



*Golden  
Years*

*1918 - 1968*



CLUB WOMAN'S CREED

Keep us, O God, from pettiness; let us  
be large in thought, in word and deed.

Let us be done with fault-finding and  
leave off self-seeking.

May we put away pretence and meet each  
other face to face without self-pity  
and without prejudice.

May we never be hasty in judgement and  
always generous.

Teach us to put into action our better  
impulses, straight-forward and unafraid.

Let us take time for all things; make  
us grow calm, serene and gentle.

Grant that we may realize that it is the  
little things that create differences; that  
in the big things of life we are one.

And may we strive to touch and to know  
the great human heart, common to us all;  
and, O Lord God, let us not forget to  
be kind.



# OUR COMMUNITY





# ALBERTA

EDMONTON

ROUND HILL

SASKATCHEWAN

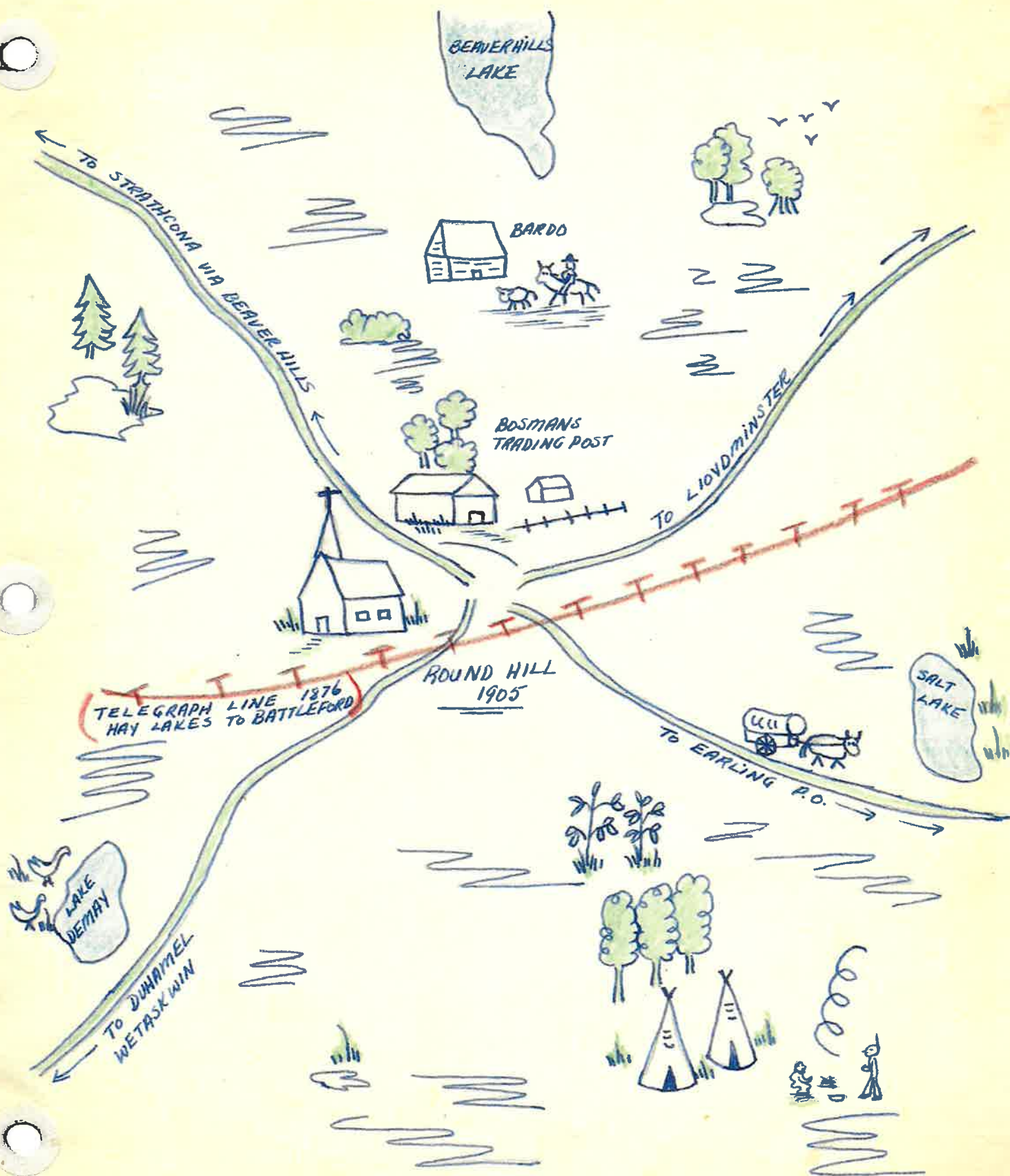
BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

MAP OF ALBERTA

U.S.A.

(4)





## CONSTITUTION OF THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

ARTICLE 1: NAME - The name of this organization shall be Alberta Women's Institutes

ARTICLE 2: MOTTO - The motto of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be for Home & Country.

ARTICLE 3: Policy -

- a. The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be the central Provincial organization of all Institutes which have been or may be hereafter formed under the Alberta Women's Institutes Act.
- b. The organization shall be non-partisan and non-sectarian, and no Institute shall be operated in the interest of any party, sect, or society, but only for the general good and welfare.
- c. No society or organization for a special purpose shall bring its discussions or its subjects into any meeting of the Alberta Women's Institute, except by the unanimous consent of the delegates present.
- d. Any motion before the Alberta Women's Institutes Provincial Convention which involves the use of funds of the Alberta Women's Institutes shall require a two-thirds majority of the voting delegates.

ARTICLE 4: OBJECTS- The objects of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be the improvement of social conditions in rural and other communities by means of:-

- a. The study of Home Economics (including home nursing, household science, sanitation, food values, sickroom cookery, household furnishings, sewing and other matters) child welfare, prevention of disease, local neighbourhood needs, industrial and social conditions.
- b. The establishment of Institutes as social and educational community centres and the provisions for a welcome to new settlers in the community.
- c. The encouragement of agriculture and the improvement of agricultural conditions.
- d. The holding establishment and maintenance of demonstrations, lectures, short schools, travelling and other libraries, exhibitions, competitions, meetings, conventions and attractions from time to time be declared useful for the promotion of the foregoing of any of them.
- e. To voice the sentiments of the Institutes on all matters of importance within the scope of the Women's Institutes work.

ARTICLE 5: MEMBERSHIPS -

- a. An Institute which had a membership of at least eight when organized and has held at least four meetings during the preceeding year, shall be considered a member of the Provincial organization.
- b. Failure of an Institute to pay annual dues for one year, as prescribed by the Provincial organization shall constitute forfeiture of membership, except in special cases when satisfactory explanations are made to Council
- c. A forfeited membership may be restored upon payment of back dues to the Treasurer.
- d. An Institute wishing to disband shall surrender to the Office of the Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes its Certificate of Incorporation together with a statement of the disposition of property or funds in their possession at the time of dissolution.

ARTICLE 6: OFFICERS - The elective officers of the Alberta Women's Institutes shall be a President, First Vice-President, and Second Vice-President, and one Director from each District (Who by virtue of office, shall be a Vice-President of the Provincial Office Organization.

ARTICLE 6: b.

- These officers shall constitute the Council, which shall have the general management and control of the affairs of The Alberta Women's Inst.
- c. Two members, one of whom shall be the Provincial President shall be chosen at the biennial election to serve as directors of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.
  - d. The Provincial President, First Vice-President and the Second Vice-President shall constitute the Executive Committee with power to transact routine business and to take such action as may be necessary on matters arising between annual sessions, they shall meet at the call of the President, as circumstances require, shall have power to fill any vacancy on the Council or Chairman of Standing Committees for the expired (un) term, and to appoint special committees when deemed necessary.
  - e. The Council shall have power to engage such officers and employees as it may from time to time deem proper, to prescribe their duties, fix their salaries, and to dispense with the services of such officers and employees.

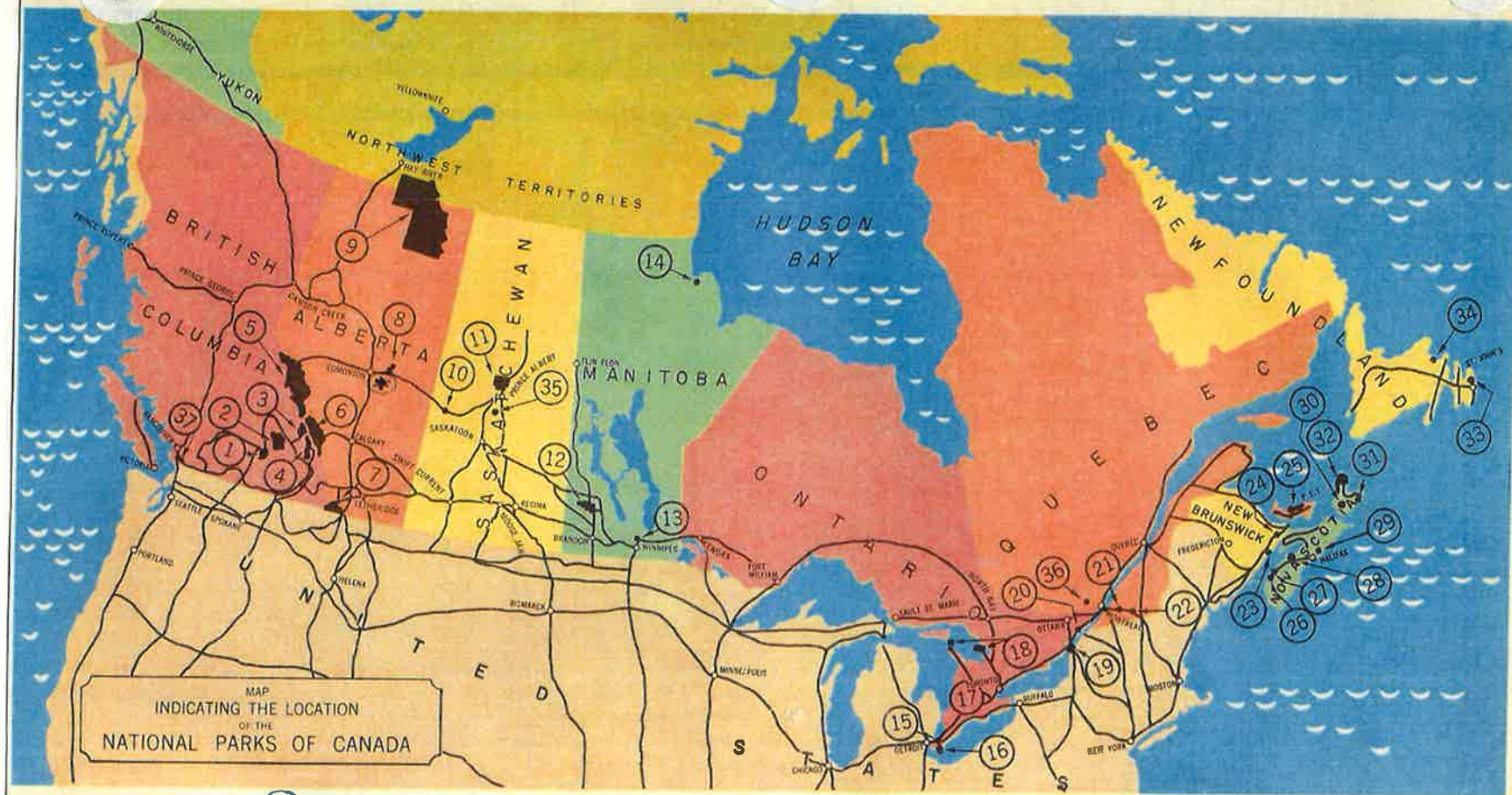
ARTICLE 7: ELECTIONS

- A. All elections for officers of the Alberta Women's Institutes shall be by ballot for a term of two years.
- b. A majority of votes cast shall be necessary to elect.
- c. No officer shall be eligible to the same office for more than two consecutive terms.
- d. Newly elected officers shall enter upon their respective duties at the adjournment of the Convention at which they were elected.

ARTICLE 8: AMENDMENTS

- a. This Constitution may be amended at any Provincial Convention by a two-thirds vote of voting delegates present, provided that proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous Provincial Convention or by the unanimous vote of all present.
- b. By-laws and standing rules may be adopted, amended, or repealed at any Provincial Convention by a two-thirds vote.





★ ROUND HILL, ALTA.

#### NATIONAL PARKS

- |                     |                           |
|---------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Mount Revelstoke | 11. Prince Albert         |
| 2. Glacier          | 12. Riding Mountain       |
| 3. Yoho             | 16. Point Pelee           |
| 4. Kootenay         | 18. Georgian Bay Islands  |
| 5. Jasper           | 19. St. Lawrence Islands  |
| 6. Banff            | 23. Fundy                 |
| 7. Waterton Lakes   | 25. Prince Edward Island  |
| 8. Elk Island       | 32. Cape Breton Highlands |
| 9. Wood Buffalo     | 34. Terra Nova            |

#### NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS

- |                          |                                      |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 10. Fort Battleford      | 26. Port Royal                       |
| 13. Lower Fort Garry     | 27. Fort Anne                        |
| 14. Prince of Wales Fort | 28. Grande Pré                       |
| 15. Fort Malden          | 29. Halifax Citadel                  |
| 17. Woodside             | 30. Graham Bell Museum               |
| 20. Fort Wellington      | 31. Fortress of Louisbourg           |
| 21. Fort Chambly         | 33. Signal Hill                      |
| 22. Fort Lennox          | 35. Batoche Rectory                  |
| 24. Fort Beauséjour      | 36. Sir Wilfrid Laurier's Birthplace |
|                          | 37. Fort Langley                     |



## HISTORY OF ROUND HILL COMMUNITY

At the turn of the century a surge of pioneers started new outposts in North Central Alberta. One of the early locations was Round Hill. At the time of its start in 1900 settlements were sparse and widely scattered. Most of these settlements centred around mission and trading posts. At that time the two main points of arrival in the west were Strathcona and Wetaskiwin, while in the more immediate vicinity, settlers and traders could be found at Duhamel, Bardo, Bittern Lake and Earling (near Salt Lake).

Round Hill dates from a log building erected in 1900 by the late Emile Bosmans who shortly afterwards started a trading post used also as a stopping place for travellers and land seekers. Supplies were freighted with much difficulty from Wetaskiwin. Old-timers remember chaining the wagon wheels on descending Gwynne Hill and also chaining down the wagon box to prevent the loss of precious supplies while fording the Pipestone Creek.

The Round Hill post, known at that time as Bosmans place served a wide area; for settlers came from as far away as the Barr Colony near Lloydminster to trade. It is interesting to note that in 1904 these same Barr colonists bought 1,000 bushels of oats from the Mohlers of Round Hill who had threshed this by flail from the previous year's crop. The need for more accommodation led Mr. Bosmans to build a large frame building as a store in 1903. Materials for this building were all freighted in from Wetaskiwin. This building also housed the first post office established in Round Hill. That same year mail was carried by Mr. Shervin, who also made deliveries to Earling, Duhamel, and other points.

Mr. Bosmans had scarcely arrived at his new home when other settlers began to appear and rapidly fill the more favored spots in the community.

It is surprising to learn of the rapidity with which settlement progressed. We find that the Parish of the Ukrainian Catholic Church of Transfiguration was organized in 1902 and the church building erected in 1903. We also find that in 1903 the records of the parish of the Church of St Michael the Archangel show a congregation of 43 families and this congregation, under the leadership of Father Paul Kulawy, commenced building the present church in 1904 completing it in 1905. At this time the Parish was renamed St. Stanislaus. The spiritual needs of the Lutheran congregation was ministered to by Rev. Bersvend Anderson of Bardo, an earlier settlement eight miles north of Round Hill.

The Anderson School in Bardo had been built in 1898 to serve the educational needs of the Bardo community. Realizing that their children could not get the most out of their lives without some formal education, other pioneers built the Grand Forks school in 1903 with Rev. M. R. Gordon as first teacher. It is interesting to note that this school had the first school bell in this part of the country.

Round Hill S.D. No 1526 was formed in 1906 with the school being completed the following year on a site a mile south of town.

J. Gilchrist was employed as the first teacher. In 1911 this building was replaced by one in the village and the district's number became 2234. The original school was moved two miles farther south and its name changed to Kulawy S.D. No 1526.

At about this time schools were built at Coal Hill, Poznan, Standard, Meldahl, Lake Demay and Shelbourne. Although these served their purpose well at the time, these smaller districts were amalgamated into Camrose School Division No 20 in 1936. This large division provided the necessary impetus to bring about the present day centralized schools, one of which is in the planning stage for Round Hill.

By 1904 we find Mr. Bosmans running a feed mill and supplying the settlers with a fair line of farm machinery. At this time also the Nels Foss family were mining coal for their Round Hill's major businesses. The first commercial mine was opened in 1905 by F A Fergstad .

In 1904 the topic of the day was the building of a railroad east from Wetaskiwin, and in 1905 a townsite known as Sparling was laid out on the present site of Camrose, bringing connection with the outside world a little closer and providing facilities much needed at the time. Doctors now called weekly at Round Hill providing medical attention and treatment to patients in one of Mr. Bosmans rooms. In 1907 a survey was made for rail connections between Camrose and Vegreville, and Mr Bosmans donated seven acres of land for the establishment of a townsite. Visualizing future developments he now erected a modern store and used the old one as a warehouse.

Steel was laid in 1910 and the area was subdivided for the location of new businesses.

In 1912 a large modern elevator appeared in Round Hill operated by the Mohler Grain Company. This building has gone through several hands and is now the Wheat Pool No 2 elevator . Cars began to make their appearance on the streets of Round Hill in the early teens, an indication that pioneer days were passing. Their noise and dust, however, failed to drive the placid, old faithful ox teams from the road for another ten years.

To the north and east, good land was still available and a group of Mennonite settlers established themselves here, adding fine modern farmsteads and another church to the community. From more humble beginnings this group of settlers have recently completed one of the finest churches in this part of the country.

Evidence of the fact that this no longer was an isolated community but an integral part of Canada was shown by the number of young men who volunteered to take part in the armed services of their country in World War I.

In 1918 new developments in the opening of a branch of the Royal Bank, the organization of the Women's Institute and the following year the building of the first community hall by the War Veterans. This hall was later moved to the Willowdale part of the district. This period will be remembered by many too, for the great flu epidemic in which business was almost brought to a standstill, and Round Hill school, along with most others in the country, was used as an emergency hospital. Few families escaped some experience with this plague. By this



time also many homes in the area were served by telephone, bringing closer contacts with neighbours and business.

The twenties brought an era of growth. A cheese factory opened in the old Bosmansstore by P. Burns and Company and was operated there until it burned in 1937. The plant was then rebuilt at the present site and shortly after was sold to the Northern Alberta Dairy Pool. For a number of years this factory was the highest producer of cheese in the province. In 1921, The Women's Institute built the Community Hall. During this period three more grain elevators were built, giving an indication that the farm lands were rapidly being developed. This was probably due to increased immigration and to the mechanization of farming methods.

The booming twenties gave way to the "hungry thirties", and this period of low prices, poor crops, dust storms, and "Pennet Buggies" will long be remembered by those who experienced them. Conditions became more stable when World War 2 came upon us. Most of the young men and many of the young women joined the forces, leaving the older members of the community to carry on at home. Since the end of hostilities, the return of our young people, coupled with favorable prices, good crops, and better farming methods have produced a happy and prosperous people.



BOSMAN'S HOUSE AND TRADING POST.

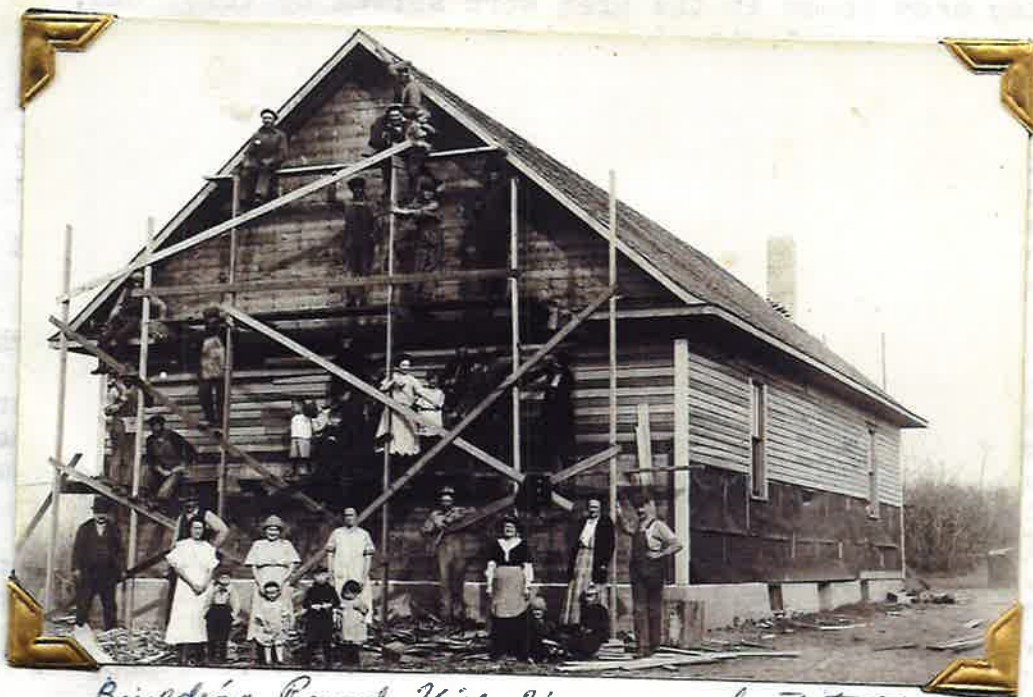
BOSMAN'S  
FIRST STORE  
WHICH WAS  
RECONVERTED  
TO A  
CHEESE  
FACTORY.



BOSMAN'S  
HOUSE

(STORE IN  
BACKGROUND)

NB. ALL TREES  
AND SHRUBS WERE  
PLANTED BY MR. EMIL  
BOSMAN'S - AN AVID  
AND ARDENT GARDENER



Building Round Hill Women's Institute Hall  
with volunteer labor - 1921



Clean up day  
at the  
Round Hill  
Women's  
Institute Hall  
1939





It all began when.....

The organizational meeting of the Round Hill Women's Institute was held in a tent near the old lumber yard on August 6th, 1918. Minutes do not name the Provincial representatives who were present, but at the time Women's Institutes were being organized by the Provincial Government and we do know that Nellie McLung was present. The first regular meeting was held just three days later on Aug. 9th in the School house.



SIDING THE HALL IN 1922

Which was built in 1921. A few faces may be recognized if you look reel hard. It was a Community effort.



The first annual meeting of the Woman's Institute was held at Round Hill, Aug 6 1918. Mrs C Walker acted as secretary, while the society was being arranged.

Mrs. A. Waterman elected president by acclamation

Mrs. C. Walker - Vice President

Miss Ethel Foss - Secretary Treasurer

Nominations for directors, 4 in number were then called for & voted on by ballot

Nominated were Mrs. C Curry, Mrs. A. Foss, Mrs. W. Bradbury,

Mrs. L. Evans, Mrs. C. Ferbstad, Miss F. Nelson.

Elected were Mrs. L. Evans, Mrs. A. Foss, Mrs. W. Bradbury, Mrs. C. Currie. Mrs. E. Wilcox and Mrs. M. MacLarty were elected as auditors by acclamation. It was decided to hold the first meeting in the schoolhouse on Friday Aug 9th at 3 pm.

(signed) Isabel Waterman President.

Original Copy - Minutes of First Meeting.

Aug 9th 1918.

The meeting was opened by singing "The Maple Leaf Forever".

Moved by Mrs. Walker that the minutes be accepted as read. Mrs. Bradbury seconded it. Carried.

Moved by Mrs. Bradbury and seconded by Mrs. A. Foss that Mrs. O. Waterman attend the District convention in Camrose. Carried.

Moved by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mrs. A. Foss that Miss Foss write to Mrs. Currie asking her if she intends joining the institute, and if she would act as director. Carried.

Moved by Mrs. Walker, seconded by Mrs. A. Foss that Nellie Bradbury be a candidate for the program.

Moved by Mrs. Bradbury, seconded by Mrs. A. Foss that Mrs. Walker be a candidate. Carried.

Moved by Ella Bradbury that Mrs. Gilchrist be a candidate, seconded by Mrs. Walker.

These ladies were elected by acclamation.

Moved by Nellie Bradbury that all who are present pay 10 cents, seconded by Ella Bradbury. Carried.

Moved by Mrs. Walker that the Secretary call roll every month. Members attending regularly be eligible for delegate for Calgary convention. Seconded by Nellie Bradbury.

Moved by Mrs. Walker seconded by Nellie Bradbury that the board of directors meet and find out all the necessities of getting a lot also lumber for a hall. Carried.

Moved by Mrs. Walker that the ladies take turns providing lunch, two ladies each month, taking the names alphabetically seconded by Mrs. Foss. Carried.

Next meeting is to be held at the home of Mrs. Watermans. Nellie and Ella Bradbury will provide lunch.

Moved by Mrs. Bradbury that we adjourn. Seconded by Mrs. Walker. Carried.

(signed) Isabel Waterman President.

At their first meeting they decided to build a hall and by Dec of 1918 the grand sum of \$59.00 had been set aside for the hall building fund. Early in the new year a committee was appointed to organize a girls club and this was organized in June 1919 with 8 members.

The first payment of \$66.66 was made on the land on which the hall was to be built, in June, 1919, and by July 1920 the land was fully paid for. In the meantime the World War Veterans Association had built a hall. The Women's Institute cooperated with the Veterans in this venture. That hall was later moved to the Willowdale district and is now in Camrose, serving as the IOOF hall.

In 1920 nursing lectures were held and the first record of help for the needy was a donation of 2 springs, 2 mattresses and 2 quilts. That year they brought the Women's Institute travelling library to Round Hill.

In 1921 they built the community hall with voluntary labor from the community. In 1921 they also bought an acre of land from Don Campbell for \$100.00 for the cemetery and called it the Mount Calvary Cemetery. This cemetery is still under the care of the Women's Institute but has two men on the board of directors, Mr Alvin LaBelle and Mr Eric Hohn. Besides the two Institute members, Mrs Henry Quail and Mrs Mable Fergstad. In 1921 we also find they paid for having trees planted and cultivated in the school grounds. That year talks given at their meetings included ; "What the Women's Institute can do for the Town of Round Hill"; "What the Women's Institute can do for the School"; and what the Women's Institute can do for our Children." That year they began giving prizes for the school fair, a practice that was continued for many years. They also provided the cloth for the children's needlework. They bought planks for teeter-totters and also provided swings for the school and purchased sanitary drinking cups for the school. Demonstrations on "Textile Buying", lectures on "Home Nursing", and "Hospitality and its meaning to the Community", were given to carry out the purpose for which the W.I. was organized. That was "The simplifying of all problems pertaining to the home and consequent achievement of better home conditions and also to promote the best standards of community life."

The minute books covering the years from 1922 to 1925 have been lost but the branch was active nonetheless, working for the good of the community. We know they bought a piano in that time for our next records show that it was being donated, along with the use of the hall, for singing lessons for the school children.

Mrs.H.Quail, Mrs.C.Fergstad and Mrs.Eva LaBelle were appointed to take over the hall management and were instructed to borrow \$120.00 from Mr.Ludwig Pedersen to pay the hall insurance, the cemetery and remaining debt on the hall. Gasoline lights and a tank were purchased for the hall in 1926. Mrs Walker gave a report of the Conference held in Kelsey in August 1926. We note that meeting dates were changed often to take advantage of the full moon. No doubt to help Dobbin find his way. Hall improvements were gradual. In 1926 a special ladder



was built for lighting the gas lamps. A Platform was built for a stage and a door put in the back of the hall and steps built at the back door.

First mention of Standing Committee Convenors for study groups was found in the minutes of Dec 1927 meeting. Mrs A Currie was appointed Convenor for Education and Better School; Mrs.C.Fergstad Household Economics; Mrs.O.Nelson Agriculture; Mrs.Bealer, Canadian Industries ; and Mrs.C.Walker, Child Welfare. At the present time there are 8 standing committees, these being Citizenship, Education, Canadian Industries and Agriculture, Social Service, Home Economics, Handicrafts, United Nations and Health. In 1928 courses in various crafts were being given the members by the Home Service Department much the same as they are today through our District Home Economist. In Sept 1928 the report of the Conference held at Ohaton showed that Mrs C Walker had been elected Constituency Convenor and Mrs C White Constituency Secretary. In Nov 1928 Mrs.C.Fergstad was the first member to repeat the Club Womens Creed by heart. In Nov of 1929 a dinner was held to commemorate making the final payment on the hall. During the 20's the Women's Institute sponsored baby clinics as well as arranged for health examinations in the school. For several years the W.I. served hot lunches to the school children at noon during the winter months.

Throughout the "Hungry 30's" their charitable donations in the community were very numerous. In 1930 the hall was wired for electricity and in 1931 the inside was completed.

The War years found the Women's Institute ready to do whatever was needed most. A Tremendous amount of sewing was done for the Red Cross as well as knitting. Numerous Merchant marine quilts were made and ditty bags were made and filled each month. Food parcels and cigarettes were sent every month to the local boys overseas. Alberta Women's Institutes Provincial projects were supported too. Donations for the Jam for Britain Fund were sent regularly to Mrs.Montgomery and they also sent donations to the "Queen's Canadian Fund". In 1943 the Honor Roll with 102 names of local boys and girls who were in the armed services was obtained from Ottawa and hung in the hall. War work and help for the local needy kept the women busy throughout the early 40's. In 1946 the Round Hill W.I. joined the Wetaskiwin Constituency.

In Feb 1947 the Secretary was asked to write to Mr Bowes, Reeve of the Municipality, regarding drilling a town well. A Committee met with Mr.Bowes to discuss the site for the well. 1947 was the year the Round Hill Cemetery Memorial Fund was started.

It was decided to sponsor cubs and brownies and Mrs L Fouts took over the leadership of the Cubs and Mrs.F.Gotheridge became the leader of the Brownies. Both were W.I. members. 1947 was the first year the W.I. subscribed to the Home and Country magazine for all its members. 1948 saw the start of local canvassing for the Canadian Cancer Society by the W.I. and in the 10-year period \$2,692.02 has been collected from the community for the fight against cancer. From time to time the W.I. has had cancer

films shown here to help in the educational part of the Cancer Society's program.

In 1948 a new furnace was installed in the hall at a cost of \$525.00. A subscription to Life magazine was sent to the High School. This was continued for a number of years and has been changed to the Reader's Digest. This subscription is renewed each year. In their efforts for community improvement, the W.I. sent out a petition for all citizens to sign, asking for one gravelled road to Camrose. A letter received from the Municipal District No 63 in answer to the petition, stated that 5 miles of road would be gravelled that year.

In 1950 the land began to settle under the hall where it had been undermined by the Red Flame Coal Company and a lawyer was contacted to see if the Company could be held responsible for the purchase of new land and moving the hall. All the W.I. could get from the Coal Co was \$200.00 which would by no means cover the moving, a new basement and buying more land. It was decided to ask the local Elks Lodge if they would take over the whole problem, as by that time the hall had become unsafe for use. They agreed to relieve the W.I. of the burden of renovating and maintaining the community hall and with very limited funds have managed to have the hall moved onto a full basement, a big stage addition built on and have plans for adding a similar sized addition to the front of the hall which will contain cloak rooms, projection booth and lobby. Since this is still a community hall, being maintained for the use of the community, the W.I. is still very active in its support. Recent donations toward the hall by the W.I. have been 100 plates, 100 settings of stainless steel flatware, a curtain and rod for the stage and \$40.00 for paint for the inside, besides cash donations.

In 1950 the new Ohaton Constituency of the Alberta Women's Institute was formed and Round Hill W.I. decided to leave the Wetaskiwin Constituency and join here as they felt they would have more personal contact with W.I. branches that are closer to them.

In 1952 the W.I. called a meeting of Mothers and Daughters of the community for the purpose of organizing a W.I. Girls Club which was also to be a 4H clothing club. Miss Popoff, District Home Economist, Miss Doris Scheidegger and Miss Vivian Petersen were guests at this meeting, giving reasons why a girls club should be formed. Doris and Vivian gave their demonstration that had won them a trip to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and their enthusiasm for club work was very contagious. The girls organized their clothing club that night with Pauline Boychuk as President, Donna Gotheridge as Secretary and Laurie Naherniak as news reporter. Mrs. W. Wakaluk and Mrs. A. LaBelle were leader and assistant leader respectively.

The W.I. was asked to sponsor the Well Baby and Pre-School Clinic which we still have. The Elks and W.I. shared the expense of heating and janitor for the hall for these clinics until they began holding them in the school.



In 1958 the Alberta W.I. President, Mrs Sigurd Lefsrud, of Viking presented Life Memberships in the A.W.I. to two charter members, Mrs. Henry Quail and Mrs. Charlie Fergstad, Snr.

### *Receive Life Memberships*



Shown above are Mrs. Fergstad and Mrs. Quail of the Round Hill W.I., receiving life memberships from Alta. W. I. President, Mrs. Jennie Lefsrud of Viking, at the Ohaton constituency convention held at Round Hill on Wednesday of last week. These two ladies are charter members of the Round Hill W.I., helping to organize it on August 6th., 1918, and have both served as President, Vice-President and Secretary-Treasurer.

In 1954 Mrs. C.A. Quail became the Second Constituency Convenor from Round Hill with Mrs. Wm. Bowthorpe acting as Constituency Secretary. These women served a four year term in this capacity.

In Sept 1954 the W.I. felt a closer contact could be kept with the school and teachers through a Home and School Association and a committee met with the teachers to discuss forming that organization. In Oct Mrs. J. Debnam was appointed to contact Mrs. McNary and W.I. called a meeting of the parents of the community for the purpose of organizing the Home and School Association. It was organized in Oct of that year. That year the W.I. also helped arrange for the TB chest X-ray clinic at which over 1500 district residents received free chest X-rays.

Education is still the main concern of the W.I. and in 1957 along with the other Institutes in the Province, we made a local study of the problem of drop-outs in High School with the aid of Mr Eric Hohn, the Vice-Principal. This information was included in a brief submitted to the Cameron Commission on Education which is now sitting in various cities in Alberta. One objective of the Women's Institutes is education for the housewife and through their efforts along these lines the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada were awarded the Henry Marshall Tory Award for their contribution towards Adult Education. They have earned for themselves the title of "The Farm Women's University." Through their interest and association with the United Nations, the Round Hill W.I. subscribed to the United Nations Association of Canada, sending in Rose Marie Homeniuk's name to receive the publications of that organization for the High School, to promote a better understanding of its purpose.

The Round Hill W.I. is a member of the Associated Country Women of the World organization, which has a membership of over 5,000,000 women. Last fall, one of their members, Mrs C A Quail was elected as one of the Alberta delegates to the First National Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada which was held in Ottawa.

Over the past 40 years donations to the needy of the community have been too numerous to list individually here. Thousands of dollars have been raised and spent for charitable purposes, not only on our own community but wherever the need is greatest, including war refugees, flood victims and war orphans in many countries of the world. We feel that as long as the need exists there will be Women's Institute members to answer the call for help.



# History of Round Hill W.I.

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It was decided to sponsor Cubs and Brownies and Mrs. L. Fouts took over the leadership of the Cubs and Mrs. F. Gotheridge became the leader of the Brownies. Both were W.I. members. 1947 was the first year the W.I. subscribed to the Home and Country magazine for all its members. 1948 saw the start of local canvassing for the Canadian Cancer Society by the W.I. and in the 10-year period \$2,692.02 has been collected from the community for the fight against cancer. From time

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has two men on the board of directors, Mr. Alvin LaBelle and Mr. Eric Hohn, besides the two Institute members, Mrs. Henry Quail and Mrs. Mable Fergstad. In 1921 we also find they paid for having trees planted and cultivated in the school grounds. That year talks given at their meetings included: "What the Women's Institute can do for the Town of Round Hill"; "What the Women's Institute can do for the School"; and what the Women's Institute can do for Our Children. That year they began giving prizes for the school fair, a practice that was continued for many years. They also provided the cloth for the children's needlework. They bought blocks for teeter-totters and also provided swings for the school and purchased sanitary drinking cups for the school. Demonstrations on "Textile Buying", lectures on "Home Nursing", and "Hospitality and Its Meaning to the Community" were given to carry out the purpose for which the W.I. was organized. That was "The simplifying of all problems pertaining to the home and consequent achievement of better home conditions and also to promote the best standards of community life."

The minute books covering the years from 1922 to 1925 have been lost but the branch was active nonetheless, working for the good of the community. We know they bought a piano in that time for our next records show that it was being donated, along with the use of the hall, for singing lessons for the school children.

Mrs. H. Quail, Mrs. C. Fergstad and Mrs. Eva LaBelle were appointed to take over the hall management and were instructed to borrow \$120.00 from Mr. Ludwig Pedersen to pay the hall insurance, the cemetery and remaining debt on the hall. Gasoline lights and a tank were purchased for the hall in 1926. Mrs. Walker gave a report of the Conference held in Kelsey in August 1926. We note that meeting dates were changed often to take advantage of the full moon. No doubt to help Dobbin find his way. Hall improvements were gradual. In 1926 a special ladder was built for lighting the gas lamps. A platform was built for a stage and a door put in the back of the hall and steps built at the back door.

First mention of Standing Committee Convenors for study groups was found in the minutes of Dec. 1927 meeting. Mrs. A. Currie was appointed Convenor for Education and Better School; Mrs. C. Fergstad Household Economics; Mrs. O. Nelson Agriculture; Mrs. Bealer, Canadian Industries; and Mrs. C. Walker, Child Welfare. At the present time there are 8 standing committees, they being: Citizenship, Education, Canadian Industries and Agriculture, Social Service, Home Economics.



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to time the W.I. has had cancer films shown here to help in the educational part of the Cancer Society's program.

In 1948 a new furnace was installed in the hall at a cost of \$525.00. A subscription to Life magazine was sent to the High School. This was continued for a number of years and has been changed to the Reader's Digest. This subscription is renewed each year. In their efforts for community improvement, the W.I. sent out a petition for all citizens to sign, asking for one gravelled road to Camrose. A letter received from the Municipal District No. 63, in answer to the petition, stated that 5 miles of road would be gravelled that year.

In 1950 the land began to settle under the hall where it had been undermined by the Red Flame Coal Company and a lawyer was contacted to see if the Company could be held responsible for the purchase of new land and moving the hall. All the W.I. could get from the Coal Co. was \$200.00 which would by no means cover the moving, a new basement and buying more land. It was decided to ask the local Elks' Lodge if they would take over the whole problem, as by that time the hall had become unsafe for use. They agreed to relieve the W.I. of the burden of renovating and maintaining the community hall and with very limited funds have managed to have the hall moved onto a full basement, a big stage addition built on and have plans for adding a similar sized addition to the front of the hall which will contain cloak rooms, projection booth and lobby. Since this is still a community hall, being maintained for the use of the community, the W.I. is still very active in its support. Recent donations toward the hall by the W.I. have been 100 plates, 100 settings of stainless steel flatware, a curtain and rod for the stage and \$40.00 for paint for the inside, besides cash donations.

In 1950 the new Ohaton Constituency of the Alberta Women's Institute was formed and Round Hill W.I. decided to leave the Wetaskiwin Constituency and join here as they felt they would have more personal contact with W.I. branches that are closer to them.

In Oct. 1952, the W.I. called a meeting of Mothers and Daughters of the community for the purpose of organizing a W.I. Girls' Club which was also to be a 4H clothing club. Miss Popoff, District Home Economist, Miss Doris Schejdegger and Miss Vivian Petersen were guests at this meeting, giving reasons why a girls' club should be formed. Doris and Vivian gave their demonstration that had won them a trip to the Royal Winter Fair in Toronto and their enthusiasm for club work was very contagious. The girls organized their clothing club that night with Pauline Boychuk as President, Donna Gothridge as Secretary and Laurie Naherniak as news reporter. Mrs. W. Wakaluk and Mrs. A. LaBelle were leader and assistant leader respectively.

The W.I. was asked to sponsor the

Well Baby and Pre-School Clinic which we still have. The Elks and W.I. shared the expense of heating and janitor for the hall for these clinics until they began holding them in the school.

In 1953 the W.I. was pleased to present Life Memberships in the Alberta Women's Institute to two charter members, Mrs. Henry Quail and Mrs. Charlie Fergstad Sr. In 1954 Mrs. C. A. Quail became the Second Constituency Convenor from Round Hill with Mrs. Wm. Bowthorpe acting as Constituency Secretary. These women served a four year term in this capacity.

In Sept. 1954 the W.I. felt a closer contact could be kept with the school and teachers through a Home and School Association and a committee met with the teachers to discuss forming that organization. In Oct. Mrs. J. Debnam was appointed to contact Mrs. McNary and W.I. called a meeting of the parents of the community for the purpose of organizing the Home and School Association. It was organized in Oct. of that year. That year the W.I. also helped arrange for the TB chest x-ray clinic at which over 1500 district residents received free chest x-rays.

Education is still the main concern of the W.I. and in 1957, along with the other Institutes in the Province, we made a local study of the problem of drop-outs in High School with the aid of Mr. Eric Hohn, the Vice-Principal. This information was included in a brief submitted to the Cameron Commission on Education which is now sitting in various cities in Alberta. One objective of the Women's Institutes is education for the housewife and through their efforts along these lines the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada were awarded the Henry Marshall Tory Award for their contribution towards Adult Education. They have earned for themselves the title of "The Farm Women's University."

Through their interest and association with the United Nations, the Round Hill W.I. subscribed to the United Nations Association of Canada, sending in Rose Marie Homeniuk's name to receive the publications of that organization for the High School, to promote a better understanding of its purpose.

The Round Hill W.I. is a member of the Associated Country Women of the World organization, which has a membership of over 5,000,000 women. Last fall, one of their members, Mrs. C. A. Quail, was elected as one of the Alberta delegates to the First National Convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada which was held in Ottawa.

Over the past 40 years donations to the needy of the community have been too numerous to list individually here. Thousands of dollars have been raised and spent for charitable purposes, not only on our own community but wherever the need is greatest, including war refugees, flood victims and war orphans in many countries of the world. We feel that as long as the need exists there will be Women's Institute members to answer the call for help.

Handicrafts, United Nations and Health. In 1928 courses in various crafts were being given the members by the Home Service Department much the same as they are today through our District Home Economist. In Sept. 1928 the report of the Conference held at Ohaton showed that Mrs. C. Walker had been elected Constituency Convenor and Mrs. C. White Constituency Secretary. In Nov. 1928 Mrs. C. Fergstad was the first member to repeat the Club Womens Creed by heart. In Nov. of 1929 a dinner was held to commemorate making the final payment on the hall. During the 20's the Women's Institute sponsored baby clinics as well as arranged for health examinations in the school. For several years the W.I. served hot lunches to the school children at noon during the winter months.

Throughout the "Hungry 30's" their charitable donations in the community were very numerous. In 1920 the hall was wired for electricity and in 1931 the inside was completed.

The war years found the Women's Institute ready to do whatever was needed most. A tremendous amount