

## HOME AND COUNTRY

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The Federated Women's Institutes  
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and  
The Women's Institute Branch  
Department of Agriculture  
Ontario

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"HOME and COUNTRY"  
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This paper is distributed through the secretaries of Women's Institutes to the Women's Institute members.

## EDITORIAL COMMENT

## MRS. ERNEST DUKE

Mrs. E. Duke, of Port Carling, the newly elected Provincial President, has been associated with the Women's Institutes for many years. During the Great War she first became a member of the Sanford Institute at Port Carling. Since then she has served as secretary-treasurer and president of her own Institute, as district president for South Muskoka and as the Provincial Board director for Subdivision 16 which includes Muskoka, Parry Sound and Sudbury districts.

The Sanford Institute to which Mrs. Duke belongs was so named in tribute to Mrs. W. E. Sanford of Hamilton, organizer of the Institute. Mrs. Sanford, up to the time of her death, was an interested member of this Institute, as are other summer residents of Port Carling.

Keenly interested in flowers and home and community beautification, Mrs. Duke has held office in the local Horticultural Society since its inception. She has also represented her Institute as a director on the cemetery board, care of the cemetery being a major enterprise of the Sanford Women's Institute.

Born in Port Carling Mrs. Duke was educated there and at Bracebridge and Toronto, returning to reside in Port Carling when she married. She has two children; a daughter who is a graduate of Macdonald Institute, Guelph, and is continuing her studies in Household Science at the University of Toronto, and a son at home.

Mrs. Duke brings to her position the very pleasing combination of a friendly, loyal personality, coupled with administrative ability gained through her experience with the Women's Institutes and through her own business training. She has clear vision and appreciation of the ideals of the Women's Institutes of Ontario and the problems and interests of country women.

## Conventions Review and Plan Programme

(Continued from page 1, col. 1)

That action should follow papers was a very practical suggestion made by one convener of Legislation. Many reports mention a paper on "The Importance of Making Wills", but none refer to following this up with a report of how many wills were made as a result of the address.

Dr. Charlotte Whitton, Canadian Welfare Council, speaking of Fundamental Legislation brought our thoughts back to the real reason for welfare legislation,—the protection of the child. She spoke of marriage laws, mothers' allowances and child protection acts, urging that women inform themselves concerning existing legislation and secure its application where necessary.

The evening meeting at Algoma and St. Joseph's Island Convention emphasized Education with addresses on The Human Mind, the New Curriculum and Adult Education. That Women's Institute members are realizing that Home Economics includes all phases of home and family life was evidenced by the variety of topics reported as subjects of study. One woman, expressing appreciation of the educational services given by the Women's Institute Branch, said she felt that in many other organizations the members "give" all the time, but in the Institutes the members "get" as well as give.

Agriculture and Canadian Industries were not forgotten, as was apparent by the reports. At Hamilton emphasis was placed on Agriculture in war time. Women were urged to persevere in improving the quality of farm products. Everywhere the current apple problem was to the fore.

Historical Research seemed to be of special interest in four conventions. In Manitoulin the members were interested in a new historical discovery indicating that white men had lived on Manitoulin about 1700; also the finding of a wrecked ship which may have been LaSalle's lost ship "The Griffon". At Guelph the following suggestions were given to maintain interest in historical research—do it in moderation but keep it alive, have a contest for original plays of 15 minutes based on local history, have every woman write the story of her grandmother's, her mother's and her own life, and trace her family tree. At Port Arthur, "Reminiscences of the History of the Institutes in Thunder Bay" was presented by a charter member. The chairman here emphasized the value of retaining a complete file of the new *Canadian Home and Country*.

The emphasis in Canadianization has been placed on the assimilation of

the New Canadians. The London Area chairman in her address expressed the need for work on this committee, explaining that one of our problems after the war is over will be that of the refugee.

The keynote of the Ottawa Convention was "Service". As committee reports were given, the conveners outlined the possible fields of service in their respective spheres.

At Belleville the roll call was "My District Objective". This was a thought-provoking roll call, causing each person to ask "What are we working for and are we reaching our objective?" The theme here was Friendship.

Mrs. McDowell, in her address, spoke of the Provincial Federation, its history, how it is built up, its aims and accomplishments. She emphasized always that the Federation exists only for the service of the members. Her constructive discussions of reports were much appreciated.

The following suggestions for Publicity are from the Kingston Area:—1, Don't wait for the convener to telephone you; 2, Don't mislay your yearly programme; 3, Don't spread undesirable reports; 4, Don't make news reports too long; 5, Don't forget pictures or photos of interesting events; 6, Don't forget the radio—some local stations will make announcements for a very small fee or free of charge; 7, Don't forget that a post card sent just before a meeting encourages the timid and reminds the careless member.

Outside speakers brought new ideas and interests. Mrs. Alfroy Watt's contribution on Countrywomen and the War was outstanding. She emphasized the importance of the problem of the food supply as the major war activity of farm women; and the importance of the Women's Institutes as an educational organization.

Dr. Currelly of the Royal Ontario Museum spoke of the romance of the things we take for granted in daily life, illustrating this with the articles used on our tables—the linen, china, glassware and silver. Miss Isabel Mackey at the Twin Cities Convention spoke of her year in England and gave her impressions of the conference of the Associated Country Women of the World. At Guelph, Mr. Donald McLean showed a fine film on co-operation, "The Lord Helps Those Who Help Each Other".

The conventions have again justified themselves by providing a meeting place where ideas can be exchanged, problems discussed, inspiration and practical suggestions received, and companionship enjoyed.

## A NEW YEAR'S GREETING FROM THE RETIRING PRESIDENT

As we stand on the threshold of a New Year, we do not know what emergencies and duties we shall be called upon to meet, but I am convinced that the women of our great rural organization, the Women's Institutes of Ontario, will rise to the occasion whatever it may be. You have ever faced with courage and enterprise the problems of the day, and knowing your kindness of heart and your devotion to service, there is no doubt in my mind as to the fine contribution you will make "to the common weal, the good of all", as the year unfolds.

This New Year opens the door to new avenues of industry, to opportunities for greater heights of endeavour and service. It will also continue the work of the Old Year, developing what was then begun. Now is the time for "stock-taking". It will help you know where you stand and to estimate your readiness to meet the New Year.

I have felt it a great honour to serve as Provincial president, and thank you all for many courtesies and much kindness extended to me. Your friendship I shall treasure as my richest reward for service given.

Let us as Ontario homemakers become more conscious of our individual responsibility in promoting peace at home and abroad and strive to keep our lives in harmony with this ideal ever emanating faith, hope and love.

Happiness to be appreciated must be shared, and at this time of the year the air vibrates with greetings with greetings and expressions of good-will. And so this old, yet ever new, greeting "Happy New Year", I send to one and all.

(Mrs. T. J.) Helen L. McDowell.

## OF INTEREST TO MEMBERS

## BROADCASTS ON CO-OPERATION.

Many requests have been received for assistance in the study of co-operation. Your attention is drawn to a series of eight talks to be given each Wednesday evening, beginning January 3rd, over C.B.C. from 9 o'clock to 9.15 E.S.T. If you follow this series with note book and pencil, you will find material for discussion. The speakers are representative of all Canada and bring to their listeners a wealth of practical experience. Your secretary has been sent an announcement. Ask to see it.

## EXCHANGE OF CORRESPONDENCE.

Now, even more than in time of peace, your Institute may desire to exchange letters with an Institute in the British Isles or some other part of the Commonwealth. An exchange may be arranged through Miss M. V. Powell, Women's Institute Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. Letters sent from Ontario to Institutes, especially in Great Britain, will encourage the members there and assure them of our interest in their well-being; and no doubt many Ontario Institute members will be interested in hearing what Institute members in other countries are doing.

## TOPICS FOR STUDY.

The following topics were suggested at the recent Board Meeting for activity and study:

1. Marketing of Agricultural Products and Agricultural Co-operation—the suggested study theme for the A.C.W.W. for the coming three years.
2. Food Conservation and Preservation.
3. Natural Resources in the Home. This and topic No. 2 are recommended by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.
4. Rural Home Sanitation.
5. Farm and Home Beautification.

## Financial Statement Oct. 1st, 1938 — Sept. 30th 1939

## Federated Women's Institutes

RECEIPTS.		EXPENDITURES.	
Balance October 1, 1938	\$3,860.01	Allocation to F.W.I.C.	\$ 500.00
Federation fees and exchange	3,835.52	Allocation to A.C.W.W.	50.00
Sale of Hand Book	28.75	Grants to conventions	400.00
Sale of song sheets	17.59	Convention speaker's expenses	300.30
Sale of Dominion Federation pins	37.50	Board meetings	898.59
Sale of life membership pins	156.80	Federated representatives' expenses	278.32
Bank interest	10.30	District annual speakers' expenses	308.43
		President's travelling allowance	156.46
Total	\$7,946.47	Secretary's honorarium and bond	312.00
		Representatives to other organizations	28.10
		O.E.A. fee, etc.	21.00
		Special meetings	23.50
		Printing <i>Home and Country</i>	899.57
		Peace Garden up-keep	12.00
		Subscriptions	29.00
		Peace literature	5.00
		Illuminated Address to Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth	40.00
		Conveners' stationery and postage	19.99
		Gift to former Superintendent	50.00
		Filing cabinet for secretary	55.90
		Stationery and supplies	103.75
		Exchange	35.46
		Refund of fees	4.00
		Scottish W. I. Entertainment	17.60
		Pins—Life Membership and Dominion Federation	136.20
		Express on relief parcels	50.00
		Total expenditure	\$4,750.17
		Balance Sept. 30, 1939	3,196.30
			\$7,946.47

Certified correct,  
J. C. PRIOR, Auditor, 1939.