

1,000 Juniors Made Cotton Dresses

Some 200 Clothing Clubs with a membership of 1,000 girls, directed by local leaders, completed the Clothing Project, A Simple Cotton Dress. Local leaders attended a one-day Training School in the early summer where they received assistance in respect to club organization, subject matter, teaching methods and club members' supplies. They were then prepared to direct local clubs, conduct the four or five required meetings and carry on the project as outlined. Twelve-year-old and twenty-six-year-old alike worked a button hole, planned, selected and made a simple cotton dress, and kept a Record Book. Approximately fifty per cent. of the girls had never used a sewing machine, and eighty per cent. had never made a dress.

The girls learned simple tests for cotton material which enabled them to purchase cotton wisely, free from sizing, with a firm weave, labelled guaranteed fast and completely shrunken. By holding different coloured material to their faces, members tried to select their most becoming colours,—those which brought out the lights and enhanced the colour of their hair, eyes and complexion. Many a club member discovered that colours she had previously worn had not been becoming. Fat girls learned how to select slenderizing lines, to avoid large plaids, crosswise lines and unsuitable necklines, while thin girls studied how to select lines which would not emphasize thinness. After the material and patterns were purchased, busy buzzing meetings followed with the cutting, fitting and sewing of the dresses. Busy Bees, Stitching Witches and Rip and Stitch Clubs found their names most appropriate for on hot and sultry days or cool refreshing days, nimble and clumsy fingers stitched and stitched, and ripped and ripped. A member of the Stitching Witches stated only magic could witch so many stitches. A Rip and Stitch member said at the beginning she placed the back of her dress inside out, but from then on it was only an occasional rip. Even the wearisome task of ripping had a certain appeal, for she was making a dress by herself, for herself and wanted to have a good one.

41 County Achievement Days

On the completion of the project the Clubs in a County held a county Achievement Day. Club members exhibited dresses and record books, worked buttonholes, scored dresses, judged a dress parade and gave a team demonstration on Cottons May Be Smart. The standard of exhibits and demonstrations and the wise judging of club members were the most tangible evidence of their learnings and achievement.

One heard the girls' stories of difficulties encountered and overcome,—in the adjusting of patterns, matching and cutting of material, wearing a thimble and, most troublesome of all, the setting in of the sleeves. The girls learned the importance of accurate measurements, careful cutting and basting, correct fitting, proper pressing and neat finishes in making a smart attractive garment. Hundreds of eighty per cent. buttonholes, properly fitted and made garments and interesting record books told the story of the patience, perseverance and industry of the club members.

The girls were justly proud of their dresses, but of greater importance to them was their personal satisfaction and joy in achievement,—in something accomplished, something done, something done better than before.

Intercounty Achievement Days

Some 490 girls exhibited and judged at Intercounty Achievement Days held at Class A and B Exhibitions and Fairs. These special

days gave girls an opportunity to meet and see the work of club members from neighbouring counties, and from thirty counties at the Provincial Achievement Day at the C. N. E.

The Provincial Competition is a gala day for the Ontario farm girls and boys—"East is East and West is West and never the twain shall meet" just isn't true on this day, for Renfrew meets Elgin, Temiskaming Welland and Manitoulin Peterborough. Girls from a distance stayed at a University Women's Residence; others came in bright and early on the morning of the Competition. This annual day is looked forward to year by year by an ever-increasing number of girls in the vicinity of Toronto, and as a coveted event to be enjoyed but once by girls from more remote counties. All contestants for Intercounty Achievement Days had previously completed clothing project, A Simple Cotton Dress, exhibited and judged at a County Achievement Day, and were again required to exhibit a dress and record book, score dresses, judge a parade of models wearing spectator's sport costume, and make a button-hole. At Ottawa and Toronto County teams consisting of three members competed for county honours. At Ottawa with eight counties competing, Lanark County ranked first, while at Toronto with twenty-seven counties, Oxford stood high.

Team Demonstrations

Team Demonstrations on Cottons May Be Smart were given by Club members on County and Intercounty Achievement Days. An amazing amount of clothing information, a direct outcome of club study, was given by these club demonstrators in a most interesting and original manner. Mothers and daughters were portrayed planning economical and suitable summer wardrobes of cotton. Miss Designer appeared to assist with selection of style; Miss Careless was featured with untidy hair, bedroom slippers and a discarded afternoon frock for house work in contrast to Miss Club-member well-groomed and wearing an attractive suitable cotton dress costing \$1.45. Around the clock with cottons showed the possibilities of smart cotton garments for every occasion. Wearing qualities, construction and attractiveness of club dresses were compared with advantage to ready-made dresses at two and three times the cost.

Commendable Work of Leaders

The 1000 club members and 200 local leaders are deserving of the greatest commendation for their work and achievement through the Clothing Project, A Simple Cotton Dress. Girls who had never sewn

before made a good beginning, and those who had, showed progress in respect to past accomplishments. They one and all gained a greater appreciation of the importance of selection of material and style as well as construction, of care and repair of clothing, and of garments carefully adjusted on a well-groomed wearer, if one is to be well dressed.

280 Clubs Start New Work

The buzz, hum and good news regarding opportunities available through Junior Project studies has spread so that more clubs with an increased membership have already been reported in practically all counties for Fall projects. Two-day Local Leader Training Schools have been held in 49 districts and counties for Fall and Winter projects in clothing, Being Well Dressed and Well Groomed, and in food, Dressing Up Home Grown Vegetables and The Supper Club. These projects will be led by local leaders and will require from four to six meetings.

Some of the girls who made their first dress this summer are especially desirous of studying clothing and are undertaking the Clothing Project, Being Well Dressed and Well Groomed. They will further consider selection of clothes, personal grooming, care of clothing, and will make a slip and scarf or collar and cuff set.

In the project, Dressing Up Home Grown Vegetables, the girls consider who need vegetables, where to get them, how to choose them, where to use them, and variety in the vegetable menu.

The importance of carefully selected and prepared foods for the active popular girl who would be well, strong and happy is stressed throughout The Supper Club project. At the conclusion of the project, The Supper Club members will be prepared to answer that oft-repeated question, "What shall we have for supper?" in a practical way, for they will know how to plan, prepare and serve healthful, appetizing and attractive suppers.

1935-36 Programme Continues to September, 1936

The Fall Projects now under way will in most cases be completed during March, 1936. Counties undertaking a Spring Project will hold a Leaders' Training School for Spring Project in Clothing or Nutrition. At the completion of this project a county achievement day will be held in each county for both Fall and Spring Projects. Club members will exhibit work and record books, demonstrate and take part in program according to the projects they have completed.

Intercounty Achievement Days at Central Exhibition, Ottawa, Peterborough Industrial Fair, Canadian National Exhibition, Toronto, and Western Fair, London, will be for Club members who have completed one or two of the projects.

WINTER SHORT COURSES TO BE HELD IN FORTY-FOUR COMMUNITIES

Institutes Branch Responsible For Homemaking Instruction.

The Women's Institutes Branch in co-operation with the Agricultural Representatives Branch is conducting seven Three Months and thirty-seven One Month Courses in Home Economics throughout the Province during December, January and February. By the end of February courses will have been completed in:—Port Elgin, North Gower, Honeywood, Winchester, Hampton, Belle River, Verona, Maxville, Bognor, Elmwood, Dunnville, Palermo, Cooper, Hensall, Port Lambton, McDonald's Corners, Toledo, Stella, Beamsville, Mindemoya, Lambeth, Ilderton, Courtland, Brighton, Gagebridge, Verschoyle, Streetsville, Alton, Millgrove, Warsaw, Glasgow Station, Colgan, Coldwater, Sunnidale Corners, Collingwood, Bobcaygeon, Winterbourne, Wainfleet, Aberfoyle, Milverton, Stouffville, Prescott and Russell, Rainy River and Thunder Bay.

The majority of the girls registered for the Courses are from sixteen to twenty-five years of age. They study and work under the direction of two especially qualified teachers.

The One Month Courses include a study of Foods and Cookery, Laundry and Household Management, Clothing or Health Education and Home Care of the Sick. In the Three Months Courses a more extensive study of above topics is undertaken, and includes both Clothing, Health Education and Home Care of the Sick, as well as House Furnishing and Household Accessories. Joint classes of boys and girls are held for special lectures in poultry, gardening, horticulture, home beautification and for literatures.

Throughout the Courses opportunities are afforded members to develop skills and techniques, increase knowledge, acquire standards, ideals, attitudes and appreciations and to express these new learnings in the class, home and daily activities. Since an extensive curriculum is impossible for the Short Course term, special attention and leadership is given to developing and assisting girls in acquiring ability to direct continued learning.

National Committees Point Out Highlights of Work.

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tribute health pamphlets in co-operation with governmental health services. Study legislation in relation to public health matters.

Peace and International Relations

Mrs. T. A. Cohoe, Pilot Mound, Man. (past convener, still in charge of W. I. part in international peace garden).

Mrs. R. B. Colloton, Lorne Park, Ont. (present convener).

Talk peace, think peace, will peace. "A viewless stream of common will can move mountains".

Home Economics

Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, Edmonton, Alta. (past convener).

Miss Esther Thompson, Winnipeg, Man. (Supt. Manitoba W. I.'s) present convener.

Examine the possibilities of extending information on home economics through correspondence courses, local leaders and short courses.

Publicity

Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey Price, Vancouver, B.C. (re-appointed publicity secretary).

See that a report of your meeting gets to your local paper.

Gather up historical data concerning your branch.

Get a good photograph taken of any pictorial accomplishment.

(Contributed by Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey Price).

Club Members at County Achievement Day



Here are Lennox and Addington girls wearing Club dresses on County Achievement Day. 25 Club members representing 5 clubs exhibited and judged on County Achievement Day in August at Nanapanee.