

HOME and COUNTRY

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CONVENTION AREAS GO FORWARD IN THINKING AND WORKING TOWARD LASTING PEACE

CITIZENSHIP, FAMILY LIVING AND COMMUNITY BETTERMENT STRESSED

"Citizenship Must Begin In The Home". "A Nation Goes Forward On The Feet of Little Children". "If Everyone Talked and Lived Citizenship What Place Would There Be For War". These were characteristic statements heard at conventions this Fall. The London theme "Citizenship", the Bar River theme "As the Home is So Is the Nation", the Port Arthur theme "Peace and Progress" and the Toronto theme "Forward In Thinking and In Working" portrayed the spirit which permeated all convention area meetings. The eagerness on the part of our women for new ideas and suggestions, the splendid addresses and reports, the friendly discussions and the enthusiastic interest in Institute work were inspiring to all those present.

Attendance, with the exception of two areas, exceeded that of former years. Many new faces were welcomed which augurs well for the expansion of our work. All of us realize the help we receive from first hand contacts in convention. Next year let us look forward to meeting all our old friends along with new representatives from each Institute.

OUR PROVINCIAL PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hugh Summers, Provincial President, won the hearts of all women with whom she came in contact. Her quiet charm, her readiness to bring help and encouragement and her understanding manner in dealing with Institute problems were an inspiration and an example to our members.

Speaking on the Fiftieth Anniversary theme WE TREASURE THE PAST—WE FACE THE FUTURE, Mrs. Summers paid high tribute to our founder, Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, and to all those who contributed so much toward the advancement of Women's Institute work. She urged our women to keep in mind present day problems and to awaken to our new responsibilities.

This Transition Period

"At present we are in a dangerous period with nation distrustful and suspicious of nation, with Labour and industry warring with each other and so many broken and unhappy homes, the aftermath of war. All these things make it seem as if true peace is almost as far off as in the days when war raged.

If we are to achieve true peace we must have the courage to believe that the unselfish efforts of folk like us bring peace and harmony out of present day chaos, but we must be willing to make a conscious effort to do this.

We know that women alone can not achieve this but we can have a real part in forming ideas and opinions which will be on the side of friendly relations and peaceful living.

It cannot be denied that there are still far too many women who fence themselves in behind a kitchen cupboard, a kitchen stove and a sink and there they stay oblivious of the pageant of the races passing just beyond their door. It is the duty and responsibility of women's organizations to rouse these women from their indifference and teach them they have a responsibility to their fellow men which they are not assuming. This is an urgent matter if we are not to lose the best way of life."

Contact With Public Affairs

"For years we have been urged to use our vote, and rightly so. But this does not go far enough, I believe people of intelligence should be in



Upper Left: Interesting Tour Planned at Lakehead.

Lady Directors of Lakehead Exhibition along with Mrs. Summers, Miss Lewis, Miss Collins and Mrs. Christianson snapped during convention area tour of Lakehead Exhibition and other beauty spots.

Upper Right: Callander Convention Officers and Standing Committee Conveners.

Centre: Mrs. W. W. Briese, Area Secretary; Mrs. David Anderson, new Chairman; Mrs. Herb. Alkins, Chairman.

Centre Left: Busload Arrives for Bar River Convention.

Front Row: Miss Irene McBride, Psychologist, W.I. Branch; Miss Audrey Spencer, Handicrafts, W.I. Branch; Mrs. L. J. Watson, Convention Secretary; Mrs. J. R. Stobie, Vice-Chairman; Mrs. C. Booth,

Chairman and Mrs. B. Eggesfield, W.P.T.B. representative.

Centre Right: New Liskeard Group.

Centre: Mrs. A. Ritchie, Chairman.

Lower Left: Ottawa Honoured by Visit from Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen.

Left to right: Miss Sybil Hill, Jamaica (visiting Ontario Institutes); Miss Anna Lewis, Mrs. Laura Rose Stephen (first Government Lecturer who helped organize the second W.I. at Whitby).

Lower Right: Handicraft Display.

Miss Audrey Spencer, Women's Institute staff member demonstrates weaving to Callander officers, Mrs. Summers and Miss Jean Stewart, Home Economist.

contact with their Members of Parliament voicing their ideas on matters of policy and prospective legislation. Thus we will have a real voice in government. Another thing which would do no harm would be to have more women in government whether local, provincial or national. In this nation we have been backward in not putting women in the positions of trust which they merit."

Foster Community Gatherings

"Coming to our responsibilities near at hand, nothing is of greater importance to the Institute than the sons and daughters of the home and community. Every Institute should have a part in fostering community gatherings and activities. It is fine to have gatherings to which the whole family can go and each have a good time. If you have no hall or community building plan to make the school the centre of community gatherings.

This interest in youth should be evident in sponsoring Home-making Clubs.

W. I. Scholarship

"It was because the interest of Women's Institute members has ever centred in our young people that the 50th Anniversary Committee recommended to the Provincial Board that Miss Powell's idea for scholarships for girls wishing to enter the Home Economics Course at Guelph be adopted to mark 50 years of service and growth in Women's Institutes. The directors of the Provincial Board unanimously approved the setting up of a fund so that the interest from the money collected will each year provide a suitable scholarship for some worthy daughter. One of the major responsibilities of Women's Institute members in this coming anniversary year is to mark our 50th anniversary in the true Women's Institute spirit. For 50 years Women's Institutes have served and worked for others and this has been fine. But let us for this one anniversary year work and serve putting our own organization to which we owe allegiance first."

Peace Garden on Border

"Right here I would like to remind Women's Institute members that the Women's Institute was the first organization to be allotted a plot of ground for beautification in the Peace Garden on the Border between Manitoba and Dakota. During the war years labour and financial assistance were both lacking and only very essential work was done. Now it is time for us to again renew our interest and assistance to this garden dedicated to the furthering of peace."

Health and Library Services

"Health services and the setting up of County Health Units are much to the fore at present and I know that the Women's Institute members are active on their behalf for our Women's Institutes have always made the problem of better health for our citizens one of their first concerns. How do our communities rate regarding library services? We know from statistics how far behind rural areas

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