

1936 Standing Committee Conveners Appointed by Provincial Board

Education—Mrs. J. M. Abbott, Erin, is the president of her local branch, and also Convener of Education for Central Ontario Convention.

Health and Child Welfare—Mrs. A. D. Whidden, Devlin, has adopted Canada as her home, and understands the needs of health work.

Agriculture and Canadian Industries—Mrs. W. W. Reddin, Tamworth, has convened the work in Canadian Industries in her own convention area. She is alert and business-like.

Home Economics—Mrs. J. K. Kelly, Almonte, is a former valued member of the provincial board and the present president of her convention area.

Canadianization—Mrs. C. P. Craven, M.B.E., New Liskeard, received recognition from His Majesty for her service for community betterment. She has been a local officer for years.

Community Activities and Relief—

Mrs. E. N. Hewitt, R.R. 1, Hawkestone, is an efficient district officer and has a good understanding of philanthropic work and the promotion of community enterprises.

Historical Research and Current Events—Miss E. Appelbe, Georgetown, is a member of a pioneer family of Halton County. She knows how to obtain authoritative information concerning early Ontario.

Legislation and Resolutions—Mrs. R. B. Colloton, Lorne Park, immediate past president of the provincial board, brings a clear logical mind, efficiency and the ability to work to this committee.

Peace Education and International Relationships—Mrs. J. E. Houck, Chippewa, is a former efficient member of the provincial board. She is an outstanding leader in her own community and brings a well-trained mind to this committee.

PROVINCIAL BOARD CLARIFIED MANY PROBLEMS AT ANNUAL MEETING

The annual meeting of the provincial board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario was held on November 21st and 22nd at Toronto. The sessions were presided over by Mrs. R. B. Colloton. All the members of the board were present with the exception of Mrs. A. George, who was absent on account of the death of her husband. Mrs. J. W. Lewis acted as alternate for Mrs. George.

Representatives from the Institutes appointed to advise with the Royal Winter Fair, Social Hygiene Council, Red Cross Society, Girl Guide Association, Travelling Libraries, Adult Education Section of the Ontario Educational Association and Ontario Temperance Association, reported.

The chairman emphasized that branches should remit the Federation fees to the district secretary by February 1, as members entering later do not pay for the current year. The district secretary should forward these fees to the provincial secretary immediately after the district annual, as September 30th closes the fiscal year of the Federation.

The president in her address emphasized the importance of the presiding officers using good procedure in conducting meetings, recommended that all district annuals should have both morning and afternoon sessions, explained the need of the observance of non-sectarianism and non-partisan rulings, urged proper reporting as not more than one-tenth of the activities are now reported, stressed the advisability of having the president's signature on all cheques in addition to that of secretary, discouraged the use of the Institute as an advertising agency, advised that board members should always attend district annuals in their sub-division and not to wait upon an invitation, and stated that miscellaneous requests for relief should not be considered by Institutes until the cases were investigated by the Department.

The discussion showed that the new committee of Peace Education and International Relationships is already carrying on good programmes in many districts. Mrs. J. E. Houck, provincial convener, advised Institutes to keep a scrap book on World Peace.

Receipts for the Putnam Fund used to help northern Institutes were reported as \$126.85 for the year. Expenditures amounted to \$108.61.

The committee on song sheets recommended that the music for the songs selected should all be found in one book. The committee was empowered to select songs for the sheet and complete the work.

Resolutions were considered, the most important of which are listed elsewhere in this issue.

The officers for the ensuing year are also reported on page 2 of this issue.

MRS. McDOWELL ELECTED PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT OF ONTARIO INSTITUTES

The newly elected provincial president, Mrs. T. J. McDowell of Milverton, Perth County, has been associated with Women's Institutes for many years. She was an ardent worker as a member without office. She has been president of her branch and for the past three years president of the district of North Perth.

Previous to Mrs. McDowell's new appointment she was for two years provincial director for the sub-division of Bruce County, East and West Huron, North Wellington and North Perth. She has also been associated with the convention of her district. The new president has had wide administrative experience in Women's Institute work and has a fine appreciation of rural life.

Interested in educational projects Mrs. McDowell has been active in Perth County Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association and in community library service, having served as secretary-treasurer of the Milverton Library Board since 1921. Her interest also extended to the Agricultural Society of her community and for several years she has assisted as a director.

The wide vision of the Women's Institutes as an organization, the verve, courage and ability of rural women at all times have strongly appealed to the energies of the new provincial president.

Mrs. McDowell is a very kindly, generous person. As soon as one becomes acquainted with her, one understands why her five attractive children have made successful beginnings in their own careers.

INSTITUTE CONVENTIONS WELL ATTENDED THIS AUTUMN

The thirteen Women's Institute Conventions held in Ontario this fall were attended by over 4,000 women. Members from the most isolated districts of new Ontario, as well as those from the thickly settled townships of old Ontario, had the opportunity of contact with the meetings of these conventions. Only a small minority of the 1,371 Institutes failed to send a delegate to the convention in their areas.

The Cochrane-Temiskaming Manitoulin and Algoma and St. Joseph Island convention areas are pressing for the restoration of the public health nursing service directed by the Provincial Public Health Department. The Institutes in these areas are making every endeavour to better Health Service. The Manitoulin area is happy about the hospital, which is now established on a good basis and the whole island is grateful for the support of the Women's Institute Branches. St. Joseph's Island finances dental and health clinics for the inhabitants of the Island. The Institutes of the Cochrane, Temiskaming area mother many newly settled families in their district.

A great interest was shown in the development of home gardens at the convention of the Kenora-Rainy River-Thunder Bay area. If the Institutes of old Ontario can send bulbs, shrubs, and other roots, they will be greatly appreciated in the north. Names of Institutes in this area will be given to any inquiring Institute from old Ontario. One branch at this convention reported that it planned its yearly programme by making one of the Standing Committees function as a focal point and integrating with it the work of other committees. They made and used a scrap book on their core subject of study and action.

The Muskoka and Parry Sound area take a keen interest in underprivileged children.

The London, Hamilton and Toronto conventions were very largely attended this year. Special emphasis was placed on Historical Research, Agricultural problems and the educational programme in Home Economics. All these conventions were distinguished by a sparkle and vitality not always felt in a convention. Care of Health and encouragement of the Committee on Peace Education and International Relationships were two important features of the Ottawa convention.

The Barrie, Kingston, Belleville and Goderich convention functioned as clearing-houses for the promotion of better organization and programmes.

The conventions of old Ontario allotted time for the presentation of the work and accomplishments of the Juniors.

PRACTICAL RESOLUTIONS ENDORSED BY ONTARIO CONVENTIONS

Resolutions passed by the Women's Institute Conventions held in Ontario in 1935 were examined by the Provincial Board Meeting held in November, in order that they might receive the endorsement of the whole membership rather than represent sectional opinion only. Unfortunately, the resolutions of some of the Convention Areas were not sent to the Provincial Board.

The outstanding resolution to be presented to the Dominion Government is:

"That the F. W. I. O. urge the adoption of a system of marking and labelling articles for the retail trade in a manner that the consumer may know by the label the exact quality of the article; And we endorse the Price Spreads Commission's suggestion that the work of definition, labelling, and the establishment of consumer standards of quality might begin with the following:—Textiles, especially wool and silk mixtures, and the mixtures of these two with other fibres; clothing, with particular reference to quality of cloth; meat and dairy products; fish and fish products, especially filets; petroleum products, especially fuel oil and gasoline; lubricating oil; paints, varnishes and enamels; electrical appliances and light bulbs; soaps, cleansers and cleaning fluids; silver plated ware to indicate thickness and quality of plating and chromium plated ware; leather goods and footwear; flour and bread."

Some of the important resolutions to be presented to the Government of Ontario are:

"That the Public Health Nursing Service be restored and further organized.

"Whereas the Women's Institutes of South Bruce are greatly concerned about the increasing ravages of tuberculosis in their district: Be it resolved that a health education programme in the prevention of tuberculosis would be most acceptable in that district.

"That the Department of Public Health prepare, in pamphlet form, five minute talks on various health subjects that would be useful in the Women's Institute local meetings.

"Whereas the boys of rural Ontario have the advantage of an Agricultural Representative at all times to advise and assist them, and the girls have at best a very restricted period during which they can receive help with their work: Be it resolved that the F. W. I. O. request that earnest consideration be given this matter and that, if at all possible, a qualified woman supervisor, a graduate of a recognized School of Home Economics, be appointed for each district of four or five counties.

"Whereas the book 'Laws Relating to Women and Children', compiled by the late Mr. Alan Dymond, is now unobtainable, and, in any event, needs revising, we the F. W. I. O. hereby request that the Ontario Government make a similar appropriation to cover the compiling and publishing of another, such book to be sold at a similar price."

The resolution to be presented to the F. W. I. C. for their endorsement is: "That the duty on whiskey be raised and that on sugar be lowered."

A resolution was passed to be presented to the Boards of the Royal Winter Fair and the Canadian Nat'l Exhibition.

"Whereas the Women's Institutes of Ontario represent 42,000 women of rural Ontario; And whereas this is the only organized body of women so widely representing farm and home life in rural Ontario: Be it resolved that we the F. W. I. O. express to the Boards of the Royal Winter Fair and the Canadian Nat'l Exhibition appreciation of past courtesies: And be it further resolved that we respectively suggest that provision be made for the inclusion of a representative from this organization on the Boards of the Winter Fair and the Canadian Nat'l Exhibition."

The Members of the Provincial Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, 1935-1936



TOP ROW, reading from left to right: Mrs. W. H. Demaine, Mrs. J. H. Carscallen, Mrs. W. Swanton, Mrs. A. L. McNeill, Mrs. D. O. Garver, Miss Bessie Ross, Mrs. J. W. Lewis, Mrs. G. Campbell.

SECOND ROW: Mrs. G. B. Lawrence, Mrs. J. McAuley, Mrs. H. M. Lee, Mrs. Harry Murphy, Mrs. A. B. Samells, Miss Sadie Russell, Mrs. J. Youngson, Mrs. Lloyd Wilson, Mrs. J. Allard.

BOTTOM ROW: Mrs. T. J. Newman, Mrs. J. E. Miller, Mrs. A. E. Walker, Mrs. J. T. McDowell, Honourable Duncan Marshall, Minister of Agriculture, Mrs. R. B. Colloton, Miss B. McDermand, Superintendent, Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, Mrs. F. W. Bresse.