

HOME and COUNTRY

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DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETINGS PROVE REAL INSPIRATION

District Annuals in this first post-war year show our women keen and ready to get on with the job of building a foundation for a lasting peace. From war work our women turn to peacetime activities. Uppermost they are interested in doing their bit to alleviate the suffering of a war-torn world. But also, there is a definite trend toward more community work. Welcoming parties for the boys and girls from the Services, special welcomes for war brides and a greater interest in our young people were items mentioned at most annuals.

Our women, the mothers of the community, are doing much to develop a happy, wholesome community life and right attitudes which will bind our homes and families together. Through community understanding it is the aim of our women to help build better national and international understanding.

Mrs. Hayes Reports

In general, I found no weakening or lessening of effort, but rather, a keener appreciation of the need for and scope of that work "For Home and Country" for which the organization has always stood. Thinking women are taking their Institute work more seriously than ever before. This was proven by the fact that this year there was very little of the difficulty experienced in previous years with the elections of officers,—in both the elections conducted by Board Members and the three I conducted myself, there appeared a much greater willingness on the part of members to accept office and to assume responsibility. Can this be a by-product of our "Citizenship" work with its emphasis on the obligations of the individual in the matter of providing the needed leadership for democratic organization?

There was also, and this very noticeably, a much more optimistic spirit than in former years. Two-thirds of the districts visited reported having new Institutes organized during the year, and many more reported groups on the point of organization. This is in sharp contrast to the years of the immediate past where the story was one of disbanding.

Now for some specific details.

Leeds—The Standing Committee Reports were unusually well compiled and well presented, particularly Social Welfare. Some of the reported activities were the clinic for the immunization of children against diphtheria; the arranging of transportation of 50 persons to a chest clinic; the canvas of local citizens which resulted in a petition to the council for the establishment of a library.

Brockville—The District presented prizes to school children for such projects as the making of a "Book of Good Manners", animal pictures, door stops, toys and temperance posters. These articles were on display at the meeting, and were judged, and prizes awarded.

Lennox had a lively meeting highlighted by the brisk efficiency of the district officers. The President made a very fine opening address outlining the duties of the district director, the duties of the local secretaries in the matter of reports, fees, etc. and the secretary gave her reports with exactitude and unusual attention to detail. There was a display of made-over articles, for which prizes were given.

Hastings East—Three interesting displays marked this meeting—Tweedsmuir Village Books, work of a Homemaking Club and articles remade. A Roll Call,—"How we can

as Women's Institute members improve Canada by having better homes"—brought out some very excellent ideas, every branch responding.

Hastings West also had a Roll Call—"This Fair Canada of Ours", the responses touching on every aspect of Canadian Life,—her heritage, her peoples, her resources, her assets, her destiny among nations. The constructive part played by our own W. I. in Canadian life was stressed and in the reports Women's Institute activities were linked up with nation building.

Hastings North—This annual was outstanding because the district con-

veners of most committees reported receiving reports from every single branch in the district.

Prince Edward—This district is giving special attention to its teenage population. Almost without exception its branches carry on organized youth projects.

At Northumberland East—A Roll Call which gave the institutes a carte blanche to say what they pleased brought forth interesting results. Some spoke of Institute work, some gave bits of inspirational verse, one spoke on "Hobbies", one on "Posture", one gave a brief biographical sketch

of Lady Margaret Alexander, one propounded a stimulating Quizz and one, newly-organized, told how they had come to organize as a Women's Institute.

One Institute reported holding a "Baby Meeting" at which babies and young mothers were entertained.

Northumberland West—This was a very successful and inspiring annual due to the general high standard of reports and the detailed review of the tremendous amount of work accomplished. Every person who had any part in the day's proceedings seemed

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NORTHERN TOUR SHOWS WOMEN ENTHUSIASTIC AND KEEN



UPPER LEFT: SIMCOE SOUTH ANNUAL AT NEWTON ROBINSON

Left to right—Miss Anna Lewis, Superintendent; Mrs. Roy Goodfellow, President; Mrs. H. E. Hughes, Sec.-Treas.; Mrs. G. C. Allan, Hon. Pres. and Mrs. G. G. Johnston, Board Director.

UPPER RIGHT: SOUTH MUSKOKA GROUP AT BRACEBRIDGE

Left to right—Miss Mae Clendenan, Farmer's Advocate; Mrs. C. Kirkpatrick, President; Mrs. Butler; Mrs. L. B. Creasor; Board Director for the Muskokas; Miss Lilly Petty, Home Economist and Mrs. John K. Bailey, Sec.-Treas.

CENTRE LEFT: MUSKOKA CENTRE EXECUTIVE AT ALLANSVILLE

Left to right—Mrs. A. Plested, 2nd Vice-President; Mrs. A. W. Briese, Honorary President; Mrs. E. E. Brown, President; Mrs. Roy Bunn, newly-elected President; and Mrs. E. Perryman, Secretary

CENTRE RIGHT: KENORA WOMEN RIDE TO DISTRICT MEETING IN PRESIDENT'S TRUCK

Left to right—Miss Anna Lewis, Superintendent; Mrs. L. H. Durfey, District President and Mrs. Sarah Christianson, Board Director for Kenora and Rainy River Districts.

LOWER LEFT: WOMEN'S INSTITUTE REST ROOM AT BRACEBRIDGE; A WORTHY PROJECT SPONSORED BY MUSKOKA SOUTH DISTRICT.

LOWER CENTRE: OUR MOST NORTHERLY INSTITUTES ANSWER THE ROLL CALL BY DONATING BABIES LAYETTES

A gift from the district to the hospital at Hearst. Executive officers are, left to right—Mrs. M. Steen, Sec.Treas.; Mrs. Wilson, Vice-Pres.; Mrs. Ross Dodds, Board Director for Cochrane and Temiskaming; Mrs. G. Ash, President.

LOWER RIGHT: WAR BRIDES GIVEN SPECIAL WELCOME AT HUNTSVILLE, MUSKOKA NORTH

The picture shows Mrs. V. Cox and Mrs. Charles Wood, war brides now living in Rosseau.