History of the Alberta Women's Institute Barrhead Leader, July 28, 1997

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T&C Editor

he Alberta Women's Institute (AWI) has been around since 1909. The AWI movement began in Ontario 100 years ago.

Now, there is a book just recently out about the fascinating story of the Alberta Women's Institute.

"Many and Remarkable," written by Catherine C. Cole and Judy Larmour is that story, and explores Alberta women's role in the events that have marked our history.

Esther Brown, who works on the farm with her husband Earl, has been an AWI member for many years. She recently read the book and says "There sure was a lot of work done by AWI members through the years from welcoming immigrants, war brides, helping with food, clothing, etc., to other counThe book talks about the beginnings of AWI in Alberta in 1909 as a small group of isolated women around Lea Park, to an extensive network of branches throughout the province today

tries in war years, and much more."

She feels it is a well written book that allows the reader to familiarize themselves in what WI has done and what they stand for.

"Many and Remarkable" contains stories of pioneering and the challenges and achievements of women. Through their efforts, they have advocated on behalf of the legal rights of women and children.

The book also talks about the development of public education and health care systems; and homefront activity during the First and Second World Wars. It looks at the AWI role in international peace and development, and their consistent interest in agricultural issues and farm safety.

It is a remarkable record of service by and for women throughout the province, and includes a complete list of AWI branches in Alberta.

The book talks about the beginnings of AWI in Alberta in 1909 as a small group of isolated women around Lea Park, to an extensive network of branches throughout the province today.

Many and Remarkable is the result of extensive archival and oral history research and makes an important contribution to both women's history and to the history of Alberta.

Copies are available while they last at \$24.95 each, plus shipping, handling and tax/and can be obtained from any AWI member, or ordered through the AWI office at Suite 220. 10403 - 172 Street, Edmonton, Alberta, T5S 1K9.

If you have any questions, you are asked to please call the AWI office at (403) 469-1254.