

'Biography of Mrs. W.A. Crowder April 16 1975' is her own account, transcribed below

Born Myrtle Irene Daniher, eldest daughter (child) of Mr. and Mrs. John Potterf Daniher (Mary Ann Roath) both of Maidstone Township, on October 14, 1905. Born on Howard Ave., Windsor Ont. during parents' residence in the city following their marriage Oct 28, 1903 in Maidstone at the home of her parents on Blind Lane.

Started elementary school at R.C. Separate School #2 at Pleasant Park for two years then parents purchased father's parents' pioneer farm on 9th concession Maidstone Township and all the rest of public schooling took place at S.S.#8 public school nearby. High school entrance was tried at Essex High school in 1920 passing with honours- was an honour student all through school. Entered Windsor Business College Fall of 1920 and became a stenographer and secretary. Took additional courses in secretarial Science including Legal Secretarial. Was employed in various city offices and ended up as a Dept. Head at Motor Products Corp. where I kept my position for two years following marriage to William Albert Crowder, eldest child of Ira and Ellen (Hammond) Crowder from the Ottawa Valley, Dundas County. We were married May 9th, 1925 at Temple Baptist Church, Victoria Ave., Windsor because I belonged to a Business Girls Club in that church. I had embraced the United Church until we moved as a young married couple to Oldcastle on Oct. 28, 1927 where we built our home where we still reside after 48 years. Our eldest child Helen Marjorie now Mrs. Antony Felton of Seattle Wash. was 10 months old when we came to Oldcastle. We have also two sons. We became members of St. Stephen's Anglican Church here when it was time to send the children to Sunday School and I have been active plus in that parish since.

Liking to be involved with people and the humanities I became interested in many local groups. Was instrumental in organizing and was a charter member of 6 different groups, a couple of them now extinct. Names of organizations I have belonged to and offices held from about 1935.

1935- 3 years Dorcas Convenor* of St. Stephen's

(The Dorcas Department of the Women's Auxiliary sent bales of school supplies, clothing, quilts and knitted articles to Indian Residential Schools. Bales were also sent to western Canada when

members there were suffering through a severe drought. During the World War II the Red Cross received thousands of items to ship overseas from the Dorcas Departments.)

1940- 1950 Recording Secretary of Ladies' Guild

1950-1952 President of Ladies Guild

It seems I was always a vice- president

1940- 1943 Charter Recording Secretary of SS#6 Home & School. Went through all the convenorships three years each and was Vice- President 3 separate times- did not drive a car so refused presidency. During my Home & School years I was audio- visual & Radio Convenor one term on the Windsor Home & School Council. Was in Home & School 16 years and always had some office.

1949-1974 St. Stephen's W.A. (*Women's Auxiliary*) was organized and I was charter recording secretary for a number of years. This organization has just folded up on Dec 31, 1974 after 26 yrs. And in the intervening years I had been president twice for a couple of terms, held every office except treasurer and ended up recording secretary & Acting president.

1950-1975 The Oldcastle W.I. (*Women's Institute*) was organized and I was charter vice president and curator. Have held several other convenorships as well- have been vice- president several times and held a full term of 6 years as president 1959- 65, the first member to do this- have been P.R.O. (*Public Relations Officer*) three different terms and have just completed 6 yrs., as P.R.O. and am still curator after 25 years which we celebrate on Oct 3 this year.

Was District Director two different times. Was a convenor of the Dist. 50th Anniversary celebration. Also, one of five on the planning committee for area convention here in Windsor Nov. 1965 at Norton.

1951- Became Recording Secretary to Anglican Church Essex Deanery W.A. for a five-year term.

1956 Third Vice President Essex Deanery W.A. 5-year term

1961 Second Vice President “ 5-yr. term

1966 First Vice President “ 5-yr. term

1971 Was to be president but had to make a choice as I was in line for W.I. District presidency this year and as I arrived there first chose the W.I.

Was P.R.O. for Essex Deanery W.A. 15 years along with the other offices.

1961 Was presented with a Diocesan Life Membership by this group in Sept 1975.

1971-73 District President 2-year term after being vice – presidents both 1st and 2nd for 4 years. Have held several convenorships including Resolutions which has just expired for 2 yrs. District Delegate during this term also. Was chairman of the Festivities for the 75th W.I. Anniv. held in Essex in Feb. 1972. Planned the 'Farm Show' held in Essex April 30, 1973.

1974-75 Federation Representative