

**CANADIAN INSTITUTES UNITE IN WAR WORK**

At the last biennial convention, a little more than a year ago, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada resolved to do everything possible for Canada's war effort. From the beginning the uncertainty of what this might mean was apparent, but our 75,000 members in 3,061 branches from coast to coast braced themselves to answer emergency calls. Strongly organized locally provincially, nationally and internationally, their war work has been far-reaching as shown by the following survey.

**National Activities**

The F.W.I.C. has started a Federal fund for a gift to the Canadian Government. To date the provincial contributions are:

Prince Edward Island	.....\$200.00
Nova Scotia	.....175.00
New Brunswick	.....500.00
Quebec	.....100.00
Ontario	.....500.00
Manitoba	.....175.00
Saskatchewan	.....400.00

Alberta and British Columbia purpose contributing.

**War Savings Stamps**

Women's Institutes have strongly supported the purchase of War Savings Stamps. In answer to a letter to Hon. J. L. Ilesley, Minister of Finance, written by Mrs. B. F. Gummow, Peachland, B.C., corresponding secretary, asking the best way to help Canada's war effort, he replied:

"I really believe that nothing could be more useful than stimulation of interest in War Savings Stamps and Certificates. Systematic saving on the part of the ordinary citizen of Canada is vital if we are to finance the war, and there is great need to convince the people of this fact and to encourage them to invest these savings with the Government."

**Mediums for Service**

The Red Cross is the greatest medium for Institute war work. Mrs. T. J. McDowell, Milverton, Ontario, first vice-president of the F.W.I.C., is their representative on the Canadian Red Cross National War Council.

Mrs. C. E. Petch, immediate past provincial president of Quebec W.I.'s, represented the F.W.I.C. at a meeting called recently by H.R.H. Princess Alice to co-ordinate war work of Canadian Women's organizations.

Women's Institute members in every province have adopted "pen friends" within the Empire.

Most provinces have responded generously to the Duchess of Northumberland's Benevolent and Comfort Fund for the Women's Auxiliary Territorial Service.

**Provincial Activities**

Swinging across Canada from "The Island", whose golden sandy shores are washed by the Atlantic Ocean, the following is a record of Institute war efforts, province by province.

**Prince Edward Island:**

Raised \$1,950 by a branch levy of \$10.00.

Purchased a Red Cross Ambulance which cost \$1,750.

Have made thousands of articles and Red Cross hospital supplies.

Have started a Red Cross Chain Bridge Tea Fund.

Helped Canadian Legion with Poppy Day.

**Nova Scotia.**

Have purchased a Red Cross Ambulance—\$1,750.

Have placed a number of canning outfits in fruit and vegetable growing districts with the idea of greater use of these next year.

Have made special efforts to increase garden produce.

**New Brunswick.**

201 W.I.'s raised \$3,700 for war work.

125 W.I.'s have made articles for the Red Cross and contributed in cash \$1,798 to Red Cross.

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**RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY PROVINCIAL BOARD**

November, 1940

Resolutions forwarded from seven of the thirteen area conveners of resolutions were presented to the Board by the Provincial convener. Following are those which were passed by the Board. Of the other resolutions, some were tabled to be acted upon at a more opportune time. Those which dealt with local problems were referred back to the districts concerned. Some were lost by vote of the Board members. In some cases, the problem had already been settled by legislation. Your Board member will welcome the opportunity to provide further information concerning resolutions passed by your convention area and not listed below.

Mrs. D. Z. Gibson, Provincial convener, is to be congratulated on the fine preparation which she made prior to the Board meeting for the presentation of these resolutions. She was prepared with facts and information pertaining to the resolutions, which facilitated the handling of them.

**Civics and Citizenship—**

1. That the Women's Institutes petition the Department of Education to prepare an adequate course in Civics which will set forth the democratic principles of this country, and that such course place in the hands of teachers and students proper material for this study.

2. That we request the Department of Education to seriously consider allotting more time in our schools for teaching children why they should be proud of being Canadian citizens and the part they must play in maintaining the privileges of citizenship.

**Control of Sale of Liquor—**

That we petition the Dominion Government for a wartime restriction of the sale of intoxicating beverages.

(Note: This resolution will be sent to the Ontario Temperance Federation to strengthen their case. On behalf of the F.W.I.O., the Provincial secretary has written a letter to the Hon. W. L. Mackenzie King, Prime Minister of Canada, supporting the demand of the Temperance Federation.)

**Resolutions of Approval—**

1. To the Minister of Education for Ontario for his assurance that for the duration of the war no new authorized text books would be required unless unexpected emergency demanded such books.

2. To the Dominion Department of National Defence for the close check-

up of all aliens resident in Canada being made by that Department.

**Resolutions Tabled—**

1. That the standing committees be changed to meet present-day needs—tabled until after the Biennial convention of the F.W.I.C. in 1941.

2. That a joint good-will postage stamp featuring the International Peace Garden be issued by the Canadian and United States Governments—tabled until further information should be received. (Since the Board meeting, the convener of resolutions has been informed by the Postmaster-General that this is impossible at the present time because of lack of funds to issue such a stamp).

**Action on Earlier Resolutions**

The results of action taken in connection with the resolutions passed at the Board meeting, Easter, 1940, were presented at the November meeting. These resolutions were printed in the "Home and Country", Spring 1940, page 3.

Re Co-operative Movement—A letter from the Hon. P. M. Dewar, Minister of Agriculture for Ontario, expressed appreciation of the interest taken by the Women's Institutes in this movement and stated his intention to give further assistance to the co-operative movement in Ontario.

Re Legislation requiring that all fabrics made from wool carry a label showing the percentage of virgin wool and all other substances used in its manufacture—This was acknowledged by the Hon. J. G. Gardiner, Minister of Agriculture for Canada, who thanked the Women's Institutes for the interest shown. Since that time new regulations issued by Order-in-Council on recommendation of the Dominion Trade and Industry Commission state that hosiery content must be described fully and that "wool" may be used only to describe the stuff that grows on sheep, lambs, angora goats, camels and other animals.

Re the provision of X-Ray at a reduced cost for diagnosis of cancer—A letter from the Hon. Harold Kirby, Minister of Health for Ontario, explained the procedure necessary to obtain free X-Ray. Your Medical Officer of Health will be able to supply this information.

Re placing reflectors on freight cars—The Railway Board replied that this would be impossible because of the interchange of Canadian and United States cars, which would cause confusion.

**WOMEN'S OPPORTUNITIES FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE**

In a recent speech delivered in Toronto by Dr. E. W. Stapleford, Director of the Division of Voluntary Services, Department of National War Services, Ottawa, the speaker besides outlining the work of his department, talked specifically of the opportunities for women in voluntary war service. Among other things, he emphasized the opportunity for service through the thoughtful spending of money. He urged women to Buy British and to Buy Canadian. For the nine months ending September 30, 1940, Canada exported to Great Britain some \$319,000,000 worth of goods and purchased from Great Britain only \$116,000,000 worth of goods. During this same period, the value of goods imported from the United States by Canada was five times as much as the value of the goods exported to the United States. Hence, to create a balance of trade to help Great Britain in her war effort, and to free money for the purchase of essential armaments from the United States, every woman is urged to Buy British.

This can be applied to our practical everyday living. Do we read the labels? If there are no informative labels, do we inquire where the goods which we purchase were made? Sometimes the effect of consumer demand is underestimated. Let us never forget that what each individual demands helps determine the world market.

**Buy War Savings Certificates**

Dr. Stapleford made a strong plea for the increased purchase of war savings certificates and stamps to meet the demands of war. It is necessary to increase the sale of these in Canada from two and a half million dollars monthly to ten millions monthly. These are good investments for every Canadian.

The War Charities Act is administered in Dr. Stapleford's division too. He called attention to the desirability of raising funds for voluntary services with little or no expenditure of money. He assured us that a very careful investigation will be made of all funds registered under the Act. Attention of all Institutes who have registered under the War Charities Act is drawn to the fact that the registration must be renewed yearly.

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economic and social changes to be met, some difficult readjustments to be made and colossal problems of reconstruction to be solved, there seems little doubt. Through the organization and set-up of the Institute, rural women may in a measure prepare to meet the challenge of the uncharted future.

For this reason, there should be now, at the present time, a reaching out after new members. It is said that only one in ten of all the women in Canada is affiliated with any women's organization and, if this be true, the nine-tenths form yet another challenge to the Institute member. A greatly increased membership would mean greatly increased numbers of alert, wide-awake women schooled to the putting of first things first, to doing well the task nearest at hand, to facing facts squarely and to meeting emergency with calmness, courage and adaptability.

The effectiveness of the Women's Institute programme now and through the unapprehended future depends on the loyalty, the faith, the single-mindedness and work of its leaders, officers and members. Women's Institute work is patriotic work whether it is carried on in time of peace or war, and all that can be put into their work is needed now.

(Contributed by Mrs. Clarence Hayes, Georgetown.)

**FINANCIAL STATEMENT OCT. 1st, 1939—SEPT. 1940**

**Federated Women's Institutes**

Receipts		Expenditures	
Balance October 1, 1939	.....\$3,196.30	Allocation to F.W.I.C.	.....\$ 500.00
Federation fees and exchange	.....3,873.07	Allocation to A.C.W.W.	.....50.00
Sale of Hand Book	.....50.25	Transfer to F.W.I.O. Central Fund	.....100.00
Sale of Dominion Federation pin	.....28.50	Board meetings	.....854.32
Sale of life membership pin	.....51.30	Grants to conventions	.....400.00
Sale of song sheet	.....19.89	Federated representatives to conventions	.....322.28
Bank interest and sundries	.....6.85	Officers attending conventions	.....240.60
Total Receipts	.....\$7,226.16	Board members attending district annuals	.....319.05
		President's travelling allowance	.....100.35
		Secretary's honorarium and bond	.....312.00
		Supplies for secretary	.....74.91
		Stationery and postage	.....47.08
		Board members	.....33.04
		Conveners' expenses	.....163.42
		Delegate to F.W.I.C. Biennial, Edmonton	.....16.65
		Representatives to other organizations	.....824.72
		Printing "Home and Country"	.....12.00
		Subscriptions and memberships	.....12.00
		Peace Garden upkeep	.....76.20
		Pins—Life membership and Dominion Federation	.....20.00
		Gift to retiring President	.....25.00
		Gift to The Lady Tweedsmuir	.....50.00
		Express on relief parcels (Putnam Fund)	.....73.20
		Institute exhibit at C.N.E.	.....36.46
		Exchange	.....24.90
		Compassionate tributes	.....20.00
		Auditor	.....
		Total Expenditures	.....\$4,708.18
		Balance Sept. 30, 1940	2,517.98
			\$7,226.16
		Certified correct,	
		J. C. PRIOR, Auditor.	