

News Flashes From the Branches

Gilford, Simcoe Co.—Had an address on the League of Nations which resulted in a convener being appointed to secure literature and present timely items at each regular meeting.

Stroud, Simcoe Co.—Heard an address on "Cancer" by Dr. Cunningham, Provincial Director of Industrial Hygiene.

Forest, Rainy River District.—Had a demonstration on the washing of wool, which was followed by a discussion on "Pets and their relation to children's health". This young branch spent one meeting remodelling and mending clothing for the needy in the community.

Altona, Ontario Co.—Held a "Community Night Concert" with local talent providing instrumental and vocal solos, duets and quartettes and a short play.

LADY TWEEDSMUIR ATTENDS BRANCH MEETING

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"that we must face the danger of power and not go off at a tangent. For instance, if all the W.I. members should write to members of parliament, sponsoring a certain piece of legislation, the public opinion of such would very likely cause the enactment of it—as the "Caged Bird Act" in England, which the Women's Institutes there were determined to have passed.

I think, too, that there is a tendency to over organization. Members write tremendous letters on constitutional points such as "rule so and so", and it has the effect of frightening off many capable women who might take office.

I do not think members should hold the presidency too long, although I was president of branch Elsfeld—five miles from Oxford—for 15 continuous years. If they like you—and that does sound conceited—they don't seem to want to let you go.

In commenting on the Canadian meeting she stated that she liked the practical phase of the branch activities—the wool discussion and the making of handicrafts. "In this connection the Women's Institutes of England sponsor a very fine annual exhibition of members' work." "The Women's Institutes have made a marvellous change in the life of rural women of England," she continued. "Having few modern conveniences they have had to work so unnecessarily hard. The handicraft work has given them a new interest and so fine are some of their specimens that it is almost unbelievable. 'Don't tell me this work is done by country women,' said one spectator, 'for I shouldn't believe you'."

She told of the work of her own branch of 36 members. "I cannot help but compare this comfortable meeting place to ours, which is a 14th century barn with a stone floor and the stove away in the corner. Our programme is like yours—the business, then a speaker or play and the social hour.

Our branch is small in numbers, but I like that, as there are not apt to be jealousies and cliques and it is friendlier when we all draw up to the fire for our tea.

I am a countrywoman and I am always happy to be with them. It is so good to get to a Women's Institute meeting again and I am particularly pleased to meet some of the Canadian pioneer workers here today," she concluded.

After the meeting tea was served. The tea table, decorated with the Institute colours, gold and blue and spring flowers, was presided over by the hostess, Mrs. J. E. Caldwell. Those having tea with Her Excellency included the president, Mrs. Lelana Mansfield, who had ably conducted the meeting, Mrs. Bradley, a former district secretary, and the pioneer national officers. Each branch officer was called "to have a special word" and all members were presented. (Contributed by Mrs. J. F. Price.)

Hagersville, Haldimand Co.—Held a reception for the school teachers at which the pupils furnished a part of the programme. The topic of the day was "Musical Appreciation."

Jasper, Brockville District.—Featured addresses on the storage of vegetables and care of perennial and house plants at their "agricultural meeting."

Dwight Juniors, Muskoka District.—Took keen interest in the clothing short course on the "Use of the Commercial Pattern" and are looking forward to studying clothing with the guidance of a local leader next year.

Comber, Essex Co.—Has established a practice of having the children of the community furnish entertainment at the Institute meetings in the form of music, tap dancing, etc.

Kenora, Kenora District.—Has the programme for this year arranged so that a different nationality will be responsible for each monthly meeting. New members and new speakers have been introduced. Demonstrations, displays of foods, crafts, and art have been given.

Sims Locks, Haldimand Co.—Held travelling euchre parties and with the proceeds paid \$35.00 for glasses for a child almost blind; made a contribution to the Jubilee Cancer Fund and purchased a library for the use of the members.

Canfield, Haldimand Co.—Has arranged to take the local leadership work on refinishing of furniture, and has also appointed a leader to attend the training school and take charge of work with the girls.

Jarvis, Haldimand Co.—Gave three pints of milk daily to a family in the community for a period of two months.

Camboro, Haldimand Co.—Has furnished mouth organs to school children for a children's band, and purchased furniture for their town hall.

Buttonville, York Co.—Held a historical meeting when four members presented the history of four townships under the headings, "Settlers and Business Methods," "Municipal History," "Schools," and "Churches." A historic fact was given in response to the roll call, and relics were displayed.

Pefferlaw, York Co.—Supplied the Community Hall with needed equipment. A monthly roll call provided a supply of coat hangers, each member responding by giving one hanger.

Pine Orchard, York Co.—Became actively interested in the New Canadian following the "Canadianization" meeting and visited the homes of some New Canadians. A better understanding was established between the adopted and the native born citizens in the community.

Mount Albert, York Co.—Held a "Young Mothers" meeting. Health posters by school pupils were displayed. A baby contest was featured. An address was given on "The Mother, What She Owes to Herself."

Dickinson's Landing, Stormont Co.—Has utilized the services of a nurse who addressed their meetings on prenatal care and related subjects.

Kleinburg, York Co.—Studied the "Canadian Apple Industry" at one meeting.

Fordwich, Huron Co.—Held a "Horticulture" meeting at the home of a member who is an enthusiast in horticulture. Baskets of tea roses from the home garden, and named varieties of gladioli decorated the tables. The roll call answered by each member naming a plant she would like to have in her garden, was followed by a talk on "Our Birds—Harbingers and Scavengers." A special exhibition size hyacinth bulb provided an award to the successful contestant in a contest naming leaves of shrubs from the garden.

Mt. Healey, Haldimand Co.—Performed a dual service by engaging an unemployed man to clean the local cemetery.

Lyn, Brockville District.—Encouraged the girls in their clothing program. A scholarship valued at \$100.00 for highest standing in the county was donated by an interested citizen, and the fortunate winner of this award is now taking the Home Economics Course at Kemptville Agricultural College.

Lansdowne, Brockville District.—Has promoted diphtheria prevention work which resulted in the school children of Leeds and Lansdowne receiving toxoid treatment.

Roseland, Essex Co.—Assists Girl Guides and Brownies, Boy Scouts and Cubs, by allowing them the use of the Institute Hall free of charge. The club members are responsible for fuel and any breakage which might occur.

Lynnville, Norfolk Co.—Keeps "First Aid" kits in eight schools replenished, and is now considering toxoid clinics for the schools.

Simcoe, Norfolk Co.—Has exchanged meetings with the Home and School Club and thereby has been able to establish better co-operative activities in the community.

Villa Nova, Norfolk Co.—Has a library committee which has been successful in establishing an excellent community library. A dramatic club has been formed in connection with the library and has produced a play each winter. The proceeds have been used to extend the library.

Waterford, Norfolk Co.—Used a part of the programme of one of the monthly meetings for impromptu speeches. The subjects were "Travel," "Publicity" and "Politics."

Atwood, Rainy River District.—Writes "We hope very much to have local leader work, as we find that a short course crowds the work in so short a time that we do not get the real benefit from it."

Beaver, Rainy River District.—Had a paper on "My Impressions of the Opening of Provincial Legislature," given by one of the members of the branch.

Cookstown, Simcoe Co.—Has at last secured the appointment of their local doctor as medical inspector for the school. This school is in a village touching four townships and has not previously had this service. A diphtheria prevention clinic is being organized, the branch financing one-half the cost of medical examinations and providing two nurses to assist with the toxoiding.

Lash, Rainy River.—Had a demonstration on correct table setting.

Mount Elgin, Oxford Co.—Devoted one meeting to papers and discussions on some of the recently published books.

Burgessville, Oxford Co.—Had a discussion on the value of reading magazines and newspapers and compared such reading habits with the value of reading books.

Norwich, Oxford Co.—Reviewed the life and work of His Excellency The Lord Tweedsmuir, Governor-General of Canada.

Vars, Russell Co.—Held an Annual Memorial Service in the village park in which a monument to the memory of the soldiers of the World War is located. This Institute assists generously in the upkeep of the park.

Navan, Russell Co.—Has included in its programme this year a roll call naming supplies for medicine chest, an illustrated address on "Dentistry" by a special oral doctor, demonstrations in first aid, bandaging knee, ankle and finger by an R. N., and a demonstration and talk on artificial respiration by a local teacher.

Kincardine, Bruce Co.—Has developed interest in Historical Research by having one member give special talks on "Pioneer Days." This same member is also responsible for editing a column "Pioneer Days" for the local newspaper.

Talbotville, Paynes Mills, Elgin Co.—Featured a paper on "Wax Pluck-

ing of Poultry" at the November meeting.

Cobden, Renfrew Co.—Celebrated their 25th Anniversary in January. The first president presided and six charter members were present. At the December meeting the roll call was a gift shower for needy families in Renfrew.

Westbrook, Frontenac Co.—Had a roll call when each member responded by donating a teaspoon to the community hall.

COUNTRY WOMEN WILL MEET IN WASHINGTON

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carried on by the Home Demonstration Clubs in the various states.

The Triennial Conference will open informally with a vesper service at the Washington Cathedral on Sunday, May 31, and will be followed by a tea. The formal opening of the conference will be at high noon Monday, June 1, at which time Mrs. F. D. Roosevelt will address the conference. There will be greetings from Lady Aberdeen of Scotland, at whose suggestion the first international meeting of this organization was held in 1929. Responses will be given by Mrs. M. R. Watt, president of the A.C.W.W., and by selected delegates from various nations. Later in the afternoon the President and Mrs. Roosevelt will receive the delegates at a garden party at the White House.

Among subjects of interest scheduled for discussion at the conference by delegates are included: "Safer Motherhood," "How Rural Women are Meeting Their Economic Problems," "Cultural Interests of Rural Homemakers," and "International Relations as They Effect the Rural Home."

Various other items of interest will feature the stay of the delegates in Washington. There will be programmes of music and folk dancing, at which many of the women from overseas will wear their traditional national costume; while the women from English speaking countries will wear period costumes.

Following the conference the delegates will enjoy a sight-seeing tour in the States and will arrive at Niagara Falls, Canada, June 16, where they will be given a cordial welcome by representatives of the National and Ontario Institutes and notables of our country. (Contributed by Mrs. T. J. MacDowell.)

MARY WRIGHT DISCUSSES ANNUAL MEETINGS WITH DONALD

(Continued from Page 3, Col. 3)

"If we were to decide to use a nominating committee we should have it so stated in our by-laws, I suppose," observed Mary.

"Yes, that's right," smiled Donald.

"Where there is never trouble getting candidates to stand, nominations may be made from the floor. Half the time you hear nominations being seconded. We should remember that nominations aren't main motions."

"Isn't there some way of using a ballot to nominate?" asked Mary.

"Yes, that is called nominating by the informal ballot. A list of candidates is secured in that way and then an election follows as usual."

"After the candidates are secured different methods of taking the vote may be used," said Mary. "Sometimes we use the ballot, other times just a showing of hands."

"Well, to my mind," replied Donald, "the vote in electing officers should be taken by ballot."

"I suppose the method of voting should also be definitely stated in our by-laws. This means that I should study the hand book. We have a revised edition being issued in April. If I am elected secretary I shall have one, Donald, and if you are a good boy and don't ask me any more embarrassing questions I may let you see it."