

HOME AND COUNTRY

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EDITORIAL COMMENT

WE ARE STILL GROWING

Scarcely a month passes but word comes to us of the birth in Ontario of several new Institutes. In the past two years some forty have been enrolled. We are introducing them to you in the list that appears elsewhere in this issue, for we feel sure that all the readers of *Home and Country* will be anxious to join in a welcome to these newcomers.

You should find the list especially interesting at this time. When we look forward to celebrating our fiftieth anniversary in 1947, does it not bring forth a thrill of pride to belong to such an organization, starting as it did in 1897 with one small group and spreading until in 1946 the community in Ontario is rare indeed where at least one Institute does not flourish?

Let us not forget that whether our Institute is very young or "going on fifty" its success lies with every member. Officers are important, yes, but they are helpless without the loyal support of the members. It is your enthusiasm, your work, your willingness to co-operate, your loyalty that decides whether your Institute is "up and coming", or just one that "also ran".

To the new Institutes we say a hearty welcome. You will be welcomed in your own District at your District Annual, where we hope you will be well represented. Do not hesitate to ask your District officers about matters that you don't understand.

As you start on your new year, whether it is your first or your fiftieth, we send our good wishes that it may be a most happy and successful one.

Junior-Senior Luncheon



Front Row: Miss Lulu Row, Miss Jean Scott, Miss Florence P. Eadie, Mrs. Hugh Summers, Miss Marjorie Minnes; Miss Anna P. Lewis; Miss Betty Eller; Miss Anne Stewart; Miss Kay Walker, Mr. M. McIntyre Hood.
Back Row: Mrs. Elmer Young, Miss Dorothy Weicker, Mrs. Earl Empringham, Mrs. Wilkie, Miss Marion Humphrey, Miss Florence Laidlaw, Miss Margaret Clements, Miss Dorothy Fawcett, Miss Betty Ruddell, Miss Kay Weatherston, Miss Beatrice McDonald, Miss Beth Oliver, Mrs. Reta Mounjoy, Miss Marjorie Brown, Miss Margaret Thompson, Miss Margaret DeGroat, Miss Grace Thorburn, Miss Irene Smith, Miss Jean Whitty, Miss Verna Bambridge, Miss Ethel Cowan.

AGRICULTURE IN A POST
WAR WORLD

The story of Agriculture is the story of civilization. The first laws were land laws. When we follow the history of man through the centuries we realize that back of every conquering army, back of every mighty empire must stand the tillers of the soil! That as these have prospered or failed the nation has stood or fallen. The land means the things of life. The destiny of any people rests with the food supply.

Now that we are already in the era we have anticipated for six long war-weary years what does the future hold for rural people?

Ideas and work which a few years ago seemed important now fade into insignificance in the light of world affairs. Our limits today are no longer our community, our province, or our country. We must think and act internationally. The hungry and poor who are with us always are not on our door step. They are on the other side of the world but distance now is no excuse for ignorance of facts, or failure of duty.

Standing as we do at the beginning of an atomic age we need not emphasize the transcendent necessity for achieving peace now and for assurance against future wars. Peace and food are very closely interlinked. A hungry world is an angry world, hence the production and distribution of food is vitally important. The F. A. O. Conference at Quebec should be given a great deal of study and thought so that the nutritional value of food be given as much consideration as quantity. No longer should a huge percentage of people live on a diet of rice, potatoes and bread. Let us keep on with our victory gardens, these are one good project that has come out of the war.

How about our rural homes? Will the boys and girls coming home from so many different parts of the world be happy to return to what we have to offer them? A broad program of beautification of farm homes and rural schools will be a great incentive to travel-tired youth to settle down where they spent their childhood.

Our present favourable economic position is the result of a war-induced demand. Our poor economic position in pre-war years was due to the fact that over a period of years supply exceeded demand. Now we must have a better balance either by controlled production or by enlarged demand. We can enlarge the demand by increased population or by increasing the buying power of consumers by good wages and full employment.

Is the urban consumer cognizant of the fact that during war years the government paid a large part of

SUMMARY OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTE WAR REPORT

	May 1, 1945 to Oct. 31, 1945	Sept., 1939 to Oct. 31, 1945
Money Raised	\$40,653.94	\$736,865.23
REPORTED EXPENDITURES		
Gifts to Local Enlisted Men and Women	10,128.18	197,133.11
Wool and Sewing Supplies	2,839.50	105,056.16
Central Fund, F. W. I. O.	2,216.81	35,629.33
Red Cross	2,597.21	118,115.80
Navy League	2,208.82	22,196.59
Ditty Bags	1,869.43	13,914.54
Salvation Army War Work	1,894.57	16,020.73
British War Victims' Fund's	262.12	36,400.44
United Nations' Relief Funds	175.81	18,140.68
British Minesweepers' Auxiliary		953.88
Milk for Britain	480.83	4,486.80
Jam for Britain (Cash Contributions)	8,549.62	62,898.38
Cigarette Funds		1,438.30
Blankets		5,565.00
Blood Donor Clinics	29.93	1,170.02
Institute for the Blind	1,222.54	1,222.54
War Savings Certificates and Bonds	5,468.30	56,416.95
Other Expenditures	1,037.14	28,547.23
WORK DONE		
Knitted Articles	15,022	455,645
Sewn Articles	20,268	581,105
W. I. War Savings Certificates filled	93	711
Blood Donors	1,513	10,853

their food bill by subsidization of many farm products? Farmers accepted this as part of their war co-operation. They did not consider it a good policy. Now more than ever they realize it was a poor policy. If subsidies are now removed will floor prices for farm products give farmers a price on a parity with other industries? Or are farmers headed for permanent subsidization? This rates serious thinking.

Discussion groups in meetings are a great benefit. Organize and promote Farm Forums in your community. They are making an important contribution to the development of rural community life. Chances are if Farm Forums are not popular in your area it is because they have not been given a fair chance either by poor leadership or that the material does not suit the particular area. If such be the case create your own material pertinent to your area and make your discussion groups popular.

Let us qualify ourselves intelligently to meet the challenge of a new world order. The complete united nations program is the start, the end is some form of world government to establish law and order—a parliament of man whose international aim is peace and universal security in the federation of the world.

(Contributed by Mrs. F. M. Rutherford, Provincial Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries).

JUNIOR INSTITUTES

(Continued from page 1, col. 1)
organization and proceeded with a critical eye to the Junior Institute constitution. The day passed all too quickly so a committee was formed to study the constitution further and to make recommendations to the Spring meeting of the Provincial Board of the Women's Institutes and to the annual meeting of the Junior Farmers' Association.

A happy feature of the day was the luncheon with Miss Marjorie Minnes, Executive Secretary of the Save the Children Fund, as guest. Miss Minnes took the opportunity to thank the Junior Institutes for their recent contribution of \$600. to the fund.

The conference was significant in a good many ways. One was that it stressed the possibilities of a happy relationship between Seniors and Juniors. Each group has much to contribute to the other and while the girls may wish to alter the Junior Institute constitution somewhat to meet the special needs of youth, there seems no reason why Seniors and Juniors should not work happily together, uniting in community efforts with each group strengthening the other. Mature people can profit by the enthusiasm and energy of youth while they in turn might well avail themselves of the experience and wisdom that only years can bring.