

HOME and COUNTRY

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REPORT OF WAR WORK

Following is a summary of the reports of war work received from 1,044 Women's Institutes for the period October 1st, 1942, to April 30th, 1943 (7 months).

Number of Institutes reporting	1,044
Percentage of Institutes reporting	86%
Money Raised	\$91,036.25
Expenditures:	
Wool and sewing supplies	15,537.95
Central Fund, F.W.I.O.	8,935.65
Red Cross	20,048.00
Navy League	2,713.87
Salvation Army	1,272.22
British War Victims' Funds	3,834.26
Chinese, Russian and Greek Relief	10,552.01
Milk for Britain Fund	615.28
Ditty Bags	2,670.92
War Savings Certificates and Bonds	5,784.82
Gifts to local enlisted men	23,469.43
Jam for Britain	6,751.74
Blankets	307.19
Other expenditures	4,305.42
Knitting articles	50,408
Sewing articles	90,526
No. of Women's Institute War Savings certificates filled	241
Hours of work for Red Cross or Patriotic organizations	3,168

Of the 1,044 Institutes reporting 840 cooperate with local Red Cross branches; of these five hundred and sixty-one receive material free from the Red Cross branch and eighty-one purchase their material.

Salvage

Salvage is big business in many Institutes today. Practically every Institute is alive to the need and is either responsible for salvage collection or the members loyally support the sponsoring agency. A list of voluntary salvage committees for Ontario, recently published, lists 26 salvage committees, established directly under the sponsorship of Women's Institutes.

Other Activities

Many Institutes report blood donors among their members. Orono (Durham W.) had a shower of toilet articles for girls in service overseas. Aylmer (Elgin E.) entertain R.C.A.F. members and help in active service club. Hornby (Halton) sold war savings stamps to value of \$402.75. St. Ann's (Lincoln) received donations for British women. Stayner (Simcoe W.) helped issue ration cards. Central Dumfries (Waterloo S.) ravelled and washed wool from old blankets, carded it and sold it for quilt making.

SEEDS FOR ENGLAND

Every parcel of seeds has arrived safely in England and has been distributed; and every English mail brings grateful letters of appreciation. We only wish that you could read the stack of over four hundred letters which have come already "to express very sincere thanks for the generous gift of seeds we have received". Letters include little items of interest about their Institute meetings and their activities in production, canning and war work. They contain fascinating stories of life in England today, similar to those printed in the last issue, and frequent mention of our Canadian troops overseas.



F. W. I. C. PRESIDENTS, 1943-45

Left: MRS. HARLEY DUNHAM, Havelock, N.B., Honorary President.
Right: MRS. CAMERON DOW, Port Daniel Centre, Que., President.

THINK NATIONALLY—WORK NATIONALLY

(Report of F.W.I.C. Biennial by Mrs. Clarence Holmes)

"Think Nationally, Work Nationally" is the motto which Mrs. Cameron Dow of Quebec, newly-elected president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, has given. It is a goal toward which all Women's Institute members should work and Mrs. Dow urged women to overcome provincialism and to keep a national outlook in all their Institute activities.

Originally planned for British Columbia, wartime transportation difficulties caused the F.W.I.C. to accept Ontario's invitation, and on June the first to the fourth, the biennial meeting of the board of directors of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, convened at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto.

Mrs. H. A. Dunham, Havelock, N.B., national president, was included in the Birthday Honour List of His Majesty King George and now is a Commander of the British Empire. To express the delight of the board members, a corsage was presented to Mrs. Dunham by the vice-presidents. On receiving this honour, Mrs. Dunham stated that through it she considered the Women's Institutes of Canada have been recognized for their outstanding contribution to the war effort and to national life.

Greetings and telegrams for the success of the meeting were received from Lady Tweedsmuir, Hon. Jas. G. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture, Hon. Adolard Godbout, Prime Minister of Quebec and Miss M. Viola Powell, Whitby. On behalf of the Women's Institutes of Ontario a cordial welcome was extended the board members by Mrs. Clarence Holmes.

After a discussion on "Federated News", Institutes were advised to make a detailed study of the material it contained. This paper, printed quarterly, will be enlarged to contain more news. One copy is sent free of charge to every Institute secretary.

The superintendents of each province, or representatives, gave a concise report of Institute activities and projects carried on under their leadership and supervision. Miss Mary A. Clarke, reported for Ontario. Educational services in Home Economics, Health and Administrative Leadership are available in most provinces and, considering the diversified

character of Canada, it was interesting to note how united the provinces were in their efforts to avail themselves of these services.

Dr. Charlotte Whitton spoke to the meeting on "Social Security". She outlined the Marsh and Beveridge reports and the Haegerty Bill. "Social Security" includes keeping people fed, housed and served by health and educational services, thus training them for their life work in whatever field of service they enter. A lively discussion followed this very informative address and Institutes were urged to study problems of social security with special reference to the rural situation.

Hon. P. M. Dewan and the Department of Agriculture of Ontario, entertained at dinner when representatives of other women's organizations, and women editors were guests with the board members of the F.W.I.C. "The value of the home, as the source of all those individual virtues which make for greatness in national life" was the theme of Mr. Dewan's talk. Mr. W. R. Reek, Deputy Minister of Agriculture was chairman. Greetings were brought from the Red Cross by Mrs. Wallace Campbell, C.B.E.; from the National Council of Women by Mrs. R. J. Marshall; by Mrs. W. E. West, Director of Women's Voluntary Services; and from the United Farm Women of Ontario by Mrs. Leonard Harman. Mrs. H. A. Dunham, C.B.E., acknowledged the greetings.

A budget of F.W.I.C. finances was presented and discussed with a view to establishing a central office in the future which would amalgamate the offices of secretaries and treasurer. No change will be made at present. Allotments of each province to the F.W.I.C. were also dealt with.

Reports of war activities and work presented by all provinces showed the magnitude of Women's Institutes' efforts "For Home and Country" during war. Tons of jam, miles of quilts, hundreds of knitted and sewn articles and thousands of dollars given to war charities is the proud war work recorded by the Federated Women's Institutes. Ontario's Report was presented by Mrs. Holmes.

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JAM FOR BRITAIN

The jam season is in full swing. Despite the poor fruit season, a good share of our fruit will go to England again and we are proud and happy that it may be so. This year, we feel even more deeply what the lack of such food must have meant in Britain in previous years, and we realize just what a need this jam fills.

Money is coming in regularly to the Department for the Central Sugar Fund. To date \$1,813.13 has been received. This money will purchase either sugar for home-made jam or commercial jam. The jam-making factories are cooperating in this enterprise again; conveners are active. Institutes which are fortunately situated are loyally making jam and the prospects for a good season seem excellent.

Following is a typical letter of thanks from the Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence received by Miss Florence Meakins, Hamilton in appreciation of the jam sent from the factories in that area as a result of Institute contributions:

"We have just been unpacking and distributing some of your jam, and in the note inside you say "Here we come again". Yes, indeed you do, and I don't suppose you can for one instance imagine the gratitude of those of us who receive your goods for distribution. The Women's Institutes in Canada are doing grand work for us. Not only is the jam so valuable, but the kindness and goodwill which is behind the gift mean a great deal too. Your fruit growing country must be beautiful; it's difficult for us to visualise just how beautiful, and to tell you how glad we are that you are all free of the immediate anxieties of possible air-raids. We all so hate the black-outs—in winter it means it is almost impossible to go out at night since it is so difficult to find one's way, and in the summer-time the shutting out of the lovely night air is miserable.

The news is better; may the war be not too long and weary and we will gladly put up with all the necessary war restrictions for ultimate victory. It is, however, of immeasurable value to us to feel how closely we are linked with you and to receive your kind gifts as a reminder of this."

MOBILE KITCHENS

The two mobile kitchens, one donated by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and one by the Middlesex County Senior and Junior Women's Institutes and Junior Farmer's Association, will be ready for presentation to a representative of the Department of Civil Air Raid Precautions the early part of August. The brief ceremony will be held in front of the Parliament Buildings, Toronto, and the presentations will be made on your behalf by Mrs. Clarence Holmes, President, F.W.I.O., and Miss Jean McLachlan, Middlesex Junior representative.

One of these mobile kitchens will be used for the Civil Defence Forces of New Brunswick, the other for Nova Scotia. When they arrive there they will be received officially by a Woman's Institute member of the province and presented to the local A. R. P. officials.

We all regret deeply the loss to Canada of the recent Director, Civil Air Raid Precautions, the Hon. R. J. Manion. Just before his passing the secretary, F.W.I.O. received a letter of thanks from him for the kitchens.