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FEDERATED WOMEN'S INSTITUTES OF CANADA MEET IN HALIFAX

The 15th Biennial Meeting of the Board of Directors of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada was held in the Nova Scotian Hotel, Halifax, June 9-13, 1947.

To this meeting came the President and one other member from each Province, the two Standing Committee Conveners (Citizenship and Home Economics) and as Counsellors, the Superintendents or Directors of W.I. work in each Province.

Mrs. Dow, President, welcomed six Superintendents and one assistant, the greatest number yet to attend a Biennial. All felt that the contribution of these trained leaders was most valuable.

It was very fitting that during this Golden Jubilee Year of the Women's Institute its Federal Board should meet in the historic city of Halifax.

In the atmosphere of this old city with its monuments, old churches, historic forts and cemeteries, it was easy to review the past in gratitude to all who created this 1947.

The "Future" pressed in upon us as we gazed far out to sea and out of the mists came the old war-scarred Aquitania silently placing into Canada's arms her cargo of Europe's hurt.

The sight of that "old" face of the little girl who seemingly had never laughed, will live in our memories always, and will stand as a living symbol of the challenge of the future to the Institute Mother-heart—Childhood's right to happiness!

This Biennial seemed a summit on our Institute path, where we women paused to look back over the travelled way, taking stock of success and reverse; then, together we turned to look down the other side to the far horizon. With one accord, thinking of the 70,000 country women behind us, we stepped forward, hand in hand, with confidence and zeal to meet the challenge of the road ahead.

The Policy Committee met June 5-6. Additional Directors joined them June 7 for the Executive Meeting when F.W.I.C. business was clarified and arranged for presentation to the full Board commencing June 9.

Mrs. Dow's love of "brevity, clarity and efficiency" found opportunity during her four year Presidency for "setting the F.W.I.C. house in order".

She spared no effort in drafting an accurate revision of the By-Laws; these were thoroughly studied by Executive and Board and a motion was passed that we, the F.W.I.C., ask the Secretary of State to accept our By-Laws as revised. Two copies of the final revision will be made for each province to study and vote taken at next Biennial.

Provincial Briefs

Each Province prepared a Brief. These were discussed with the resulting recommendations and decisions—1. That fares of the second director from each province be pooled, the statement re railway fares being given to the secretary-treasurer prior to Biennial meeting.

2. That Provinces continue to pay 10 cents per branch per year for 1 copy of Federated News but that individuals may subscribe for 25 cents per year to the F.W.I.C. Publicity Director (Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Lennoxville, P.Q.)

3. Re Radio hook-up, that the national outlook was out of the question, but provincial and local units should stress its use.

4. That provinces continue the



Front Row (left to right): Mrs. A. S. Dennis, Vancouver, B.C., Citizenship convenue; Mrs. Redstone, New Brunswick; Mrs. E. E. Morton, Alberta, first Vice-President; Mrs. A. C. MacMillan, Prince Edward Island, President, F.W.I.C.; Mrs. Cameron Dow, Quebec, Past President; Mrs. E. M. Crowe, Nova Scotia, second Vice-President; Mrs. R. W. Chalmers, British Columbia; Mrs. L. W. Challand, Ontario; Mrs. Robert Palmer, Manitoba; Miss Hazard, Prince Edward Island, Assistant Supervisor of Women's Institutes.

Second Row: Mrs. Robt. Thompson, New Brunswick; Miss Anna Lewis, Ontario, Director, Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service; Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Quebec Publicity Director; Mrs. Hugh Summers, Ontario; Mrs. R. J. Burgess, Manitoba; Mrs. Elton T. L. Townsend, Manitoba, Home Economics convenue; Miss Mary Powers, Superintendent, Women's Institutes of Nova Scotia; Mrs. Elton Smith, Nova Scotia; Mrs. W. C. Smallman, Quebec; Miss Evelyn Walker, Secretary-Demonstrator, Women's Institutes of Quebec.

Back Row: Mrs. A. B. McGorman, Saskatchewan; Miss Alma Weldon, Director, Women's Institutes of New Brunswick; Mrs. Stella Gummow, Superintendent, Women's Institutes of British Columbia; Mrs. George Martin, Prince Edward Island; Mrs. S. J. Hill, Saskatchewan; Mrs. Eric Given, Saskatchewan; Miss Mary Macdonald, Supervisor, Women's Institutes of Prince Edward Island.

minimum fee of 5 cents per member and that sale of Federal Seals be continued.

5. That Life Memberships in F.W.I.C. with brief history and photograph of recipient be permanently recorded.

6. That Credential Forms be made in duplicate, one sent to the Secretary the other presented by the Director, giving name and qualifications of Director and of her Alternate, and designating first or second vote.

7. That 10% of sale of seals be retained by the province.

8. Re Canadian Mosaic, that the delegates to Amsterdam study exhibits and give leadership toward creating a proper Canadian mosaic for the next A.C.W.W. Triennial.

9. Re Shut-in Day, that we approve and already support it but hope it may not be commercialized.

10. That Institute leadership courses be organized—or continued—in provinces.

11. That F.W.I.C. consider carefully work in the Peace Garden, calling for the funds on hand if necessary; that Miss McKay and Mrs. Palmer of Manitoba be empowered to contact Federal Directors and act on their behalf.

12. That Provincial Institute magazines be sent to Lady Tweedsmuir.

13. That a liaison officer who is conversant with Canadian W.I. work be appointed to N.F.W.I.

14. That no national Calendar be attempted at present.

15. That the Million Member Plan be approved, but that no lists of names be expected.

16. That the offices of Recording Sec. and Corresponding Sec. and Treas. be combined, with necessary office-equipment supplied and \$25 per month paid as part-time salary and \$5 per month as rent of space, this appointment being for 1947-49; the new secretary-treasurer to be also in charge of British Handicrafts and Case.

17. That we follow suggestions of

A.C|W.W. to study "The Country Woman's Day" and A.C.W.W. By-laws and Handbook.

18. That we study the aims and objects of the Federation of Agriculture.

19. That instructions concerning Tweedsmuir Competitions be drafted and sent to the provinces.

20. That the question of a Brochure on F.W.I.C. work be referred to the new Policy Committee and Publicity Convenue.

21. That the Federal Board have souvenir spoons made, with crest, for awards or gifts.

22. That, if funds be made available, a Foundation Fund be planned. This was endorsed in principle but referred for details to incoming Policy Committee to report at next Biennial.

Tweedsmuir Cup Competition

Results of the Tweedsmuir Competition were announced, the awards being Silver Cups donated by Lady Tweedsmuir to the following:

(a) Village History to Hampton W.I., N.B.; work of Mrs. Guy Humphrey and her sister, judged by Prof. Glazebrook of Toronto University.

(b) Shopping Bag to Bible Hill W.I., N.S.; work of Mrs. L. A. DeWolfe, and judged by the Exhibition Committee of the Canadian Handicraft Guild.

(c) Essay of 500 words on "The Book I Have Most Enjoyed" to Islay-Zion W.I., Ontario; work of Mrs. J. H. Christian, and judged by Prof. H. C. Avison, McGill University.

These awards are to be competed for at each Biennial and the individual doing the work is the custodian; each winning Institute's name to be engraved thereon. No Institute who received an award may compete again in the same class.

A committee was named to draft rules for the next competition.

New Officers 1947-49

The following officers were elected, President, Mrs. Allison MacMillan, R.R. 4, Charlottetown, P.E.I.; Vice-Presidents, Mrs. E. E. Morton, Vegreville, Alta. and Mrs. E. M. Crowe, Stewiacke, N.S.; Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. W. B. Leatherdale, Coldwater, Ont.

Mrs. Hugh Summers, Fonthill, Ont., was named as one of the eight members on the executive.

Conveners of Standing Committees were—Home Economics, Mrs. T. L. Townsend, Fort Garry, Man.; Citizenship, Mrs. A. S. Dennis, Vancouver B.C.; Director of Publicity, Mrs. A. E. Abercrombie, Lennoxville, P.Q.; Pen Friend Secretary, Mrs. Leo. Challand, Simcoe, Ont.

Mrs. Cameron Dow, O.B.E., Port Daniel, P.Q., is Past President.

The Board deeply regretted the absence of Mrs. Clarence Holmes, of Belleville through illness. Her work as Secretary-Treasurer was divided between Mrs. Abercrombie and Mrs. T. L. Townsend.

Hospitality Arranged

Nova Scotia's hospitality was delightful; Miss Mary Powers, Superintendent, as Department hostess, and Mrs. Elton Smith and Mrs. Crowe, hostesses representing the Institutes of Nova Scotia, anticipated our every wish. Mayor Ahern welcomed us on behalf of the City, and Hon. L. D. Currie, extended greetings from the N.S. Government.

The N.S. Department of Agriculture arranged a drive to see Halifax by night; later we were supper guests of W.I.N.S. Each was presented with a picture of especial Nova Scotian scenery.

On Thursday a heavy session on Briefs was lightened by a Harbour Cruise round the North-West Arm, then a directed tour of inspection of

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