

HOME and COUNTRY

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Institute Conventions Give Attention To Peace Education

The discussions at the thirteen Women's Institute conventions held in Ontario clearly demonstrated that more and more the need of peace and an understanding of international problems is taking the attention of Institute members throughout Ontario.

The reports of the conveners of the standing committees on Peace Education and International Relationships show that vague desires for peace are giving away to the study of what peace means and the price that must be paid for its achievement. A large portion of the Institute branches are carrying on such study programmes at their regular meetings and in many instances have

aroused the intelligent interest of the community. The leadership developed in this programme has brought to notice outstanding abilities of many of the conveners.

Mrs. J. E. Houck, who, as provincial convener of the Peace Committee, has ably guided its programme, advised the Toronto Convention: "Take a more serious interest in civics. You can't serve your home and community well unless you take an interest in world affairs. The fact that we women of Canada are in a comparatively secure position does not mean that we as citizens should sit back and let things of which we can't approve go on without our protest".

THIRTY-FIVE ONE MONTH SCHOOLS IN HOME ECONOMICS SCHEDULED

One Month Schools will be held in thirty-five communities during the winter months. The courses will be conducted in a similar way to the Three Months Schools. An instructor in home economics will be in charge of the girls' school and will be assisted by an instructor in clothing or health education and home care of the sick. Necessarily the curriculum will be less extensive than that of the three months schools, but every endeavour will be made to meet the needs of the girls living in the community in which the course is given.

Learning to Live

Some time will be spent on helping the girls to acquire skills in the field of cookery and knowledge sufficient to make wise selection of food possible. They will have the opportunity of working out problems of household management themselves and will be able to check on their judgment by class discussions.

They will learn the secrets of being well dressed on a small income and will actually make some articles of clothing. More important still they will have practice in planning their wardrobe and learning how to select durable and appropriate garment materials.

In the study of health the girls will investigate the most up to date advice on desirable daily health habits and how to protect themselves against disease.

Class room discussions and exercises will be planned to help each girl develop her own judgment in order to meet the problems of homemaking intelligently and with satisfaction to herself and her family.

Before Christmas, one-month courses were held in Grey County at Balacava, Halton County at Kilbride, Hastings County at Frankford, Huron County at Auburn, Lanark County at Middleville, Northumberland County at Roseneath, Prescott County at Clarence Creek, Renfrew County at Forester's Falls, and in Simcoe County at Hillsdale.

In January, courses are scheduled in Dufferin County at Grand Valley, Dundas County at South Mountain, Durham County at Millbrook, Essex County at Oldcastle, Frontenac County at Sharbot Lake, Glengarry County at Alexandria, Grey County at Cedarville, Lambton County at Shelburne, Lennox and Addington Counties at Centreville, Middlesex County at Ilderton, Simcoe County at

BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF INSTITUTE ACTIVITIES FOLLOW CONVENTIONS OF 1936

Over 4,000 women attended the 13 Women's Institute conventions held in Ontario during September, October and November. The delegates and visitors came from every type of rural district in the province to profit from each other's experiences. On occasion there was evidence of a breadth of sharpened vision and clear sighted aim that happens only in conjunction with mature thinking and purposeful activities. More and more the Women's Institutes are earning the title of the rural women's university.

International Outlook

The conventions appreciated the report of the Washington conference of the Associated Country Women of the World which was so ably given by Mrs. T. J. McDowell, president of the provincial board. The growing interest in the country women's activities in other countries is a healthy sign for a dynamic programme in the future.

The reports of the standing committee on Peace Education and International Relationships were outstanding at the majority of the conventions. No doubt the reason is that the work of this committee is meeting an immediate and vital need this year. Vague desires for peace are giving way to an enlightened consciousness that international understanding must be fostered and a price paid for the achievement of peace.

Demands are increasing for public health service and interest is evident in state medicine and health insurance.

Everywhere there were stories of Institute branches making use of the Co-operative Programme in Home Economics to strengthen their vocational programme in homemaking. Institutes which have previously missed the opportunity are becoming eager to make up for lost time.

(Continued from Column 1)

New Lowell and Churchill, and Welland County at Fenwick.

In February, courses will be held in Carleton County at Stittsville, Grey County at Kemble, Huron County at Seaford, Leeds County at Elgin, Middlesex County at Melbourne, Norfolk County at Waterford, Peterborough County at Ennismore, Welland County at Stamford, Wellington County at Moorefield and York County at Newmarket.

In March, a course will be given at Shegwindah, Manitoulin Island.

GEORGE PUTNAM FORMER SUPERINTENDENT, CALLED BY DEATH NOV. 4.

George Alfred Putnam, Superintendent of Women's Institutes of Ontario for thirty years, passed away on November 4, in his sixty-seventh year. He will long be remembered for his enthusiasm and sincere interest in the development of Women's Institutes. During his term of office the Institutes grew from a membership of seven to forty thousand women. Hundreds of these members knew Mr. Putnam personally and throughout their lives they will honour his memory.

Long Service

Mr. Putnam was appointed Superintendent of the Institute Branch in 1904, succeeding the late Dr. G. C. Creelman. He held the office until two years ago when he was superannuated. A short time after taking over the duties of Superintendent, he accepted the additional post of Director of Dairying which he held for almost ten years.

Previous to 1904, he was secretary to the President of Ontario Agricultural College at Guelph. While he was at the college he took the degree in Scientific Agriculture.

Early Education

Mr. Putnam was born in Lyons, Elgin County, and came of United Empire Loyalist stock. He received his early education in the Lyons public school and Aylmer High School. Later, he took a business course and worked for a short time in London before going to Guelph.

Surviving besides his widow, the former May Shuttleworth of Mount Albert, are one son, Ross; one daughter, Madelyn; two sisters, Mrs. Frederick Row of Woodstock and Mrs. Chas. Martin of Springfield, and two brothers Charles and Roland of Aylmer.

Memorial Fund

The new settlements in northern Ontario were always Mr. Putnam's special concern and two years ago his services in this direction were recognized by "The Putnam Relief Fund" to which the Institutes in southern Ontario contributed. The fund will be continued and will be used to help where need has been recommended by a northern Institute. The name of this fund will be changed to "The Putnam Memorial Fund".

NATIONAL NEWS OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE WORK SHOWS INCREASE IN ACTIVITIES

The five provinces of Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Quebec, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island celebrate the silver jubilee anniversaries of their Women's Institute service this year. Alberta will celebrate next year.

Never have the Women's Institutes been more internationally minded. No doubt the 25 delegates to the triennial conference of the Associated Country Women of the World held in Washington have been an influence, but the fact that Mrs. Alfred Watt, president of the international organization, has spoken in several provinces, has also been a factor in directing the attention of Canadians to country women of other countries.

Western Provinces

British Columbia held its first provincial convention since 1927 in August, and so helpful were the meetings that plans were made to hold a provincial convention biennially. Her Excellency The Lady Tweedsmuir attended several sessions and kindly donated half a dozen of her plays for use of Women's Institutes.

The Women's Institutes of Alberta have started a paper to be printed regularly. A history is being compiled by Mrs. A. H. Rogers and Mrs. H. J. Montgomery to commemorate the Alberta Jubilee next year.

The Homemakers' Clubs of Saskatchewan are trying out a "spare tire" programme committee to have reserve numbers ready if the planned programme fails to materialize.

The Manitoba Women's Institutes are making plans to raise a five thousand dollar provincial fund.

Eastern Provinces

Her Excellency The Lady Tweedsmuir honoured Templeton Women's Institute in Quebec by attending a recent meeting at the farm house of one of its members.

The Institutes of New Brunswick have chosen the violet as the provincial flower. They have petitioned the government for dental clinics for rural districts.

Annual rallies have been held by the Institute districts in Nova Scotia for the seventh year.

Prince Edward is observing "International Day" in November. Sixty-eight Institutes have benefited from the Carnegie Library Service. (Contributed by Mrs. Elizabeth Bailey Price)

"International Day" Observed At November Institute Meetings

In accordance with the suggestions of the Associated Country Women of the World a number of Institute branches are giving, at their November meeting, special consideration to the question of world friendship and are naming this programme for the promotion of international understanding, "International Day". November was named the month for this special programme by the Associated Country Women, because it is the month of remembrance and peace.

International understanding was the dominant theme of the whole programme of the biennial convention of Country Women held in Washington

in June. Mrs. Carrie Chapman Catt frankly gave nothing else her attention. The challenge of this renowned champion of women's causes was "All women, city and country women, old women and young women, can be crusaders for peace".

On the Peace Bridge at Buffalo a plaque has been hung by the Associated Country Women of the World to commemorate the peace between the countries of North America. It is a symbol of peace and good will. With the inspiration of their own happy environment, Canadian Institute members are trying, through study, to understand the ideals and traditions of other nationalities.