

AUGUST 26 1960.

Spinsters' Guild Hold First Meeting

On Thursday week the first meeting of the newly-formed Woking Spinsters' Guild took place at the home of Miss Amy Harper. The meeting, which was attended by 23 local spinsters, began with a short speech by the president, Miss Mabel Waters, who introduced the guest speaker, Lady Violet Brown, of Sunbury. Lady Violet is well known for the keen interest she shows in cookery. She spoke of Italian dishes, and by means of a demonstration explained her own method of preparing minestrone soup. After handing round samples of the soup, Lady Violet said: "My late husband, George, spent many years perfecting this recipe."

Thanks were expressed by Miss Amelia Wilson. After tea a recital of songs by Moussorgsky was given by Prudence Smith, accompanied by Gladys Talbot on the piano. The meeting ended with Miss Amy Harper thanking members for their support.

SEPTEMBER 9 1960

SPINSTERS MEET

Mrs. van Dorn spoke about modern trends in Dutch fashion to Woking Spinsters' Guild on Thursday week.

Mrs. van Doorn showed the 22 members some beautifully woven skirts and blouses, and a pair of hand-carved clogs. She said the Dutch national costume is only worn on festive occasions, the Dutch women being influenced more and more by British and American trends in fashion.

Thanks were expressed by the president, Miss Mabel Waters, who ended the meeting by giving an organ recital of Frederick Purcell's later works.

NOVEMBER 4 1960.

The guest speaker at the meeting on Thursday week of Woking Spinsters' Guild was Mr. C. Grothe, from Thames Ditton. The subject of his talk was rose cultivation. Miss Amelia Wilson expressed thanks.

'Flying Haggis' is a local production

Last Thursday's meeting of the Woking Spinsters' Guild, held at the home of Miss Waters, took the form of a performance, by members of the Guild, of a short play written by two members.

This five-scene comedy had the strange title of "The Flying Haggis." Miss Joan Guthrie, who has herself acted in London theatres, commented afterwards on the play and its performance. She said that while the play had been most amusing, the plot was sometimes difficult to follow. About the production, she said that the intervals between scenes had been lengthy and too much use had been made of tape-recorded sound-effects. She congratulated the actors on their performances but pointed out that in a large hall they would have to speak more loudly.

It was agreed that the choice of an hilarious comedy as their first production was probably unwise but nevertheless, the Guild would proceed with its plan to give a public performance in the near future in order to raise funds.

WOKING HERALD

DECEMBER 2 1960.

Spinsters' Guild

At last Thursday's meeting of the Woking Spinster's Guild, members enjoyed a show of films loaned by the Leipzig Film Library. Three short documentaries were shown illustrating various aspects of family life behind the Iron Curtain. One of them dealt specifically with women's organisations, including the East German equivalent of spinsters' organisations in England.

The meeting concluded with a short poetry-reading session.

Spinsters' Guild membership nearly doubled

In the first six months since its formation, Woking Spinsters' Guild increased its membership from 23 to 45, the first annual meeting was held last Thursday by the Chairman, Miss Amy Harper.

The Secretary, Miss Margaret Ford, reporting on the eight meetings which had been held—they included talks, film shows, and a play—said it was generally agreed that the most successful meeting had been the occasion of Lady Violet Brown's cookery demonstration.

The Treasurer, Miss Betty Plüthe, said that the financial position was sound, the current balance being £38 11s. 3d.

Officers elected were: President, Miss Jane Palmer; Secretary, Miss Margaret Ford; Treasurer, Miss Gladys Kipp; committee members, Misses Jones, Wilson, Harper, Turner, Field.

It was decided to hold future meetings on Mondays. Members also agreed that a charge should be made for refreshments, and that the guild should become affiliated to the National Association of Spinsters.

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