to the meetings.

Her husband passed away in September 1953, but she still lives on the old farm with her son who is Vice-Principal at the Round Hill School. She prefers this active life caring for her chickens and a few cows to the sedentary life

in town.

She is active in the Women's Institute work, helping with the Cancer Campaigns, knitting socks and mitts for the bazaars and taking her turn as hostess.

She received her Life Membership on the occasion of the 40th Anniversary party in 1958 of the Round Hill Women's Institute with Mrs. T. H. Howes, Provincial President, making the presentation.

Mrs. Hohn has a rare sense of humour and the Round Hill branch is grateful to her for many relaxing moments in the busy schedules.

## MRS. H. G. STRONG



Mrs. H. G. Strong is of Irish and German extraction, born in East Orange, New Jersey, on October 5, 1887. As a young woman she entered the nursing profession and graduated from Orange Memorial Hospital. Then followed several years of nursing in hospitals in various parts of the New England States. She held the responsible position of Superintendent of nurses on more than one hospital staff.

She married Harry Gordon Strong of England in 1921. Ten years later the Strongs came to Canada to reside, settling in the Meanook area where they still live. They have a daughter, Mary, and two sons, Gordon and Norman. All of the children are married and the Strongs have thirteen grandchildren now.

Mrs. Strong was the guiding light in the organization of the Meanook Branch of Women's Institutes on December 11, 1941. In 1946 the Constituency of Athabasca was formed and Mrs. Strong was elected as Convener for the new body and served a full term of four years. In 1954 she was again elected as Constituency Convener for Athabasca and during this term she organized the Amber Valley W.I. which is the first all-colored branch in Alberta.

For nine years Mrs. Strong served as President of her branch as well. This faithful and industrious Women's Institute member was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes at the Provincial Convention in Edmonton, May 27, 1959 by the members of Athabasca Constituency in recognition of her splendid contribution to both her branch and her constituency.

The picture shows Mrs. Strong with her grandchildren and is a favorite of Mrs. Strong. 'An Adoring Grandmother' so Mrs. H. G. Strong says of herself.

MRS. M. B. FALKNER



Mary Bell McCrimmon was born at Lancaster, Glengarry County, Ontario, on January 11, 1882 where she later went to school. She attended the St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and was married to Edgar Falkner on June 26, 1907.

Mr. and Mrs. Falkner came to Alberta in 1909 returning to Ontario about 1912 where Mrs. Falkner joined the Women's Institute branch in that area. The family returned to Penhold, Alberta, in 1913 and three years later when the Penhold Women's Institute was organized under Miss McIsaac Mrs. Falkner became a member - a valued member until she moved to Sylvan Lake in 1919. She became the mother of two sons, Wesley and Mac, who later joined the Police Force and now live in Victoria, British Columbia.

It was largely due to the efforts of Mrs. Falkner that

the Sylvan Lake Women's Institute was organized in 1925, although Mrs. H. R. McDougall of Penhold, Constituency Convener, carried out the formalities. Mrs. Falkner has always been a valued member having been treasurer for a number of years and at present is Convener of the Standing Committee - Education.

A Life Membership pin and Certificate were presented to Mrs. Falkner on March 19, 1959 by the Constituency Convener of Red Deer West Constituency, Mrs. William Broderson of Rimbey, and the President of Sylvan Lake Women's Institute, Mrs. A. Rittenhouse, in recognition for a long and devoted service to the Sylvan Lake W.I. She has been a kind, jovial and friendly member and neighbor.

She shared the honor with her elder sister, Mrs. James Dingwall, who was also presented with a Life Membership at the same time.... to date the only sisters so honored in the Alberta Women's Institutes. This is a fine tribute to the 'McCrimmon Sisters' and a distinction for the Sylvan Lake Women's Institute.

MRS. JAMES A. DINGWALL



Born Catherine Ann McCrimmon on May 7, 1877 at Lancaster, Glengarry Country, Ontario, of Scottish parents, Farquhar and Helen Monroe McCrimmon, Catherine, or Cassie as she has been called all her life, spent her girlhood in Ontario, attending school at Lancaster, working in Montreal for a time before her marriage to James A. Dingwall in 1908. A life-long Presbyterian, she was baptized and married in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church by the Rev. J. U. Tanner. Her two children, Helen and Alex, were born there also. There are three grandchildren.

Coming to Alberta, the family lived in Red Deer from 1915 to 1917 when they moved to Sylvan Lake which has been their home since.

Mrs. Dingwall joined the Sylvan Lake Women's Institute on November 2, 1925 at its organization meeting and she has been a valued member ever since. She has held various offices in her branch. During her term of office as President in 1928 the first pier, known as the W.I. Pier, was built with the official Opening being formally conducted by the Honorable R. B. Bennett, then Prime Minister of Canada. She was also instrumental in the purchasing of a building to be known as the Women's Institute Hall which has continued to be in use ever since.

Mrs. Dingwall has been a member and active worker of Memorial Presbyterian Church since its inception and was instrumental in getting the Sunday School Hall established. At present she is retired, age 82, but still takes an active and keen interest in everything.

On March 9, 1959, the Sylvan Lake Women's Institute presented her with a Life Membership pin and Certificate. The pin was presented by the Constituency Convener of Red Deer West Constituency, Mrs. William Broderson of Rimbey, and the certificate was handed to her by the President, Mrs. A. Rittenhouse, for all her valued efforts in the Sylvan Lake Institute.

Her hobby has always been making her home a friendly place for neighbors and friends to meet.

MRS. W. J. BISHELL



Mrs. W. J. Bishell was born Frances Ocalla Fugate, the seventh child of John Wesley and Mary Ann Fugate, on March 28, 1888 at Richmond, Kansas. She has lived all her life on farms. After attending the country school, she took her teacher's training at Girard, Kansas, and obtained her certificate. She taught for two years until her marriage in March 1910 to Walter Bishell.

The Bishell family moved to Alberta in 1912 and after spending the winter at Delburne, they took a homestead two miles west of Loyalist. Seven children were born to this marriage, six of whom survive. All are married and live in Alberta but one. There are sixteen grandchildren. Both Mr. and Mrs. Bishell have been highly respected citizens of the Loyalist community. Mrs. Bishell is active in the Veteran United Church and the Women's Auxiliary.

Mrs. Bishell joined the Loyalist Women's Institute in 1918 which was just about one year after it was organized. She has been a loyal officer and worker in the branch ever since. At the present time (1959) she is compiling the history of the branch. Under her capable direction the Loyalist Women's Institute have won many ribbons for their patchwork and applique quilts.

On Friday evening, March 20, 1959, her home Institute honored Mrs. Bishell with a dinner held in the local hall when about thirty-five people were present, including the institute members and their husbands. Special guests included her daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Knudson, past members, Mrs. R. Jones and Mrs. M. Brown, and the only remaining Charter Members in the district, Mrs. J. Monagle and Mrs. A. Whittmack, Sr. Mrs. Monagle spoke on the early days of the organization when the Women's Institute was almost the only social outlet in the community.

Mrs. W. Stewart, President of the Loyalist Branch, presented Mrs. Bishell with her Life Membership pin and Certificate in recognition of her 41 years of fine service.

## MRS. A. D. WISHART



Born into a pioneer Manitoba family, Mrs. A. D. Wishart carried on the family tradition by pioneering herself in the Peace River Country. She was born Grace Sifton at 'The Narrows' on Lake Manitoba in November 1881. The Sifton family, which included a cousin, Sir Clifford Sifton, made a notable contribution to the development of the West.

Grace received most of her education in Winnipeg. In January 1904 she married Alexander D. Wishart. They lived in Minitonis until March 1913 when they left for Grande Prairie, Alberta, travelling the famous Edson Trail. The journey was made in the record time of twelve days.

They brought with them their little daughter, Jessie, now Mrs. Allan Elliot of Dawson Creek, British Columbia.

Two children were born in the little pioneer town of Grande Prairie, Grace and Douglas. Douglas died during an epidemic of measles in 1929. Grace is at present (1959) teaching R.C.A.F. children in Baden-Soellingen, Germany.

Mrs. Wishart is a Charter Member of Grande Prairie Women's Institute which was formed in September 1924. She has served terms as branch president, treasurer and also Constituency Convener of Grande Prairie Constituency. She was a tireless worker as welfare convener during the war years and later in post-war work. Her modesty and charm have earned the esteem and affection of all W.I. members. Her skill in many forms of handicraft - her life time hobby- has been put to good use in the Women's Institute and in her untiring church work. The United Church and the Women's Auxiliary are a real part of her life.

Mrs. Wishart was given a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in April 1959 by the Grande Prairie Women's Institute.

## MRS. H. G. (GORDON) RIDLEY



To travel to meetings through mud, snow or drifting sand; to be an active member when weary or in sorrow is not easy, but Edna Ridley has done all this and has counted it as one of the blessings of a long and busy life. Here let us pay tribute to her husband, Gordon Ridley, who has been her steadfast supporter in all her W.I. endeavors.

Edna May Myers was born at Shelbourne, Ontario, on October 31, 1889, the daughter of Silas and Jane Myers, both of British ancestry. She came west with her parents and on July 11, 1912, married Harvey Gordon Ridley. This marriage was blest with two children: Wilda (Mrs. C. H. Roland) and Ivan whose tragic death in 1939 brought deep sorrow to their home.

The Ridleys farmed in the Montpelier district south-

east of Taber. Both Mr. and Mrs. Ridley were active and interested in community affairs. She was secretary-treasurer of the local school district for many years and also of the U.F.W.A.

Her association with the Women's Institutes started when Edna Myers became a junior member of the Shelbourne Women's Institute in 1909. In 1915 the Kinniburgh Women's Institute was organized by Mrs. A. H. Rogers and Mrs. Ridley served as the first President; then followed the offices of vice-president, secretary, treasurer and director. She served Taber Constituency as Convener from 1933 to 1937 and again from 1953 to 1958. She also served as Provincial Chairman of Canadianization and Immigration 1937 to 1941.

The Ridley home has always been a hospitable home. Flowers bloom in the house and in the yard and all who live in the dry areas of the south know that this calls for unremitting hard work. Her other hobbies include sewing and do-it-yourself carpentry. Edna Ridley has a genial friendly personality; is broad in her outlook and interested in the needs of others.

She especially enjoys attending Women's Institute Conventions. It was her privilege to tour Europe in 1959 and to attend, while Overseas, the ninth Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World in Edinburgh.

South Taber Constituency presented Mrs. Ridley with a Life Membership in April 1959.

MRS. ARTHUR ALLEN MacQUARRIE



Mrs. MacQuarrie was born in Port Elgin, New Brunswick, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis A. Taylor, on February 3, 1900. She is of English and Irish extraction. A graduate of the Provincial Normal School at Fredericton, New Brunswick, she has carried her love of learning as one of her hobbies and is a devoted reader of good books.

She married Arthur A. MacQuarrie on July 20, 1921 and came to Alberta to live. Two children blessed this union: Kenneth Taylor MacQuarrie, a graduate of Oxford University and now a medical doctor in Killam, Alberta. Kathleen Marie

MacQuarrie, a graduate of the Edmonton General Hospital as a Registered Nurse, is now Mrs. James Barber, Winnipeg, and the mother of three children: Kirk, Joan, and Kathy Jo'. There are also three grandchildren in Kenneth's family.

Mrs. MacQuarrie has held many offices at branch, constituency and district level in the Alberta Women's Institutes during the thirty-seven years that she has belonged to the organization. Branch president for two and one half years, branch secretary for five, Convener of Little Bow Constituency for six years and Director of District 4 for two years.

Her Life Membership was presented to her by the Barons W.I. for long and faithful service while a member of that branch. It was presented to her in April 1959.

Widowed in February 1959, she still resides in Barons. Her interests centre in her home, family, music, reading and flowers.

## MRS. F. W. TESTER



Minnie Isabel Scott was born at Little Shemogue, near Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, and received her education there. She took her Normal School training in Fredericton and taught in New Brunswick before coming to Alberta in 1910 where she taught in Gordon and also in a school at Beddington.

She married Fred Tester in 1912 and has one son, Ted, living in Little Red Deer, and one daughter, Louise, Mrs. T. Chute of Dawson Creek, B.C.

Mrs. Tester was an active member of the Little Red Deer Dorcas Women's Institute while in the Little Red Deer district, both before when it was a community organization and after it reorganized as a Women's Institute in 1946. She first became an Institute member when she joined the Gordon W.I. in 1938. Later she helped organize and joined the Innisfail Women's Institute. It was largely due to her efforts that the Innisfail Constituency was formed and she became the first Convener in 1946, serving four years. When the Constituency became too large it was divided and two Constituencies were formed and Mrs. Tester continued as Convener for another two years. During those years her home was a W.I. centre; executive meetings were always held there and Institute officers were sure of a welcome at any time.

Mrs. Tester's public service has not been confined to the Women's Institute. She is active in church work, having taught Sunday School for many years and she is also a member of the United Church Women's Auxiliary.

She is a Past Worthy Matron of the Eastern Star and has been Rest Room Secretary since its inception as well as being an active helper at the library.

Mrs. Tester was presented with a Life Membership in May 1959 by the Little Red Deer Dorcas Women's Institute in recognition of her years of faithful and inspiring service.

MRS. JAMES EMERSON PORTER



Thelma Lillian Porter is a native Nova Scotian of French and English ancestry, born in Glace Bay on January 29, 1907, the eldest daughter of Mae E. Scarlett and Peter M. Sodero. She was educated in the schools of Medicine Hat, Alberta, and continued on in her studies as a student nurse in the Medicine Hat General Hospital. From 1928 to 1929 she was employed as School Nurse for Medicine Hat City Schools.

She nursed in the Medicine Hat General for several years prior to her marriage in March 1932 to James Emerson Porter,

son of one of the early pioneers of the Medicine Hat district. They have made their home on the R. P. Ranch since that time. One son, Robert H., resides on, and manages, the ranch originated by his grandfather in 1883. There are two grandsons, Robert Lee and Richard William.

Mrs. Porter has belonged to the Irvine Women's Institute for twenty years and was president of the branch for twelve years of that time. She was elected Convener of Medicine Hat Constituency in June 1960 at the annual Conference.

Irvine Women's Institute members were anxious to show their appreciation to Mrs. Porter for her outstanding leadership during the time she was president and so a Life Membership was given to her, with the presentation being made by Mrs. David Bohnet in May 1959. The presentation took place at a regular meeting to which members' mothers and guests had been invited in honor of Mother's Day.

Mrs. Porter has a number of interests including membership in the Registered Nurses' Association, the Medicine Hat General Hospital Alumnae Association and the Community Art Club. She has many paintings to her credit, with one on the Provincial Art Tour in 1961. She is a member of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Medicine Hat.

MRS. M. G. ROBERTS



Myrtle Roberts, the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. H. Oliver, was born in Calgary, Alberta, June 21, 1905. Her parents were of British extraction. Myrtle attended public school in Calgary and Lethbridge and High School and Normal in Calgary, graduating from the latter in 1924.

Following her graduation she taught in the 'Over the Hill' district, at the Robson Lake School, south of Drumheller. She married John W. Olson, one of the eligible bachelors of the Drumheller area and the couple settled on a farm there. The Olsons raised a family of three: two girls and a boy. There are five grandchildren. Mr. Olson passed away in October 1954.

A year later Mrs. Olson became the wife of Morris G.

Roberts of Vancouver, B.C. and the couple have resided on the farm south of Drumheller.

Mrs. Roberts has been an active member of Horse Shoe Canyon W.I. since 1924, having held all the offices in that branch. For six years (1939-1945) she was Constituency Convener for Drumheller-Handhills Constituency. In August she was appointed Director of District 5 and in 1957 she was elected to hold that office for another two year period. Upon retiring from this office in May 1959, the members of District 5 presented Mrs. Roberts with a Life Membership, an honour she truly deserved after so many years in the work of the Alberta Women's Institutes. She is continuing to carry on her efforts for Home and Country in her new position as Provincial Vice-President, an office to which she was elected in May 1959.

Mrs. Roberts was for six years a Director of the Canadian Cancer Society, Alberta Division, as well as eight years President of the Drumheller Centre Branch of the Cancer Society. She is also an active member of the Drumheller Municipal Hospital Board. Mrs. Roberts has always taken a keen interest in community affairs. She is a member of Knox United Church and belongs to the Women's Auxiliary. She continues vitally interested in school and educational matters. At approximately 10.35 each Wednesday morning, Mrs. Roberts can be heard airing the Women's Institute News over Radio Station CJDV, Drumheller.

MRS. L. S. MEISTER



Mrs. L. S. Meister is a quiet little lady who lives in Turner Valley, Alberta. Much of her time is spent taking care of her husband who is in poor health, but she has managed to find time to work for the Turner Valley Women's Institute and the Anglican Guild. The former group honored her in May 1959 with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute.

She was a Charter Member of the Turner Valley branch which was organized in November 1930. She served on the

executive for six years. Mrs. Meister has always been a cheerful and conscientious worker, giving freely of her time and she has never failed to enter work in the handicraft displays. These articles have often been donated for raffles to raise funds for the Women's Institute.

She was born Grace Elizabeth Stitt in Cardinal, Ontario in 1892. In 1896 her family moved west to Alberta where her father homesteaded at Big Rock, Okotoks. The family lived successively at High River and Carmangay.

Grace Stitt married Lindsay Scott Meister on May 14, 1913. They reared a family of two sons and two daughters.

In the summer Mrs. Meister spends much time in her garden growing vegetables and flowers of which she has a wonderful display.

Mrs. Meister has exemplified in her life the Creed that Women's Institute members hold dear.

MRS. M. E. DIBBLE



Mrs. Dibble writes that she was born in the state of Illinois and named Maude Louise by her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Paden. She graduated from High School in 1900 as valedictorian of the class. Although she secured a teacher's certificate she didn't use it until years later as a permit teacher in Canada in 1920. Instead of teaching she took a secretarial course and worked at that profession until her marriage to Maurice E. Dibble in 1909. Mr. Dibble was working as a machinist at the Rock Island Arsenal.

The Dibble family came to Provost, Alberta, in 1911 where the ledest son was born. Later they took a homestead six miles from the present town site of Cereal. She says:

'There were many things that were exciting at the time,- the trip by team from Provost to the homestead two days before

Christmas, with a six months old baby; staying alone on that homestead in the summer with the baby while my husband worked in Alsask, thirty-six miles away; learning to milk a cow so the baby could have milk - I always felt sorry for that cow as it took me so long to milk; bearing five children with a doctor only for the first and last'.

That first summer at Cereal she joined the Prairie Circle, the forerunner of the Prairie Circle Women's Institute. There were more years of drought and grasshoppers than wet years and the Dibbles moved to a district west of Olds in 1933.

Finding no women's organization in this district, she was instrumental in starting the local F.W.U.A. which in turn became the Eagle Valley Women's Institute. She was the first secretary, holding that office until 1947 when she gave it up after the death of her husband. She served as Convener of Olds Constituency and of Olds West after the division of the former into two groups.

Now at 78 she lives alone on the farm in the summer where she cares for her large lawn, lovely flowers and fruit. She loves having people come to see her garden and yard. Her own W.I. branch have held an annual garden party there in July for over twenty-one years. In winter she lives in Olds where she enjoys being able to attend the United Church of which she is a member. She is active in both the Women's Auxiliary and the Missionary Society. Eagle Valley presented her with a Life Membership in May 1959.

MRS. J. P. FERGUSON



A Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes was bestowed on Mrs. J. P. Ferguson by the Provincial Council with the presentation of the pin and certificate being made by the Provincial President, Mrs. T. H. Howes during the special programme 'An Evening with the Past Presidents' which was a feature of the Golden Jubilee Convention in May 1959.

As one of the earlier leaders of our Organization and one who had served as Provincial President during a crucial time in its history, this recognition of Mrs. Ferguson was well deserved.

She was born near Orangeville, Ontario, the only daughter of the Reverend Mr. and Mrs. Crawford Tate. Mrs. Ferguson attended public and high schools in Ontario where she specialized in mathematics and science, later teaching in high schools in Ontario. She took up the study of law and was awarded the Law Society Gold Medal in her final year. She has practised the law profession with her husband for many years in Trochu, Alberta.

In 1918 Ruple Tate and J. P. Ferguson were married and to this union a daughter, Margaret, and a son, Crawford, were born. Mrs. Ferguson has a distinct liking for reading and gardening as relaxation.

During her active institute years she served as Constituency Convener and as Convener of Legislation. She was District 3 Director from 1929 to 1933 and from 1933 to 1936 she was Provincial President. She represented the Alberta Women's Institutes at the Second Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World held in Washington, D.C., in May and June of 1936. Although Mrs. Ferguson has not taken an active part in institute matters on the provincial level for many years, she does take an interest in the affairs of her home constituency.

MRS. WILLIAM MacFARLANE



Mrs. William MacFarlane (nee Rubye Muir) was born and educated in Edinburgh, Scotland. She came to this country in 1920 and attended MacTavish Business College in Edmonton before moving to Red Deer in 1921. She was employed by the Alberta Government Telephones until the summer of 1925 when she married William MacFarlane, a dairy farmer in the Balmoral district, east of Red Deer.

She took an immediate active interest in the community and was one of the instigators in organizing the Balmoral Institute in 1926, acting as the first Treasurer. She has also acted in the capacity of branch president and secretary and has continued to be an inspiration to her branch.

Her enthusiasm and strong interest in Institute work has led her to many offices requiring executive ability. She was Convener of Red Deer Centre Constituency 1937 - 1939; District III Director from 1939 - 1941; Provincial Secretary from 1941 - 1945. Her ability and willingness to work for Institute causes was put to the test as she handled the extra burden of war work with her other duties. In 1945 she was appointed Provincial Treasurer, but due to ill health she was forced to resign in 1946. However, she continued to give valuable assistance at any and all levels in the A.W.I. when called upon.

She was one of the first radio announcers over CKUA and CFAC when the Institute broadcasts were first introduced and she was a regular Institute commentator over CKRD for a number of years and is still actively engaged in publicity for the Alberta Women's Institutes on radio and television.

One of her other interests has been in library work. During her term as Constituency Convener, a Constituency Library was formed and proved successful. She acted as the Balmoral Institute representative when the Riverbend Library was organized under Institute sponsorship for the rural Consolidated School. This, in due time, was put into operation as the Regional Library at Lacombe.

Her Institute interests widened out to the International scene when she attended the Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World in Toronto 1953 as a Contri-

buting Member. Again in 1959 she attended the World Conference held in Edinburgh as an official delegate of the Alberta Women's Institutes at her own expense.

Mrs. MacFarlane has many other interests, such as the work of the Presbyterian Church in Red Deer and the Red Deer Agricultural Society of which she has been an exceptionally active Director for a number of years and had the honour of being the President 1962 - 1963, an unique distinction in the history of Fair Associations in Alberta. Her organizing ability as well as being an able speaker has been sought in connection with many projects undertaken in Red Deer and she is always willing to assist.

Mr. and Mrs. MacFarlane have proved successful farmers and operate an up-to-date dairy farm with a large herd of purebred Holsteins. Although they have no family of their own their home is the centre of many family and community gatherings.

Mrs. MacFarlane was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes on May 28, 1959 at the Golden Jubilee Provincial Convention at the direction of the Provincial Council in recognition of her faithful, and always willing, work for the Organization - a tribute that was long over-due.

MRS. AUBREY WOOD



Alice L. Carswell was born in Oshawa, Ontario, on August 20, 1884, of British lineage. Her father, a newspaper editor in indifferent health, was ordered to change climate by his doctor and he came West seeking a new home for his family. He homesteaded in the Horn Hill district a few miles east of Penhold. His family followed the next year, travelling on the first train between Calgary and Red Deer on June 22, 1891.

The Carswell family were amongst the first settlers in the district and Alice became one of the first pupils to attend Horn Hill school. She finished her schooling in Red Deer before it could boast of having a High School. In 1906 Alice took Normal training in Calgary, but unfortunately contracted typhoid fever and was unable to finish the four month course.

She married Arthur Hives, son of another pioneer family in 1907, but 1910 found her a widow with two children, a son and a daughter. Four years later she again married - this time to Aubrey Wood, a handsome Englishman, who has served Penhold and district as Postmaster for nearly forty years. Another son was added to her family and, apart from a few years spent in Saskatchewan early in their married life, the couple have made their home in Penhold since that time.

With outstanding community spirit, the Woods have been active in every worth-while project that has been undertaken in the district. Staunch Red Cross supporters, especially during the two World Wars; devoted members of St. George's Anglican Church -- Mrs. Wood has held the position of secretary of the Women's Auxiliary for the past twenty years--and she has been honoured with a Life Membership in this Anglican organization.

Mrs. Alice Wood joined the Penhold W.I. in 1918, two years after it was organized, and was secretary for most of the trying years after the First World War when the branch built the Penhold Memorial Hall in honour of the district boys who had lost their lives.

A loyal member, Mrs. Wood seldom missed a meeting and took her part in every branch project, year in and year out. It was Alice Wood who wrote the account of the Penhold branch that appears in the Alberta Women's Institute History. It was because of her loyalty to the branch for forty-one years that prompted the members to present her with a Life Membership in the Alberta

Women's Institutes when they learned, with deep regret, that 'the Woods' had decided to move from Penhold and take up residence in the Twilight Homes in Red Deer. Penhold W.I. members reported 'though she will not be with us in person now, the Alice Wood spirit has built the Penhold W.I. into the splendid branch that it is and we trust to hold our record of service in the community'.

The Penhold Women's Institutes presented Mrs. Wood with the honour of a Life Membership in November 1959 shortly before the couple left the community.

The snapshot shows Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey Wood. She was reluctant to have a picture taken without her life-long partner. Since it is a very good picture of this splendid couple it has been included.

MRS. O. B. ROE



On November 8, 1882, a little daughter was born to bless the home of David and Elizabeth Muckle in Blenheim, Ontario. They gave her the name of Viola Myrtle. Being of Irish descent, her sunny nature carried her through a happy childhood at Blenheim where she attended school.

On December 29, 1909, she became the wife of O. B. Roe and the couple moved to a farm in the Vulcan, Alberta, area where they still reside. As the years went by she became the mother of Orville and Leta and the grandmother of Douglas, Leta, Gordon and Joyce Roe.

Mrs. Roe has been active in community work all her life, especially in the United Church and the Alberta Women's Institutes. She has been a member of the Thigh Hill Women's Institute for over thirty years. She was its president for five years and served on the Board of Directors.

Because of her many years of faithful and ardent work and also because of the love her fellow members hold for her she was presented with a Life Membership Certificate and Pin in January 1960 by her home branch, Thigh Hill W.I.

Mrs. Roe has always been a farm woman and has loved her garden and flowers. Her specialty is window boxes for both inside and outside of her house. Her home surroundings testify to her skill.



## MRS. E. J. BECKER



Hilda Waite, one of the four children of Mr. and Mrs. Howard Waite, was born February 1, 1897, in Birkenhead, England. She was educated in private schools in England and came with her family to Edmonton prior to her marriage to Edward John Becker on October 16, 1919. They made their home on a farm near High Prairie and lived there until they moved into the town of High Prairie in 1945. They have two children: Howard Richard, and Doreen Bernice, now Mrs. Percy. The Beckers have four granddaughters.

Mrs. Becker has been very active in community affairs ever since she came to the district as a bride in 1919. She has served the Women's Auxiliary of the local Anglican Church; the Women's Auxiliary of the Legion; and a member of the

Eastern Star. Active in the Agricultural Society, she is a familiar figure at fair time at the handicraft exhibit. She has served as Chairman of the Library Board and as a voluntary librarian as well. Mrs. Becker has a number of hobbies, particularly gardening and caring for house plants and her lovely yard and cozy home are evidence of her interest.

Mrs. Becker joined the High Prairie Women's Institute in 1922. She has held most of the offices at one time or another. As she had been an active member for thirty-seven years, her fellow members felt that she was deserving of a Life Membership.

The Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Becker at a regular meeting of the High Prairie Women's Institute in December 1959.

MRS. E. R. HOSKINS



Rhoda Myrtle Pritchard was born in La Riviere, Manitoba, March 22, 1889. Her parents, Isabella and James Pritchard, were of Irish descent. When she was only a child her father operated a store at Swan Lake, Manitoba. Here she attended school and assisted her father in the store. Many of the customers were Indians and Rhoda learned their language and found them very good traders.

Rhoda Myrtle Pritchard and Ernest Richard Hoskins were married on November 4, 1910 and went to reside in Melfort, Saskatchewan, where he was a printer. Mr. Hoskins served in the armed forces in World War I, attaining the rank of Captain and winning the Military Cross at the Battle of Amiens and received the decoration from King George V at Buckingham Palace.

In the summer of 1919 the Hoskins family moved to Millet, Alberta, and farmed in the Hillside district until the fall of 1941 when they retired and moved to the village of Millet where they still reside.

The Hoskins have one son, James Edward, who is now Sanitary Inspector with the Wetaskiwin Health Unit. He has four sons. They also reared a nephew from four years of age and he has one son and two daughters.

Mrs. Hoskins has always taken an active interest in all community activities. She has been a teacher in the Sunday School for many years and also active in the Women's organizations of the church. She is a member of the Millet Women's Institute; a member of the F. W. U. A. and the Red Cross Society of Millet.

At the January meeting in 1960, the Millet Women's Institute presented Mrs. Hoskins with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. The members were happy to honor her in this way for her years of outstanding service to her branch.

On November 4, 1960, Mr. and Mrs. Hoskins were honored on their Golden Wedding Anniversary when more than 200 friends and neighbors held a reception in their honor at the Community Hall, Millet. They were presented with a TV set in appreciation of their many years of service to the community.

MRS. ORMAN GROVER SIBBALD



Born on May 23, 1887, a daughter, Margaret Ellen, to John James and Dora Jane Lamb of Gateshead-on-Tyne, England; one who has contributed much to the progress of the Alberta Women's Institutes. She was brought up and educated in England until the family left in 1904 for Canada - Estevan, Saskatchewan, was their destination. She lived there until her marriage to Orman Grover Sibbald, a native Canadian of Scottish ancestry.

They were stationed at McLean, Saskatchewan; later moving to Stoughton where Mr. Sibbald was a Canadian Pacific Railway Agent. They moved to Alberta in 1917 living at Oyen and Mareno until transferred to Munson early in 1919. Here they resided until March 1945 when Mr. Sibbald passed away and the family had to leave their happy home of some twenty-six years of their marriage.

Shortly after their arrival in Munson, Mrs. Sibbald joined the local Women's Institute. She was later elected secretary, then president of her branch. She advanced further to the office of Constituency Convener and then to District Director of what was then District III, serving in that capacity from 1935 to 1939.

When, on the death of her husband, she moved to Drumheller in 1945 she did not lose touch with her beloved institute work but joined the branch in Drumheller. When it disbanded she became a member of the South Drumheller group. She joined Verdant Valley W.I. in 1952 and has served as branch secretary since that time (Editor's note: Mrs. Sibbald is one of the outstanding branch secretaries in the province for content, neatness and promptness)

Mrs. Sibbald has taken an active interest in the work of Knox United Church, serving as assistant to the deaconess with the kindergarten - a labor of love but no remuneration - as pianist, teacher and envelope secretary in the Sunday School. She is a Past Matron of the Order of the Eastern Star and a Life Member of the Women's Missionary Society.

She is the mother of five sons and feels with nine grandsons and eight granddaughters her family is complete.

Drumheller-Hand Hills Constituency bestowed a Life Membership upon Mrs. Sibbald in 1960 in sincere appreciation of her many years of service to the Women's Institutes in their area.

MRS. HARRY OLYAN



Mrs. Harry Olyan, nee Bella Binder, was born in Odessa, Russia, the daughter of Mrs. Naphtali Binder, on January 1, 1890. Her childhood was spent in Russia and she received all of her schooling there, graduating from Maryinsk College in 1908. That same year she emigrated to Canada with her parents.

She became the bride of Harry Olyan on November 27, 1909 in New York City. To this union three children were born:

two daughters, now Mrs. Shapiro and Mrs. Shur, and one son; and there are seven grandchildren. The Olyans have made their home in Chipman and in Vegreville since 1912. She has been a very active community worker.

Being of Jewish origin, she has taken an active part in the work of the Hadassah Chapter and in instructing in Jewish education. She is a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and a Charter Member of the Vegreville Women's Institute.

Reading has been a life-long hobby and Mrs. Olyan has given freely of the knowledge gained in this way. Many interesting and instructive papers have been given in Standing Committee work by her. She does beautiful embroidery, especially cutwork.

Vegreville Women's Institute presented Mrs. Olyan with a Life Membership at their Anniversary Party in May 1960 - bestowed in sincere appreciation of her lifetime of good works.

MRS. ROY BALLHORN



Mrs. Roy Ballhorn was born Dora Staack in Dysart, Iowa. In 1900 her parents with their three little girls moved to Lacombe, Alberta. During her school years she excelled in biology, agriculture, history and composition. As a child she wrote several children's stories which were published and can now be found in her scrapbooks. This ability to put down her thoughts in writing is still evident

as she composes verses for anniversaries and for other special occasions.

In 1918 she married Roy Ballhorn and moved to Wetaskiwin. There she immediately set to work to beautify the old pioneer house which had been built in 1892. Vines and flowers were soon flourishing. Every year new trees and plants were added to beautify the farm home. Even before the new house was built in 1926, shelter belts and shrubs were planted. She also made many hooked rugs for their home.

As the Ballhorns specialized in raising purebred Aberdeen Angus cattle, she became active in any promotion or activity which concerned the breed. Many cattle men sat down to her table and her hospitality became well known. She was President of the Aberdeen Angus Women's Auxiliary when it was first organized and is again President in 1960.

Many of her aspirations were realized when her only child, Roma, received her B. Sc. in Agriculture from the University of Alberta and went on to acquire her Master's on a Fellowship at Ames, Iowa. Mrs. Ballhorn is equally proud of her two granddaughters.

When the Ballhorn family won the Master Farm Family Award she felt that another great achievement had been accomplished for them in the Agricultural World.

Mrs. Ballhorn joined the Angus Ridge Women's Institute in May 1925 and has held many branch offices since that time. She was Vice-President and President and has been an outstanding Con-

vener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries for years.

In 1957 she was appointed the Convener of the History Committee to compile the history of the community for the Lady Tweedsmuir Competition. Again she was very happy that Angus Ridge W.I. won both the Provincial and the National Awards. Outside of her branch activities she has been the Convener of Wetaskiwin Constituency and at the present time she is the Constituency Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries.

Her Life Membership Certificate and Pin were presented on behalf of the Angus Ridge W.I. by her daughter, Mrs. Harold Simonson, who is also an active Institute member. This presentation took place at the August 1960 meeting and was given in recognition of her thirty-five years of very active service to the branch and for her untiring work for 'Home and Country'.

MRS. GEORGE LAIGHT



Mrs. Laight (Ethel Victoria Wollard) was born in Ontario on January 13, 1882. Her parents were Bernard and Annie Woollard both of English origin. She had no special occupation before her marriage to George Laight on September 7, 1904. Mrs. Laight was the mother of five children: three daughters and two sons - one son is deceased. There are eighteen grandchildren and seven great grandchildren.

Mrs. Laight has been a member of the Winterburn W.I. since 1930 and had previously belonged to the Duffield branch before moving to Winterburn. She has served as president, vice-president and director. Since 1942 she has acted on the Flower Committee. Her other interests include membership in the I.O.D.E. and Christ Church Women's Association. Her hobbies are her garden and her flowers.

The Laights live in Edmonton but she remains an active member of all that Winterburn W.I. branch undertakes. She was presented with her Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in 1960 by the Winterburn W.I. of which she has been a member for thirty years.

MRS. F. D. McCRIMMON




Mrs. McCrimmon was born Lilly A. Dingwall in Glengarry County, Ontario, October 1, 1878. She spent her girlhood in that community becoming a school teacher when she was in her early twenties.

She married on June 22, 1910, Mr. F. D. McCrimmon and the following fall they moved from Ontario to Red Deer, Alberta, where they resided until 1915 when they moved to Sylvan Lake where they have resided ever since, except for a few months in the winter when they spend the time in Calgary.

The McCrimmons have two sons: Alexander (Sandy) who is a teacher in Calgary, and Donald who is at present the Mayor of Ponoka.

Mrs. McCrimmon has been a valued citizen of Sylvan Lake in connection with municipal, church and social work.

She has been a faithful member of Sylvan Lake Women's Institute which she joined as a Charter Member in 1925. Since that time she has served as branch secretary, treasurer, and director. She has also served as Constituency Secretary.

The Sylvan Lake Women's Institute was happy to bestow a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes upon Mrs. McCrimmon in October 1960 as one of their highly esteemed members.

## MRS. ALBERT WILLIAMS



Born to Thomas A. and Lucy Adams Campbell, a daughter, Florence, on September 27, 1883 at Modoc, Ontario. Florence grew up in Ontario receiving her education at Queensborough schools and then came west with her parents.

She went to work for her brother as cook for the bridge crew who were building the first bridge across the big Red Deer River at Sundre. It was here that she met and later married Albert Williams. They went to Westward Ho to make their home. Their home became a stopping place for travellers as they lived on the road west from Olds which is now Highway 27.

The Williams became the parents of three children. Their only daughter died at the early age of sixteen. The two sons served their country during the Second World War. Jack, who was with the Engineers, lost his life in Italy. Albert served

with the Tanks in Africa. There are two grandchildren. Mr. Williams passed away in 1937.

Mrs. Williams was one of the ladies responsible for the forming of the Westward Ho Women's Institute and became a Charter Member when the branch held its organization meeting at her home in June 1917. Her home was always open for W.I. meetings and work sessions. She held many offices during the succeeding years.

Mrs. Williams, now totally blind, makes her home at the CNIB Home in Calgary. She sends baskets she has made to the branch at Westward Ho to be raffled for the benefit of the institute. The members enjoy her letters written in her own hand by the use of a frame to keep the lines straight. They take turns writing to her in love and happy memory.

Westward Ho Women's Institute presented Mrs. Williams with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in appreciation of a grand neighbor, pioneer and, most of all, for the many years of faithful service to her branch. This was presented to her in November 1960.

MRS. BEN AARING



A blonde blue-eyed baby girl was born February 25, 1897, to Orph-Berdina and Thomas Burns at Rockford, Illinois. They named her Nellie-Marie.

The first years of her education was received in Rockford and then continued in the schools of Burdett, Alberta - the Burns family having moved to Alberta in 1910.

Nellie lived at home assisting her mother in their busy home until the time of her marriage to Bendik Aaring in Lethbridge on March 4, 1915. To this union two children were born: a daughter, Marian, and a son, Floyd. The Aarings are the proud grandparents of four grandchildren. All live in Calgary.

Mrs. Aaring has lived in several places in Alberta as

her husband's work in the oil fields has meant several moves. It was while living at Longview that she joined the Women's Institute and became one of the most industrious workers of that branch, filling nearly every office in the Longview Institute. In 1945 she was elected Constituency Convener of Calgary-Okotoks Constituency and served four busy and successful years in that position.

After moving to Calgary she continued her membership in the Rockyview Women's Institute and has helped them faithfully in all their efforts. Her home has always had the 'Welcome Mat' at the door and to visit her one comes away feeling that it is good to have been there. Mrs. Aaring is a member of Christ Church and helps there in every way possible. Her hobbies are family, home, friends and crocheting. She is also a splendid cook.

The Rockyview Women's Institute gave Mrs. Nellie Aaring a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in the summer of 1961 to show their appreciation for years of faithful work and loyal friendship. It was presented at the Constituency Conference in order that those whom she had served so well might participate and enjoy the honor conferred on such a deserving member.

# MRS. WILLIAM NIVEN



Mrs. William Niven was born Laura Davies on February 17, 1880 near Bobcaygeon, a little village in Ontario. Her Father, Thomas Davies, was of Welsh descent and her Mother, Grisella Oreton, was of Irish descent although both had been born in Canada.

She attended a little country school in Verulam township which was No. 1 log schoolhouse in the township. Later she attended the school in Bobcaygeon until 1893 when the family moved west to Lethbridge where she attended the High School. In 1896 she took Normal School training in Regina - a four-month course for the North-West Territory. The School was headed by Dr. Goggin and Mr. Rothwell was his assistant with an attendance of 23. In 1897 she taught the New Norway School, out of Wetaskiwin, for the summer season of six months, and then in her home town of Lethbridge.

In 1902 she was married to William Niven who was a Canadian Pacific Railway engineer. They have made their home in Calgary and have been fortunate to be able to celebrate their Golden and Diamond Wedding Anniversaries - and on February 11, 1965 they hope to celebrate their 65th Anniversary. They have two daughters, two grandchildren and, as of now, eight great grandchildren.

Mrs. Niven has been interested in many Calgary projects over the years but particularly in St. Paul United Church where they have been members for fifty-seven years. Mrs. Niven was a Life Member of St. Paul's Missionary Society until it was absorbed by the United Church Women a few years ago. Due to a heart condition and her husband being crippled her outside activities have had to be curtailed but she is thankful to be able to keep her home going with the help of her younger daughter.

Calgary Women's Institute presented Mrs. Niven with a Life Membership at their regular meeting on June 12, 1961 in the Oddfellows' Hall, in recognition of her long and valued work in the branch, and on their behalf in the Red Cross Society.

Mrs. Niven said:

'This honor came as a great surprise and is very precious to me as I have enjoyed working in the Institute and have made so many friendships and have enjoyed the good times with the members. I do not know how I earned the honor, except I was associated for the Institute with the Junior Red Cross in Calgary for many years and with Red Cross work during both Wars. For thirty years or more I worked with a group of our Institute women in meeting at the Hospital a day every month for mending, etc.

'I am not able to attend the meetings now which I miss very much, but the friends we have made through all these years are still a valued part of our life and I say 'God Bless the Women's Institute for all the wonderful women I have met and all the pleasure and help they have given in our pioneer country'.

# MRS. L. W. BARRETT



Elizabeth Belle Waltz was born in Ridgeville, Indiana, in 1876. When she was fourteen months old her parents moved to Elmwood, Nebraska, where she attended school. Her father was Pennsylvania Dutch and her mother's people were Welsh. The country schools were not graded and the pupils ranged in age from five years to 21 as the big boys attended only in winter.

Later she attended Normal School and obtained a state certificate for teaching. She only taught six months as she was married in 1901 to Lynn Warwick Barrett.

In 1902 they moved to Kansas where they lived for eight years. In 1910 they moved to Aldersyde, Alberta, to the farm where she still resides.

Mrs. Barrett was at the organization meeting of the Aldersyde W.I. when Miss McIsaac was speaking in a railway car in 1914. During her long membership she served as secretary for many years and she was also Convener of Agriculture. On the occasion of her 85th Birthday, December 5th, 1961, Mrs. Barrett was honored by Aldersyde W.I. by a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute in recognition of her long and faithful service.

Mrs. Barrett recalls the branch having had many demonstrations in cooking, millinery and dressmaking. She also remembers when Mrs. Nellie McClung spoke to a gathering while standing in a hayrack.

She has been a staunch worker in the local Women's Missionary Society and in 1926 was given a Life Membership in that organization.

Mrs. Barrett attended church regularly until her hearing was impaired and she found it easier to get the services from the radio.

Mr. and Mrs. Barrett had one son, Dwight, and there are four grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. She is now a widow and lives in her beautiful home which was built in 1955. She has always been an ardent gardener, and is loved and respected by young and old in the Aldersyde area.

## MRS. LEONARD S. PARKE



Mrs. Leonard S. Parke (nee Cherstin (Tena) Lindskoog) was born February 4, 1904 at Stockholm, Saskatchewan. Her parents were Mr. and Mrs. Sven Lindskoog of Swedish nationality.

She attended Highland View School, a country school near Hughenden, and helped at home for a few years before her marriage to Leonard S. Parke on January 2, 1923. She still lives on the farm near Hughenden where she started her married life. Her husband died July 1962 after a lengthy illness. They raised an outstanding family of four girls and one boy who is still at home while attending High School in Hughenden. There are eight grandchildren.

She has been very active in all community projects and her Church and Church Women's groups, as well as Home and School and the F.U.A.. She is an ardent gardener and reads a great deal. Mrs. Parke has several hobbies, but keeping a diary has been a 'must' with her.

Mrs. Parke joined the Hughenden W.I. in March 1923 and has held every office, being President for 15 years and Vice-President for almost as long; secretary and treasurer for a number of years; only without an office for two years. Before joining the Institute she was a member of the A.W.I. Girl's Club and served as President

and Secretary.

Hughenden W.I. presented Mrs. Parke with a Life Membership at their Christmas Party December 1961 in recognition of her many years of outstanding work as an Institute member. During the years her attendance has been almost perfect - in eleven years she missed only one meeting and that was due to the illness of her husband and she also has had two 5-year perfect attendance as well. She is an excellent example of a W.I. member, having courage, kindness, good common sense and a good sense of justice. Her co-operation has been outstanding. A special ceremony and program was planned and carried out with the presentation being made by a fellow member, Mrs. Dave Ward.

In all these years her greatest achievement, Mrs. Parke feels, through the W.I. work has been the beautification of the local cemetery and contributions to the Community Hall and community efforts. She feels her gain has been the making of many friendships and much wisdom gained through the W.I. work.

The picture with Mrs. Parke on the right was taken as the presentation was being made.

MRS. JACK McNEIL



Mrs. Jack McNeil (nee Eva Maud Whipple) was born at Thompson, North Dakota, November 27, 1894. Her Mother's name was Mary Fox, born in Ontario of English parents. Her Father was Edwin R. Whipple, born in Henry County, Illnois.

In 1902 Mr. and Mrs. Whipple and family moved to Fort Macleod where they farmed for a number of years. Later, when open ranch was all homestead, they moved to the Stenck district and farmed there until Mr. Whipple's death in 1921.

Mrs. McNeil received her education in Macleod Public and High Schools. She was married to Edward McNeil of Standoff June 28, 1916. They lived in Standoff nearly forty years when ill health forced them to move to Fort Macleod while a son took over the management of the farm. They had four

children and nine grandchildren. Mr. McNeil passed away July 5, 1960.

The Standoff W.I. was organized at Mrs. McNeil's home in January 1927. She served as Vice President for 11 years and two years as President. During those two years Standoff W.I. catered to two large banquets, one of which was the opening of the Airport when many of the women came 20 miles to help. She also served a term as Constituency Convener. From the time the branch was formed she worked untiringly until ill health made it impossible for her to continue. Her hobbies included gardening and patchwork quilts.

Mrs. McNeil was presented with a Life Membership by the Standoff Women's Institute at their March 1962 meeting.

The picture was taken on their 25th Wedding Anniversary June 1941.

MRS. LILLIE E. ROSSITER




Lillie E. White was born in Shaftsbury, Dorset, England on February 11, 1878, the daughter of Elizabeth and Harry White. Before her marriage she worked as a model in London, England. She married Reginald Rossiter on June 19, 1902, and came to Sedgewick, Alberta, some twenty-five years later where the couple made their home until 1939 when the Rossiters moved to Edmonton. She was widowed in 1946 and in that same year she moved to St. Albert where she has since resided. Mrs. Rossiter has three children, eleven grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Rossiter has a long record of Women's Institute membership, being a member of the W.I. in England before she came to Alberta. She joined the Sedgewich branch in 1928 and served as corresponding secretary for one year. She joined the St. Albert branch when it was organized in 1946 and is an active member through entering knitting, crocheting and other crafts at the constituency

conferences. In June 1962 she entered five articles and took five prizes which is some measure of her skill in handicraft.

During her younger days her hobbies were tennis, cycling and dancing. She has been very active in the Anglican Church Auxiliary and the Farm Women Union of Alberta, in both of which she held many offices. During the war she was an active knitter for the Red Cross.

The St. Albert Women's Institute presented Mrs. Rossiter with a Life Membership at the March 27th, 1962, meeting with Mrs. C. Laderoute making the presentation. Her branch felt it was a fitting tribute for one of her advanced years to still manage to attend and enjoy the work and fellowship of the branch meetings.

## MRS. CHARLES E. KIMMETT



Mrs. Charles E. Kimmett was born Zola May McConnell May 7, 1893 at Alma, Colorado, to William Henry McConnell and Emma May Lightburn. She is of Scotch-Irish descent.

She attended Cripple Creek, Independence, Hillrose and Henderson schools, all in Colorado. She lived with her parents until her marriage to Charles E. Kimmett on November 21, 1914. They moved to the Strathmore district in April 1917 and farmed near Nightingale until 1958 when they retired to Calgary.

Mrs. Kimmett joined the Nightingale W.I. in 1918, holding the offices of president, first and second vice, secretary, treasurer and director (treasurer for 16 years). She has always been interested in Handicrafts and has held the Handicraft Cup for the best Individual Work at the Constituency Conference. Many quilts have been made under her direction and encouragement. She did a great deal to help in keeping the group together in difficult times.

Mrs. Kimmett was presented with a Life Membership by the Nightingale W.I. at the Constituency Conference June 1, 1962 held at the Cheadle Hall.

## MRS. PEARLE HEUMANN



Mrs. Joe Heumann (nee Pearle Merkley) was born in Ledgerwood, North Dakota, January 22, 1887. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. G. Merkley were born in Ontario of Scotch descent.

The Merkleys arrived in Ponoka from Ontario in September 1901, then to Lamerton in 1904 and to what later became the village of Mirror in 1912. Pearle attended school in Lamerton and Mirror, living with her parents until June 1916 when she married Joe Heumann and moved to her present home.

Mrs. Heumann joined the Mirror W.I. in 1925 when it was organized and is the only Charter member left. She has been an outstanding member, serving as President several times throughout her 38 years. She also served as Constituency Convener of Stettler Constituency for four years. Although not as active now she assisted in decorating the float for the parade this year and took her turn in the booth.

There are two daughters: Ruby, Mrs. Jack Pears of Waldport, Oregon, and Dorothy, Mrs. Don Wilson of Mirror. There are three grandsons, David, Douglas and Danny. She is also known to many other children as Gramma Heumann.

Mrs. Heumann is a member of the Mirror United Church and was very active for many years in the choir and teaching Sunday School for 19 years. She is a Charter Member of Lakeview Rebekah Lodge # 110 of Mirror and is a Past President of the Rebekah Assembly of Alberta and has twice served as District Deputy President of District # 9.

This Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Heumann in recognition of her long and faithful service by the Mirror W.I. at the Constituency Conference held May 28, 1963.

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## MRS. F. A. DAHMS

Maude Estella Wybert was born October 10, 1889, at Fort Dodge, Iowa. Her father was William Wybert of English descent and her mother was Martha Mitchell of Irish descent.

They moved to Moberly, Missouri, in 1895 where Maude attended school. In 1907 the family moved to Canada to make their home four miles north-east of Wetaskiwin and she completed her schooling at the Wetaskiwin High School.

She married Frank A. Dahms on July 6, 1914, and they farmed six miles north of Wetaskiwin in the Wang district for 45 years. They had a family of five boys and two girls. Three boys were in the Armed Forces during the Second War and one was killed in 1942. There are seventeen grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Dahms was a Charter Member when Wang was formed May 14, 1947. She served as Director from 1947 to 1959 and from 1952 to 1954; as Vice-President in 1950 and President in 1951. She belonged to Wang Ladies' Aid until the Wang W.I. was formed.

The Wang W.I. presented Mrs. Dahms with a Life Membership in June 1962 with another Charter Member making the presentation. At the age of 73 she is still an active member although she now resides in Wetaskiwin which means a long drive to the meetings. She has been a faithful member and always ready to help with community projects or in time of sickness. She belongs to the Moose Lodge now since she lives in town and attends the Friendship Club activities. One of her hobbies is doing embroidery work.

MRS. CATHERINE CROW



"Catherine Crow is the daughter and granddaughter of pioneers. Her maternal grandmother is the only woman who came west with the Overlanders in 1882, leaving Fort Garry in June and arriving in Kamloops on October 13 of that year. The next morning after her arrival a baby daughter was born to this hardy pioneer woman and that baby girl became the mother of our very valued member, Mrs. Catherine Crow." So writes the secretary of the Barons Women's Institute in making application for a Life Membership for Mrs. Crow, an honor granted by the Provincial Executive in March 1963.

Mrs. Crow is the daughter of Thomas and Rosanna Schubert Leduc. She was born at Landsdown, now Armstrong, British Columbia, in 1891. She attended school in Armstrong and it was here that she married Ralph Raymond Crow in 1909. There were five children born to that union: Raymond, Glen, Stanley, Rosanna and Barbara.

Mrs. Crow is a Charter Member of Barons Women's Institute and has always taken a keen interest in the many projects sponsored by that branch. Perhaps her most outstanding contribution has been in the field of handicraft as she has contributed work that brought many points towards winning the handicraft shield in Little Bow Constituency for Barons W.I. in the years 1960, 1961 and 1962.

Besides her interest in handicrafts, Mrs. Crow enjoys reading and the growing of flowers.

## MRS. ALICE McDONELL RUTHERFORD



Mrs. Alice McDonell Rutherford was born at Maberly, Ontario. Her parents were Robert and Mary McDonell of Scotch and Irish descent. She was married in 1910 to John Rutherford and came to Saskatchewan where she joined the Homemakers' Club in 1913.

They moved to Mannville in 1915 and Mrs. Rutherford joined the first Institute which was called the Mannville Institute. This Institute was formed to assist in war work and Mrs. Rutherford, besides knitting, gave of her time in sending parcels to the boys Overseas. During the last war she was the Convener to send supplies to the Red Cross and parcels from the different groups every few months to the boys from this area. At the end of the war she helped plan a Welcome Home Party.

The first W.I. was also instrumental in collecting money to build and operate the first skating rink in the town. In 1917 the first Municipal Hospital in Alberta was built in Mannville. The W.I. had some influence in the establishment of this project and served lunch at the opening ceremonies.

In 1948, after many meetings with the Town Council for two or three years previous to this date, the "Restroom and Library" was officially opened. It has since been turned over to the town but the Institutes pay for half of the upkeep. Mrs. Rutherford has held office for the carrying out of the above projects and has done more than her share.

Mrs. Rutherford joined the Birch Creek W.I. after the disbanding of the Mannville Institute a few years previously. She has held the office of President and has been Treasurer now for several years. She

has also been active in Constituency work. Although never being a Constituency Convener, she has been a Standing Committee Chairman many times since the origin of the Constituency in 1938.

The Cancer Drive and Memorials are also convened under Mrs. Rutherford's capable leadership. She is the area representative and spends many hours in arranging the canvassing and sending in memorials. For years she was also an active worker for the Red Cross as the Women's Institute representative.

She has been the Telephone Agent in Mannville since 1917. She is also a Life member of the Anglican W.A.

Her main hobby is her flowers which she grows in her own garden. The Restroom and Library building has a window box which is cared for by Mrs. Rutherford too. She buys the bedding plants and keeps them watered.

There are many more tasks which are too numerous to mention and probably many which we have forgotten, but at 72 years of age (she was born March 23, 1891), we feel she is most deserving of a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute. She is still keen and actively engaged in the betterment of the Community.

This Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Rutherford on April 27, 1963 by the branches of the Vermilion-Alexandra and Vegreville-Vermilion West Constituencies.

## MRS. GEORGE S. WILSON



Mrs. George S. Wilson was born in Calgary and at an early age moved to the Drumheller district with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hersey. A short time after the family left the farm and moved to the west coast.

After completing her High School in Victoria, she took a business course. Prior to her marriage to George S. Wilson, she worked at Social Service Committee work at the Welfare Office. In 1942 the Wilsons moved back to the farm which still bears the family name and have lived there ever since. They have one son, Lawrence, who is married and also lives on the family farm.

Upon returning to Drumheller Mrs. Wilson became interested in Women's Institute work and for the past twenty-one years has been actively engaged in all phases of the W.I. She has served in many offices during these years: as President, Secretary and Treasurer of her branch as well as Chairman of Standing Committees

at branch and Constituency level. She acted as Secretary for Mrs. M.G. Roberts while she was Director of District 5.

Mrs. Wilson represented the A.W.I. at a two-week Rural Leadership Course at the Banff School of Fine Arts. In 1959 she was elected Director of District 5 at the Jubilee Convention and has served her district in this capacity for two consecutive terms.

'We feel Mrs. Wilson has accepted responsibilities and has done her job well throughout the years. Those of us who have worked with her always found her patient, understanding and cooperative. She has helped each of us with our problems in a cheerful and tactful manner. She has a deep and sincere respect for the W.I. and through her fine example has made the Institute mean more to everyone with whom she has been in contact.' This was the feeling expressed by the branches of District 5 when applying for a Life Membership to honor Mrs. Wilson for her many years of continuous service of an outstanding nature to the Women's Institute which they presented to her at the 1963 Provincial Convention.

## MRS. S. E. THORNE



Mrs. Selby E. Thorne was born Helen May Mead at Blair, Nebraska, U.S.A. Her Father, Frank E. Mead, was of English descent and her Mother, Laura May Mehrens of German descent.

The family, six boys and two girls, moved to Canada and settled at Campbell Lake in the Vermilion district in 1910. Helen went to school at Campbell Lake and later graduated from the Vermilion School of Agriculture.

She met Selby Edward Thorne at the Vermilion School of Agriculture and they were married in 1921 after he had returned from Overseas duty. They lived on a farm in the Fort Saskatchewan district for eight years, then moved to the town of Fort Saskatchewan where they still reside. They had three children: Robert A.; Beth E.; and Selby M. F/O Robert Thorne was killed while serving with the

R.C.A.F. during the Second War. Beth, now Mrs. (Dr.) R.W. Edie, who has three children and Selby who has one boy live in Calgary.

Mrs. Thorne is a member of the First United Church at Fort Saskatchewan where she played the organ and led the Junior Choir for 15 years. Besides music, other interests include handicrafts, gardening and reading. She went to the Banff School of Fine Arts in 1957 on an Alberta Women's Scholarship when Fort Saskatchewan W.I. first won the ProvincialAlberta Women's Institute Handicraft Shield. She took the leathercraft course and has taught many glove classes since that time. At present she is as busy as ever teaching piano; helping in the Municipal Library and is Convener of the Cemetery Committee for Fort Saskatchewan W.I.

Mrs. Thorne joined the Fort Saskatchewan Women's Institute in 1931 or 1932 and has been a member continuously since. She has held the offices of President and Secretary at branch level and Constituency Convener of Edmonton-Victoria-Sturgeon Constituency.

In 1959 she was appointed Director of District 2 and served two terms. The nine Conveners and all the Institute branches in District 2 joined in presenting Mrs. Thorne with a Life Membership at the 1963 Provincial Convention when she retired after four years as Director as they felt her wise counselling and help had been an inspiration to her Conveners and branches as well as many years of excellent service in Institute work.

MRS. JOHN RICHARDS



Mrs. John Richards, nee Mary Gertrude Munro, was born on a homestead at Delburne, September 10, 1909. In 1920 the family moved to Red Deer where Gertrude finished her education and was later employed by the Alberta Government Telephones.

Gertrude grew up in a home where her Mother was an ardent Women's Institute worker, so it was natural for her when she married John Richards in July 1931 and moved to a farm to become a member of the Clearview W.I., one of the oldest branches in Alberta. She served as President, Vice-president, Secretary, Treasurer and Director as well as Chairman of Standing Committees in the branch.

In 1952 she was elected Constituency Convener of Red Deer Centre Constituency and served four years. In 1957 she became Director of District 3 and served four years, and then was elected

Vice-President of Alberta Women's Institute at the Provincial Convention in 1961. She served one two-year term but was unable to accept the second term due to expanding farm responsibilities. During her term as Convener many worthwhile projects were undertaken by the W.I. Constituency and interest in Institutes increased. She was asked to represent the Women's Institutes on various local and provincial organizations. She attended the A.C.W.W. Conference in Toronto in 1953 and in Edinburgh in 1959, as well as several National Conferences.

Mr. and Mrs. Richards have two children: Gwen, a graduate of Royal Alexander Hospital, now married with two children and lives at Penticton. A son, Alex, is a partner on the family farm - married with two boys.

Besides her interest in W.I. Mrs. Richards has been active as a Director of the Red Deer Agriculture Society; a member of the Order of the Eastern Star; Past Honored Royal Lady of the Royal Purple; four years as a Director on the local YMCA Board; and presently an Elder on the Session of the United Church. Her hobbies are gardening in summer and handicrafts and bowling in winter.

The Alberta Women's Institute Council presented Mrs. Richards with a Life Membership at the 1963 Provincial Convention for her valued contribution as a Council member for six years.

## MRS. JAMES L. RICHARDS



Mrs. James L. Richards was born Agnes E. Dick, second daughter of John H. and Catherine (Shearer) Dick at Listowel, Ontario, of Scotch descent.

She received her education at the Listowel Public and High Schools, then took a secretarial course also in Listowel. In 1921 she accompanied an aunt, Miss Agnes Shearer, to Calgary where she worked for a short time before moving to Red Deer to take a clerical position in a local store.

In March 1931 she was married to James L. Richards, a dairy farmer in the Horn Hill district south of Red Deer, and across the road from the Clearview district, where they still reside. They have one boy and two girls: William, in partnership on the farm, married with two sons; Catherine, (Mrs. H. Johanson) has three children; and Ann in training.

Mrs. Richards has taken an active part in both Clearview and Horn Hill districts. She was a member of the Horn Hill Church Board and Ladies' Aid; is a Past Noble Grand of Alberta Rebekah Lodge # 77; was one of the Institute members to attend a Civil Defence Course at Arnprior; has been a Director of the Red Deer Agriculture Society for fifteen years. She has been connected with 4-H activities since 1944 when the Red Deer Dairy Club was organized and her son joined and also assisted with the Horn Hill Clothing Club. Her hobbies include Handicraft and 'Histories' as she has assisted with the Pioneers' History in Red Deer area, a 4-H one; and Clearview W.I. She was in charge of the write-ups of the Alberta Women's Institute Life Membership Book 1963 - 1965.

Mrs. Richards joined the Clearview Women's Institute in April 1931 and has been a continuous member since that time and has served as President, Secretary, Director and Press Reporter. She was Constituency Secretary for ten years and was elected Provincial Secretary of the Alberta Women's Institute in 1959, and served two terms.

The Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes presented Mrs. Richards with a Life Membership at the 1963 Provincial Convention as a tribute for services during her four years on Council.

MRS. P. S. KOZDROWSKI



Mrs. Peter Stanley Kozdrowski, nee Pauline Lungul, was born March 18, 1922, at Smoky Lake, Alberta, of Roumanian parents, Nestor and Maria Lungul.

She received her education at the Wild Deere School, and in 1940 was married to a school teacher, Peter S. Kozdrowski. As a school teacher's wife, she lived in teacherages at Wild Deere, Darling, North Kotzman and Lopstick districts, and in 1945 the family moved to Warspite.

There are four children: Stanley Gordon, a graduate of Radio College of Canada; Mary Yvonne, a Bachelor of Education graduate from the University of Alberta; Linda Jane, a Grade XII student at O'Leary High School; Gregory Peter, a busy play-schooler, anxiously looking forward to 'real' school in September 1965.

Mrs. Kozdrowski joined the Warspite Women's Institute as a new member in 1948, and from that time on, has served the Institute continuously in many ways. She was branch secretary for four years, branch president for four years, and Women's Institute Girls' Club Leader for seven years, carrying on both the 4-H and Girls' Club programs. She was awarded the 4-H Leader's five year certificate of service. She also acted as Constituency Secretary for a two-year period. Active in Home and School Association and the Catholic Women's League, she has held executive positions in both at the local level.

In the fall of 1962, Mr. Kozdrowski resigned from his position as principal and joined the staff of the Horse Hill High School, and the family moved to Edmonton. The Edmonton Women's Institute gained an enthusiastic, active member.

For eight years Mrs. Kozdrowski served as Provincial Publicity Convener for the Alberta Women's Institute. During that time she wrote a weekly column of Institute news for the Edmonton Journal, entitled, 'The Spinning Wheel' - Activities of the Alberta Women's Institute'. She also contributed Institute news regularly to the Western Producer, and arranged radio and television interviews for provincial officers and national and international visitors. At the 1963 Provincial Convention, she resigned from Publicity and was appointed Provincial Convener of Education and Citizenship. She is also currently serving as Vice-President of the Edmonton Women's Institute.

The Council of the Alberta Women's Institute presented Mrs. Kozdrowski with a Life Membership at the closing session of the 1963 Provincial Convention in recognition of her many services, but especially for her work in publicity - a deadline she met every week with very few exceptions for eight years.

MRS. R. L. RASH



Mrs. Rash was born Esther U'Ren March 27, 1890 in Prinesville Oregon. Her folks moved to Johannesburg, South Africa, when she was five years old where her father established a General Store.

During the Boer War the family, being American, had to leave the Transvaal and go to Capetown, but her father was allowed to stay on a permit and look after his business. Her father died of quinsy and an uncle, W.S. U'Ren, settled up the business and took her younger brother back to Oregon to live with his grandparents, but Esther was 13 when she and her mother returned to Oregon.

She graduated after four years at Eugene High School, then

attended University of Oregon for three years. She majored in Journalism and took seven years of Latin.

When the right man asked her to marry him, Esther decided she had better learn housewifery, so took a year in Home Economics at Oregon State College at Corvallis. Linval Rash was a High School classmate and she came to Canada to marry him at Lethbridge August 20, 1912. They homesteaded south of Purple Springs where they have resided since. They had one daughter and four sons.

She became an active member of a community club which disbanded to form the Kinniburgh Women's Institute in 1918. Mrs. Rogers came to organize it. Mrs. Rash served many years as President and Director as well as various Standing Committee Chairmanships. She was the first Supervisor of Kinniburgh Sunshine Girls' Club, holding this position for six or seven years. She was Constituency Convener for four years prior to the division of the Constituency into North and South Taber. She was Constituency Chairman of United Nations for four years and has held this chairmanship in the branch since 1951.

The Kinniburgh School was built in 1919 on the South-west corner of Rash land which was purchased by the first School Board. School was held in the attic of Mrs. Rash's home for seven weeks until the schoolhouse was completed. 'The children never woke the baby once'.

Mrs. Rash was partially responsible for forming an Union Sunday School with all denominations participating. She has been active in the work of the Church of Christ all her life.

She organized and was President of the Purple Springs School Fair Association for many years.

When Kinniburgh Women's Institute presented Mrs. Rash with a Life Membership on October 9, 1963, they felt she truly deserved this honor as 'in short, she is an ardent worker for Home and Country'.

MRS. G. R. RINEHART



Mrs. G. R. Rinehart was born at Cincinnati, Ohio. She took her B.A. at University of Cincinnati; taught three years and then obtained her B. Science at Ohio State University. She married a classmate, George Russell Rinehart in 1912 at Cincinnati and they came to Alberta in 1917 to the Cardston area.

Mrs. Rinehart taught the one-room local school at Twin Lakes just 17 miles south of Cardston for three years, with everyone travelling by horseback. They then returned to the Educational field in the States with Mr. Rinehart teaching and Mrs. Rinehart taking her Master of Science in Education at Iowa State in Ames.

When the depression hit and threatened the loss of the ranch near Cardston, the family returned and have lived here since. The two sons, James R. and William C., with their Father, operate the Rinehart Ranches Inc. A daughter, Mrs. C.H. Coble (Helen) lives at Boise, Idaho. There are two grandsons, Russ and Ben Coble. One daughter, Ruth, was killed in an accident.

It was Mrs. Rinehart who called a number of ladies together

and initated interest in organizing a W.I. group with the result that the Old Chief W.I. was organized in 1951. Since then she has worked tirelessly for the Institute. She has held the position of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer in the branch and Standing Committee Chairman of Citizenship, Education and Publicity on the Constituency level. For two years she did the publicity work for Southern Alberta. Her present engrossing interest is the A.W.I. Idea Book which she and Mrs. Myron Kemper of Coaldale have agreed to compile from material contributed by all the branches in the Province.

In 1962, making last-minute arrangements on her own, she flew to the A.C.W.W. Conference in Australia. She spent three weeks visiting the branch link, Broadwater C.W.A. in Victoria and the remainder of her two and half months learning more about the workings of the C.W.A.

She has always been a very active worker in the community and in the United Church.

Mr. and Mrs. Rinehart celebrated their 50th Wedding Anniversary on January 23rd, 1962 when a large gathering of friends and neighbors at Jefferson School paid tribute for their many years of service in the community.

Old Chief W.I. presented Mrs. Rinehart with a Life Membership on November 29th, 1963 at their regular meeting which was also her 81st Birthday.

# MRS. WM. SUDDABY



Mrs. Wm. Suddaby was born Erline Opal Roth at Forestburg, Alberta, on October 19th, 1917.

At the age of six her parents, one brother and one sister moved to Vegreville and settled on a farm southeast of Lavoy where they remained for six years. While there she attended the Victory school until the age of twelve when the family moved to the Ranfurly district and she attended the Avon school.

After completing school she did housework until her marriage at the age of 22 to Wm. Suddaby. They settled on his farm south of Lavoy. In 1945 they moved to the Rosegarland district, although Lavoy was still their Post Office. She joined Rosegarland W.I. that fall for one year but was unable to continue. After a few years they moved closer in in the same district but Viking became their Post Office, and she rejoined.

She served as President and twice as Vice President of her branch, and as Constituency Convener of Wainwright Constituency for four years with term ending May1963.

Mrs. Suddaby has five children, three of whom are married and there are two grandsons. Her hobbies are fancy work and reading.

This Life Membership was presented to Mrs. Suddaby by the Wainwright Constituency for four years of conscientious and cheerful work as the Convener, and for many years of faithful and untiring efforts as a branch member which has been an inspiration to other members.

## MRS. MARTIN BORSTAD



Mrs. C.M. Borstad was born Helen Bertrand at Mantorville, Minnesota August 30, 1886. Her Father was French and her Mother was English and both born in U.S.A.

She graduated from High School in 1904 and taught a school in the country for two years before attending Normal School in Winona, Minn. She graduated in June 1907 and taught in a town school for six years before joining her parents in Rocky Mountain House in 1913.

Her parents came to Alberta in 1907 and homesteaded on what is now the town site of Rocky Mountain House. He was the first mail carrier and freighted goods and supplies from Red Deer. Helen Bertrand married Martin Borstad March 11, 1914 and they believe their marriage was the first wedding ceremony performed in Rocky Mountain House. Martin Borstad had come to Alberta with a group of American settlers. With all his worldly goods rolled in a bundle on his back he walked from Red Deer to Rocky Mountain House and settled on a homestead south of the forks. They have three daughters five granddaughters and five grandsons and one great granddaughter.

She is a Charter member of the Rocky Mountain House W.I. which was organized May 7, 1926. She has held the offices of President and Secretary, and it is as secretary she has served her branch for many years and at the age of 78 she continues the work as acting-secretary. She has never refused any office or duty and has been faithful at all times to her branch and it is largely through her efforts the branch has continued. She did live five miles out and walked that distance many times to attend meetings. They now live in Rocky Mountain House, and she very seldom misses a meeting.

Rocky Mountain House W.I. presented Mrs. Borstad with this Life Membership in December 1963 in recognition of her long and faithful service to the branch.

# MRS. JACK GILBERTSON



Evangeline Reynolds was born in Trenton, Picton County, Nova Scotia, where she received her education. She came West with her parents and brothers in 1907 and settled in the Sugar Bowl district, south of what is now the town of Hughenden. She taught the first school in that district and there met John Edward Gilbertson, a veteran of the Boer War, whom she married January 26, 1910.

Mr. and Mrs. Gilbertson made their home on Jack's Boer War scrip in the adjoining district of Landscape. They ranched and farmed and raised a family of nine boys and three girls, including two sets of twin boys. They were wonderful neighbors, always ready to lend a helping hand to settlers. Their door was ever open to friend and stranger alike. Anniversaries and showers for young and old were celebrated in their home. Their own Golden

Wedding was celebrated in the Hughenden Hall in 1960 with a capacity crowd of friends from far and near. Mrs. Gilbertson said, 'Ours was an ordinary life with its share of both grief and happiness'.

Mrs. Gilbertson took a keen interest in everything that was for the betterment of home, church and community. She is a Charter member of the Lady Alexandra Women's Institute and has won the prize for perfect attendance for several years. She could always be depended upon to do her share and a little bit more at all times. Her keen sense of humour and ready wit livened up the meetings.

Mrs. Gilbertson was bereaved of her husband two years ago, but still makes her home where they settled in 1910.

MRS. CARL L. ALEXANDER



Marion Lucille Reynolds was born in Montana, September 13, 1915. Her father, R. Edwin Reynolds came from North Dakota to Alberta, then went south to Montana where he met and married Alma Fry, a young school teacher.

In 1917 the family moved to the Bowville district east of Carmangay where shortly Mrs. Reynolds became a member of Carmangay W.I. and Marion has been attending W.I. meetings ever since. She attended rural school at Black Spring Valley and High School in Carmangay until 1931 when her folks moved to near Iron Springs where she finished school. Mrs. Reynolds joined the newly formed Battersea W.I. in 1932. Soon after Mrs. Gordon Ridley of Taber organized the Lethbridge Northern Busy Bees Girls' Club and Marion became a member and held several offices.

In 1934 Marion Reynolds married a young farmer, Carl L. Alexander

of Picture Butte and she joined the same Institute as her mother, the Battersea W.I. (It is said Mr. Reynolds was such a staunch supporter of the W.I. that he was considered a member too). Mr. and Mrs. Alexander have a family of three girls and one boy all born on the farm. The girls, Yvonne, Jean and Myra, are married and there are five grandchildren. Douglas is still single. In 1944 they sold their farm in the irrigated area and moved to a farm at Penhold where they remained only one year before moving to Cayley which has been their home since.

Mrs. R. G. McKeage organized the Cayley W.I. in June 1945 and Mrs. Alexander became the first president. During the years she has held most of the branch offices. She became Constituency Convener of Calgary-Okotoks Constituency in 1954 and only served one year as she was elected Director of District 4 and served 1955 to 1959. At the 1959 Provincial Convention she was elected Junior Representative of the Federated Women's Institute of Canada and served two years. She attended the First National Convention held in Ottawa as Director of District 4 and the Second National Convention in Vancouver in 1961 as the Junior Representative when she was elected Member-at-Large for the F.W.I.C. She also attended the Third National Convention in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, in 1964. She was elected Director of District 4 again in 1961 and served until 1963. Her pleasant personality and fine Institute record were contributing factors in her being chosen to represent the F.W.I.C. at the 'Real World of Women Conference' sponsored by C.B.C. at the University of Toronto, September 1962.

Mrs. Alexander was presented with a Life Membership by the branches in District 4 at the District Conference in January 1964, with the presentation being made by her mother, Mrs. R.E. Reynolds.

Mr. Alexander passed away January 1964 and in June 1964 Mrs. Alexander's parents, Mr. and Mrs. R.E. Reynolds, were killed in a car accident. Mrs. Alexander continuesto make her home on the farm at Cayley and plans to attend the Associated Country Women of the World Conference in Dublin in 1965 and continue in the work of the Institute.

## MRS. EMMA GILPIN



Mrs. Emma Gilpin was born at Pembroke, Ontario, March 4, 1885. Her Father, William Bruchartz, was born May 10, 1865 at Dreno, Germany, and came to Canada when a small boy with his parents. Her Mother, Bertha Kohls, was born August 9, 1867 at Kersten, Germany, and came to Canada with her parents when she was sixteen. Mr. and Mrs. Bruchartz were married at Pembroke, Ontario, July 8, 1884 in Zion Lutheran Church. Emma Bruchartz spent her early years in Pembroke and was baptized and confirmed in Zion Church. They later lived for a time on a farm at Petawawa which is now part of the Military Camp; then at Cartier, and Pembroke again before her Father caught the western fever and moved the family, including the canaries in their cages, to the end of the steel which, at that time, was Daysland.

Emma Bruchartz worked in Daysland that summer for $5.00 a

month which was the average wage for a lot of work. While she was working in Daysland, her folks were getting established on a gumbo homestead north-east of what is now Bruce. While working for G.W.G. mills in Edmonton, she met Mr. Gilpin and they were married March 19, 1917, by Dr. McQueen. They had two daughters and one son who died in infancy. There are two grandsons and one granddaughter.

Shady Cove Women's Institute in presenting this Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in February 1964, reported that she has been a devout worker for the many years she has been a member and that the W.I. is part of her life. Although past 80, and in failing health, she asked to have the winter meetings at her home in order not to miss being present.

## MRS. MAY SOMERVILLE



Mrs. May Somerville was born in Raton, New Mexico on May 16, 1898 to Mr. and Mrs. Alfred W. Manby of English and Irish descent.

She attended schools in Denver, Colorado, and later worked as a Bank Clerk. She was married to W. M. Somerville on August 17, 1921 and they have made their home in Cluny, Alberta for 51 years. They have one daughter and three grandchildren.

Mrs. Somerville's interests include the Anglican Church and the Alberta Star Chapter No. 18 O.E.S. Gleichen. Her hobby is gardening. She has also helped to write histories, has been secretary of Board of Trade and very active in community affairs.

Mrs. Somerville joined the Cluny W.I. in December 1924 and has been a continuous member since. She has held the offices of President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer many times over. She has been an untiring worker and a very capable leader and never hesitates to convene a committee whether it be a social affair or a banquet. During the war when the W.I. was sewing, knitting and quilting for the Red Cross, Mrs. Somerville always did her share and more. The Cluny women quilted more than four hundred quilts during those years.

The Cluny W.I. presented this Membership to Mrs. Somerville at a Cluny Board of Trade Jubilee Party for citizens who have lived in Cluny and area for 50 years or more - April 1964 with Mrs. Fred Fairbourn, past Constituency Convener of Gleichen W.I. Constituency making the presentation.

MRS. F. W. McCARTY



Mrs. F. W. McCarty was born Margaurette Victoria Oligny on May 24, 1891, in Tacoma, Washington; the only child of Eliza Leverty and Louis Oligny of Irish descent.

She married Francis William McCarty on October 18, 1911 at New Richmond, Wisconsin and they moved to Alberta April 20, 1920 and settled in the Vegreville district. They had a family of nine children: five girls and four boys. Two girls died in infancy; two girls graduated as Registered Nurses; two sons served in World War II. All but one live in Alberta. There are twenty-six grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren. She is now a widow.

Mrs. McCarty has been a director of the Vegreville Exhibition Association for 25 years and was honored with a Life Membership in 1963. She has been President, Secretary and Treasurer of the Hospital Auxiliary and has held the same offices in the Vegreville East Farm Women's Club, as well as being President of the Catholic Women's League. Mrs. McCarty is a wonderful member in any group of which she is a member and is always willing to help others.

Mrs. McCarty has been an Institute member for 43 years. She joined the Vegreville Institute in 1923 and has served as President, Secretary and Treasurer as well as branch director and convener of Agriculture. She is, and always has been, an inspiration to our branch and has had perfect attendance many times.

The Vegreville Women's Institute honored Mrs. McCarty with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in March 1964 in recognition of her many years of service as an outstanding member.

## MRS. ERLE CARR



Mrs. Carr was born in Galstone, Ayrshire, Scotland March 14, 1898 - maiden name was Barbara Arnott. She was educated in Scotland and came to Canada April 20, 1912 sailing on the first boat leaving Glasgow after the Titanic went down.

She took a business course at the Copeland Business College in Calgary and later held the position of stenographer and bookkeeper at Alix Creamery. She was the first stenographer there and was the one who drew up the outline for the formation of the C.A.D.P. She was also the first woman in Alberta to receive a cream tester's Certificate.

She was married to Erle Carr June 20, 1918 in Calgary. They have one daughter, Mrs. J. Mc Arthur, Calgary, and two granddaughters.

Mrs. Carr has always been keenly interested in Civic Affairs and politics. In recent years she has devoted much time to Fish and Game matters. Her hobbies include flowers, gardening, needlecraft and especially needlepoint and quilting.

Mrs. Carr joined the Acadia W.I. April 13, 1914 and was a member until it divided and she joined the Huxley W.I. around 1932. They then moved south where she joined the Kinniburgh W.I. and was a member until they moved to the Ricinus district where they are now retired. Mrs. Carr joined the Pine Cone W.I. which started in 1957. We are proud to have her as a member as she is always willing to do her share.

## MRS. JOHN MERRIOTT



Mrs. John Merriott (nee Mary Ferguson) was born at New Westminister, B.C. Her parents were married and pioneered at a small place on the Red River, called Ironad, just out from Winnipeg before moving to British Columbia in 1905. Mary attended Elementary and Secondary School, graduating from Britannia High, Vancouver.

She moved to the Peace River country in 1939 and married Lorne Harris of the Griffin Creek district. In 1940 she joined the Griffin Creek W.I. and served as secretary from 1948 to 1953. She also served as Constituency Convener from 1945 to 1949 and Director for District 1 from 1949 to 1953.

In 1950 Mrs. Harris was left a widow with two children. In 1953 she re-married and became Mrs. John Merriott and moved to Berwyn. In 1955 she transferred to Berwyn W.I. and was secretary from 1958 to 1960 and treasurer 1960 - 1962. She also served on committees, was auditor and reporter.

The Griffin Creek W.I. and Berwyn W.I. joined in honoring Mrs. Merriott with this Life Membership April 1964 before her departure to live in British Columbia.

## MRS. HUGHENA ELLIS



Mrs. Hughena Ellis was born April 29, 1891, at Red Jacket, Saskatchewan, the daughter of Archibald and Cathiren Macdonald of Highland stock, and attended school there.

She worked in a store until her marriage to James Ellis at Fernie, British Columbia on January 27, 1910. Her parents, brother and sister had settled at what is now Condor in 1910 so they moved to the same district. Mr. Ellis filed on a homestead and while he was Overseas in World War I Mrs. Ellis proved up on it. He came back disabled and passed away in June 1924, leaving Mrs. Ellis with a young family of six to raise. Four are still living and there are three grandchildren. Four sons were in the Second War.

Mrs. Ellis did practical nursing for many years when no hospitals were available in outlying districts. Her hobbies include: shell work, wax work, quilts, cushions, aprons and, the latest, liquid embroidery, besides tatting and embroidery.

She belonged to the Parents and Teachers' Association, now known as Home and School, and to the Canadian Legion Branch # 62 in Salmon Arm, B.C.

She was living in Calgary when she first joined an Institute in 1922. She belonged to Blackfalds W.I. while living there. She has been a faithful member of Condor W.I. and the members honored her with a Life Membership at the Red Deer West Constituency Conference in June 1964.

For several years Mrs. Ellis has been taking care of her Mother who was 99 on January 12, 1965.

# MRS. CLARA MAE FAULKNER



Mrs. Clara Mae Faulkner was born Clara Mae Cave - the first girl to be born in Macklin, Saskatchewan - on February 11, 1910. Her Father, Albert Edward Cave, came from Ontario while her Mother, Louise Mathilde Thede, was a native of North Dakota.

Mae attended Bride Elementary school - a one-roomed rural school - and completed her education at Macklin High School. She took her Normal at Moose Jaw and taught school for five years in Saskatchewan.

In October 1937 she moved to Grimshaw, Alberta, and the following year married Ernest L. Hansen who lived on a farm south of town. Ernest was a widower with four children, the eldest being nine years, so Mae found her time well taken up - four active children and a farm with its many and varied chores. In 1949 Ernest Hansen died and Mae was left with many responsibilities. However, two years later she married Thomas Wilfred (Bud) Faulkner and now has two children, Maureen, age eleven and Larry, age eight.

A busy personal life has not prevented Mrs. Faulkner from taking an active part in all community activities, especially the Women's Institute. She has been a continuous and active member since July 1938 of the Grimshaw Branch.

The Grimshaw W.I. presented Mrs. Faulkner with a Life Membership in recognition of her outstanding work in our W.I. Cemetery. The Cemetery has become self-supporting with its own bank account since she took over. She was elected Convener of the Cemtery Committee in March 1950, a position she has held since that time and, for the most part, has been the only member on the committee. She has held full responsibility for surveying, selling plots, purchasing equipment such as garden tractor, lawn mower, etc., also gravelling and snow plowing of driveway. When voluntary assistance for upkeep became inadequate, she procured the services of a caretaker and arranged for construction of a cement curbing along driveway. She contributes generously of her time and money travelling in all kinds of weather whenever circumstance demands it. She keeps all records and monies pertaining to the cemetery. A Cemetery Memorial Fund was established by her in 1952 and in June 1953 she organized our first Decoration Day.

Mrs. Faulkner served four years as President of G rimshaw W.I., nearly seven years as treasurer and four years as Constituency Convener. In 1959 she prepared and read the 25 year History of the W.I. at the 25th Anniversary Banquet, and presented the W.I. with a new Charter as the original had been lost. At present she is the Historian. She has filled in as secretary, has been press reporter, director and head of committees over the years.

She is also an active Life Member of Cancer Society. She is Education Convener of local Peace River Branch and doing excellent work with the Poster Contest. She was responsible for organizing Ladies Auxiliary to Canadian Legion, Grimshaw Branch # 253, serving as the first President for two years; Zone Commander for four and District Commander for two years. Has served as Honored Royal Lady in the Royal Purple Lodge for two years and is at present Badge Secretary for the Ladies Auxiliary to Brownies and Girl Guides.

## MRS. JAMES JEFFARES



Mrs. Jeffares was born to Mr. and Mrs. G.A. Bampfield on March 19, 1910 and was christened Sheila Georgina.

She attended the local Hogadone School and then spent one year at St. Hilda's School for girls in Calgary. When she returned home she took a sewing course by correspondence which has been a great help over the years as she has won many prizes at the W.I. Conferences, for her sewing.

As soon as Sheila was of age she joined the Milnerton W.I. in 1927 and was a member until August 6, 1949 when she, with the help of several other ladies organized the present Hogadone W.I. with the organization meeting being held at her home.

Sheila Georgina Bampfield was married to James Jeffares on May 25, 1934 and they have two sons: David (29) who is presently the Principal of one of the Red Deer Schools and Brian (18) who has just completed his senior matriculation and is at home.

Mrs. Jeffares has lived in this community all her life. Besides being an extremely active Institute member, she takes pride in her home, garden and community. She is a member of St. Hilda's Anglican Church, a member of St. Hilda's Guild and has been Sunday School Superintendent for the past seven years.

Since joining the W.I. in 1927 Mrs. Jeffares has held all the offices; has been Director for several terms and has been Chairman on the different Standing Committees. At present she is serving her third year as Constituency Convener.

When Hogadone Women's Institute celebrated their fifteenth Anniversary August 6, 1964, they honored Mrs. Jeffares by presenting her with a Life Membership for her outstanding contributions to the Institute during her thirty-eight years as a member. The meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Jeffares.

## MISS CHRISTINA McINTYRE



Miss Christina McIntyre was born at South Mountain, Ontario, in the St. Lawrence Valley. She attended public school at S.S. No. 5 Mountain, and high school in Kemptville. She took teacher's training at Regina Normal School and taught for three years in Saskatchewan. She attended Macdonald Institute in Guelph, graduating in Home Economics in 1917. In 1919 she interned as a dietitian at the Royal Victoria Hospital in Montreal and later took post graduate work at Oregon State College at Corvallis. In 1920 she came to Alberta to teach Home Economics at the Schools of Agriculture at Claresholm and Olds, retiring from the O.S.A. in 1951. Since her retirement she has spent three summers on the staff as dietitian at the Vermilion School and enjoyed it greatly.

In regards to her work, Miss McIntyre writes: "Apart

from the regular work at the Schools of Agriculture during the terms from early October to the end of April and the summer courses at the Schools, a great deal of extension work was carried on by the teachers - meetings with Women's Institute groups, United Farm Women and other women's organizations.

School Fairs were also an important part of our work and later the 4-H Girls' Clubs. I think I have visited every town and community in Alberta in connection with my work. Although my native province is Ontario, I feel I am also a part of Alberta as I have worked so closely with Albertans for so many years and have had such a pleasant relationship with them. I have learned a great deal from the women of Alberta as it was sometimes a 'you and me' together relationship in the extension work."

Mrs. A. B. McGorman, President of the Alberta Women's Institutes, presented Miss McIntyre with an Honorary Membership on her retirement in 1951 from the School of Agriculture and the Government.

Miss McIntyre has made her home in Edmonton since 1951 where she has joined the Edmonton Women's Institute.

MRS. N. HNATIUK



Rose Dowhaniuk was born in Two Hills, Alberta, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dowhaniuk. She attended the country school in Two Hills and completed her schooling in St. Paul, and then worked for her father in his business.

She married Nick Hnatiuk in St. Paul in August 1929 and have lived in Grande Prairie for the past 26 years. They have two sons and two daughters: one son is a doctor, the other is enrolled in the faculty of science at the University of Alberta. One daughter is a nurse and the other is enrolled in the faculty of education. There are six grandchildren- four girls and two boys.

During the war years Mrs. Hnatiuk worked with the Red Cross and the Salvation Army and in recogntion of her work was presented with a pin from the Salvation Army. She has been president of the local branch of the Red Cross and chairman of the Blood Donor Committee for fourteen years and received the Red Cross Merit Award for at least 10 years of continuous service. A gold pin from the Cancer Society testifies to services rendered on behalf of that organization .

She has also been active in church work as president of the Women's Association - she was the first president of the newly formed

U.C.W. and has been on the executive ever since. For her devotion and untiring service in this organization she was honored with a Life Membership. She has also served as president on the C.G.I.T. Workboard for 4 years, taught Sunday School for 18 years and was Superintendent for 8 years and was also treasurer for four years in the W.A. Presbytery. At present she is the U.C.W. Representative on the Board of Stewards and treasurer of the Girls Workboard. She has served on steering committees and advisory committees for Mental Health, Hospital Auxiliary, Welfare and many others.

Mrs. Hnatiuk joined the Grande Prairie W.I. in February 1940 and served as treasurer for three years, then president for three years and now again she is in her second year as president, and has also been a director and chairman of several committees. She was Director of District 1 for four years and is completing her fourth year as Constituency Convener. She was Editor of Home and Country magazine for two years and is now completing her second year as Provincial Convener of Social Services.

Mrs. D. W. Patterson, Charter and Life Member, assisted by Mrs. G. V. Carveth, Past President, on behalf of the Grande Prairie Women's Institute, presented Mrs. Hnatiuk with a Life Membership pin and Certificate in August 1964, for her untiring and devoted service to the Grande Prairie Institute branch, and to the Institute organization on other levels, as well as her loyalty, outstanding leadership and her contribution in the community in other activities, and it was a pleasure to work with her. The presentation was made at the 40th Anniversary Banquet of the Grande Prairie W.I.

Her hobbies are reading, knitting, crocheting, embroidering, as well as baking.

She is a member of the Northern Star Rebekah Lodge and has served on the executive for two years.

MRS. W. E. JANSSEN



Mrs. W. E. Janssen was born Asa Johanna Gudmundson, second daughter of Thor and Minerva (Thompson) Gudmundson, at Tindastoll (Markerville area), of Icelandic parents, who had been born in Iceland but met and married in North Dakota. Just after they were married they came to Canada in 1891 and settled at what is now Markerville but the Post Office then was Tindastoll. The family moved to Red Deer in 1905.

She attended school at Hola, then Red Deer Public and High Schools, before attending Normal School in Calgary and one year at University of Alberta and graduated in 1912. She taught for a year at Hola School and worked for a time as bookkeeper in the T.A. Gaetz General Store in Red Deer. She taught at Valley Centre school for a year and a half before being married to a young district farmer, William E. Janssen in 1919. This was her home until she moved into Red Deer in the Fall of 1964. Her husband passed away in 1956 but she continued to live

there with her son, until his marriage in 1964 and his business interests in Penhold made a change necessary.

Mr. and Mrs. Janssen have three children: Minerva - Mrs. Wally Thorne of Barnett, B.C. and grandchildren Lawrence and Leona. Victor with the Alberta Government, A.R.D.A. Department; Edmonton: grandchildren: Douglas, Gordon, Dale, Larry, Lori and Kathy. William: in business at Penhold.

Mrs. Janssen grew up a Lutheran, but belonged to Valley Centre St. Andrew's Church all the years she lived in the district and worked for the Women's Association. She served four or five years as Leader of a Girl's Club - an enthusiastic group of all ages who carried out a program similar to 4-H and W.I. Girl's Club. She was Chairman of the School Board for 10 years. At present she is a member of the Twilight Lodge Associates; the C.A.C. local group; and the Handicraft Guild. Her hobbies includes gardening and flowers, and handicrafts of all kinds.

The Hillsdown-Valley Women's Institute was organized at her home in 1921 and she became a Charter Member. She has attended all meetings continuously since and is an outstanding W.I. member - works and thinks W.I.- and has been the guiding hand over 40 years in the branch. She served as Constituency Secretary for one term; then Constituency Convener for four years. She was elected Provincial Secretary in 1947 and served four years until 1951.

The Hillsdown-Valley Institute presented Mrs. Janssen with a Life Membership at their Annual Meeting in December 1964 after she had retired to the City to live. She felt she should give up her membership but the members have persuaded her to continue as a member.

MRS. E. G. HUTCHINSON

Pauline Dorothy Wines was born January 8,1899,at Lamoille Valley, Nevada. When she was six days old her Mother died and she was raised by her Grandmother. Pat, as she is known to all,moved with her family to Idaho when she was two. All her schooling was in Idaho. Her love of history and all things of historical value may come from the fact that through her paternal Grandmother, she



MRS. PAULINE HUTCHINSON

is related to two great men of history; Abraham Lincoln and Harry S.Trueman.

She married Earl C.Hutchinson on August 22,1917, at Boise , Idaho. A month later he left for France to serve as a soldier in World War 1. Pat finished Normal School and taught while he was Overseas.' In the spring of 1920 they moved to Canada and settled on a farm in the United Prairie district, east of Warner.United Prairie W.I.was organized in July of that year and Pat became a member.

When it disbanded in 1949 Mrs. Hutchinson joined Warner W.I. Through the years she has served in every office at Branch,Constituency and District level including the Standing Committees and a term on F.W.I.C. In her first year as Director she promoted libraries which resulted in 16 being started.She started the Warner Memorial Library and gave 17 years of service to it before retiring from full duty there. Cook Books was the project for her second term--1500 were published and sold. Requests for them came for several years after they were all gone. During this term she wrote a half-hour program of W.I.news for C.J.O.C. Radio Station,Lethbridge which was broadcast weekly.

Mrs. Hutchinson is the mother of three sons, John, Robert and Ronald. There are 14 grandchildren and two great grandsons.

All through the years she has been active in church work, has taught Sunday School and worked in Women's organizations.

Since retiring from the library work she has set up a Gift Shop in her basement. She does all the handwork for her shop. Her hands and mind are never still.She is efficient, happy and contented.

MRS. LILLA ROSS

For complete biography with photo see Page 272.

" Mrs. Earnest ( Lilla) Ross."

**Unfortunately this page is missing. All other pages from this book are available. We hope to be able to add it in the future.**

MRS. JAMES WORRALL



Alfreda Angeline Wood, eldest daughter of David Vincent Wood and Maud Mabel (Cram) Wood, was born at Sheffield, Vermont, U.S.A., on March 2, 1900. She attended school in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, until moving to Calgary in December 1913.

Following further education in Calgary, she was employed by the Great North Western Railway Telegraph office, which later became the Canadian Northern Railway office. She was also employed in department stores in Calgary, including the Hudson's Bay where she worked in the Audit office. This was pleasant work, but being shut in all day had its small irritations, so in 1923 she decided to see how people lived and worked on Alberta farms, and obtained work near a brother at Didsbury. Working on a second farm was followed by a few months

in town working for a business man before she decided to live permanently in the district.

She was married in Calgary on January 27, 1926 to James Worrall, a veteran of the First World War and one of the original Soldier Settlers in the Didsbury district and they still make this their home. Their only daughter, Jeanette, is married to an Air Force Veteran of the Second War and they live on the same farm. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Hunter have two sons and two daughters to keep things lively.

Mrs. James Worrall has been a regular exhibitor in the handicraft section at constituency conferences over many years, showing different types of embroidery, crochet, knitting and some original rugs.

Mrs. Worrall joined Mountain View W.I. at Didsbury in 1924 and has been a member continuously since. She served two years as Vice-President and President from 1946 to 1951. She has been Chairman of almost every Standing Committee over the years, seldom being without an office, and is presently the Chairman of United Nations.

MRS. W. A. MacALLISTER



Mrs. W. A. MacAllister, nee Gertrude Clark, was born in Montreal of Irish descent as both her Father and Mother were born in Belfast, Ireland. She received her education in Montreal before the family moved to Brownsburg in the Laurentian Foothills. She took an active part in all young people's activities as a member of the church choir and a Choral Society.

On September 29, 1915 she was married to Ward Allen MacAllister, son of a pioneer family of Brownsburg. Mr. MacAllister had gone west in 1910 to Alberta where he spent several years and had returned to his home town. But the call of the west was too insistent and in the fall of 1917 Mr. and Mrs. MacAllister returned to Alberta and settled in Millet where he was interested in farming and the dairy industry. In the spring of 1918 Mrs. MacAllister and little son arrived to make their home there until 1926 when they moved to Wetaskiwin with the Northern Alberta Dairy

Pool. Mr. MacAllister became Manager of the Plant in 1928, a position he held until his retirement in 1956.

In 1927 Mrs. MacAllister attended a number of Institute meetings as a visitor. She became interested and in January 1928 became a member and has been active since that time. She has held all the offices at branch level - was president during the Second War - and was Constituency Convener of Handicrafts for four years. She is always willing to help at the meetings, is efficient and enjoys being a member of the Institute.

Her hobbies are music and handicrafts and she has won a number of awards with her entries in the Provincial and Constituency competitions during the years.

Interested in community and church, Mrs. MacAllister is a member of First United Church and in the early years was a Group Leader in the Women's Association and is now a member of U.C.W. Unit. She is also a member of the Hospital Auxiliary and a Past Matron of Victory Chapter # 19, Order of the Eastern Star.

There are two children: Gault Alexander who graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture and is with the Dairy Branch, Department of Agriculture Edmonton; a daughter, Mrs. Marjory Ethel Brebber, graduated from McTavish Business College and now makes her home in Wetaskiwin. There are three grandsons and a granddaughter:- Stewart and Donald MacAllister; Mary Ethel and Robert George Brebber in Wetaskiwin.

The Wetaskiwin Women's Institute presented Mrs. MacAllister with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in April 1965 in recognition of an outstanding member over many years in Institute activities.

MRS. JOHN FERGUSON



Mrs. John Ferguson was born Margaret Marshall Glen at Clydeford-Camberslang, Lanarkshire, Scotland, March 7, 1887, daughter of John and Lillias Wilson Kerr Glen.

She was married March 14, 1917, in Weel Park Church, Glasgow, to John Ferguson, Canadian Field Ambulance Services, and came to Canada in 1919, settling in Conjuring Creek district. She joined the Conjuring Creek W.I. very soon and has enjoyed a long membership, missing meetings only when in the hospital.

Mr. and Mrs. Ferguson had four children, two girls and two boys, and they raised a niece left motherless when an infant. Her husband passed away December 1963. His hobbies had been stamp collecting and semi-precious stones and hers was rug hooking, collecting buttons and dinner plates.

Mrs. Ferguson had saved clippings and had written the Scrapbook History of Conjuring Creek W.I. which the members felt was a big undertaking and a work well done. They presented her with a Life Membership in April 1965 as a well-deserving member.

Mrs. Ferguson was a member of the Calmar United Church and the Ladies' Auxiliary.

MRS. A. E. ZIEGLER



Dora Elizabeth Baron was born in Stony Plain on September 6, 1912, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Baron of German descent. She attended school at Stony Plain and had no special occupation before her marriage to Alexander Edward Ziegler on April 4, 1934 at St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Spruce Grove.

They have two children, Robert and Jean, and two foster children, Jack and Audrey. There are two grandchildren.

Mrs. Ziegler joined the Winterburn Women's Institute in 1939 and has held the office of secretary-treasurer for eleven years at different times. She has also served on the Social

Committee and is a very active and good worker in all the Institute activities.

She belongs to St. Matthew's Lutheran Church and has been treasurer for six years and secretary for ten years for the Women's Church Auxiliary. She has also been secretary of Spruce Grove Library Board and secretary of the Curling Club for five years - and a regular curler since the Club was formed. Mrs. Ziegler is interested in 4-H Club work and is always willing to give a helping hand.

Her hobbies are sewing, knitting, curling, and she also enjoys a good camping trip. She is always ready to help her beighbor with any problem.

Winterburn Women's Institute presented Mrs. Ziegler with a Life Membership in May 1965 in recognition of her contribution to the activities of the branch.

MRS. N. O. GAGNE



Mrs. N. O. Gagne (Agnes Laight), the eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. George Laight, was born in Wabamun, Alberta, on January 13, 1908. She received her education at Wabamun Public School and Duffield High School, then took a Commercial Course in Edmonton.

She was married to N. O. Gagne on April 14, 1937 and they had two girls and three boys. All are married except the youngest boy. There are six grandchildren.

Mrs. Gagne is very interested in 4-H Clubs in which her family once took part. Her hobbies are flowers, gardening and their grandchildren.

Mrs. Gagne joined the Winterburn W.I. in 1932 and has been a willing and faithful member, serving as president and secretary. She was presented with a Life Membership in May 1965 in recognition of her contribution to the Winterburn Women's Institute.

MRS. W. F. WILD



Mrs. Wild, nee Roberta Jane Gray, was born in Edmonton on June 24, 1909, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Gray of Scotch parentage who moved to Graminia to homestead when she was two years old.

Mrs. Wild had no special occupation before her marriage to William Francis Wild on July 25, 1934. They have one son and two grandchildren.

Mrs. Wild joined the Winterburn Women's Institute in 1935. She held the office of president for six years and also had a short term as secretary. She has served on the Programme and Social Committees and is a very active and good member.

Her other interests are the Community League of which she has been a member for twenty-five years. She served on the Refreshment Committee for the Winterburn Fastball Club for 20 years and has taken a great interest in 4-H Clubs. Mrs. Wild has been President of the Ladies' Curling Club and an ambitious curler since it was formed.

Mrs. Wild enjoys knitting, sewing, petit point, quilting, flowers, gardening and has started a small greenhouse in the past few years. She is always ready when it comes to a camping or fishing trip.

The Winterburn Women's Institute presented Mrs. Wild with a Life Membership in May 1965 in recognition of her contribution to the branch.

MRS. ERNEST ROSS.



Lilla L. Everdell was born at Hillsburg, Ontario, August 21, 1882. She is the daughter of Robert and Sarah Everdell, Canadians of English descent.

On January 3rd, 1906, she was married to Ernest Ross, in the first triple wedding performed in Ontario. They lived in London for a year before coming to Red Deer, Alberta in 1907. After a short time they moved to a homestead, south of the present town of Rocky Mountain House. Mrs. Ross has the distinction of being the first white woman to cross the Clearwater River. She was active in community affairs, and taught the Everdale school, which was named in her honor. The family remained on the farm until 1925, when they moved to Rocky Mountain House, where Mr. Ross was the Ford Dealer, until his death in 1963. Mrs Ross assisted her husband by keeping the books for many years.

Mrs. Ross has three children, Mary at home, operates the Ford Garage; Josephine of Victoria, B.C. and Robert who operates the Rocky Farm Service. There are seven grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren.

Mrs. Ross is an ardent church worker, and was president of the Presbyterian Women's Guild for eleven years. In 1957 she was presented with a Life Membership in the Women's Missionary Society, and in 1952 she was made a Life Member of the L.O.B.A., of which she is a Charter Member. She has also been a member of the Eastern Star, and of the I.O.D.E.

Mrs. Ross joined the Rocky Mountain House Women's Institute in May, 1926, becoming a Charter Member. She has held all offices of the local Branch. During the second World War, she was one of the two Women's Institute members in the Overseas League, which sent hundreds of parcels overseas. Mrs. Ross was instrumental in the Women's Institute car raffle in 1944, which proved to be a successful project. After completion of the Overseas League, the Women's Institute Hall was built with the balance of the car raffle money, and Mrs. Ross acted on the building committee. This Hall is a benefit to the community, and a source of income for the Women's Institute Branch. Mrs. Ross was Chairman of the Cancer Campaign, sponsored by the Women's Institute, and has always carried it out successfully.

In recognition of her work in the Women's Institute, and in the life of the community, her fellow Institute members presented Mrs. Ross with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute in March 1965.

MRS. ANGUS M. MARTIN.




Martha Lillian, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Reilly, was born in Toronto, Ontario, in 1888. She came West to Alberta with her parents in 1903, to the Red Deer Indian Industrial School, where they lived for two years. In 1905, her father took a homestead at Leslieville, where they spent many happy days.

The family was noted for its ability to entertain, and was in great demand at social functions all over the country. Mattie as she was then known, was always the organist or pianist. She carried on with this work all her life, wherever she lived.

In 1911, she was united in marriage to Angus McColl Martin, and moved to Rocky Mountain House, where they lived till 1915, when they returned to their farm.

The Beaver Flat Women's Institute was organized in 1932, and Mrs.

Martin became one of its early members. She served as President, and as Secretary at different times. She also served four years as Constituency Secretary for Mrs. C. W. Lynn, who was the first Constituency Convener for the Red Deer West Constituency.

In 1950, Mr. and Mrs. Martin moved to Sylvan Lake, and Mrs. Martin had her membership transferred to the Sylvan Lake Women's Institute, to which Branch she still belongs. Through the years she has served as President and Secretary of this Branch also, as well as serving as Constituency Convener. She has been the pianist for the Red Deer West Constituency since its inception in 1933.

Mrs. Martin is well remembered as the pianist at the Alberta Women's Institutes' Provincial Conventions for many years.

After the death of her husband in 1964, Mrs. Martin moved to Red Deer, where she resides at 3213 - 44 A, Avenue. At the present time she is the Organist at Sunnybrook United Church in Red Deer.

Mrs. Martin is very proud of her family. She has two daughters and five sons, eleven grandchildren, and two great - grandchildren.

On November 16th, 1965, the members of the Sylvan Lake Branch presented Mrs. Martin with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes. Mrs. Martin accepted this honor with great pride and joy.

MRS. ALBERT THIELEN.



Rose Marie Schill was born in Crestline, Ohio, on October 10th, 1898. She came to Alberta with her family in April 1912. Her father bought land near New Dayton, and here the family lived while Rose Marie finished her schooling. She worked in the Bank in New Dayton for two years before going to Calgary, where she took teacher training at the Calgary Normal School. She taught at three different rural schools East of Milk River, and in the town of Warner.

While teaching in the Allerston District she married Albert Thielen in December, 1922. They made their home on a farm fourteen miles East of Milk River. Here they raised their family of eleven children. Two

sons, and nine daughters, all of whom completed their High School education. One daughter was married soon after finishing school. The others have all gone on to further training. One son is a surveyor, and the other manages a grain elevator. Five daughters are teachers, one is a nurse, one is a Lab. Technician, and one is completing a course as X-Ray Technician. All the children are married except the youngest daughter. There are thirty grandchildren.

Mr. and Mrs. Thielen continued to live on their farm until the Spring of 1966, when they purchased a home in Milk River, where they are now residing, while continuing to farm.

Mrs. Thielen is a Charter member of the New Dayton Women's Institute, which was organized in August, 1915. She acted as Branch Secretary until she left to attend Calgary Normal School. After her marriage, she joined the Wide-Awake Women's Institute in the Spring of 1923, and was a member till 1929, when ill health forced her to resign.

Mrs. Thielen became a Charter member of the Writing-On-Stone Women's Institute, when it was formed in 1950. In this Branch she served as Chairman of Citizenship, Health and Home Economics, and Social Services. She served as Treasurer for a term, and was Constituency Chairman for Health and Home Economics for two years, as well as helping with the A.W.I. Girls' Club.

In June 1966, the members of the Writing-On-Stone Women's Institute honored Mrs. Thielen with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute. Mrs. Thielen expressed her gratitude saying that she will wear her Pin with pride, in being even a small part, in this Great Organization.

MRS. EDWARD BLAIN.



Jeanette Blanchard was born in Griswold, Iowa, on February 28th, 1885, where she grew up, and married Edward Blain. They came to Gleichen, Alberta the first of April in 1914. Two years later they moved to a farm East of Didsbury, where they made their home for the next thirty years.

Mrs. Blain joined the Mountain View Women's Institute in 1916. She served as President eight different times, and was Vice-President nine times. She was Treasurer twice and acted as Secretary on many occasions. She was Chairman of all the Standing Committees, and Convener of the war work. She was a most efficient and cheerful worker, and kept the members from disbanding. She remained a true and faithful member until they moved in to the town of Didsbury in 1946. Mr. Blain donated the land on which the Mountain

View Hall was built.

On February the 19th, 1954, Mrs. Blain called a meeting in her home, and formed the Didsbury Women's Institute. Mrs. Blain is still an active member, and enjoys holding quilting parties in her home, as well as knitting for the Red Cross.

Mr. Blain passed away in 1964. Mrs. Blain has one son Everett, in Kamloops, B.C., two grand daughters and six grandsons.

In May 1966, Mrs. Blain was presented with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in recognition of her many years of faithful service.

MRS. BERTRAM T. CHALMERS.



Grace Mabel McVannel, was born near Shelburne, Ontario, in the County of Dufferin, on July 10th, 1895. She attended Public School at Maple Grove, and Union. She received her High School Education at Shelburne, and took teacher training at the Toronto Normal School.

She came West to Alberta in July 1921, and taught Public School at Duchess. The following year, on December 27th, 1922, she was married to Bertram T. Chalmers. They made their home on their Ranch at Millarville, and have resided there ever since.

Mrs. Chalmers joined the Willing Workers Women's Institute in April,1927, a few months after the Branch had been organized in November 1926. She has been a faithful member continuously ever since that time.

During World War 11, Mrs. Chalmers worked diligently for the Women's Institute, and the Red Cross, knitting for the soldiers, sewing, and making quilts.

She has made over twenty quilts, and has crocheted hundreds of pairs of pixie slippers for the Unitarian Service Committee.

In 1966, the members of the Willing Workers Women's Institute honored Mrs. Chalmers with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in appreciation of her many contributions in carrying on the work for Home and Country.

MRS. ALEX M. ROBERTSON.



Ethel Klinck, was born in Missouri, U.S.A. She came as a child with her parents to the Westcolt District of Alberta. She attended Westcolt School, and Didsbury High School. After graduation from the Calgary Normal School, she taught in Didsbury for four years.

In June, 1927, she was married to Alex Robertson, and they made their home on the farm, where they still reside.

In December of 1927, the Westcolt Women's Institute was formed, and Mrs. Robertson is one of its Charter Members. During the years that followed, she held many offices in this Branch, including that of President and Secretary.

In December 1963, the Jackson Women's Institute was organized at the home of Mrs. Robertson, and she became the first President of this new Branch. Mrs. Robertson completed four years as Constituency Convener. The first two years for the Didsbury Constituency, and after the Constituency was divided, she continued as Convener of Didsbury West Constituency.

In 1963, Mrs. Robertson was elected Director of District 5, and served successfully in this office for two years. Mrs. Robertson is a very willing and active member, and is very busy with Centennial projects in the Community.

The members of the Jackson Women's Institute honored Mrs. Robertson with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes last April, 1967, in recognition of her forty years of faithful service to Home and Country.

The Robertson family has always been active in Church and Community affairs. It was a great pleasure to their many friends, when in 1959, they received the Master Family Award.

They have two sons, Donald, a Graduate in Agriculture of the University of Alberta, is married, and is farming with his father. Gordon, a Graduate of the Calgary School of Technology, is also married, and is farming.

MRS. LAWRENCE BIESTERFELDT.



Florence and Lawrence Biesterfeldt were married December 5th,1922, and have made their home on the Glasford flat, in the Orion District ever since. Here they raised their family of five, four daughters, and one son. The children are all married. Mrs. Charles Berringer (Dorothy) lives in Milk River. Mrs. Paul Bosse (Doris) in Victoria, Mrs. William Dumont(Doreen) in Redcliff, and Mrs. Robert Arndt (Irene in Vancouver. Their son William, with his wife and two sons, lives in a second house in the same yard, and farms with his parents.

Mrs. Biesterfeldt joined the Orion Women's Institute in January, 1949, and has been a faithful and valuable member through the years. She served as President several times, for a period of seven years, and kept the Branch from disbanding. She served as Secretary-Teas. for a while. She served as Constituency Convener for Mrs. Heitrich for a year. She has at all times worked for the good of the Organization.

In appreciation of years of faithful, continuous service of an outstanding nature, the members of the Orion Women's Institute honored Mrs. Biesterfeldt with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes in the Spring of 1967.

Mrs. Charles Andrew Quail.



Bernice Eileen Quail (nee Tronnes) was born at New Norway, Alberta, November 28th, 1920. She received all her schooling there, with the exception of grade eleven, which she took at Rockyford High School. After secretarial training, she worked in Calgary until her marriage to Charles Andrew Quail on August 1st, 1942. The remaining war years were spent in Eastern Canada, where Charlie was a Flight Engineer Instructor with the Air Force. When the war ended, they returned to take over the Quail farm at Round Hill. They are still there, busily engaged in grain and dairy farming. Their daughter Susan, was born in 1945, and their son Kevin in 1949.

Bernice joined the Round Hill Women's Institute in the Spring of 1946, and has been most active in Institute work ever since. She held all offices in her Branch, with the exception of Treasurer.

She is at the present time serving her fourth term as President In 1954 she was elected Constituency Convener of the Chaton Constituency, and served four years. It was while she was Constituency Convener, that she was chosen as one of the delegates from District three, to attend the First National Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, held at the Chateau Laurier in Ottawa. In 1958, the A.W.I. sent her to the Banff Rural Leadership Techniques Course, and she received further Leadership training, when she attended the Spring Leadership Course in Banff in 1959. At the Provincial Convention in 1959, she was appointed Chairman of the United Nations and Exchange programs.

In 1961, she was elected Director of District 3, and attended the second National Convention at the University of British Columbia. Still in Office as Director of District 3, she attended the third National Convention held at Wolfville, Nova Scotia, in 1964. At the 1965 Provincial Convention, she was elected Provincial Secretary for the Alberta Women's Institutes, and held this office for two years, resigning when her husband required major surgery.

The Round Hill Women's Institute honored Bernice with a Life Membership in the A.W.I. at the 50th Anniversary celebration of their Branch. Mrs. J. Bielish, Provincial President, was there to make the presentation, and to congratulate Bernice, and to thank her for her many years of service to the Alberta Women's Institutes. This memorable occasion took place on the fourth day of August, 1968.

Mrs. Gordon McPhail



Mrs. McPhail was born Florence May McPherson on May 1, 1887, at Perth, Ontario. Her early childhood was spent in Smith Falls and Kingston. At the age of ten, she moved with her parents to live at Watertown, New York. After completing high school, she returned to Winnipeg with her father, where, she attended Normal in 1906 and 1907. Miss McPherson taught school at Belmont.

On January 23, 1908, she became the bride of Gordon McPhail.

This marriage was blessed with a family of eight children, five boys and three girls. The McPhails farmed South of Belmont until 1923. In April, 1925, the family moved to Peace River, and farmed in the Strong Creek District till 1963, when they retired to live in the town of Peace River.

Mrs. McPhail has always been interested in Community affairs. In 1916 she belonged to the Manitoba Economic Society at Belmont, which eventually joined the Women's Institute. She loves music, and for many years helped with Christmas concerts at their school. She also taught Sunday School.

Mrs. McPhail was made a Life Member of the Alberta Cancer Society and was also awarded a Service Pin by the Red Cross. She canvassed for the Red Cross Society this year, a remarkable feat for a woman of eighty.

She joined the Peace River Women's Institute in September 1938, and served a year as Vice-President, and four years as President. She as convener, both at Branch and Constituency levels, of several Committees, and she frequently "pinch hits" for our Radio Reporter. Mrs. McPhail has truly been a Faithful Member.

Mrs. Erling E. Nordin.



Mrs. E. Nordin of Enilda, Alberta, was born Reidun Louise Feragen, in Norway, September 20th, 1910. Her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Feragen, came to Canada from Norway with their family, and settled in the Hay Lakes District. Reidun attended Sulitjelma Public School, and High School in Hay Lakes.

Reidun clerked in a grocery and dry goods store in Hay Lakes. She married Erling Nordin on December 15, 1930. The young couple moved to a homestead in Enilda in 1931. Here their two boys, Howard and Norris were born, and later two girls, Betty and Edna were adopted. Howard is married, and has a son and a daughter. Betty is also married, and has a daughter.

Mrs. Nordin has always been interested in Community affairs. She has fully supported the 4H Clubs. She served on the High Prairie Co-op Board of Directors, and was a member of the U.C.W. for several years. She is a member of the Big Meadow Hall Board, and of the High

Prairie Order of the Royal Purple. She is now President of the Big Meadow Women's Institute.

Mrs. Nordin joined the Big Meadow W.I. in 1935. She became the President for the first time in 1937. Since then she has been President in 1941, 1943, 1944, 1950. 1951, and in 1968. She served as Secretary in 1939, and in 1958. She was elected Treasurer in 1960, and served in that capacity for three years. In 1964 she became Constituency Convener for the Grouard Constituency. She has served on many Committees.

Mrs. Nordin often supervised the Junior W.I. Girls'Club in the District. The Home Pal Girls of Enilda and Big Meadow were ably guided by her. Later the Big Meadow Sweater Girls were supervised by Mrs. Nordin. She resigned in 1957 as leader, but assisted the Supervisor in 1961.

The Big Meadow W.I. honored Mrs. Nordin, by awarding her a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in recognition of her 33 years of continuous, outstanding service in the A.W.I. and in appreciation of her Girls' Club work.

Mrs. Nordin has always opened her home to Showers, Suppers for Husbands, and quilting bees. She has worked diligently for her Home and Country, and continues to do so. Growing beautiful flowers has been her hobby for many years.

Mrs. William Pollack.

Mrs. William Pollack was born Gracie Edna Myrel Adair in the Garrington District near Olds, Alberta, on October 27th, 1907. Her parents, Samuel and Gracie Adair, were of Irish descent. She attended the Berrydale school, and helped at home on the farm until she met and married William Pollack.

In April 1930, the newlyweds came to their homestead North of Enilda, in the Big Meadow District. Here their five children were born. Mrs. Lloyd Willsey (Dorothy) resides on the home farm. Mrs. Alvin Fishbuck (Jean), and Mrs. Vern Nessel (Doreen) live in Edmonton. Miss Eunice Pollack,R.N. is nursing in Seattle, Washington, and Dwayne is at home, taking grade nine in High Prairie. Dorothy is the only one so far, to bless Mrs. Pollack with grandchildren. She has three, a boy and two girls.

A month after Mrs. Pollack arrived in the Big Meadow District she, along with three others joined the Women's Institute, at a meeting held in Grouard. Mrs. Pollack served as President in 1934. 1935, and in 1952. She was the Secretary-Treasurer for six years. She also supervised the Big Meadow Girl's Club for a number of years.

Mrs. Pollack had learned the art of quilt making in her parental home, and was instrumental in getting the Institute members started at quilt making. This is still a handicraft much enjoyed to-day. Mrs. Pollack has been an outstanding member, always willing and pleasant to work with.

In 1956, she took a carload of Institute members to Fairview to meet and hear Mrs. Berry, from Australia, who was President of the Associated Country Women of the World, at the time.

Mrs. Pollack arranged the first Silver Wedding Anniversary

for a neighbor in our midst. These have become a tradition in our District. She has offered her home for numerous Bridal Showers, and meetings through the years. It would be impossible to count the pies and cakes she has baked, and the chickens that she has roasted for suppers held in the District.

Mrs. Pollack is a Charter member of St.Paul's Central United Church Women, and has been President and Secretary-Treasurer for the group many times, as well as serving on all Committees.

In 1958, tragedy struck the Pollack home, and Mrs. Pollack had a serious brain tumor operation, which left her partially blind, and damaged her senses of taste and smell. The entire Community were shocked and saddened, but we are so grateful that she returned to us. She has had to give up many of her hobbies, such as handicraft and gardening, but has accepted her handicap, and is still interested in her Community, and enthusiastic about the Institute. She rarely misses a meeting, and offers her home every year for a monthly meeting. She is ever mindful of her Home and Country.

The members of the Big Meadow Women's Institute, feel that it is a great pleasure, to honor as deserving a member as Mrs. Pollack, with a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institutes, in recognition of her many faithful services.



MRS. E. G. McLAUGHLIN



Dorothy McLaughlin was born September 9, 1923, in Islington, London, England. She was the only daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Field. She has one brother. Prior to her marriage she worked in Lloyd's Bank, London.

Dorothy and "Ted" McLaughlin were married in Islington on June 30, 1944. Ted continued in his war services in France and following his discharge, he and Dorothy came to Ted's parents home in Bright Sand, Saskatchewan in the spring of 1945. From there, they moved to Edson for three years, to Luscar for four years and then to Fort Saskatchewan in 1954.

During these years one son, David, and two daughters, Aileen and Mary were born. Ann and Sandra were born in the first few years of their residence in Fort Saskatchewan.

Dorothy's father came to live with them while living in Luscar and moved with them to Fort Saskatchewan. He continued to live with them until his death in 1961. He was a kindly man and he was the proud first class winner of a Women's Institute rug competition. Dot's nephew also found a welcome homey atmosphere for several years with them at the Fort.

Dorothy is an active member of the United Church having taught Sunday School for several years. Her musical talent is keen and enables her to give music lessons. She enjoyed square dancing for many years. She is an avid reader and she and her family made good use of the University Extension Library. Dorothy has worked in the Fort Saskatchewan Municipal Library for the past two years.

Dorothy joined the Fort Saskatchewan Women's Institute in 1967 and she is one of the most active members of the branch. She accepted the position of Handicraft Convener from 1969 to 1973 and sparked an increased participation in every department of handicraft, the Tweedsmuir Competition, J&P Coates' competition, and Short Story and Poetry competitions. She is able to help anyone in many crafts, knitting, sewing, macrame', weaving, hooking rugs, and she has won many honors in competition for her home branch.

Since the close of the Women's Building at the Exhibition (Edmonton), Institute members had not taken part to any great extent. Dorothy changed this and had the branches of the Edmonton - Victoria - Sturgeon Constituency demonstrate all phases of handicraft during Klondike Days.

Mrs. McLaughlin was presented with a Life Membership by the Fort Saskatchewan Women's Institute.

MRS. E. J. WOOLLARD



Mrs. E. J. Woollard was born Freida Viola Lent in Thessalon, Ontario on March 24, 1898.

The family came west to Gleichen, Alberta in the spring of 1900. Her father was a teacher missionary there and shortly after they came to the Indian Mission at Duffield, Alberta. She received her education in various schools where her father taught, some of these included Onoway, Edson, and White Whole Schools. She also attended Alberta College.

In 1918 she married Edwin J. Woollard. They had five children and now have twenty grandchildren and twelve great grandchildren. Her husband passed away in 1966 but she continues to reside on the farm near Wabamum that they moved to in 1919.

Mrs. Wollard has been a member of the Wabamum Women's Institute since it was formed in 1931. She has been an active member since that time and has held branch positions of President, Secretary-Treasurer, Secretary, Delegate to Convention, and Handicraft Convener.

Mrs. Woollard still does handicraft and submits entries to the Annual Handicraft Tea. She handles our Regal Card Sales and makes the quilts for our annual raffles.

Mrs. Woollard was granted a Life Membership by the Wabamum Women's Institute for 43 years of continuous service.

MRS. W. BERG



Mrs. Berg was born Jessie Hanna White in Dauphin, Manitoba, December 31, 1900. She married William Berg on October 31, 1919. Their family consists of three girls and one boy.

Mrs. Berg joined the Women's Institute in 1930 and since then she has held all the chairs at one time or another and is still a very active member. Looking back in the books, she has had perfect attendance so often it puts the rest of the members to shame.

Mrs. Berg is also an active member of the Enilda Anglican Church Women. She is known as "Grandie Berg" to all the youngsters from twenty years down.

Mrs. Berg was presented a Life Membership by Enilda Women's Institute for her faithful service.

MRS. L. B. SOMMERS



Mrs. Sommers was born Alice Eileen Walker in Saskatchewan on December 28, 1911. She married Lloyd B. Sommers in 1928 in Warsly, Alberta. They have three boys and one girl.

Mrs. Sommers joined the Fairview Women's Institute in 1938 and moved to Enilda in 1946 where she became a member.

Mrs. Sommers has held all the offices at one time or another. She was the Secretary-Treasurer for six consecutive years. Mrs. Sommers has been Constituency Convener for two terms. She is still a very active member.

Mrs. Sommers is a member of the Anglican Church Women, The Order of the Royal Purple, and the Square Dance Club. She is also very talented in flower arranging and does this for special occasions.

Mrs. Sommers was given a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute by the Enilda Women's Institute for her service to the branch.

MRS. LENA HILLABY



Lena was born in Bawlf, Alberta. She married a farmer and they have a family of four - two boys and two girls. At the prsent time, they have thirteen grandchildren. In 1965 they sold their farm and retired to Camrose. Lena found her free time was too convenient to free baby-sitting, so she took part-time employment at Eaton's order office and she has worked for six years.

In 1951, Lena became a charter member of the Heather Brae Branch. For 12 years, she was Women's Institute Girls Club Supervisor. Lena was District Director from 1969 to 1973 in District Three. Under the sponsorship of the Alberta Women's Institute, she attended Leadership Courses in Banff.

Apart from her active association with the Alberta Women's Institute, Lena is a member of Legion; she worked with the Red Cross; a member of Skudesness Lutheran Church and a member of the Camrose Agriculture Society. Her

hobbies are sewing, lapidary and learns whatever handicraft is current.

Lena was presented with a Life Membership at Banff in 1973 by her District.

MRS. K. O. SJOLIN



She was born Jenny Kristine Nelson on July 3, 1901, in Dodsjo, Bxn, Jantland, Sweden. She came to Canada in 1908 at the age of seven. She married Karl Oscar Sjolin on June 29, 1924 in Wetaskiwin. To this union three sons were born. Karl H. now living in Aurora, Ontario, Oscar and John both married and living in the Falun area. They also have a foster daughter Ida, now married to Merle Orr of Rosalind, Alberta. Mr. and Mrs. Sjolin have thirteen grandchildren. Mrs. Sjolin has two daughters-in-law members of the Falun Women's Institute.

Mrs. Sjolin joined the Falun Women's Institute in 1930, making her a charter member of our branch. She held office as President, as well as Director. She is a very willing worker and a faithful member. She often drove a horse and wagon in the earlier years to meetings, picking up other women so they could attend.

Jenny has always enjoyed gardening and flowers.

Mr. and Mrs. Sjolin celebrated their golden wedding anniversary this June at Lone Ridge Hall. A most interesting note, they had the same orchestra play for their fiftith anniversary as they had on their wedding day.

She is a faithful friend, kind and true! Mrs. Sjolin was presented with a Life Membership by Falun Branch.

## MRS. RICHARD BARNES

Leola Sutherland was born in 1918 in Afton, Tennessee, U. S. A. and moved with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. A. J. Sutherland to Alberta. They lived in several places including Olds where Leola completed her high school term before moving with her parents to Enilda, July 1, 1930.

During the depression years, it was almost impossible to further her education, so, she helped her parents on the homestead. She enjoyed rural life - the dances, picnics, and card parties.

On December 4, 1930, Leola joined the Big Meadow Women's Institute at a meeting at her parents home. She became secretary-treasurer from 1933 -35.

On February 3, 1939, Leola married Richard Barnes. Two boys, Alan and Eldon, and one girl, Eilleen, were born to this union. These were busy years and she was unable to attend meetings only as an occasional visitor.

In 1947 her husband passed away. In need of companionship and outside interest, Leola became an active member again and she served as secretary for four years. During the next few years, she held many offices in her branch as well as Constituency secretary and Convener. She was very interested and active in the Girls' Club, acting as supervisor. In 1962, a bus was chartered and 40 girls were taken to the Olds Girls' Club Convention. For four years, many hours were spent in assisting the girls to prepare for achievement days.

Leola has many hobbies and she is a member of the

Enilda United Church Women. In 1968, she wrote a 40 year history of the Big Meadow Women's Institue and read it at the 40th celebration.

On May 2, 1971, Big Meadow W.I. honored Mrs. Barnes with a Life Membership at the Grouard Constituency Conference. She says, "It has been a joy and a most wonderful experience, gaining friends and a broader outlook on life to belong to the Big Meadow Women's Institute."



## MRS. NELLIE THURSTON

A much-loved and valuable member of the Irma Women's Institute is Mrs. F. Thurston. Helen Ada, only child of Edward and Ellen Rogers, was born in Porthcawl, South Wales, in 1889. Her mother passed away when "Nellie" was a small child, and she moved with her father to Caerau, a village near Cardiff, the capital of Wales. She attended St. Fagan's Church School. Getting an education at that time was no mean feat - it meant a walk of three miles on muddy lanes and across fields in all kinds of weather. Every vestige of mud had to be cleaned off before pupils were allowed to enter the school - or the cane was liberally applied. After passing through all the classes at St. Fagan's, Nellie Rogers was retained as a teacher's assistant.

In 1910 she was married in Caerau Church to Frederick Thomas Thurston, youngest member of a family of ten children. They passed the years from then until 1927 landscaping, lumbering in the south of England, and on a farm near Barry, South Wales. Eight children were born during this time.

In 1927 economic conditions in South Wales influenced them in their decision to emigrate to Canada, and in April 1927 they arrived in Irma. Here they have remained, adding one more child to their family. At present there are also 29 grandchildren and 22 great grandchildren. They are looking forward to celebrating their sixty-fifth wedding anniversary in June.

Mrs. Thurston is affectionately known in the district as "Grandma Thurston". Her cheerfulness, loving kindness and generosity have endeared her to the many friends she has made in almost fifty years in Irma.

The Irma Branch of the Women's Institute was formed in March, 1928, and Mrs. Thurston joined in April. She has remained a staunch member, rarely missing a meeting. In the early years she either walked, or drove a horse and buggy, taking the younger children with her. In 1944 and 1945 she was second Vice-president. Over the years she has served on various committees, and contributed much with her support of all activities undertaken by the Irma branch. Her "Welsh cakes" are a much sought after delicacy at teas and bake sales, and she still, at 85, bakes them. Living on a farm, and sewing and knitting for a large family kept her busy, but in addition, her nimble fingers have knit countless mitts, socks, vests, and cardigans for the various appeals made to the Institute. She has consistently won prizes with her knitting at constituency level, and since she has been eligible for the "over 70" class, her entries have won awards at both the constituency and provincial level.

Although her activies have been severely hampered by arthritis, Mrs. Thurston still knits, attends W. I. meetings and continues to be an inspiration to all members.

MRS. NELLIE THURSTON



## VIOLET GERIG

Violet Jackson was born in Edmonton and she lived there until she was seven years old. She moved with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jackson, to a farm in the Busby district. She attended Independence school and rode horseback to and from school.

In 1943, Violet married Carl Gerig and they moved into the Hamlet of Busby. They have had the rural mail route and they also farmed and still have cattle. Four children were born into this union, three boys and one girl.

She became an active member of the Busby community, acting as secretary-treasurer for the Busby Community League for many years.

Violet joined the Women's Institute forty-four years ago, and she has held several offices which included President and Secretary. She still holds the position of Social Convener.

The Busby Women's Institute presented a Life Membership to Mrs. Gerig for her faithful service at the Mid-Pembina Constituency Conference May 3, 1975.



MRS. GEORGE THURSTON SR.

Edith Mary Fish was born in Birmingham, England in 1887, where upon completing her education she taught cookery and laundry work in a girl's school in Norwich. She married George Thurston, a widower with two small sons, in 1909. Two more sons were born before the Thurstons moved to Canada in 1913, settling near Nightingale.

Mrs. Thurston was present in 1915 when Mary McIsaac came and organized the first W.I. in Nightingale, making her a Charter Member. She served as Director of the Entertainment Committee since she was a trained pianist and vocalist and her talents were freely given to help with every community activity.

Another son and two daughters were born before the family moved to Alderson in 1927 where they lived until 1932. Upon returning to Nightingale, Mrs. Thurston rejoined W. I. and was Agriculture and Education Convenor in turn. She was President in 1940-41 and Constituency Convener in 1943-44.

Mrs. Thurston joined Calgary W. I. when the family moved there in 1946. She was Provincial Convenor of Citizenship in 1947 and President of Calgary W.I. from 1949 to 1952.

Since Mr. Thurston's death in 1961 Mrs. Thurston still lives in her own home, is active in her church work, still loves to play the piano and sing, and does many beautiful prize-winning pieces of needlework. Nightingal W. I. is proud to have this wonderful lady as a member and she continues to serve her "Home and Country" through A.W.I.

Mrs. Thurston's family is presenting her with Life Membership in the Women's Institute as a Mother's Day gift on May 12, 1975.



## MRS. D. N. CUNNINGHAM

Mrs. D. N. Cunningham was born Eliza Scott at Catford, Kent, England in 1902. She attended school, there, until her parents moved to Calgary in 1917. She continued her education at Stanley Jones school for a short time before moving to the Cottonwood district west of Innisfail.

On December 14, 1921 she married D. N. Cunningham at Innisfail. They have two daughters and two sons.

Mrs. Cunningham (Ivy, as she is known) joined Mary Riley Women's Institute. When this branch became too large, a second branch was organized in 1935, known as the Cottonwood W. I. Mrs. Cunningham was a charter member and the first president. Despite poor roads and other difficulties, she, like all pioneer women, was seldom absent and she played a very active part in all phases of the work. During World War Two she assisted in sending ditty bags and parcels overseas.

In the 1950's when the membership dwindled, her efforts and perserverance kept it going. To raise funds, she convened lunches at dances at Moose Mountain hall for several years. She served as secretary-treasurer for twelve years as well as president at different times.

From 1960 -64, she was Constituency Convener for the Innisfail Constituency. She attened many conferences and conventions as well as a Cancer Workshop.

Her hobbies are knitting and flower gardening. Since returning to Bowden, she has been active in the Rebeka Lodge, a member of the United Church Women and has been president

of the Bowden Friendship Club.

On April 6, 1975 at an "Open House" the Cottonwood Women's Institute presented Mrs. Cunningham with a Life Membership for her long and faithful service.



## MRS. JOSEPH BIELISH

Martha Bielish is a homemaker, a farmer's wife, a mother, a grandmother, a club woman, a teacher by profession and a concerned citizen.

Martha served as a school trustee and a two year term as president of Zone two of the Alberta School Trustees Association, served on the Alberta Agricultural Centennial Committee, the Red Cross Society, Alberta Council on Aging, the Indian Eskimo Association and served on the Advisory Board on the Status of Women from 1971 to 1973. At present she is Vice-President of the Canadian Association of Consumers, Alberta Division.



Although Mrs. Bielish is a member of other organizations she has served the Alberta Women's Institutes in most of the offices, including four years as Provincial President. As President she led the Alberta Women's Institutes delegation to two conferences of the Associated Country Women of the World in Dublin, Ireland and in Lansing, Michigan. She also attended the A.C.W.W. Conferences in Oslo, Norway and Perth, Australia, holding voting privileges.

At present, on National level, Martha is second Vice-President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. Because of her interest in and involvement with the native people in Alberta, she was appointed to the Northern Canada Women's Institute Committee.

At the 1975 Provincial Convention of the Alberta Women's Institutes Martha Bielish was honored by being presented with the "International Women's Year Award"for a deserving member.

With all her outside involvement, Martha still finds time to continue her love of oil painting, taking courses and capturing on canvas rural scenes that are fast becoming memories.

## MRS. GEORGE McMILLAN

Catherine McArthur Nicol was born of Scotch parents at Belvedere near Barrhead, Alberta in 1913. She was one of a family of six. Following her Public School education there, she went to work in Edmonton. While in Edmonton she took a typing and shorthand course attending night classes at Alberta College.

In 1938 she married George McMillan and moved to the farm in the Busby area where they farmed until 1950. They raised a family of three children; two sons and a daughter, who have all married. One son and daughter live in Edmonton and one son lives in Vancouver. The McMillans have four grandchildren.



Kay first became an active Institute member in 1940 when she joined the "Echo Hill Branch"near Westlock. There she held all the offices at Branch level. When the McMillan family moved to Edmonton in 1950 Kay joined the Edmonton Institute where she served invarious offices.In 1965 she was appointed Provincial Treasurer of A.W.I.and held this position untilshe became Provincial Secretary-Treasurer in 1971.This newly created combined office of Sec.Tres. was the first step in preparation for a future Provincial Office. She carried on with the combined duties in her home until 1975.

In April 1975 a suitable Provincial Office was located and leased. It was through the untiring efforts of Kay and husband George that the Office was made ready for occupation.Due to their continued diligent support and assistance during the transition from the Home Office to the new premises,the newly elected Executive was able to be well established by the official opening date of September,1975. At this time A.W.I pays tribute to Kay's husband,George,who has been her steadfast supporter and helper in all her Institute endeavors.He has been a most co-operative assistant to the Institute cause.During her term of office Kay proved to be a conscientious and efficient secretary,dedicated to fulfilling the aims and objectives of the Women's Institute in carrying out her numerous duties and obligations as Secretary and Treasurer for the ten years she held office.

Though Kay no longer holds office with the A.W.I. she has few idle moments.Kay and George are faithful attenders,staunch supporters and workers at St.Stephen's United Church in Edmonton. That they both enjoy gardening is evident from the beautiful display of flowers surrounding their home.

Both take pride in their home and are a most hospitable couple. Kay enjoys doing needlework and knitting in her spare time. She also does volunteer work at the hospital and nursing home. She continues to assist with Institute work when required. For recreational activities both enjoy square dancing, league bowling and spend the summer weekends with their trailer at one of the numerous lakes out of Edmonton.

Kay is a dedicated homemaker, a devoted wife, a loving Mother and a proud grandmother. Her many fine qualities have endeared her to all who know her- she is a true and sincere friend. Several Institute members have spent the night in their home. All enjoyed the hospitality and genuine welcome extended them during their stay. Numerous Executive meetings have been held in their home- all have enjoyed the delicious meals served. The Institute owes Kay a debt of gratitude for all she has done to fulfill the members needs when in the city.

Mrs.McMillan was presented a Life Membership in the A.W.I. by Council at the conclusion of the June 1975 Convention, upon her retirement from office, in recognition of faithful and devoted service-a fitting tribute to a dedicated worker for "Home and Country."

## MRS. JAMES T. MORRISROE

Ethel Marguerite (Stickland) Morrisroe,fourth child in a family of six was born near Penhold where her parents,Mr.and Mrs.Stickland farmed.Later the family moved to the Ridgewood district.Ethel received her public schooling there,then graduated from High School in Red Deer. Deciding on a teaching career,she entered Camrose Normal School and enjoyed five years teaching at Tindastoll and Ridgewood Schools before leaving to be married.

On August 7,1940 she was married to James Morrisroe who farmed in the Pine Hill district,there they lived for eight years before moving to a farm within the city limits of Red Deer. This was her home for 27 years and when the city surrounded their buildings they



moved three miles east of Red Deer and are still actively engaged in farming. The Morrisroes have raised three lovely children,Ronald who farms with his Dad,Norma who is a Nurses Aide and Gail who teaches.

Ethel's first involvement with community life was with the Ridgewood U.F.W.A. In 1947 she joined the newly formed Ridgewood W.I. and then on moving to Red Deer she became a member of the Clearview W.I. thus has been actively engaged in Women's Institute work for over thirty years.She held office at all Institute levels and served as Provincial President from 1973-75.

As Alberta President Ethel has had many serious moments and important decisions to make. For many years it has been felt that a Provincial Office was necessary for the welfare of the organization and in 1975 having had the cooperation of the branches she was able to sign a five year lease for an office in Edmonton. That year the Government gave a grant of $25,ooo to the Council to be used for the educational benefits of all the members. She has attended five Federated Conventions and four"Associated Country Women of the World" Conferences in Norway, Ireland, U.S.A. and as Leader of the delegation to Perth, Australia. Though no longer holding office she is still an active member and remains interested in whatever the Institute is doing.

Upon her retirement from Provincial Office she was presented with a Life Membership in recognition of contribution to the organization. Ethel might be small in stature but she is mighty in the strength of her convictions, for this she is respected and admired.

Being a busy member of the Institute for many years has not lim-

ited Ethel's interest in many other community enterprises. As a shareholder of the Red Deer Exhibition Association, she has served faithfully on the Ladies' section and for two years was on the Board of Directors. 1975 being "International Women's Year" Ethel was given the honor of being Parade Marshal and asked to officially open the 1975 Fair. She is a member of the local Lioness Club, has been for 25 years; served on the Y.M.C.A. Board; worked with the Ladies Auxiliary to Twilight Lodge Associates;was member of local Handicraft Guild and in general participates in other community endeavors when necessary and being a very busy farmer's wife it is not always easy.

However Ethel manages to enjoy many pleasant hobbies,her needle-work is beautiful,one year winning first prize at the Provincial Convention with her originally designed hand embroidered cloth. She loves reading and playing bridge and for her outdoor hobbies she has enjoyed curling for many years. The Morrisroes as a family plan many outings at Sylvan Lake where they they have a cottage- relaxation from a busy farm life.

## MRS. ROBERT WILD

Ida Gray was born in Spruce Grove on June 8,1919. She is of Scotch parentage and her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gray homesteaded in the Graminia district for many years.



She received her education in Graminia Public School the Winterburn High School, and furthered her education at McTavish Business College in Edmonton.

In 1942, she married Robert Wild and they were blessed three girls , Doreen and twins, Joyce and Joan. They have two grandchildren.

Mrs. Ida Wild joined the Winterburn Women's Institute in 1947. She served as secretary, on the social committee and she is a willing and good worker in all Institute work.

Her other interests are in community work. She has been president of the United Church ladies group, she curls and takes a keen interest in 4 H work. She enjoys painting, sewing and doing petite point.

The Winterburn Women's Institute presented Ida with a Life Membership on May 14, 1975 at Winterburn's 60th Anniversary.

## MRS. ISABEL (BUCHMAN) LECKIE

Isabel Leckie was born in 1891 in a small village in Glousters-hire, England, the seventh child of a family of eight.She took her schooling at the Ladies Collegiate in Cheltenham and completed her education at a Girl's Grammar School in Thames, Oxfordshire.



In March 1913 Isabel and her brother sailed to Canada arriving at Cereal three weeks later.

Her first contact with the Women's Institute was in 1914 when she attended a Homemaker's meeting in Saskatchewan. Back in Cereal Women's Institutes were being organized. Upon leaving Cereal in 1914 she no longer belonged to any Women's Institute.

She was married to John Leckie of Blackie in 1917 and lived on his farm and raised a family of three children. They lived for eight years in High River and came to Eagle Valley in 1934 to an unimproved bush farm. Another child was born in 1935.

Mrs. Leckie joined the Eagle Valley Women's Institute in 1936. She has been President of the local Branch twice and served on the Agriculture and Canadian Industries Committee for several years as well as being a Branch Director for thirteen years. Isabel Leckie has served on the following committees within the Branch: Canadian Immigration; Child Welfare and Public Health; Household Economics; Education and Handicraft.

Mrs. Leckie has always been a good and willing worker for the Alberta Women's Institutes and is a very good neighbor. She is well deserving of the Life Membership presented her by the Eagle Valley Women's Institute in recognition of devoted service for "Home and Country.

## MRS. JOHN GUY

Mrs.Joan Guy has been a member of the Winterburn Women's Institute since 1953 when she moved from Edmonton to the Winterburn community.

Mrs.John Guy was born,Joan Hingley,in Regina,Saskatchewan in



February 1923. Most of her schooling was in Regina, and later she attended the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg. She graduated as a Dietician and came to Edmonton where she was employed at the University Hospital. Here she met and later married her husband John, October 11,1943. They moved from Edmonton to Winterburn, where they have resided since, with the exception of a year. She has been an active member throughout the years.

Mr.and Mrs. Guy have three children, a daughter Gail and two sons, Douglas and Gary.

Mrs.Joan Guy has been a very active member in the Winterburn Women's Institute and has held the office of Vice-President as well as serving as President twice. She was the President the first time for three years with a second term in 1968 and 1969. At present she is the Handicraft Convener.

Through the years Mrs. Guy has served on numerous committees in the Women's Institute and is a competant homemaker and a good neighbor.

## MRS. HAROLD ROGERS

Mrs. Margaret Rogers was born in 1923 in Vernon, British Columbia. Her parents moved from there to a farm at Golden Spike, Alberta where they farmed for many years.

Margaret received her education at the Golden Spike Public



School. She was keenly interested in baseball and played on the school team and won many games travelling from one place to another.

In 1945 she married Harold Rogers of Spruce Grove. They were blessed with six children, three boys and three girls. All are married , with the exceptipn of the youngest son, who is still living at home. They have ten grandchildren.

Mrs. Margaret Rogers joined the Winterburn Women's Institute in 1956. In 1962 she served as Vice-President for one year taking over the Presidency for two years in 1964 and 1965.

Margaret has been an active member and a faithful participant in all Women's Institute activities at both Branch and Constituency levels. At present she is the Social Convener for the Winterburn Branch.

## MRS. SAM ELLIOTT

Irene Doll was born in Hayscille, Ontario and came west with her folks arriving in Didsbury in 1918 on New Yeafs Day. She worked as a hired girl in the district.

On May 12, 1924 she married Sam Elliott at Prince Rupert,British Columbia. They were blessed with six children, five girls and one son. Irene and Sam have many grandchildren and great grandchildren.

Mrs. Elliott has been a continuous member of the "Lone Pine" Women's Institute for 47 years. She has served on the Branch Executive as President, Secretary, Director and Social Convener, including a four year term as Constituency Secretary. She has worked hard and diligently for the Women's Institute and was always willing to do her share and often much more. Her cheerfulness and encouragement through the hard times kept the Branch together.



She worked endlessly knitting through the war years for the boys overseas. In recent years she has donated many articles of crochet for the sale stall at Women's Institute Conventions.

Other than her work with Women's Institutes she has served as Secretary for the Old Timer's Association for six years. She has been a member of the local U.C.W. for many years and has helped on the Hall Board for more years than can be remembered.

Mrs. Elliott, now past 70 years of age, can be seen taking a roasted turkey, pies and other makings to a banquet the branch is catering to; or calling at doors for donations of money for,"Flowers of Hope" for the Mentally Handicapped Children.

The members of the "Lone Pine W.I." are convinced Mrs. Elliott is most worthy of a Life Membership in recognition of her faithful service through the years working for "Home and Country". This is their tribute to a dedicated Institute worker-- an honor she truly deserved.

## MRS. DOROTHEA McFADDEN

Mrs. Dorothea McFadden, better known to us as Dorothy or Grandma, was born in Edmonton, October 5, 1897. She attended her first school built on McDougall Hill, later the Queen Anne School. She recalls parading with school children when Alberta was declared a province and still treasures a book received in 1905. She also watched the silver spike put in at the C.N.R. station when the rail was laid. Among her treasures is a black ribbon badge worn by every school child in memory of King Edward Vll at his death on May 8, 1910.

Dorthea kept books at the age of fourteen and received $40 a month in salary. From 1917--1919 she was assistant agent at the



C.N.R.depot in Mannville while her husband was overseas in the first World War. Upon his return they moved to the farm where they spent fifty years.

Birch Creek W.I. was formed in October,1934 and although she is not a charter member she joined in December,1934. She has helped her Branch in many ways and has held almost every office. In 1959 she attended the A.C.W.W. Conference in Scotland with a sister, Mrs.Knight, a member of the Witcham Ely W.I. She still corresponds with this W.I. and has many friends.

Dorthea has raised a family of five, one son and four daughters, all who have been W.I. members.

Mrs. McFadden now lives alone and is still able to look after everything, especially her garden,flowers and her African violets.

Our honored member is still very active and at present is on the Social Services Committee for visiting the sick, sending cards and telephoning. It is hoped her enthusiasm will serve as an inspiration to the younger members of the "Birch Creek W.I."

## MRS. EDITH CRABTREE

Edith Parker was born in Gray County, Ontario in 1905. She moved to Saskatchewan where she grew up. Edith was a member of the Saskatchewan Homemaker's Club.

In 1928 she married Tom Crabtree and moved to the Wetaskiwin area. Edith became a member of the Falun W.I. in 1949 where she has held the office of President, Director, Social Convenor and Treasurer which office she holds at the present time.

She is an active church worker and helps with any canvassing to be done. She takes care of her own home and garden. She has raised two children, a son and a daughter.



## MRS. MELVIN BALLHORN

Mrs. Florence G.(Bette) Ballhorn, nee Bannerman, was born in Calgary and resided there for ten years, moving then to Beiseker and to Wetaskiwin in I933. Following High School she graduated from McTavish Business College and was a legal secretary for four and one half years prior to her marriage to Melvin Ballhorn in I943.

They have two children, a son Wayne who is married and farms out of Wetaskiwin and a daughter Joan who is married and lives in Calgary. They have seven grand children.

Bette became a member of the Angus Ridge Women's Institute in I944 and has held all offices in the Branch.

In I965 she was appointed Provincial Handicraft Convener for four years and in I973 Bette became Ist Vice President for a term of



two years. In I975 she was elected President, the first to serve a three year term and have annual conventions under the new format.

At the Federated level she served a three year term on the Tweedsmuir Committee, two years as Junior Board member of the FWIC and three years as Senior Board member. In I978 she was the recipient of a Queen's medal given by FWIC to the Provincial Presidents.

She has attended FWIC Conventions in Winnipeg and Banff at which time she acted on the planning committee. At the FWIC Convention to Charlottetown, P.E.I. she conducted a bus tour for the first time for Alberta members wishing to attend, and will go to the I979 Convention in Saskatoon where she will act as Recording Secretary.

She attended the Associated Country Women of the World Conference in Perth, West Australia as a voting delegate and as the second Council member in I974. In I977 as leader of the Alberta Delegation she attended the Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya as Ist Council member and voting delegate. Following this Conference the "Water for Kenya Wishing Wells" became a project with over $3000 being raised at the I978 AWI Convention in Olds.

Bette is a member of the United Church. Her other interest is the Wetaskiwin Allied Art and Craft Centre of which she was one of the founding members and served as Secretary for seventeen years. She is presently serving this organization as Ist Vice President. She also teaches several crafts at the centre.

The Ballhorns are semi retired but continue to make their home on the farm which is now managed by son Wayne and his wife Lynn who is also an active Institute member.

## MRS..LAWRENCE ELOFSON

Dora Elofson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Warren Smith, was born in Conneaut Lake, Pennsylvania on July 3, I898, the seventh of twelve children. In I9II she came by train to Ponoka,Alberta with her Mother, brothers and sisters to join her father who had taken up land in the Ferrybank district.

On her nineteenth birthday, July 3,I9I7, Dora married Lawerence Elofson of the adjoining Sharphead district. To this union were born three children, Laurine, Verna and Stanley,all of whom have married so that Dora now has ten grandchildren and fifteen great-grandchildren.

Dora's husband passed away in I949 and in I95I, when Stanley married and took over the farm, she moved into the town of Ponoka where she still resides.



Dora has always been actively engaged in community work. Since I92I she has been a member of the Grand Meadow Local of the Women of Unifarm. She was secretary of this local for a total of seventeen years, an important position as the Grand Meadow ladies have made immeasureable contributions to Ponoka and the community west of town.

Dora has been a faithful member of the United Church both on the Dakota Mission Field and in Ponoka, and has been a valuable member of the U.C.W.

For the past number of years she has been an ardent and enthusiastic bowler with Ponoka's Senior Citizens.

When the Ferrybank Branch of the Alberta Women's Institutes was for formed in I946, Dora became a charter member. She was the branch's first treasurer, and for twenty years acted as Branch representative to the Ponoka General Hospital Auxiliary. She has attended many A.W.I. conventions and conferences. Her knowledge and expertise as a quilt maker have been a great asset to the branch. She is a loved and respected member of A.W.I. and the community. In recognition and appreciation of her services and her contributions to the community around Ponoka in general and Ferrybank W.I. in particular the Ferry-Bank W.I. presented her with a Life Membership at their September m meeting on her eightieth birthday.

Her home has always been a gathering point for relatives and friends, and now at the age of eighty she continues to be active in Unifarm, church and A.W.I.

## MRS. DOROTHY HOSEGOOD

Dorothy was born in Barrie, Ontario in 1904 and came west with her family when she was two years old. The family settled at Clive, Alberta where Dorothy received her schooling and attended Normal School to train to become a teacher.

While teaching at the at the town of Zenith, some 20 miles south-east of Stettler, she organized an Institute and stayed there as a member for two years. (She laughlingly told us that she wasn't qualified to organize such a group as she had never belonged to one before.) Wherever she went, during her teaching career, she was a member of a W.I. if there was one within travelling distance.

Dorothy joined the Rugby W.I.Branch in 1934 and held all offices within the Branch and though never a Constituency Convenor she did go on to be Director of District 5. She was Secretary to Mrs. Rose Robertson during her term as Constituency Convenor and was again the



Secretary several years later when Mrs. Ethel Robertson served her term as Constituency Convenor.

She has always taken the topic of United Nations which nobody felt qualified to handle. At one time United Nations was called "Canadianization" because of all the immigrants coming to Canada at that time.

Dorothy Hosegood has been a member of the Women's Institute for over 50 years and is proud of the fact that she is the second generation of the Hosegoods to be presented with a"Life Membership" to the Alberta Women's Institute". She is a source of information with regards to the organization , due to her long association with the Women's Institute.

Dorothy married Harvey Hosegood and they raised a family of three daughters and they have seven grandchildren.

She is an inspiration to her fellow members and her guidance is appreciated and valued. Rugby W.I. presented her with a "Life Membership" in recognition of her dedicated and faithful service for "Home and Country".

## MRS. OLIVE VIPOND

Mrs. Olive Vipond was born in 1906 on her father's homestead west of Didsbury, not far from the Harmatlow Canadian Superior Plant. She took her early schooling at the"Zella" school which is still in active use as a Community Centre for meetings, picnics and various community functions. She trained to become a teacher and taught at Inverness, James River, Wescott, Grand Centre and Clover Mount schools. She also taught three years in Red Deer.

Olive joined the "Rugby Women's Institute" in 1934 just after she had married a local farmer, Allan Vipond. She has been an active W.I.



member ever since, holding most offices at Branch level and went on to serve as Constituency Convenor. This office was interrupted after three and one half years when she suffered a heart attack. Nellie Davies completed her term as Convenor.

She is always ready with some humorous bit to brighten the meetings and for years has been our ever faithful pianist. Olive and husband Allan raised a family of two children and have two grandchildren.

Several years ago she and her husband turned the farm over to their son and retired to Didsbury. Though not actively involved due to distance and ill health she is still keenly interested in the work of the Women's Institute.

If you were to visit her home you would see some very nice oil paintings and pastels as well as some red ribbon crewel work adorning her walls. Olive is an ardent member of the"Five O Club" in Didsbury and has her weekly Bridge sessions with her neighbors and her friends. Olive is one who believes in keeping mind and body busy.

In appreciation of her friendship and in recognition of her dedicated service to the Institute her fellow members felt she was deserving of the Life Membership presented her by the "Rugby W.I."

## MRS. BRUCE SHEILS

Dorothy Irene Downing was born April I5,I9I2 at Carmangay, Alberta. She lived on a farm nine miles west of town. When she was six years old the Downing family moved to a farm located nine miles east of Olds. Here she spent a happy childhood. Dorothy took her schooling at the Hammer School and completed her high school in the town of Olds.

In I932 Dorothy married Bruce Sheils from Didsbury. They raised a family of four daughters. Dorothy has fifteen grandchildren.

Dorothy joined the "Lone Pine" Women's Institute in I935 and has been a continuous member for forty-four years. She has held all offices in the local branch and has served on the lunch committee of the local Lone Pine Hall for many years and is now a member of the Lone Pine Old Timers. As well she belongs to the "Royal Purple" in Didsbury as well as the "5-0 Club" and is a member of the Knox



United Church.

After many years on the farm Dorothy and Bruce retired to Didsbury to live. Though living in town she still attends the W.I. meetings in the country.

Dorothy has been a faithful and dedicated Institute member; her cheerful nature and sunny smile is a welcome addition to every meeting.

In recognition of her dedication to the Women's Institute as well as her involvement in Community activities she was presented with a "Life Membership" by the "Lone Pine W.I.

## MRS. GEORGE UNDERHAY

Myra Hughes was born in Aberystwyth, Wales and came to Canada at the age of three years. She attended Siebertville School and following the completion of her schooling she assisted with housework in several of the neighbor's homes.

In I946 she married George Underhay and farmed east of Didsbury for many years. They raised one daughter, Joyce and have three grandchildren.

Myra has been a member of the Women's Institute for thirty-eight years. Through the years she has held all offices at Branch



level and has served her term as Constituency Convenor for the East Didsbury Constituency. At present she is the Constituency Convenor for the Educational Committee of "Agriculture and Canadian Industries. Myra Underhay was also Supervisor for the "Lone Pine Oriolles" Girl's Club.

In the Community she has been Sunday School teacher; Director for the "Midway Centre Curling Club" and belongs to the Legion Auxiliary. She attends the United Church in Didsbury and is a member of the U.C.W. She also belongs to the Didsbury Hospital Volunteers. Mrs. Underhay was an active member of the "Midway Home and School Association" and served on the Executive for many years.

Myra's hobbies are gardening and handicrafts of all kinds. Her fellow members of the Branch presented her with a Life Membership in appreciation of her faithful and dedicated service for "Home and Country.

Myra and Jack are about to retire from farming and have bought a house in Didsbury where they plan to spend their retirement years. We all wish them well.

MRS. KATHLEEN HENDERSON

Mrs. Kathleen Henderson (Launsbury) was born at Wheatley,Ontario in September I903. She came to Bow Island, Alberta in I9I0 and moved, by ox-team,to Nimiscan, Alberta in I9I2.She took her early schooling there and attended High School in Foremost. In I927 she came to Leduc where she has resided except for a four year period in Edmonton.

On February 26, I946 twenty- two ladies met at her home to organize the Leduc Branch. She was elected Secretary- Treasurer and served in that capacity for five years. As there was no public library



in Leduc she set out to establish one. She took a Librarian's Short Course and organized a Library Committee. Their first Library consisted of a few shelves in the corner of the local Hall.The next move was to a spare bedroom in her home from where they were distributed until I952. Ten years later the town allowed them space for 4000 books.

Kathleen was a faithful and devoted member of the W.I. and a conscientuous worker for Community improvement. She showed compassion and gave encouragement when needed and was ever ready with a helping hand whenever the occasion arose. Some examples of services rendered included : transportation to an elderly lady for medical appointments and assistance with her correspondence; took in a young woman with her baby until she was able to cope with her problem; cared for the children when her sister and brother-in-law were killed in a car accident until other arrangements were made; gave local Chinese nurse spending money for three years because her Father refused to help her. To assist with her interest in the welfare of others the Leduc W.I.donated clothing and gave her a monthly cheque to help with expenses incurred. Her philosophy was "Always look for the bright side to every problem".

She offered to care for a friend's Health Food Store for two months so she could take a holiday. This proved too much for her- she had a stroke which left her speechless and one leg paralyzed. At present she is in a Nursing Home and uses a wheel chair to get around and is making great progress and enjoys reading in her spare time.

Through the years Leduc W.I. has kept her membership paid. Her Branch presented her with a Life Membership in recognition of her humanitarian services to those in need .

## MRS. EVELYN GEBERS

Evelyn Amanda Hansen, daughter of Andrew and Mary Hansen was born November 9,I906 in Clarkfield, Minnesota. She married Arthur Henry Gebers on January I6, I929 and lived in Clarkfield for ten years before coming to Alberta.

Evelyn has been involved with W.I. work for 38 continuous years, joining in I94I. She has held all offices at Branch level and has served on many Standing Committees. Through the years she has attended several Constituency, District and Provincial Conferences.

Through the years she has assisted in making quilts for the Red Cross; gathered wool materials to be made into blankets; helped with catering at farm sales and Community functions as well as canvas for Cancer. Evelyn capably convened the program for the Mountain View 50th



Anniversary. At community functions she entertained with her readings and was often mistress of ceremonies for showers and farewell parties ( and is never at a loss for words). Anyone sick,bereaved or burned out would receive baking from her - "Angel Food Cakes" were her specialty. No Institute meeting or Community function seemed complete without her presence with her witty remarks and her jovial personality.

Evelyn has been a faithful supporter of the United Missionary Church and later of the Lutheran Church in town. She taught Sunday School for years in both churches and worked with the Women's Groups in both churches.

Evelyn was predeceased by her husband Arthur, April 2, I979. Surviving are two sons, Myron and wife Doreen; and Gordon and wife Fern, as well as five grandchildren.

"Mountain View W.I." members presented Evelyn with a Life Membership and a beautiful corsage at a small tea held in her honor at the Auxiliary Hospital. The membership pin and card were presented by Mrs.J.Warral on behalf of Mrs.M. Plaizier, A.W.I.President, in recognition of her dedication and service to the Women's Institute through the years.

## MRS. FLORENCE CAMERON

Florence is the daughter of Mrs. W.B.Mills, who was a charter member of the Independence W.I. organized July 9, 1919. Florence attended many Institute meetings with her Mother as a teen ager,and travelled to these meetings by horse and buggy. Florence became a member 39 years ago and since then has been an active and dedicated member. She has been an inspiration to all and through her determination and efforts she persevered to keep the Branch from disbanding.

Florence held all offices but Treasurer at Branch level as well as serving as Constituency Convenor. She has attended most District Conferences and Provincial Conventions, always encouraging others to



attend. She attended all Branch meetings, even coming on a tractor when there was no other means of transportation. During the war years she knitted for the seamen and sweaters; made quilts; donated clothing and hemmed diapers for U.S.C. She took part in skits and three act plays which were part of the early local entertainment.

The "Bamill School" was built on land donated by her parents. When the schools became consolidated Florence became an active member of the "Home and School Association".In I959 there was a need for better school library facilities. Florence was a member of the Library Board from its inception until I97I when the school and the books were moved. To raise money for the Library the Board contracted to repair over I000 text books for the Sturgeon School Board. She still looks after the library books now located at the local Curling Rink.

Florence's family are pioneer members of the Independence Church started in I9I3. She is a very active member of the church having served as Sunday School teacher and later served as Superintendent. She is also an active member of the Alcomdale Community League.She is presently compiling a History of the "Independence & Alcomdale Districts" from stories and reports turned in to her.

During these years her home and family were not neglected. She and her husband Archie raised a family of 9 children,which includes two sets of twins. Their children all completed High School with some going on to further their education. All are now married and have families of their own to which Florence is a dedicated and loving Grandmother.

With all this service to her credit and in appreciation of her devoted and faithful service for "Home and Community" the Independence W.I. presented Florence with a Life Membership on the Branch' 60th Anniversary.

## MRS. ETTA HAMPER

Etta Hamper is the daughter of Mrs.Tighe, an Institute member of many years. Etta joined the "Mountain View W.I." in I945. She has served her Branch as President as well as Director for many years and has been Convenor of "Agriculture and Canadian Industries" , always presenting good papers on her subject. Etta is a faithful attender to Women's Institute meetings and has achieved perfect attendance for nearly every year that she has belonged to W.I. She enjoys attending District Workshops, District Conferences and A.W.I. Conventions, and being a most conscientious person always brings back a detailed and interesting report.

She and her husband raised a family of two girls and one boy. The two daughters have married and raised families of their own.The son works for the town. When raising her family on the farm she often



assisted with the outside chores. It was the time of pioneer days when there was no electricity or running water on the farm. She would take her son to the barn in an apple box when she helped with milking the cows by lantern light. She fed and packed water to a bunch of pigs. Etta assisted with stooking grain at harvest time.She raised a flock of chickens and turkeys and cleaned them ready for sale. Life wasn't easy for her especially so with none of the conveniences that we have to-day.

Etta taught Sunday School at the United Missionary Church and is a faithful church attender and is ever willing to assist whenever needed both within her church and her community. She and her husband were caretakers for the Community Hall for many years.Etta canvassed for Cancer and the Easter Seal Campaign. She spends many hours helping her friends and driving them wherever they wish to go.

Her home and her family were her first concern. Though her husband passed away two years ago she has maintained her cheerful attitude,never feeling sorry for herself. Etta is of high moral charact - er and is a very modest and humble person beloved by everyone who knows her.

For all her sterling qualities and in recognition of her work within the community as well as her dedication to the Institute the "Mountain View W.I." presented with a Life Membership to the "Alberta Women's Institutes".

## MRS.GWYNETH PRATT

Gwyneth Hughes was the daughter of Enoch and Margaret Hughes. She was born in Wales on October I3, I92I. She came to Didsbury, Alberta, Canada with her parents in May I925. On March 4, I942 she married David Pratt who lived in the Didsbury area.

Gwyneth has been involved with the Women's Institute for many years. She was a member of the Lone Pine W.I. for three years and then joined the Mountain View W.I. of which she has been a member for thirty-three continuous years. Within the Branch she has served as President and Secretary and is presently the Vice-President as well as Social Services Convenor. When the "Mountain View Jolly Juniors Girl's Club" was organized she gave a helping hand as an Assistant Surervisor.

She has attended several District Conferences and Provincial



Conventions and has served as Convenor of one of the Educational Convenorships in the East Didsbury Constituency.

Through the years she has done sewing and helped make Quilts for the Red Cross. She has assisted with various catering jobs and at farm sales. Gwyneth has canvassed for the Cancer Society and the "Flowers of Hope". On several occasions she helped at the Blood Donor Clinics and enjoys helping with Home Care. She is a Hospital Volunteer and enjoys many hours assisting and visiting there.

In the district Gwyneth has been involved with the Anglican Church as Sunday School teacher and is active in the A.C.W. of that church. She often assists with many Community functions and is a dedicated worker for "Home and Country". The Mountain View W.I. presented her with a Life Membership in recognition of her many years of faithful and devoted service.

## MRS. JEANETTE HUNTER

A daughter, Jeanette Fay, was born to Jim and Freda Worral on July 2, 1927 at the Didsbury Hospital. Jeanette received her early education at the local country school and attended high school at Neapolis. Following completion of high school she enrolled in the Home Economics Course at Olds College, graduating in 1946. During her school days she was a member of the Didsbury Dairy Club for ten years.

In 1948 she married Lawrence Hunter, a local farmer. Their family includes: Donna, married and living in Calgary; Ron, who has completed two years at Olds College in Agricultural Technology, is at home farming with his father; Tom is working for a farm neighbor; and Christine is in Grade X at Didsbury High School and is busy with her music. 4H played a great part in the boy's lives and AWI Girl's Club for the girls. Christine assisted with the 4H Photo Club for 3 years.



Jeanette has been active as teacher in the Anglican Sunday School, and organized the "Mountain View Jolly Juniors" Girl's Club of which she was a leader for five years. One of the girls, a Junior, won the Public Speaking Cup. Jeanette served as Community News Reporter for the local paper for six years. For the past four years she has taken time every two months to serve at the Kinsmen's supper meetings to raise money for her shurch group. She served two years as Sec.-Treas. for the Mountain View Hall Board during which time the complete interior was remodelled.

Jeanette joined the"Mountain View" W.I. in I949 and has held several Branch offices and is presently serving as President. She is now involved in compiling the Branch's History being Mountain View is celebrating its 65th Anniversary. She is also involved in planning the local school reunion.

She has spent hours collecting woollens to be made into blankets; has assisted with showers for the local girls and boys; and with catering to weddings, banquets and auction sales as well as collecting regularly for the Cancer Fund.

Her life on the farm has been busy- she milked cows for her folks being she had no brothers or sisters and following her marriage she assisted her husband with the milking for forty years. During harvest she was kept busy taking meals to the field and hauling grain with the truck. They are now both looking forward to retirement.

Jeanette enjoys keeping busy and finds farming a wonderful way of life. She loves home and country living and enjoys her garden in the summer and her many hobbies during the winter.

In recognition of her dedication for "Home and Country" the "Mountain View" W.I. presented her with a Life Membership.

## MRS. SALENA BROWN

Salena Brown was a charter member of the Rockyview Branch of the Women's Institute when it was organized in I938. She served on the Executive as well as being Chairman of a Standing Committee at Constituency level. When this Branch disbanded she transferred her membership to the Turner Valley Branch in I942.

Salena immediately became very busy with all the branch projects. The main interest at that time was the Swimming Pool which was owned and operated by the Women's Institute. For many years she served as Secretary- Treasurer of the Swimming Pool account which included supervising the pay roll, hiring Life Guards and Instructors as well as organizing the annual spring "Clean Up". Salena was not just in charge, she was right in there swinging her paint brush



with the rest of them.

Salena also held the offices of President, Vice-President and Secretary- Treasurer of the Institute Branch.

When the Women's Institute sponsored the "Red Cross Donors Clinic" and the area "Mobile Chest X-Rays"Salena was busy arranging for a hall, locating nurses and workers as well as working at the Clinics herself. Another W.I.project was the Cancer Crusade where she served as "Crusade Captain" until she became too crippled with arthritis to carry on. The Cancer Society presented Salena with a a Certificate for all her years of service.

In I978 the"Lion's Club" honored Salena with the"Citizen of the Year"award for all her many services within the community.

Our W.I.Branch has been kept organized due to her enthusiasm and hard work.

This year,I980,being our 50th Anniversary,we thought it fitting that in appreciation of her efforts that we honor her with a "Life Membership"to the Alberta Women's Institute in recognition of her dedicated service through the years.

## -MRS.J.Ockley

Mrs. Ockley joined the Priddis-Westoe W.I. in I928 - later to be divided to Priddis and Westoe,and Mrs.Ockley stayed with Priddis. She held the President and Secretary positions, then was Constituency Convenor for a time but had to resign due to her husband's death. She was also Publicity Convenor for the Alberta Women's Institute, covering the area from Lacombe to the border south-east.

In I952 Mrs.Ockley moved to Calgary and joined the Calgary W.I. and has been a strong supporter in keeping this Branch going and always inviting any W.I.members who have retired to Calgary to come and join them. Mrs.Ockley is still secretary of the Calgary Branch.

When Mrs. Ockley went to Calgary she became involved with the Unitarian and Social Services. She kept in touch with all W.I. branches around Calgary and requested they send good used clothing



and baby layettes to her. She was made Chairman in 1952 and still holds that position. She has spoken at almost all schools in Calgary and was organizer for a Provincial Grant to help Unitarian Services. Mrs.Ockley was invited by the City of Calgary to meet the Queen on her visit. She also set up places and made arrangements for Dr.Lotta Hitchmanova to have meetings and accomodation whenever she was in Calgary. Of course she invited interested Institute members to attend these sessions.

Mrs. Ockley helps pack clothing every Tuesday afternoon whether she feels well or not. Last year Calgary Unitarian topped shipments totalling 25½tons; about one third of this was brought in by W.I. branches around Calgary.

Mrs. Ockley was presented with a plaque and was honored with a dinner at the Calgary Inn last year by the Council of Christians and Jews.

She has attended four National Conferences in Ottawa, the last being this past June.

Mrs. Ockley also works in New Toucht Church where her son is the Minister.

## MRS. ELLEN RICHARDSON

Ellen Cattnach was born at Sterlingville, Carstairs, Alberta on April I2, I9I2. She received her education at Bancroft and Siebertville schools.

Ellen earned her living as a domestic before her marriage to Harry Richardson at Calgary on November 28, I93I.

They lived on the farm east of Carstairs until they moved to Didsbury in I973. They raised a family of four children: one son, Hugh and three daughters, Alwyn, June, and Eileen. They have fifteen



grandchildren and three great grandchildren.

Ellen kept the home fires burning on the farm while Harry was away taking part in the second World War.

She joined the "Lone Pine W.I." in I934 and the "Bancroft W.I." in I955. She held most of the offices in her local Branch as well as serving as Constituency Convenor in the Didsbury area from I959 -I96I. Ellen was Provincial Girl's Club Supervisor from I96I-I965. As well she served as Provincial Agriculture Convenor from I970-I973. From I973 to I975 she enjoyed serving as Director for District Five.

Besides her Institute activities Ellen has been involved in the Community. She has assisted with "Meals on Wheels" and the "Home Care Program". She was instrumental in having the "Home Care Program" established in the Didsbury area of the "Mountain View Health Unit". Ellen has been an active member of the Eastern Star and the Legion Auxiliary.

Ellen continues to reside in Didsbury. Though widowed in I979 she continues to keep up with her Institute work and visits the Hospital regularly. Her favorite hobby is crocheting.

Ellen belongs to the local "50" Club and still enjoys Bowling.

MRS. ZELLA PIMM

Zella Hibbert, the eldest daughter of Matilda and Albert Hibbert was born on May I3, I923 at Innisfail, Alberta. She was raised on a farm where they learned to respect and enjoy the rural way of life, where everyone worked to make a good life for all, at home and in the community. Zella's school days started in the one room Calder District School, then on to Innisfail High School followed by a term at the Olds Agriculture College where she specialized in the Home Economics Course to prepare for a homemaker's vocation.

On July 23, I94I Zella became the bride of William Henry Pimm.



Their first home was on a farm near James River Bridge,north of Sundre, Alberta. While there she joined the D.E.L. Women's Institute.and took an active part in the activities of the community.

Their first son was born at the Olds Hospital in May, I944. In I945 the Pimms moved to Westward Ho District where she joined the local branch. While residing there Zella was kept busy being a farmer's wife and raising her five sons: Albert, Edward, George,Norman and Walter.

In I954 the Pimm family ventured to northern Alberta to a farm in the Grimshaw Berwyn area of the Peace River block. Zella joined the Berwyn Institute and through the years has held most offices.Her community activities included 4H and other school activities in which the children were involved. Zella was Secretary for the North Peace Rodeo Association.

She served two terms as Constituency Convenor of the Peace River Constituency. Zella was appointed Provincial Agriculture Convenor and during that time she voiced her concern that we were losing a great deal of the history of "Agriculture in Action" through the years.She requested Institute members to collect pictures of all farming activities from pioneer days to the present. The response was overwhelming — a number of good pictures were available. Soon the the compiling and production of the Pictorial Agriculture History was completed.It was suitably titled "Yesterday."It has been a pleasure to many who had concern for a lost heritage to know that some record has been made of farming in the past.

In I982 A.W.I. honored Zella with a Life Membership for her efforts to get this worthy project started in the name of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

## MRS. MARIE PLAIZIER

Marie van de Pol was born on the southern edge of the Zuider Zee in the Netherlands, April 9, I927. Her childhood memories include those of love and warmth on the small family farm with everpresent poverty. When she was in her teens, the Second World War with all its ugliness of people abuse, hunger, shootings, underground hidings, bombings, gun-point encounters, left sad memories.

Marie came to Canada in I950, learned the language and met and married her husband Bill, who's family in Holland were close neighbors to the van de Pols. The Plaiziers ran a dairy, and later a grain farm, in the Judah District, immediately south of the town of Peace River.

Bill and Marie have a family of one son, Henry, and three daughters, Trudy, Heather and Rene. When the youngest child was in Junior High



School Marie picked up on her education,which had been interrupted by wartime in Europe. She took several University courses in psychology and sociology.

Women's Institute has been Marie's chief involvement.She held offices at branch,constituency and district levels, and served as First Vice-President and President of Alberta Women's Institutes. She formed the "Juda Sweet Peas Girls Club",(now disbanded)and was their Supervisor for five years, during which time her three daughters were members and Trudy was Provincial President of Girl's Clubs. In the late seventies, during her term as A.W.I.President,she formed an all-native branch of A.W.I. named "Little Buffalo". "Yesterday",a pictorial history book on farming in Alberta became a reality during her Presidency.

In community work, Marie was active in Further Education, locally and provincially;served on her churchboard and visitation committee;was instrumental in getting "North Peace Retreat Society"established and worked in an advisory capacity on other community endeavours.

Marie ran a column"Home and Country"in the Peace River River Record Gazette; and for I5 years was the W.I.reporter over Radio Station CKYL.

Marie attended several National and World Conferences;she led the Alberta delegation to Hamburg in I980 and was A.W.I.representative on the ACWW Canada Conference Committee for ACWW Conference in Vancouver in I983.She initiated the project"Bulge the Basket for Bangladesh"facilitating AWI financial help to supply sewing and knitting machines to the cottage industries of "Mahili Samity"our sisters in Bangladish.

At the I98I Convention,Mrs.Plaizier was presented with an AWI "Life Membership" by the Provincial Council.

## MRS. NORMA CHRISTIE

Norma was born September 24, I920 in Winnipeg, Manitoba where she was raised and took her primary and secondary schooling . Her education was completed at a private school," Hillcote School at Eastbourne, Sussex,England and Annex Alnwich, Duchess, North Humberland." Norma trained as a legal secretary and was employed as the Secretary to the Vice-President of Trans Canada Airlines(Air Canada).

She married Douglas Christie of Winnipeg on November I5, I94I. They raised a family of four children, two boys and two girls.

In I965 they moved to Alberta and settled in the Cochrane area. Her husband worked for the Federal Department of Revenue until his retirement eight years ago.



Norma joined the Glendale Women's Institute in I966 to satisy her social and educational needs. She held office at Branch level and in recognition of her leadership qualities she served terms as Constituency Convener and District 4 Director. Her Conferences were excellent and she'll be remembered for her"humorous jokes"related in her merry way which excited laughter and amusement at many meetings.She has arranged hospitality,often in her own home,for visiting members from other provinces and countries.

During Mrs.Ethel Morrisroe's Presidency (I973-75) she was asked to represent A.W.I. at the Red Cross meetings usually held in Calgary Through this representation she became Provincial Chairman of "Women's Work and Volunteer Services" for the Red Cross and represented Alberta at National Red Cross meetings.

During her term as A.W.I. Publicity Chairman she located judges to select winners of pictures turned in for the Pictorial History of Agriculture,(a project instigated by Zella Pimm).It was through her suggestion that a book be published . Norma was appointed Chairman and was responsible for a successful launching,editing and publication of the "Pictorial History of Agriculture-"Yesterday".

Norma enjoys swimming,gardening and traveling. She is presently involved with the Museum in her area. Her cheerful and spontaneous personality and her sincerity has endeared her to all who knew her. She is a diligent and conscientious W.I.member and is tireless in her efforts to promote "Home and Country" through A.W.I. In recognition of her dedicated service A.W.I. presented her with a "Life Membership"in the Alberta Women's Institute at the I984 A.W.I. Convention held at Olds College.

MRS. KAYE ROWBOTTOM

Kathleen Thompson Boyes was born and raised in Drumheller, Alberta. The Drumheller Valley became known for its coal mining and later became surrounded by farms on good agricultural land. Kaye has three sisters: Dorine, Cleona, and Beverlee and three brothers: Bob, Donald and Tommy Lee--Cleona is the only one who remained in Drumheller. After Kay's Mother passed away the family was never under one roof. A family friend and relatives took the younger children when Mr. Boyes joined the army. Kay started school in Drumheller and completed her schooling there with the exception of Grades seven and nine.



A few years later Kaye started a combined Psychiatric and Registered Nurses four year program at Selkirk, Manitoba. This was interr - upted, however when Kaye came home on holidays and fell in love with a farm boy, Joe Rowbottom. They married and raised a family of four children:Tom, Richard, Hester and Mary-Jo. Kaye and Joe are proud grandparents of nine grandchildren.

Kaye was introduced to Women's Institute in I948 when she joined the "Pope Lease W.I." She held office at local level and served terms as Constituency Convener, District 5 Director, Ist Vice-President and was elected A.W.I. President for a term of three years (I98I -I984).

Other organizations Kaye is involved in include: Canadian Cancer Society, Agaware- the Agriculture Awareness Institute, Outdoors Unlittered, Alberta Safety Program and the Hesketh-Pope Lease Community Association. She has been a Junior Sunday School Superintendent for over twenty years in the Elm Pentecostal Tabernacle. Her love for God and people have strengthened her life. Kaye says that the years spent in working for others and especially the Alberta Women's Institute has greatly enriched her life and even overshadows her hobbies of collecting mugs and good books. The "Mary Stewart Collect" has a place very close to her heart and is a goal set to be achieved.

At the conclusion of the I984 A.W.I. Convention Council presented Kaye with a "Life Membership" in the Alberta Women's Institute in recognition of her many years of dedicated service for "Home and Country".

## MRS. AILEEN C. KRITZINGER

Aileen Cameron Milne was born in Aberdeen, Scotland on April 21, 1926. She was educated there and at the University of Edinburgh where she graduated in 1948 with an M.A. Honours in History. While at the University she was President of the University Conservative Club and was 1st Vice President of the Students Representative Council.



On December 20,I950 she married Viljoen Kritzinger,a South African medical student who obtained his degree in Edinburgh in I952, The Kritzingers spent the next six years in various hospital residency programs in England,and acquired two sons along the way, Anton born in I953 in England and Philip in January I956 in Scotland. They emigrated to Canada in February I959 and settled in Paradise Hill, Saskatchewan,where their third son Geoff was born in May of that year. The Kritzingers then moved to Stony Plain,Alberta in November I962 and still reside there.

Aileen was active in the Cub and Scout movement in Stony Plain for many years and also acted as a C.G.I.T. leader for two years. From I969 -I977 she served as a School Trustee representing the town of Stony Plain on the County of Parkland School Board. While a trustee she served on the Provincial Education Council and also served on various Government of Alberta ad hoc committees. She has been a member of the Board of the Women's Canadian Club of Edmonton since I980 and served as President from I984-I986. She taught in Scotland for two years before coming to Canada.

From I974 she has been an administrator at her husband's medical clinic in Spruse Grove.

Aileen has been a member of the Women's Institute since her arrival in Canada, first with the Paradise Hill Homemakers and then with the Stony Plain W.I. She has been an active member of the Stony Plain W.I. for over 20 years, and during that time she has served in most offices at branch level.

She served as Stony Plain - Lac St.Anne Constituency Convener for 3 years and from I978- I98I was Director of District 2. In both offices she became well known for her capable handling of the position, her

ability to organize and chair conferences and her competence in public speaking.

Aileen also served as"Citizenship and Legislation Convener" for the Alberta Women's Institutes from I98I to I984. During her term of office her capabilities were recognized particularly when chairing the resolution sessions at the Provincial Conventions; her knowledge of parliamentary procedure, how to write clear and understandable resolutions and her research into the background of each resolution so knowledgeable voting could take place- she was always well prepared for these sessions.

More recently, Aileen has become involved in writing a brief for the Alberta Women's Institutes on"Pornography", which was presented to the Fraser Commission. She has since been active in speaking to many groups on this subject on behalf of A.W.I.

This outline of Aileen's work for the Alberta Women's Institutes does not begin to cover the warmth of her friendship, her readiness to do any job to the best of her ability, her dependability, her willingness to speak out and become involved,her cheerful giving of her time and talents and above all her devotion to the aims of A.W.I. and her service for "Home and Country".

In recognition of her dedicated service through the years the Stony Plain W.I. presented Aileen with a Life Membership in A.W.I. at the I985 District 2 Conference.

## MRS. BASILIA HENINGER

Basilia was born,Edith Basilia Elliot on April 11,1917. Until her marriage she lived in Montreal and Toronto, attending school in Toronto where she trained as a secretary.

In September 1943 she married Bill Heninger . They lived in Cardston where Bill was a farmer and an auctioneer.

They raised a family of nine children, five daughters and four sons. One son died at fifteen months. The remaining family are all living and married. Basilia has thirty - one living grandchildren.

Basilia's hobbies are all kinds of handwork, reading and collecting plates.

Before her marriage she worked for the Anglican Church.



Later on, after her marriage , she became a faithful worker in the Morman Church.

For many years she helped with the local Agricultural Fair where she won many awards for her handwork.

Basilia has been a faithful member of the " Old Chief W.I." and held all offices at the local level.

For nine years she was Editor of "Home and Country". Through the years she proved herself a capable, efficient and conscientious Editor.

In recognition of her dedication and service to the "Alberta Women's Institute" she was presented with a Life Membership by the Council of the "Alberta Women's Institute".

## MRS. VERA E. HOLT

I was the oldest daughter of the Randolph family, born July 22, I9I2 near Rocky Mountain House. We lived for a time at Nordegg then in I920 we moved to Edmonton where I received my classroom education.

Following the death of my father in I927 we moved to a farm in the Sangudo area where we learned to cope with emergencies which served me well in later life.

In I93I I married James Holt and were blessed with two children Peggy and Robert. This being the depression years we lived off the land and struggled for survival like everyone else -but we were happy.

I became interested in having a community organization for the women and that was at the time we learned about the "Alberta Women's Institute." Our "Cosmo Branch" was organized on January 9, I952.



and I was proud to be their first President.

I was widowed in I963 and once again my life changed dramatically. Taking on the job as Secretary - Treasurer for the village was indeed a challenge. I worked there until my retirement. I received a Certificate of Appreciation from the A.U.M.A. for twelve years of faithful service.

Having a large home I was asked to take boarders,mostly teachers which I did.It has been exciting and interesting to meet all these people - many from other lands,but all very nice and we learned much from each other.

My interests in community has not waned. I still work for the Red Cross, the United Church, the Agriculture Society and have been Manager of the Farmer's Market for eleven years. I was Editor of the local history book "The Lantern Era".

During my years as an Alberta Women's Institute member I served as Constituency Convener and District Director. In I985 my Constituency presented me with the highest of honors, a Life Membership in the Alberta Women's Institute.

Other awards I have received include a Red Cross Badge of Service in I982; a "30 Years of Service Pin" from my W.I. Branch in I982 a "Citizen of the Year" award from the Agricultural Society in I982 and a Life Membership in the United Church Women of Canada in I985.

OUR FOURTH NOMINEE --- 1982.

Is a long time resident of the area firstly living in the Cosmo area and more recently in the Village. She has been an active member of the Alberta Woman's Institute for 30 years, a Charter Member of the Cosmo W.I., served the Sangudo W.I. in every capacity and has held office at both the District and Provincial level. She is an active member of her Church, a member of Session and Secretary of the United Church Women. She is Manager of the Sangudo Farmers' Market. She is a strong supporter of the Agricultural Society, and was responsible for organizing the Ethnic Supper and following program during the Official Opening of the Arena in May 1981. Last year she organized Heritage Days in conjunction with the History Book Society and the Village Council. She spent 2 years of devoted effort in compiling and editing our Local History Book the Lantern Era, as well as a homecoming in 1979 when the book was unveiled. She is divisional representative for the Red Cross, a Village Councillor and a judge for 4H Public Speaking competitions. She was also one of a group who with the support of the Yellowhead Library Association brought about the opening of the School Library for public use. Ladies and Gentlemen please --

SALUTE - MRS. VERA HOLT

MRS. KATHRYN L. HABBERFIELD

Kathryn Leslie Habberfield was born in Calgary, October 4, 1922. Her parents nationality was American-Canadian, and her father, Roy Leslie Snider, could trace his ancestry back to the United Empire Loyalists. Kathryn grew up on a sheep ranch at Alderson, Alberta, 15 miles north of Medicine Hat. Her early education was in a one room school, she continued at Mount Royal College, Calgary, and graduated from Calgary Normal School. Kathryn taught in one room rural Alberta schools for three years.

She married Gordon Habberfield in August 1945 and they farmed in the Airdrie area for 2½ years. In 1948 they moved to Langdon to the Snider family farm which had been settled by the A. Snider family who moved there from Colorado in 1909. At that time it was totally grassland and was broken, fenced and built up by the family. Gordon and Kathryn did mixed farming including a cow-calf and feed-lot operation, as well as farming three sections of land. They raised two daughters.



After Gordon passed away in 1978 Kathryn rented the land to neighbours for a few years, but today her daughter and son-in-law farm the land once homesteaded by Kathryn's parents. Kathryn continues to live on the farm and did part-time clerical work in Calgary from 1979 to 1989.

Kathryn has been involved in various community activities and has served on many advisory committees including Alberta Wheat Pool advisory to delegate, Advisory to District Agriculturist and South Alberta Advisory Board of TransAlta Utilities. She was campaign chairman for the Cancer Society in the Langdon area for many years. She is a member of Unifarm, Women of Unifarm, Women in Support of Agriculture and the Coalition Against Pornography. She has been a Counselor for Goldeye Teen Camp. Kathryn served on a committee to celebrate 50 years in Alberta and Langdon's 100th Anniversary (1885-1985), and to write the Tweedsmuir History of Langdon, "Langdon Legend".

Kathryn has been a member of Langdon W.I. for many years serving locally as Director and Secretary. She was Constituency Convener of Gleichen Constituency (five branches), District IV Director, First and Second Vice-President of A.W.I. and in 1984 was elected President of A.W.I. for a three year term. She represented A.W.I. on the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada Board as Junior then Senior Board member, and led the Alberta delegation to the 18th Triennial Conference of A.C.W.W. in Ireland in 1986. She also served as Provincial Convener for Education and worked on the publication committee of A.W.I.'s history of agriculture "Yesterday". She was A.W.I. Resolutions Chairman, where she will be remembered for the capable manner in which she chaired the sessions, giving guidance on correct wording and insisting on detailed research prior to the presentation of the resolution. At the conclusion of her Presidential term she was presented with an A.W.I. Life Membership in recognition and appreciation of her dedicated service to the organization working for Home and Country.

Kathryn is proud of her heritage and enjoys rural living. Her knowledge of the needs of rural women along with her compassion for her counterparts led to her appointment to the Alberta Advisory Council on Women's Issues which was formed in 1986

through an Act of the Provincial Legislature. The Council is to advise and report to the Government on issues concerning women and make recommendations re proposed legislation. She is the rural representative on this Council of fourteen members, and was chairperson of the Immigrant and Native Women Study undertaken by the Council. She has proven a worthy representative to present the issues and voice the needs and concerns of to-day's rural women.



BERYL BALLHORN

BERYL (GILCHRIST) BALLHORN was born in Wetaskiwin, Alberta, daughter of Dolly and Roy Gilchrist. She received her schooling in Wetaskiwin and Edmonton, graduating as a teacher in 1941.

She taught in the Wetaskiwin area and in 1944 married Gordon Ballhorn. They have 5 children, Barbara, Richard, Bill, Neal and Robert.

Beryl joined the Angus Ridge Women's Institute in 1944 and served in all the branch offices. She was Constituency Convener in District 3 for four years, District 3 Director for three years, then Provincial 2nd and 1st Vice-President and Provincial President of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

She was nominated by the A.W.I. and served four years on the Minister's Advisory Committee for Student Affairs. She worked provincially on the Alberta Federation of Home & School Association for many years and received a Life Membership in 1976.

Beryl Ballhorn has been a member of the Wetaskiwin City and County Further Education Council for many years, and is presently serving her 12th year as Chairman.

She served on the Wetaskiwin City and County Library Board for 17 years, 10 years as secretary.

She is a 40 year member of Victoria Chapter , Order of the Eastern Star, serving 20 years as secretary.

Beryl received the Alberta Achievement Award in 1982 for her part in education, provincially and locally.
She is a Life Member of the United Church Women and serves as treasurer, as well as a member of the Church Board.

Beryl enjoys golfing, painting, curling, reading and people generally.

Beryl and Gordon operated "Justamere Farms" for 35 years and are now retired and live in Wetaskiwin.

DOROTHY WILLIAMS

Dorothy Williams was born in the Steveville area to pioneer parents, Bert and Ida Coultis. She received her schooling in one room school houses in the Steveville, Wardlow, Cessford areas and completed her grade twelve in Medicine Hat.

In December of 1949 she and Douglas Williams of Cessford were married. They started their married life looking after the home place while Doug's parents spent the winter in warmer climes. In the spring they set about to renovate an old house to the west. They cleaned and scrubbed and before long were in their own home. This was in the days of no power, no fridge and no telephone. Their first son, Ronald, was born in 1951, followed by Richard in 1953. In 1954 their first daughter, Pam, was born and in 1955 another son Mark came to join the family. Second daughter Shirley arrived in 1957, Bernard was born in 1959 and Wade in 1960. All the family received their complete grade twelve at New Cessford Consolidated School.



The family own a farm-ranch operation and have worked with their boys over the years. They plan to take it easy now, and still live in their home, the original Williams homestead, which they took over and added to since his folks retired.

Dorothy has been a valued and charter member of Ella Jane W.I. of Cessford. Both are active in the Berry Creek Community Club at Cessford and the Pollockville Curling Club, as well as coaching and score-keeping for the local Prairie Rustlers fastball team for a number of years.

From 1978-1981 Dorothy was Constituency Convener for Acadia, and from 1981-1984 District Director of District V. During this time she helped with the A.W.I. Safety Programme and was Safety Co-ordinator from 1984-1990.

During her seven years as Safety Co-ordinator, Dorothy gave many workshops on Farm Safety, Safety in the Home, Fire Safety and Elder Safety. She produced First Aid Kits for farm machinery and a Burn First Aid Kit. She gave workshops to assist the elderly in staying in their own homes and travelled extensively across the province taking all this information to W.I. members, schools and rural communities. In 1983 she received an award from Alberta Agriculture for "Distinguished Service to Alberta Farm Families in the field of health and safety.



**SHIRLEYAN HAMMER**

Shirleyan (Carter) Hammer was born in Calgary, Alberta, fifth daughter of Charles and Kathleen Carter. When she was born, her older sisters happened to be reading " Anne of Green Gables" and were so taken with the heroin Anne Shirley that they wanted the new baby named after her, and so the name was reversed to Shirleyan.

Shirleyan lived almost all of her life in Olds, Alberta and married and had her family there, She had four children, Gene, Cindy, Garnet and Mark, and they grew up on the family farm just east of Olds.

Music was one of Shirleyan's great talents and loves, She started playing the piano at the age of four and never stopped. She served as Supreme Pianist for the National Conventions of the Order of the Royal Purple, shared her talent freely at any Women's Institute gathering or conference, and played each week at the Mountain View Lodge in Olds for their music night. She had received a special award for this.

She also played the banjo for campfire sing-a-longs with her family.

Shirleyan was a member on the Coburn Women's Institute for 34 years and held all offices at branch level. She was Constituency Convener for Olds Constituency, Provincial Citizenship and Legislation Convener, Provincial Resolutions Chairman, Provincial 2nd Vice President and was just completing her three year term as Provincial 1st Vice President at the time of her death. She was also a member of the Finance Committee of the Federated Womens' Institutes of Canada. Shirleyan had also been leader of the Coburn Coburnettes Girls' Club for four years.

Shirleyan had many involvements in her community and at the Provincial level. She was treasurer and Board member of the Olds United Church and treasurer of the Olds Food Bank. She also helped her son and his wife with their store in Olds.
She was a member of the Order of the Royal Purple, past Honoured Lady and District Deputy. She had been a member of the Alberta Council on Aging, and had just had the honour of being appointed by the Governor General for Canada to the Canadian Advisory Council on the Status of Women. Shirleyan also worked part time in the MLA Constituency Office in Olds for ten years.

Family and family history were very important to Shirleyan. She loved being with her six grandchildren and hearing about their latest activities. tracing and contacting distant relatives around the world was a source of satisfaction and great interest to her, and arranging family reunions was something she really enjoyed. Family activities included most sports, but particularly camping, water and downhill skiing. Playing bridge was another of her interests, as well as reading and travelling.

Compassion and caring for others was part of Shirleyan's life, and she was always willing to help others whenever and in whatever way she could.



**HOLLY HALLETT**

**Holly (Mowers) Hallett** was born in Alsask, Saskatchewan, daughter of Tina and Jay Mowers. She received her schooling in Sibbald and Calgary, Alberta.
On August 12, 1949 she married Robert (Bob) Hallett and they moved to a farm in Carstairs area one year later. They had six children, Dale, Faye, Beverley, Jennifer, Jay and John, including two sets of twins.

Holly is a charter member of the Jackson Women's Institute branch, which was formed in 1953. She has held many positions at branch level and is a very active member. She was Constituency Convener of Didsbury East in District 5 for three years, District 5 Director for three years, and Provincial 2nd Vice President, 1st Vice President and President of Alberta Womens' Institutes.

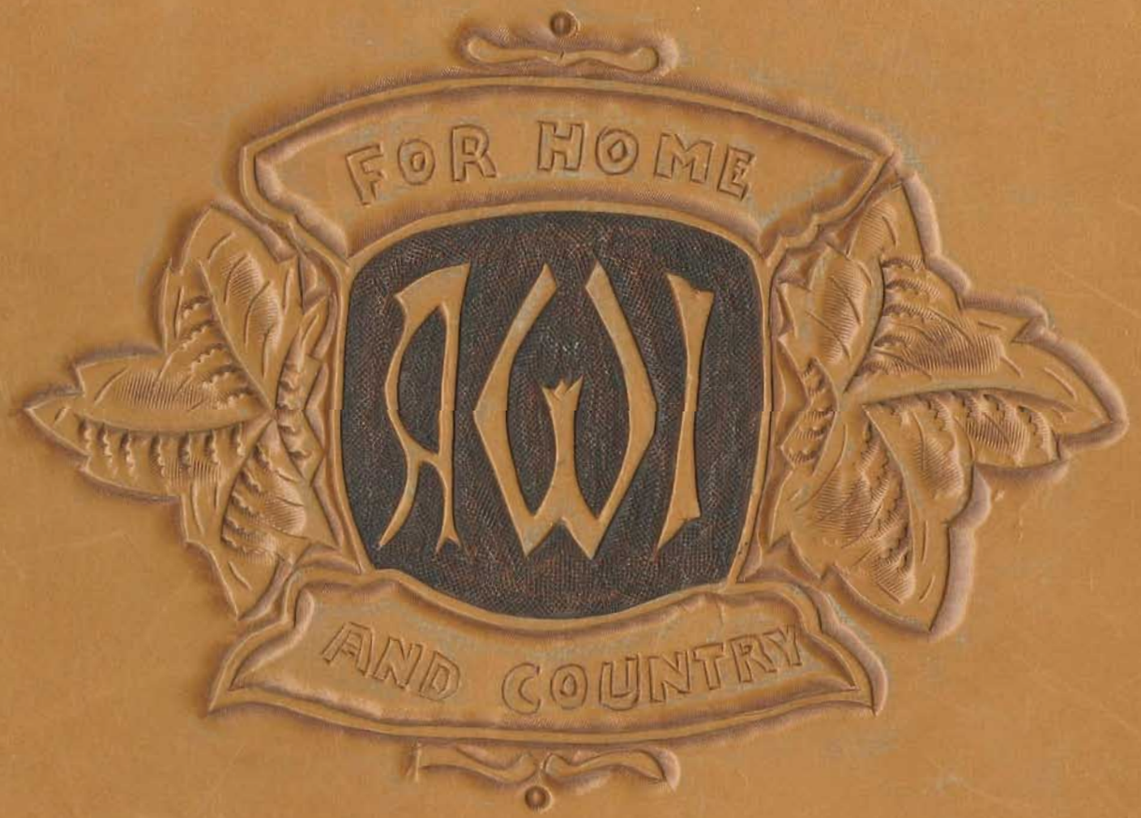
During her terms on Council of Alberta Women's Institutes, Holly chaired the Pornography Awareness Program in Alberta, assisted in strategic planning for the Alberta Department of Home Economics "A Direction for the 90's - Home Economics Program Statement", and was responsible for the implementing of the Rural Child care Pilot Project, funded by the Government of Alberta, and organized by a committee of representatives from five rural women's organizations.

Over the years, Holly's greatest interest was the environment. She was a member of the Rural Sub-Committee of the Environment Council of Alberta, and a member of the Transition Working Group which worked on the restructuring of the Council in 1992. She worked on many briefs, including Maintaining and Expanding the Agriculture Land Base in Alberta. Holly was also a representative at Canada-Alberta Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture meetings, Farming for the Future Conferences and Winning Women Conferences.

Holly has been active in her local community in many different areas - the Cremona School Parent Advisory Committee, Public Speaking and Project Books, Judge for 4-H, giving Provincial Leadership Training Courses, and volunteering where needed.

Holly loves gardening and her garden and yard are a source of special pride and joy to her. she is also known for her excellent home-made bread and buns.

Holly and Bob still live on the family farm and work jointly with their son Dale in its operation.


FOR HOME
AND COUNTRY