

HOME AND COUNTRY

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"HOME AND COUNTRY"

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

SERVE TO THE UTMOST

With the war becoming more world-encompassing every day, and with Canada pledged to stand by our allies to the end in support of our democratic ideals, every Canadian citizen must pledge herself to renewed and intensified effort. May the purpose of every Institute and Institute member be to "Serve to the Utmost".

We are happy to welcome the new Institutes organized in 1941—Varna Juniors (Huron S.), Victory (Grey S.), Dewar (Renfrew S.), Sunnyside (Waterloo N.), Quarryville (Welland), Batchawana (Algoma C.), Massey (Algoma E.), Tehkummah Juniors (Manitoulin E.), Chalmers (Parry Sound S.). Membership in the F. W. I. O. will offer them opportunities for service in fellowship with other Institutes which would not otherwise be available.

We congratulate the districts to which these Institutes belong on having been thus strengthened. We expect that every district officer and director is zealous for the well-being of the Women's Institutes in her district, that she searches for and welcomes new members, that she endeavours to extend the influence of the Institute to communities where Institutes have not been organized, and to encourage and support Institute work.

Your Institute can help win the war in so many ways that it is impossible to enumerate them here. It may be in such tangible ways as saving sugar, knitting, sewing, buying certificates, producing more eggs, milk or bacon, caring for men and women in the services; or in less tangible ways as keeping your family healthy, practising economy, building morale or creating right attitudes.

The Hon. Winston Churchill said in November,—"In the past we have had a light which flickered. In the present we have a light which flames. In the future there will be a light which shines over all the land and sea."

Ours may be only a miniature ray, but may it glow steadily!

ANNUAL MEETING PROVINCIAL BOARD, NOVEMBER, 1941, TORONTO



MEMBERS OF 1941-42 BOARD WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND DEPUTY MINISTER.

Reading from left:

FRONT ROW—Mrs. F. Pearson, Fort Frances; Mrs. J. Cooper, Fort William; Mrs. L. Morrissey, Charlton; Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, Coldwater. Secretary-Treasurer; Honourable P. M. Dewan, Minister of Agriculture; Mrs. Ernest A. Duke, Port Carling, President; Mr. W. R. Reek, Deputy Minister of Agriculture; Miss Mary A. Clarke, Superintendent; Mrs. Roy Vanzant, Little Current; Mrs. A. McInnes, Iroquois. CENTRE ROW—Mrs. L. Reesor, Scarboro Junction; Mrs. E. Haney, Aylmer; Mrs. James Wright, Chiswick; Mrs. F. E. Birdsall, Birdsall; Mrs. Edgar Patterson, Shelburne; Mrs. H. Summers, Fonthill; Mrs. C. Holmes, Belleville; Mrs. Gordon Hamilton, Pembroke; Mrs. Edom Wilson, Victoria Harbour; Mrs. R. Roblin, Bath. BACK ROW—Mrs. T. Burn, Brownville; Mrs. H. McCrie, Sarnia; Mrs. T. D. Cowan, Galt; Mrs. L. W. Challand, Port Dover.

To express deep appreciation for the inspiration which Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth is giving to all home-making women, greetings of love and loyalty were sent to Her Majesty from the Provincial Board in session at the annual meeting in Toronto, November, 1941.

Reports of the past year's work and plans for the new Federation year reflected the way in which members are striving to live up to their motto "For Home and Country".

Mrs. Ernest Duke, uncontested in election, was returned as president for the third year of office. In accepting the honour Mrs. Duke stated, "I enter on this year feeling that this is the year I should give my very best and I hope to do it". The president challenged members to sustain pride in our organization, to make a drive for new members particularly younger married women, to build up local Institutes and to foster community solidarity and morale. She expressed appreciation of the contribution made by the girls in their junior activities and of the support and co-operation she had received from all sources.

Regrets were expressed for the absence of Mrs. T. J. McDowell, honorary president, and of Mrs. F. Harold Spiers, Brussels, director for subdivision 9, who was represented by her alternate, Mrs. F. C. Demerling, Fordwate.

War Work Progresses

Mr. J. O. Laird from the National War Services addressed the meeting re salvage campaigns. He commended the salvage programme which had been carried out by Women's Institutes and impressed the Board members with the urgent need for continued effort. The Government's system to prevent exploitation was outlined and groups were asked to co-operate and make reports of activities each month. For information, address Mr. William Knightley, Director National Salvage, New Supreme Court Building, Ottawa, Canada.

To continue to make the relief of suffering their war aim was the policy reaffirmed by the Board.

The sum of \$1,000.00 was voted from the Central Fund to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada Central Fund for the National Women's Institute gift of a mobile kitchen for Britain; and \$80.00 toward rental of the clubroom of the Australian and New Zealand Comforts Club, Toronto, for the use of men in the Empire Air Training Plan.

The Board named Mrs. Duke convener of the Central Fund Committee, with the following personnel—Mrs. L. W. Challand, Mrs. L. Reesor, Mrs. E. Wilson, Mrs. E. Patterson, Miss Mary A. Clarke as honorary member, and Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, secretary-treasurer.

The activities of the Central Fund committee were reviewed by Mrs. Duke. She expressed gratitude for the steady flow of contributions to this provincial war effort and for the many messages of confidence and approval received from Institutes concerning the administration of the Central Fund.

The secretary presented the financial statement of the Central Fund as audited to March 31st, 1941. Total receipts had reached \$8,576.64 and, with disbursements of \$8,229.80, the balance April 1st, was \$1,494.67.

An amendment has been made to The War Charities Act to the effect that the financial year will close on December 31st, instead of on March 31st, as formerly. (See Central Fund statement elsewhere in this issue).

Seed orders, amounting to two tons, which had been placed with three leading seed houses for shipment to the National Federation of Women's Institutes in England, were listed. (see page 1 "Seeds, etc.")

Response to the Blanket appeal of the Canadian Red Cross Society was reported to be greatly in excess of the initial \$400.00 voted for that purpose from the Central Fund and it was agreed that all contributions reaching the fund for that purpose over and above \$400.00 should be forwarded to the Red Cross for blankets.

A warm vote of thanks was tendered by the Board to the Central Fund Committee for the work accomplished. Accepting this recognition, Mrs. Duke paid tribute to the voluntary services given by members of the Central Fund Committee so that, outside of auditing the books, there had been no administration expenses. It was made clear that the secretary's services were given as a war work contribution apart from her regular secretarial duties and that members had financed themselves to meetings.

Minister Expressed Appreciation

The Honourable P. M. Dewan, Minister of Agriculture, the Deputy Minister Mr. W. R. Reek and Mrs. Reek were guests at the Board dinner. Following dinner Mr. Dewan, assisted by Mr. J. Clark, provided a most entertaining and educational diver-

sion from the routine of business by showing movie films from his personal collection. These included views taken in Great Britain, Eire and across Canada. Mr. Dewan expressed regret on behalf of Mrs. Dewan who was unable to be present. He congratulated the Women's Institutes on their war effort and commended them for the quality of work which they are doing.

Mr. Reek addressed the Board. He rated the Women's Institutes as one of the most important organizations in the province, as well as one of the strongest. "Stand on your own feet! Keep above controversial questions!"—he cautioned. He felt that by so doing the bigger questions and problems which open up will be more readily solved.

Miss Mary A. Clarke, Superintendent, in her message to the Board, begged the support of the directors in furthering the Home Economics programme in war-time. "Wise buying" and "What's New in Nutrition" are two new courses which are especially timely. She reviewed activities through the Co-operative Programme and figures showed that services had stood up well. Miss Clarke stated that the Red Cross Home Nursing Certificate is issued to any one who regularly attends the Women's Institute Health Education course.

Complimenting the Board members on their election to Provincial directorship, the Superintendent charged them to be mindful of their responsibilities and opportunities. In closing, Miss Clarke paid tribute to the breadth of vision and loyalty which Women's Institute members have shown in their war work and extended congratulations.

F.W.I.C. Highlights

The Federated Women's Institutes of Canada announced that plans had been completed for the publication of a news bulletin of National Women's Institutes activities to be edited by Mrs. J. Price, Director of Publicity F.W.I.C., and that it was expected that its initial appearance would be early in 1942.

A copy of the "F.W.I.C. Functions of Standing Committees" had been received as a guide for Provincial conveners. It has been prepared by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada to co-ordinate the study and working programme of the standing committees throughout the Dominion, following the regrouping of these committees at the Biennial in Fredericton, N.B., last June. The Board