

Three Month Schools Glimpsed in Seven Counties

(Continued from Page 1)

not been restricted to performance of household duties but included as well such topics as the function of the home, the homemaker, and house-keeping versus homemaking.

Special Diets

Snow was drifting and making roads even more impassable outside, but all was cosy in the girls' classroom at Dunnville, Haldimand County, as a small group of girls prepared and served an anti-constipation meal from the food on hand. From the tomato juice to the hot gingerbread dessert, it was an appetizing and healthful meal. Surely if vegetables were cooked so that flavour, texture and colour were retained, and served as attractively as these vegetables, every person would eat her two vegetables besides potatoes daily. As one noted the efficient way in which the girls carried on their work, followed proper work procedures, washed their hands before handling food, and kept their work centre neat and tidy, one felt a real desire to follow these girls next month and next year as they do their work in their own homes.

In the afternoon more members had succeeded in ploughing their way through the snow and soon all were busy preparing lineoleum blocks for block printing. Geometrical designs were carved and chiselled out with great patience and perseverance. When an accident occurred and someone cut her finger, another girl rendered first aid, treating and bandaging the cut with the skill of a trained nurse. Their first aid work in their health education and home care of the sick classes had apparently been of a very practical nature.

A Home-like Class Room

The Port Elgin, Bruce County, girls appeared to be particularly interested in the hows and whys of home duties, developing and maintaining health, individual problems of colour and design, better English and getting along with people. Good house-management practices were evidenced in the care and arrangement of equipment, supplies, cloak, wash and class rooms.

Housekeepers were responsible for definite daily and weekly duties and took the greatest satisfaction in being thorough and making their rooms tidy and attractive. Not only were the rooms tidied, tea kettle and reservoir filled, stove, sink and wash basin cleaned, blackboard washed and supply cupboards and library carefully arranged, but room temperature, ventilation and humidity were checked and regulated during class hours.

In their health education classes they were interested in health habits in general, and in posture and constipation in particular. And how they enjoyed thinking and discussing such problems as the health habits of the six months old child, child of five, and housekeeper of 25. Many questions on family relationships came up in class discussions and there was much weighing of values as the girls tried to gain a better understanding and appreciation of essentials and fundamentals in homemaking.

Test and Standardize Practices

In their food classes the Palermo, Halton County, girls asked questions, experimented in class and at home in their desire to know the how and why. They then readily adopted the best method as proved conclusively by facts and results. As they found that tomato soup could be made without soda and that tea biscuits improved by kneading, they proceeded to use these practices in their homes. Special supper dishes were made at home after class demonstrations and over week-ends. Simple meals were planned, prepared and served.

They worked out a special exhibit with charts and pictures showing results of deficiency diets and then portrayed with food adequate diets. Their food selection scores improved as they were convinced of the wisdom of drinking more milk and water, and eating more vegetables if they were to build and enjoy health.

Even the boys at Palermo spent a little time considering selection of suitable clothing, grooming and care of clothes. Not only were they interested in what to wear but also in what to do—so when it came to their tea and banquet they did the right thing with ease and assurance in an altogether delightful manner.

Closing Exercises

The three months passed and closing exercises were held at the seven Three-Month Schools. Over drifting roads we travelled to Winterbourne closing luncheon. As we entered the class room members greeted us and made us comfortable, while others were busy here and there, each at his or her particular task. Together they had decorated the hall, planned and prepared for the luncheon and were ready to serve it and contribute to the programme. The class president acted as toastmaster and the boys and girls proposed or responded to toasts to Agriculture, Waterloo County and to their respective classes, in a most commendable manner. Their speeches were not casual remarks repeating what some one else had thought, but were statements of their own thoughts and views on their particular topics, delivered by them after careful preparation, with poise and sincerity. Their class choruses showed not only the results of good training but also how they really enjoyed singing.

As we looked at those boys and girls with their youth, health and boundless energy and felt something of their desire and earnestness to be better farmers and homemakers, and to make an intelligent contribution to the agriculture and home life of their county, we were thrilled with their possibilities and power to do just these things. And if the boys and girls enrolled at the other Three-Month Schools have the same vision, ability and willingness to work, what a contribution these 458 young people will make to the farm, home and community life in Ontario. (Contributed by Florence P. Eadie.)

TRIP TO WASHINGTON DELIGHTFUL DRIVE IN JUNE

Many Women's Institute members are planning on motoring to Washington to attend the Triennial Conference of A.C.W.W. Washington is 523 miles from Toronto on one of the best recommended routes which take the motorist through St. Catharines, Buffalo, Batavia, N.Y., Painted Post, N.Y., Williamsport, Pa., Harrisburg, Gettysburg, Rockville and Washington, D.C. A more detailed plan of this route will be sent to any inquiring members together with a list of recommended hotels. The trip can be easily made in 2½ days.

Many will wish to return by Ithaca as the delegates are invited to stop off at Cornell University. This will lengthen the journey to 549 miles. The route is very much the same as the first route mentioned, the exception being to leave Batavia for Geneva, Ithaca and Elmira, rather than via Painted Post to Harrisburg.

The Women's Institute Office, Department of Agriculture, would appreciate a note from all members intending to go to Washington for the conference of the A.C.W.W. in order that an estimate may be made of the proposed attendance from Ontario.

MARY WRIGHT DISCUSSES ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH DONALD

Spring vacation gave Donald a few days to spend at home before the ordeal of final examinations at O.A.C. and he didn't let many minutes elapse before he was off to see his Aunt Mary Wright. However, his enthusiasm was somewhat dampened when he found her chatting with Mrs. Smithers who lived two farms away. He wasn't quite able to disguise his surprise, but withdrew with good grace to the reading table at the end of the room. Even with his newly acquired habits of concentration snatches of conversation bounced in upon his perusal of the current magazines.

At last, after her fifth intimation that she must go, Mrs. Smithers finally put on her wraps and left. Donald hardly waited until the door was shut to challenge his Aunt Mary.

"What did I hear you say to Mrs. Smithers? Honest, Aunt Mary, you are no more dependable than my girl friend and she is the limit. I guess all women are alike. The last time I was here you told me in great earnestness that you wanted to be secretary-treasurer of this Institute branch next year, and today I heard you telling Mrs. Smithers that the one thing you would hate to be was the secretary of this Institute. Now, Aunt Mary, just what am I to believe?"

"Well," replied Mary with a flicker of a smile, "you know Mabel Smithers has never forgiven me for getting this school 25 years ago."

"I don't see what that has to do with what I heard you tell her about the secretaryship," interjected Donald.

"Don't worry your handsome head about that. Just wait and see. In the meantime I want to know what you have been doing these last three months."

A New Club

"I have been working hard, and doing a little snow-shoeing and skiing. But, Aunt Mary, you would be interested in our new club. You know we are leaving the Freshman's Civic Club to next year's raw recruits and we are organizing a new club. I have been on the Constitution Committee, but I have been working more on the by-laws. All the ways there are of doing things! Only some ways are better form than others."

"What authority on Parliamentary Law are you using?" questioned Mary Wright.

"We are using Bourinot," answered Donald. "He is the accepted authority in Canada."

"Yes, I know," said Mary. "Some-day I am going to know more than I do now. Let's study it together, Donald, when you are home this summer."

"The one thing I know is how to conduct election of officers," confided Donald. "Large organizations usually set up the approved methods and allow the branch organization to decide which one it will use. The branch is under obligation to make this choice and then abide by it."

"What are the approved methods of nominating candidates?" asked Mary Wright.

"A nominating committee is sometimes used. The members of such a committee should be elected rather than appointed by a president, or an executive. They might represent various sections of an organization. This committee should meet and the candidates they propose must consent to allow their names to be considered. The nominating committee may present one or two names for an office. When two names are offered an election is assured. Some people think this is more democratic. However, even when a nominating committee is used, members should always have the right to make nominations from the floor."

(Continued Page 4, Column 4)

PRACTICAL PROGRAMME SUGGESTED BY CONVENER OF AGRICULTURE

Mrs. W. W. Redden, of Tamworth, Provincial Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries, makes the following recommendations:

1. Find out the kind of manufacturing being carried on within the local district and become acquainted with the processes being carried on in the factories. Study particularly those industries which are related to agriculture—leather, dairy, wood and wood pulp products, wheat cereals and furs.

2. Watch the labels on manufactured goods being sold to you and check as to whether they accurately specify the commodities they describe. Keep a record of labelling that is misleading to the consumer and send such definite information to your convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries.

3. Establish better continuity of work between the conveners of district convention areas and province. Each convener should compile a small library of carefully indexed bulletins and correspondence of outstanding interest and pass it on to her successor.

4. Co-operate with the county Agricultural Representative in developing an agricultural programme. Plan to have such topics as marketing of agricultural products, vegetable gardening, flower gardening, history of various breeds of live stock, explanations of various specialized types of farming, control of insects, reforestation, etc., on the Institute programme when they are most useful. Plan an activity programme in conjunction with a paper, i.e., if reforestation is being studied and discussed, follow it with actual planting of trees, and make this possible by using the Institute to help in securing young trees.

5. Encourage the beautification of farm homes by setting aside a day for planting trees and shrubs around farm and public buildings, or arrange a perennial root and shrub exchange when Institute members may dispose of their surplus and obtain new plants and varieties.

6. Promote interest in keeping a record of farm business. Have a qualified person instruct the Institute members how cost accounts should be kept. Secure the farm account book issued by the Dominion Department of Agriculture, Ottawa. It is very helpful.

7. Encourage each member of the Institute to grow a new vegetable they have never grown before and set up an exhibit of these at the August or September meeting.

KITCHEN ENSEMBLES WILL BE REVIEWED AT BRANTFORD

On April 7, in the Y.M.C.A. at Brantford, 22 Institute branches of north and south Brant will hold their first Summary Meeting to celebrate the completion of their work on the Kitchen Ensemble.

The morning session will begin at 10.00 a.m. Each branch will have an exhibit of the work they have accomplished and the attendants will be expected to judge four ensembles selected from the exhibit. Miss Edith Collins of the Women's Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture will direct this part of the programme.

At the luncheon hour, four local leaders will give short addresses dealing with some phase of their experience as leaders.

The afternoon session, under the chairmanship of Mrs. Lloyd Wilson, Scotland, will present skits, demonstrations and addresses. Dr. Walter Thompson, Executive Secretary of the Canadian Dental Hygiene Council, will give a talk on the proposed programme in dental hygiene in southern Ontario.