

HOME and COUNTRY

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EDITORIAL COMMITTEE:

Mrs. R. B. Colloton
Miss M. V. Powell

Mrs. I. Graves
Mr. Geo. A. Putnam

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Address

NOTICES FOR BRANCH OFFICERS

This issue of "Home and Country" is being sent to the Presidents and Secretaries of branch and district organization. Each Branch Secretary will get two additional copies to hand to some of the other leaders. Then an additional supply will be sent to the Secretaries concerned for distribution among those who paid Ten Cents for "Home and Country" up to the end of April.

It was the intention to make this only a four-page number, but there appears to be so many features of importance to present at this time that we have decided to publish an eight-page issue. The next number of "Home and Country," to be published in May, will be sent to the Branch Secretary for distribution to all who were members for 1933-34.

Short Courses

Instructors for Demonstration-lecture Courses are available at all seasons of the year and applications for courses to be held during the summer months are coming to hand. In some communities the summer months are the most suitable season, for it gives girls who are going to school an opportunity to take advantage of this extra instruction.

Membership

May we remind the officers that no member is to be taxed more than Twenty-five Cents a year for membership in the Institute. True, the members contribute in one way and another much more than Twenty-five Cents a year, possibly an average of at least Two Dollars per member for the whole province, but all beyond the Twenty-five Cents per member should be raised in some other manner than stated amounts asked from each member. The Provincial Federation and the Department advise against taking up collections at the regular meetings, especially if such a procedure is likely to prove a burden for any of the members and possibly result in some members discontinuing membership in the Institute. If collections are asked for, it should be made quite clear that contribution to the same is entirely optional.

BRANCH ANNUALS

While the order for Annual Meetings will be found on page 13 of the Hand Book, we think it well to draw the attention of the officers to the following features.

Election of Officers

The first requisite for the election of officers is the choice of a person to preside. This may be

DISTRICT ANNUALS

We wish to draw to the attention of the district officers features which have been overlooked at some of the annual gatherings.

When proceeding to the election of officers, the official representatives should first be grouped by themselves and given an opportunity to choose a chairman to take charge of the elections. If any of the official representatives from the branches ask for voting by ballot, this method should be followed.

If a nominating committee presents a list of persons to be considered for election, it must be stated by the presiding officer that any official representative has the liberty to submit additional names to be added to the list to be voted upon. Assurance should be given that

the President, if she is not standing for re-election, otherwise it should be some other member or a visitor from the community or another branch.

The end of the branch year is April 30th, both membership and financial (see page 8 of the Hand Book). All offices are automatically vacant at the end of the year.

The Secretary takes the minutes and performs other duties of her office throughout the meeting and hands over her office to the new Secretary at the conclusion of the meeting.

New officers are usually introduced either at the close of the election or at the close of the meeting. It is advisable to have the President for the past year continue in the chair, after the election of officers, to the conclusion of the meeting.

The district director may be any one of the branch executive.

If a nominating committee presents a slate to be voted upon, it must be made known that any member for the past year who signifies her intention to continue her membership and new members who have paid their fee will be entitled to vote, and to make nominations additional to the slate presented.

The attendance at the Branch Annual Meetings is probably the smallest of the year in many branches. This should not be, for the value of the Institute to the individual and its influence in the community is measured by the willingness of the individual to take an active part; so the members, from a sense of responsibility and appreciation of opportunity, should attend the Branch Annual. With the added service through free copies of "Home and Country" to all members at least four times during the year and the loan paper collection in the Institute Branch being continuously added to, the officers will have little difficulty in preparing and carrying through a program which will prove of real interest and practical value.

It is well at the time of the Branch Annual to ask ourselves if our branch is living up to its opportunities.

The following questions might well be asked:—

Are we taking advantage of the literature available through the Department of Agriculture and other branches of the Government?

Have we put forth an honest effort to take advantage of two-weeks demonstration lecture courses in Nutrition, Health and Clothing, or some of the three days or five days courses in these features and Handicraft?

Are we utilizing the loan paper collections available from the Institute Branch to the best advantage?

See notice re Girls' Conference.

the persons nominated will accept office if elected.

When choosing the Federation Representative to attend Convention and take part in the election of a member to the Provincial Board, an alternative should be named. An ex-member of the Board is not eligible for appointment as Federation Representative except she has previously served only one year on the Board.

The possibility of extending the Institute to new centres in the district should be considered.

The next number of "Home and Country" will consist of eight pages, and the extra numbers required to furnish a copy to every member will be paid for by the Provincial Federation at a cost of about \$250. It is expected that all branches will support the Federation so that this assistance can be continued.

GIRLS' CONFERENCE, GUELPH

May 8, 9, and 10

The annual Girls' Conference is being held at the O.A.C., Guelph, May 8, 9, and 10. The charge for board and room from Monday night supper to Friday morning breakfast will be Four Dollars (\$4.00). An interesting and practical program is being planned by the College staff and Women's Institute Branch. The girls will have an opportunity of attending College for three days and enjoying residence life as well as seeing first hand the various departments of both the Agricultural College and Macdonald Institute. Members of the College staff will speak to the girls on subjects of real interest to rural girls, "Food Makes a Difference," "Meat Cuts," "Home Beautification," and other phases of home and rural life. The College girls will also contribute a part to the program with demonstrations on "The Elusive Vitamin" and "Liver as You Like It," "Physical Education Review," and "Selecting a Wardrobe."

A part of the program will be given over to addresses and discussions on Junior work and much helpful assistance will be given along this line by Departmental leaders and the Conference girls themselves. Mrs. Plumtree, of the Board of Education, Toronto; Miss E. L. Moore, of the Provincial Department of Health; Dr. G. I. Christie, President Ontario Agricultural College; Miss Olive Cruikshank, Director of Home Economics, Macdonald Institute; Mr. Geo. A. Putnam, Superintendent of Women's Institutes; Mrs. A. E. Walker, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, and Miss Ethel Chapman will speak to the girls. Miss Cruikshank and Miss Florence P. Eadie of the Institutes Branch will be in charge of the Conference.

A banquet will be held on Friday night.

We trust that the branches who usually send delegates will do so again this year and also that other branches will do so as well. An announcement regarding the Conference was made in the March "Home and Country." If you overlooked this notice at the time of your April meeting, possibly some arrangements may still be made to send a representative from your branch. The name and address of your delegate should be sent to Mr. Geo. A. Putnam, Institutes Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

A detailed program and further information regarding the Conference will be sent to each delegate.