

CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

Conventions are several months past but there are highlights of the last four conventions which could not be included in the Fall Home and Country and about which all members will wish to hear.

The London convention placed emphasis on Agriculture. As the convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries stated, "The Flag Is On The Plough". A resolution was passed urging support of the Farm Radio Programme, and varying problems of agriculture and price control were considered from widely divergent points of view. The convention concluded with a round table conference which was so successful that it has been requested for another year, and those present have asked that next year more opportunity be given for discussion throughout the sessions and that a longer time be allowed for the consideration of area reports. Possibly other conventions would benefit from this suggestion.

The Guelph Area which adopted the theme "All Out For Victory" enjoyed the hospitality of the city of Kitchener. As always their convention had the intimate tone of a family party. At the dinner meeting emphasis was placed on Citizenship, especially on the role of women today and in the post-war world. Women were urged to accept the responsibility which is theirs as Canadian citizens. The convener of war services should be congratulated for her thoughtful and thought-provoking report, which was not just a list of war work done, but a challenge to every member to do the task for which she has the ability.

From the Hamilton convention every member took home inspiration for better Institute work as a result of Miss Ethel Chapman's address on "The Challenge of the Times". She showed members how their Institutes, functioning under the new standing committees, could meet the problems of today. A copy of her address may be obtained on loan from Mrs. A. E. Barber, Women's Institute Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto. The display and talk on handicrafts by Mrs. Moffatt, Hamilton Y.W.C.A., was a delightful feature. Committee reports were stimulating and thoughtful. Here as elsewhere we heard the plea for more complete reports from every district. In war work the report of Jam for Britain deserves special mention. Some 46,000 pounds has been sent from the Area to feed the bombed-out civilians of Britain.

H.R.H. Princess Alice honoured the Toronto convention by her presence. In her luncheon address Her Royal Highness said that, in addition to their magnificent war effort today Women's Institutes must prepare now "for the days of great change and readjustment when the men and boys and girls come home". She said, "You will have to welcome youth into your associations and extend your Institutes into community centres to give the lead in modernizing life in the rural areas".

The Hon. P. M. Dewar and Mrs. Dewar were guests at the luncheon. The Minister expressed appreciation for the splendid co-operation of the Institutes with the Department of Agriculture and Mrs. Dewar brought her greetings.

Again, the recreation hour was an outstanding event which could well be used at other conventions. Carried on at the opening of one evening session it refreshed the members who were then ready to discuss the question of rationing and price control.

At all four conventions the girls' session was an outstanding part of the programme. Skits and demonstrations varied from a gay, puppet dance (illustrating The Cereal Shelf) to patriotic demonstrations; but all showed sincere interest on the part of the girls, an appreciation of fundamental values, initiative and ability. Women's Institutes who sponsor these girls can justifiably take great pride in their work.

We still have Juniors, farm daughters in farm homes in rural Ontario, and this will be true as long as we have farm homes. Right now there are fewer girls in rural districts and the girls remaining are in a younger age group than in normal days. Throughout the year girls have left for war industries and other work while some have joined the military services. This means additional work and greater responsibility for those at home. Magnificently these girls are responding to the call for service in the home and on the farm, while zealously endeavouring to keep up school and club work. With their families they are planning farm and home activities, establishing goals of production and family achievement, working and sharing responsibilities. Already girls at home are registering with the 1943 Farm Girls' Brigade of the Ontario Farm Service Force for work on the home farm.

Homemaking Clubs Carry On

Homemaking Clubs are carrying on and reports from east, west, north and south indicate all kinds of enthusiasm and an excellent standard of club work. Gas rationing and transportation problems have meant localizing clubs, the establishment of two or three clubs where formerly there was one. Resourceful members are hiking, riding horse back and skiing to meetings.

Nutrition club members are happy to be lined up with the Canadian nutrition programme to make "food fight on the home front". Cereal Shelf members are all out for Canada Approved Bread and Flour and whole grain cereals. Girls in clubs studying Dressing Up Home Grown Vegetables are increasing daily consumption of vegetables and are succeeding in making family members vegetable hungry. Milky Way members are getting their required quota of milk and liking it. Adhering to Canada's Official Food rules is becoming more serious business to nutrition clubs.

Through clothing clubs, girls are gaining experience in selecting and making garments which will look smart and give good service in war days at a minimum cost. Appreciating the need to conserve material and make clothing last longer through care and repair, members are getting special satisfaction from darning and patching. They consider inconspicuous darns and patches highly commendable war saving badges.

In the Club Girl Stands on Guard members are endeavouring to stand on guard by adhering to daily health habits, promoting family and com-

munity health, eating right food, making homes safe, learning first aid for emergencies and making wise use of leisure time.

More and Better Garden Brigades

Food production requirements, the national nutrition programme urging Canadians "to eat food to keep fit", transportation limitations and food and labour shortages reveal the urgency for more and better Garden Brigades in 1943. The 1942 record of 204 garden brigades with 1,596 gardeners will not be good enough for 1943. If farm families are to be assured an adequate supply of healthful vegetables for family meals, many of those vegetables must be grown on the home farm this year.

Every Farm Daughter a Gardener

Here is a job for Ontario Juniors,—Every Farm Daughter a Gardener. The farm daughter at home or at school should be encouraged to go into action on the home vegetable garden. Special assistance in growing a good garden and making best use of products will be available to gardeners who join county or district garden brigades.

1943 Girls' Garden Brigades

The Agricultural Representative Branch and the Women's Institute Branch are sponsoring garden brigades for farm girls 12 to 26 years of age inclusive. Gardeners who are members of brigades will be given an opportunity to purchase 20 varieties of vegetable seeds and 10 flower seeds through the Agricultural Representative's office. They will be expected to plan, plant and care for a garden according to recommended practices, to prepare vegetables for family meals, to can tomatoes and to store vegetables for winter use. Leadership will be given to gardeners throughout the growing season by the Agricultural Representative and the Home Economics Coach in garden culture, vegetable cooking, canning and storage. There will be First Year Garden Brigades for new members and Second Year Garden Brigades for members of 1942 Garden Brigades.

Further information may be obtained from the Agricultural Representative or the Home Economics Coach. Membership will be limited for each county and district, and registration will close February 10th. Application for membership should be made immediately to the Agricultural Representative or Home Economics Coach.

(Contributed by F. P. Eadie, W.I. Branch.)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT OCT. 1, 1941---SEPT. 30, 1942

Federated Women's Institutes

RECEIPTS		Board Directors to District	
Balance, October 1, 1941	\$2,095.95	Annuals	248.88
Federation fees & exchange	3,410.60	President's Travelling Allowance	50.00
Sale of Hand Books	40.25	Representatives to other organizations	9.75
Sale of Song Sheets	35.46	Secretary's honorarium and bonds	312.00
Sale of Directors' Pins	18.00	Printing "Home & Country"	817.60
Sale of Members' Pins	40.50	Putnam Memorial Fund	10.34
Sale of F.W.I.C. Pins	36.00	Office supplies, stationary, postage	101.29
Refund, expenses A.C.W.W. Conference	12.60	Provincial conveners' postage	12.03
Refund, President's Travelling Allowance	24.01	Memberships and subscriptions	11.28
Bank Interest	5.56	Pins—Women's Institute	78.00
Total receipts	\$5,718.93	Gift—M. V. Powell	15.65
EXPENDITURES		Exchange on deposits	15.69
Allocation F.W.I.C.	\$ 500.00	Cheques payable	13.00
Allocation A.C.W.W.	50.00	Auditor	10.00
Grants to Conventions	395.00	Total Expenditure	\$3,972.03
Board Directors' Meetings	708.82	Balance, Sept. 30, 1942	1,746.90
Federation Representatives to Conventions	338.80		\$5,718.93
President's Expenses to Conventions	273.90		

Certified correct,
J. C. PRIOR, Auditor.

SALUTE TO MEMBERS

(Continued from page 1, col. 4)

What will be our reward? It will not be in money either. It will be the satisfaction gained from a task well done, a service rendered to humanity,—a service which will bear fruit for years to come.

Many who attended conventions, asked me for a quotation which I used and which was once eloquently quoted by Madame Schumann-Heink.

HOME

"A roof to keep out rain—four walls to keep out wind—floors to keep out cold—yes—but Home is more than that—it is the laugh of a baby, the song of a mother, the strength of a father, warmth of loving hearts, light from happy eyes, kindness, loyalty, comradeship. Home is the first school and the first church for the young ones. It is where they go for comfort when they are hurt or sick. It is where joy is shared and sorrow is eased, where fathers and mothers are respected and loved, where children are wanted, where the simplest food is good enough for kings because it is earned, where money is not so important as kindness. That is Home—God Bless It".

I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Miss Mary Clark, our Superintendent, to Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, Provincial secretary-treasurer, and to Miss M. V. Powell. The memory of the associations, official and personal, which it has been my privilege to enjoy, will last as long as life itself.

To the women who have comprised the Provincial Board of Directors, I pay tribute also, and charge them to "never be weary in well doing". A wonderful organization needs the leadership which you are fitted to give.

Provincial Conveners too have given of their best, have handled tardy reports with great patience, and always hoped for that day which rarely comes, when all areas report, and in good time. Will you please accept my Thank You.

To the staff of the Women's Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture I express my appreciation for the co-operation given me.

To all the Women's Institute members known and unknown, I say: "Stand at attention, and take my salute".

NEWS FLASHES FROM THE INSTITUTES

Gadshill, Perth Co.—Is practising group singing with an instructor, allowing time for this at every meeting.

Jubilee, Frontenac Co.—Have undertaken a food project in connection with locker storage. Each member has stored one or two kinds of vegetables or fruit following the methods outlined in the O.A.C. Bulletin on "Quick Frozen Fruits and Vegetables".

Burpee, Manitoulin Is.—After the lecture-demonstration in Accident Prevention and First Aid members undertook the following projects,—a first aid box in every W.I. home, a roll call on "How safe is my home?" and a review of the class at a regular meeting later.

Waubashene, Simcoe Co.—"Window boxes in our W.I. Hall are gorgeous this year and add much to the hall".

Odessa, Lennox Co.—One of the ladies asked for yarn, any length or balls of left overs. She places these in the beauty parlours to be knit into squares for covers for cots.

Ira Brock, Wentworth Co.—Had a talk on School Lunches at the August meeting and as a result are now having hot food for the school children.

McKellar, Parry Sound Dist.—Through co-operation of the school teacher pupils in Grades 7 and 8 are making Historical scrap books of early days in the townships. Prizes will be given.