

HOME AND COUNTRY

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Correspondence should be addressed to
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Women's Institute Branch
Department of Agriculture
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EDITORIAL COMMENT

EACH TO HER TASK

All over the province recently elected officers of Women's Institutes are taking up their new responsibilities. Many of these officers are anxious about the obligations they have accepted, for they know that their leadership will be a factor in the success of the Institutes. To these, I would say: Do not be discouraged because the task seems overwhelming; your faith in and loyalty to the Institute led you to accept these responsibilities and this will be a source of strength to you as a leader.

If each officer has as her goal the widest possible promotion of the aims of the Women's Institute and is able to gain the co-operation of the members in attaining this goal, she will have a good foundation for the success of the year's activity.

The coming year should be a worthwhile and interesting one for members and officers alike with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute being celebrated. The past years have proved the worth of our organization. It is to be hoped that the coming years will be the years of our greatest expansion.

To those officers, newly elected, let me stress what has so often been stressed in the past, study the Women's Institute Hand Book. If in the Institute there are problems which are not dealt with in the Hand Book it would be well to enquire about these matters by writing to the Women's Institute Branch. Consideration will be given to these problems in the revision of the Hand Book.

As to the activities of your Institute, do plan with care for there is the danger of our enthusiasm leading us astray. I hope your plans have

INTRODUCING
MRS. MCCULLOCH

To those Women's Institute members not acquainted with Mrs. J. H. McCulloch, R.R. 2, Brampton, recently elected secretary-treasurer of F.W.I.O., we wish to introduce Mrs. McCulloch as a member with an outstanding background of Institute activity.

Mrs. McCulloch, a teacher before her marriage, first joined the Junior Institute in 1926 and was elected president and later district director from the Junior Branch.

After graduating to the senior Women's Institute her ability soon marked her for service first as standing committee convener then as branch president, district secretary, federation representative and Toronto convention area secretary. In 1938 Mrs. McCulloch was elected board director for her subdivision.

In addition to this fine record of service to the Women's Institute Mrs. McCulloch has been active on behalf of Peel Memorial Hospital, the county Agricultural Society, Federation of Agriculture and Musical Festival. She was also treasurer of the township Red Cross Society.

Mrs. McCulloch, in advancing Institute work, is upholding a family tradition. Her father-in-law, Mr. Robert McCulloch, pioneered in helping to organize Women's Institutes in Peel County. He recognized the worth of such an organization to the rural community and has ever been a true friend of the Institute.

As you read this sketch, I am sure you will agree that Mrs. McCulloch has made a valuable contribution to the Women's Institute and you will warmly welcome her in the larger field of activity to which she has been called.

When Mrs. McCulloch accepted this offer her words were: "My heart is in the work of our Women's Institutes and I have always felt it both a privilege and an honour to serve it in any capacity".

included a Short Course from the Co-operative Program.

Last but not least, let us all, members and officers alike, cultivate the kindly and gracious spirit. In the hurly-burly of war years graciousness and consideration for others were sometimes laid aside in our fervour to get things done. Now we may need to make a conscious effort in order to recapture this kindly spirit. I believe there might even be cases where in striving to be truly parliamentary and business-like the true Institute spirit has become a bit obscured.

Let us never forget that the founding of the first Women's Institute came to pass because Adelaide Hoodless had a great, loving heart, which yearned to save others needless heart-ache. And that same love of others is the very foundation stone of our organization.

(Mrs. Hugh) Mildred Summers,
President

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL BOARD MEETING

Many salient points were brought to the fore at the April Board Meeting this year. Since you will have heard a full report of this meeting at your district annual we shall bring to your attention only a few of the major considerations.

50th ANNIVERSARY PLANS

February 19, 1947 will mark the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, Ontario.

To commemorate the founding of the Women's Institutes it was decided that a sinking fund be established for the purpose of (a) establishing Adelaide Hoodless Scholarships for entrance to Macdonald Institute and (b) a Women's Institute Foundation at Stoney Creek. Since Adelaide Hoodless was so keenly interested in the education of our rural women and girls in the Art of Homemaking and since the Home Economics course at Guelph was started as a result of this interest it was thought fitting to commemorate this anniversary by establishing these scholarships. Thus we would be aiding our own rural girls in attaining better Homemaking practices.

From Stoney Creek, the Women's Institutes have spread until we are now a world organization "The Associated Country Women of the World". Many members all over the world will want to visit the site of the first Institute.

To finance the above and to help finance an appropriate provincial celebration it will require the equivalent of one dollar per member from each Institute, to be raised in whatever manner the individual Institute sees fit. This should be paid through the district secretary-treasurer to the Provincial Secretary-Treasurer by November 1, 1946.

For committee members, see Winter Home and Country.

HAND BOOK COMMITTEE

The following recommendations of the Hand Book Committee were accepted by the F.W.I.O. Board:

1. That the Women's Institutes, Districts, Convention Areas and the Provincial Board be requested to review their respective by-laws and bring them up-to-date.

2. That as a result of reviewing respective by-laws each Women's Institute, district, convention area and the Provincial Board be advised to devote a definite period of time for discussion of the Hand Book revision at their annual meeting.

3. That every member of the Institute should feel free to send in suggestions re revision of Hand Book.

4. That the Hand Book Committee review the constitution of other women's organizations of similar type. It should be stressed that in order to leave plenty of time to receive suggestions for the Hand Book, the revised edition will not be available until late 1947. The current edition is still available at 25 cents from Mrs. J. H. McCulloch, R.R. 2, Brampton.

BEVERAGE ROOM BRIEF

The Women's Institutes of Ontario stood on record this year by calling together representatives of the various women's organizations in Ontario asking them to stand united in an effort to abolish women's beverage rooms. Mrs. J. R. Futcher, Board Member for Subdivision 14, presented this brief to Premier Drew and was accompanied by a delegation appointed by the committee formed of representatives from Provincial Women's Organizations. We present the brief in part:

"We represent the rank and file of the sane-thinking women of Ontario, both urban and rural, and we are standing together in defence, against an evil that is undermining our homes. This evil is Women's Beverage Rooms. We consider Women's Beverage Rooms the most immoral and degrading force ever existing in our Province. We feel we can no longer tolerate them because of the conditions which they produce.

It has always been woman's res-

ponsibility to keep the moral standards of civilization on as high a plane as possible. But these moral standards of civilization can be no higher than its womanhood. We are fearful of the destructive force the Women's Beverage Room is wielding. There has been an alarming increase in illegitimacy, juvenile delinquency, venereal disease, and divorce in our Province. While we know this increase is not entirely due to the Women's Beverage Room, it is common knowledge that it is the greatest contributing factor.

For the protection of our womanhood and the present and future safety of our homes, this evil must be abolished."

In reporting to the F.W.I.O. Board, Mrs. Futcher stated: "While the committee was disappointed that the brief did not bring the results hoped for, still we were assured by both the Minister of Agriculture and the Premier, that the brief had been of influence in framing legislation". "Now", said Mrs. Futcher, "we have the opportunity of taking the vote in our own local communities".

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The following recommendations of the finance committee were approved:

1. That a contribution of 1 cent per member per year be made by the Institutes of Ontario to the A.C.W.W.

2. That a contribution of 5 cents per member per year be paid to the F.W.I.C. The suggestion was made that the collection at the February meeting be F.W.I.C. month collection and that 5 cents per month be remitted through the proper channels to the F.W.I.C.

A proposed increase in the membership fee from 25 cents to 50 cents per member was brought before the Board by the finance committee. After a lively discussion it was decided that each board director discuss the advisability of this increased fee at the District Annual. Further investigation and discussion will take place at the November meeting.

Many requests had come in regarding a raise in the fee. Institutes now find with their financial obligation to the district, the convention area, the Board, F.W.I.C. and A.C.W.W. that the 25 cent fee no longer covers the amount paid out per member. When first our Institutes were organized, there were only the local Branches to consider. Now that our horizons have widened and we are organized provincially, nationally and internationally, our responsibilities as well as our opportunities have increased.

NEW RULING PERTAINING TO
BRANCH LIFE MEMBERSHIP

In order that Life Membership may be transferable from one Women's Institute to another in Ontario, should the holder move to another Women's Institute, it is requested that the \$5.00, formerly paid to the branch treasury, now be forwarded to the Provincial Secretary with the application form. This relieves the Women's Institute concerned from paying the yearly Federation fee of this member.

MRS. LEATHERDALE AND MRS.
TAIT HONOURED

At a special luncheon given by the F.W.I.O. Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale was presented with a corsage of sweetheart roses and a beautiful set of matched leather travelling cases as a token of appreciation for her twelve years of faithful service as secretary-treasurer, F.W.I.O.

Mrs. Nelson Tait also was remembered. As a token of thanks for her untiring effort as secretary-treasurer Central Fund she was presented with a lovely floral spray lapel pin designed in Institute colours.

TWEEDSMUIR PICTURES
F.W.I.O. SEALS

Pictures of Lord and Lady Tweedsmuir, the Forward for the Tweedsmuir Village History and pictures of Adelaide Hoodless may be procured from Mrs. J. H. McCulloch, R.R. 2, Brampton at 5 cents each or 3 for 10.

F.W.I.O. seals in three sizes, 1", 2½" and 4" in blue and gold may also be procured at 1c each.