

HOME and COUNTRY

Published through the co-operation of the Federated Women's Institutes of the Province and the Women's Institutes Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture.

Correspondence to be addressed to
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Address

Volume 1 FEBRUARY, 1934 Number 5

NOTICE TO BRANCH SECRETARIES Summer Series of Meetings

The delegates to the Summer Series of Meetings will have messages of timely interest and great value for those in attendance and the occasion will be made of real value, both from the standpoint of local effort and Government service. If you have not sent definite word to your district secretary, do so at once.

Distribution of "Home and Country"

The two additional free copies of "Home and Country" being addressed to each branch secretary should be placed in the hands of persons who are keenly interested in the educational work of the branch and in the planning of program for the coming year. The copies paid for at Ten Cents (.10c) per person are being sent to the branch secretaries in a separate parcel and will arrive after the three copies mentioned above have been received. The secretary will please arrange to distribute these to the persons concerned, as we do not mail to individual members.

An additional attraction when you are seeking old or new members will be to guarantee them at least four copies of "Home and Country", eight pages each, without any charge, beyond the twenty-five cent fee for the year beginning with May, 1934, or better still, the balance of this year and the whole of 1934-35. These four numbers of "Home and Country" will contain information of real practical value along a variety of lines—food values, cookery, sewing, health, cleaning, laundry work, economy measures, housing, etc., and will be of permanent value.

Relief

When appeals for relief are received by Institute officers from individuals in remote sections, it would be well to refer the same to the Institutes Branch, when we will check with our records and if thought advisable give the names of the officers of the nearest branch of whom enquiry may be made, and if goods are forwarded, they should be sent to the secretary of the branch and the distribution of the same left with a committee appointed by the branch.

It is preferable to notify the Department when a branch is prepared to assist other communities and we will advise where to send the supplies for distribution.

Reports and Membership Lists

May we remind the branch secretaries that it is not necessary, so far as the Department is concerned, for them to prepare membership lists and send them to the District Secretary. If the district organization wishes to compile list of members for the district, this can be arranged as the District Officers think well.

Neither is it necessary to make out *report of meeting* and send it to the District Secretary from month to month. The Department is no longer supplying forms which have been used for this purpose for a number of years. We furnished to each branch secretary a special form upon which to report the meetings from May to December, inclusive, to the District Secretary, together with *number* of members up to date of making out the report. Any Branch Secretary who has not sent this report form properly filled out to the District Secretary should do so at once.

Form "E" will be furnished to all branch secretaries earlier than usual this year, and immediately following the annual meeting, to be held in May, the secretary should record the information asked for on this form and send it to the District Secretary. We will, at the same time, send a special form upon which to report the meetings from January to April, inclusive.

Information for Provincial Board

If you have any matters bearing upon Institute activities or methods which you would like to have members of the Provincial Board deal with bearing

upon branch, district or Convention Area matters, please submit the same to the director for your subdivision or to the Provincial President, Mrs. R. B. Colloton of Lorne Park, or Miss M. V. Powell of the Institutes Branch, Toronto, so that they will be able to present it at the meeting of the Executive or the full Board which will be held at Easter-time.

Signatures and Addresses

Please notify the Institutes Branch *promptly* of any change in officers, giving correct initials and address. When sending letters addressed to the Institutes Branch, or to the officers of the Federation, please sign as follows:

(Mrs. J. H.) Mary S. Jackson, R.R. No. 3, Ripley, Ont.
(Miss) Florence Little, R.R. No. 1, Scotland, Ont.

The place and date should be stated at the beginning of the letter. The name of the branch or district for which correspondence is being carried on should be indicated at the lower left-hand side of the last page of the letter.

By observing the above instructions much time will be saved in the Institutes Branch.

Words of Appreciation

Having attended most of the thirteen Conventions held in October and November where 3,800 representatives of the 1,250 branches in Ontario met to present reports of their activities, to encourage each other, and to make plans for further effort, I wish to pay a well-deserved tribute to the 40,000 members, not only for what they have accomplished, but the high ideals which have stimulated them and the worthy spirit which has guided them to a better way in their home life, and in their dealings with each other, as well as the splendid community attitude displayed. All sects, parties and classes have co-operated in their efforts to acquire greater efficiency in the multitude of duties which come to countrywomen. They have encouraged the rural girls in their efforts to equip themselves to shoulder the responsibilities of later life, have maintained wholesome social undertakings and rendered service to the individual, the family, and the community, and this has been most generous. In spite of reduced income from local sources and retrenchment in Government assistance, the Institutes have made their educational programs of increasing value through the utilization of local talents and the literature available, and have been most resourceful in providing social intercourse, entertainment and amusement for residents of the community, and I know of nothing more stimulating than the spirit of optimism, friendliness and willingness to co-operate in the interests of all, as displayed at the annual conventions.

On behalf of the Institutes Branch I wish to take this opportunity to give assurance that every possible encouragement and assistance will be extended to the Institutes through Government service, advice, and co-operation, so far as the funds available will permit.

GEO. A. PUTNAM, Superintendent.

ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE TO THE INSTITUTES

We have pleasure in announcing some of the services available through various departments of Government Service. Further announcements will be made from time to time.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Music in the Public and Separate Schools.

Music may be taught by a specially qualified teacher in these schools. Toward this work the Department of Education gives a grant to the teacher and one to the School Board. To earn these grants, the work must be approved by the Inspector. The teacher must hold a Departmental Certificate in Vocal Music and the Teacher must devote an average of one-

half hour per classroom per week to Music in at least four classrooms. The School Board must spend in the purchase of equipment for the teaching of Music at least double the amount of the grant being applied for. Rural Schools may add the salary of the special teacher of Music in making up their expenditure. Music Grants are not paid by the Department of Education to Women's Institutes, but an Institute may enter into an understanding with a School Board to assist them in the work. Where a School Board is considering the introduction of Music it is suggested that they apply to their School Inspector for information.

Library Service

No other Institute activities will prove to be more pleasurable or profitable than those related to community libraries. Many a thriving free or association public library owes its present flourishing condition to the cordial support, financial and moral, of the local Women's Institute. This, as the treaty-makers might say, is "bi-laterally beneficial."

Communities which are distant five miles or more from the nearest public library may take advantage of the Travelling Library service administered by the Department of Education's Public Libraries Branch. A book case contains about 40 volumes, assorted juvenile, adult non-fiction, and fiction; specific titles are included on request if these are not already in circulation. Owing to the recent decided increase in demand and circulation, it has been necessary to reduce the time limit to 4 months without extension privileges.

The borrower pays transportation charges for the case on arrival; the Department pays for the return. Should freight charges one way exceed \$1.50, the borrower may remit this amount with the application card and the Department will defray all charges. Cases must be returned by freight when they are so received.

Lists of recent additions to the travelling library book stock are published from time to time in the *Ontario Library Review*, published quarterly by the Department of Education at 25 cents per annum. An attempt is made to include in new purchases such books as are of especial interest and value to Institute members and their families. Juvenile books receive marked attention.

Applications should be addressed to Public Libraries Branch, Department of Education, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

Cemetery Care

The pioneer people of Ontario were a fine product. Much of the prosperity of Ontario has been due to the efforts of the