

# HOME and COUNTRY

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## WAR WORK REPORT

The following figures,—summaries of the war work reported by Institutes (1) for the period November 1st, 1943 to April 30th, 1944, and (2) a total of all war work from the beginning of the war until April 30th, 1944,—give some idea of the magnitude of the contributions of the Ontario Women's Institutes for the relief of suffering and for the comfort of our men and women in active service since the beginning of the war.

Figures such as these, if you read between the lines, tell an interesting story of work done. A little imagination will be necessary to interpret them in their right perspective. When you read of 383,719 knitted articles or 468,047 articles of sewing are they just figures? Or do they tell you of the hours of work and millions of stitches so willingly given to make socks, sweaters, layettes, quilts, hospital supplies, leather jackets, to help our fighting men and those who suffer because of war? When you read of thousands of cases of jam, do you, in your mind's eye, follow this jam across the Atlantic to the tables of little English children where it not only brings joy and much needed nourishment to young bodies but a feeling of kinship between England and Canada? When you think of vegetable seeds growing on British soil do you realize that a bit of Ontario has been transplanted to England and that the harvest will be one, not only of vegetables but of understanding and appreciation?

We should be pleased, not so much because of our accomplishments, but that it has been our privilege and opportunity to help those who are so hard-pressed in the battle for a great cause. Again, we must say that figures are inadequate. They tell us nothing of what our members have done to increase agricultural production; to conserve food and other goods; to prevent inflation; to help, in many intangible ways, those who are left at home when their husbands, sons and daughters have gone into active service; to welcome war brides from other countries; and, through neighbourly acts and fine citizenship, to promote our Canadian war effort.

### SUMMARY OF W. I. REPORTS

	(1) Nov. 1, 1943 to April 30, 1944	(2) Totals Sept. 1939 to April 30, 1944
Money Raised .....	\$ 87,901.23	\$529,335.96

### EXPENDITURES

	(1) Nov. 1, 1943 to April 30, 1944	(2) Totals Sept. 1939 to April 30, 1944
Gifts to Local Enlisted Men and Women.....	34,031.23	116,199.04
Wool and Sewing Supplies .....	7,755.67	87,092.88
Central Fund, F.W.I.O. ....	3,483.42	26,647.04
Red Cross .....	15,161.85	97,035.64
Navy League .....	4,697.30	15,684.76
Ditty Bags .....		5,857.07
Salvation Army War Work .....	2,185.71	9,548.25
British War Victims' Funds .....	2,159.50	33,620.29
Other United Nations' Relief Funds .....	2,811.95	16,987.28
British Minesweepers' Association .....		362.79
Other War Charities .....		7,887.21
Milk for Britain .....	562.18	2,268.19
Jam for Britain (Cash Contributions) .....	3,929.87	40,725.99
Cigarette Funds .....	294.37	778.38
Blankets .....		5,565.00
Blood Donor Clinics .....	441.12	548.87
Bales of Clothing..... (Approximate value)	1,682.55	2,457.75
War Savings Certificates and Bonds .....	6,391.06	35,229.27
Other Expenditures Reported .....	3,611.02	14,721.88

### WORK DONE

	(1) Nov. 1, 1943 to April 30, 1944	(2) Totals Sept. 1939 to April 30, 1944
Knitted Articles .....	35,328	383,719
Sewn Articles .....	65,558	468,047
W.I. War Savings Certificates filled .....	144	385
Blood Donors .....	2,836	2,836

### OTHER GIFTS

Maple Sugar (Navy League) .....	(lbs)	410
Blankets (Red Cross) .....		826
Jam and Honey—For Britain (See article page 1, col. 4).		
Seeds for Britain (See article below).		

## SEEDS FOR BRITAIN

After some anxiety about whether the last shipment of seeds had escaped the submarines we were happy to hear that all arrived safely. From Shropshire, the Isle of Wight, North Wales, Dorset, Lancashire, from every part of England and Wales, letters of appreciation are already reaching us in quantities, with such messages as: "The members of our Institute wish me to thank you for the gift of seeds which you so kindly sent and which have been distributed amongst them. I really think it is the kindly thought as well as the practical gift which helps us along in these hazardous times. Again many thanks."

"I am writing to thank you on be-

half of the members of the Wyke Regis W.I. for the garden seeds which we received safely. If they germinate as well as the ones we have had in previous years, they will do really well. The soil here is very good in this part of the world, dark and rich, with a mixture of peat and clay. We have organized a little friendly competition between ourselves to see who will get the best results from their seeds. Everyone here is very keen on their garden and the results that most of the amateur gardeners have achieved since the war is really amazing. "Vegetables mean more to us now than they have ever done, for all"

(Continued on Page 4, Col. 3)

## CENTRAL FUND, F.W.I.O.

From the inception of the Central Fund in 1940 to December 1943 (last audited statement) the Women's Institutes' contributions to this Fund have totalled \$29,088.26 and in addition \$7,096.80 was given to the Sugar Fund.

Outstanding donations have been reported from time to time but it is interesting now to review some of these:

Two Mobile Field Kitchens for use by Canadian Red Cross in England, 1941.....	\$6,200.00
Two Mobile Kitchens (F.W.I.C. and Middlesex County), 1943 .....	6,262.90
Recreation Room Furniture, Camp Borden, 1940 .....	678.01
F.W.I.C. Ambulance to Department of National Defence .....	1,510.00
British Children's War Service Fund (Garrison Lane Nursery School) .....	1,214.26
Spitfire Fund (Renfrew Co.) .....	522.30
N.F.W.I. England, War Distress Fund .....	500.00
Mrs. Winston Churchill's Fund for British Women.....	750.00
Other British War Victims' Funds .....	551.40
Chinese War Relief .....	1,246.25
Canadian Aid to Russia .....	1,451.18
Greek War Relief .....	182.50
Red Cross — Prisoners of War and Blanket Funds.....	4,168.04
Navy League of Canada .....	1,410.25
Vegetable Seeds, N.F.W.I., England .....	6,752.21
Hand Sealing Machines, N.F.W.I., England .....	291.98

For 1944 donations see report of Easter Board Meeting, page 4.

### Mobile Kitchen In Use

A letter from Mrs. W. H. Prescott, Baie Verte, N.B., reads: "This is only to tell you of the special use New Brunswick is making of the splendidly equipped canteen the Institutes of Ontario so generously gave us.

"The canteen is in Moncton where overseas soldiers passing through to other parts of Canada are given refreshments while the trains are in the Moncton station. No finer use could be made, I think, than to convey a bit of cheer to these men, many of whom are seriously wounded. I know you and your Institutes will be overjoyed in knowing of this and a friendship bond between Ontario and all parts of Canada will be strengthened.

"Once more, I thank the Ontario W.I. members for their kindness to us."

## THANKS FOR THE JAM

Sutton Veny House, Warminster, Wiltshire England.

"I have twenty-one children here with me all under five years old. All these children come from London and have lost one or both parents. I have just opened your splendid box of jam and I cannot tell you how touched and grateful I am for your sympathy and generosity."

(Signed) Mrs. M. Goodenough.

Charity Organization Society, Chelsea, London.

"I have just unpacked some beautiful jam which has come to us from Canada. We are most grateful to you for your kind and generous gift. The jam is given to the poor families and I can assure you it is very much appreciated. For our friends in Wentworth County, thanks."

(Signed) Victoria M. Hairclaugh.

Letters such as these make us think that the enterprise is still very worth while, more than ever, in fact, in trying days like these. Appreciation goes to all those who are purchasing jam or honey, to the manufacturers who are co-operating, and to those who have contributed to the sugar fund.

The Red Cross again issues permits for purchasing sugar, jam and honey and supplies tins, labels, cases and shipping facilities, all of which make it possible to get the jam in good condition to its final destination.

### 11,500 pounds—250,000 pounds

This year Canada's objective, Red Cross and Women's Institutes co-operating, is 450,000 pounds while Ontario's share is 250,000 pounds. Figures for jam sent from Ontario since the project was first started show an interesting development.

1939 .....	11,500 pounds
1940 .....	110,000 pounds
1941 .....	233,000 pounds
1942 .....	258,000 pounds
1943 .....	218,000 pounds

Total..... 830,500 pounds

The Institutes have a record of which they may well be proud and every Institute has the opportunity to share in this worthwhile war time project. With so many Institutes participating and with a fairly good fruit season in prospect let's make our slogan "More and Better Jam for 1944."

The Department would like to have pictures of your "jam bees" or letters from recipients in Britain, or excerpts from them.

(Contributed by Ruth B. Rorke, W.I. Branch.)

## WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CONVENTIONS

PLACE	BUILDING	DATE
Poplar	United Church	September 12
Iron Bridge	Orange Hall	September 14, 15
Fort Frances	Town Hall	September 19, 20
Timmins	Hollinger Hall	September 26, 27
South River	Parish Hall	September 28, 29
Barrie		October 12
Kingston	Convocation Hall, Queen's University	October 17, 18
Ottawa	Convention Hall, Chateau Laurier	October 19, 20
Belleville	Auditorium, Collegiate Institute	October 24, 25
Hamilton	Royal Connaught Hotel	October 26, 27
London	Hotel London	November 1, 2, 3
Guelph	Norfolk St. United Church	November 9, 10
Toronto	Royal York Hotel	November 14, 15, 16