

MRS. RAYMOND SAYRE, PRESIDENT A.C.W.W. SPEAKS AT CORNELL FARM AND HOME WEEK



Your Provincial President, Mrs. J. R. Futcher, your director, Miss Anna Lewis, along with Misses Jean Scott and Flora Durnin of the Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service staff and Mrs. Maud Kerr, Women's Editor, Family Herald and Weekly Star paid a goodwill visit to the U.S.A. They made many interesting contacts with the Home Bureau members while on tour of Cornell Farm and Home Week.

One of the highlights of the trip was our happy association with Mrs. Raymond Sayre of Ackworth, Iowa, president of the Associated Country Women of the World. Mrs. Sayre was elected president at the A.C.W.W. Conference in Amsterdam to succeed Mrs. Alfred Watt.

In speaking to the huge audience assembled in Bailey Hall, Cornell University, Mrs. Sayre spoke on "The World Situation from a Woman's Point of View", and said:

"Women have prayed long and ardently for peace; the time has come for them to implement their prayers by specific, concrete, realistic, practical means of getting the job done.

"The world situation needs, not only programs for recovery, but people who are prepared and willing to act as world citizens.

"The first and fundamental requirement of world citizenship must be the realization of world interdependence."

"Another requirement, 'Understanding that no section of the world economy, whether it is agriculture, business, labour or woman can solve its problems separately'.

"Agriculture cannot exist in a vacuum. It must relate itself to consumption, employment, investment, trade

"It is easy to see what trade restrictions have done to the living of the people of Europe. . . . If agricultural policies are to be made with any reference at all to the world situation it will mean lowering tariffs on some farm products—wool, for example.

"I suppose it is the rankest heresy for a farmer's wife to say this—especially the wife of a farmer who has wool to sell—but if tariff concessions to freer trade had even the merest chance—and I think they have a chance—to contribute to peaceful relations among the nations of the earth, then I am for them. My stake is a world of peace and freedom for my children."

Her other world citizenship requirements were:

"(1) Acceptance of the responsibility of keeping ourselves informed about what is going on—particularly the economic facts of life. I do not think we dare ignore the political effects of hungry people.

"(2) Acceptance of political responsibility. In the past women, loving cleanliness, have prided themselves on divorcing their activities from politics which they customarily refer to as 'dirty'. She urged that each woman align herself with a political party and work for the ideas she believes in.

"(3) Patience and willingness to get along with other people. We are

HISTORICAL RESEARCH

Historical Research has been an important subject for study and discussion by our Women's Institute members for some years, particularly so in 1947, when we celebrated, at Guelph, the Fiftieth Anniversary of the founding of our organization, which had its inception at Stoney Creek, Ontario.

This celebration was the means of creating a great deal of renewed interest and enthusiasm throughout our Institutes as was evidenced by the many splendid Tweedsmuir History Books which were on exhibition at the O.A.C. and entered into Provincial competition. The first prize was awarded to the Burwick Women's Institute (Woodbridge, Ont.).

We, unfortunately, did not reach our objective of "A Tweedsmuir History Book in every Institute by the date of our Celebration in June, 1947". I now make it a special request that all Institutes which have not yet commenced the compilation of these History Books do so without any further delay.

After examination of a number of these Books I find that a "Contents" sheet at the front of the book would be a great time-saving aid to readers. I would like to see all the Tweedsmuir History Books with such a sheet included. Pictures add greatly to the interest of the books. All pictures should be dated if possible.

Do not overlook the necessity of keeping the Current Events section of these Books up-to-date as regards local items of historical interest as they occur. Tell of the Fall Fairs, Agricultural and Horticultural Shows, also records of outstanding citizens, authors, artists, family reunions, etc. Please see that your Tweedsmuir History Book is kept in a repository free from theft, fire and dampness. These Books are valuable historical documents and should not be treated as mere scrap books. Many enquiries are still being received on "How to Compile a Tweedsmuir History Book". Full information may be found in the 1945 Fall issue of "Home and Country" under the heading "Historical Research". This information may also be obtained from the Loan Library, Women's Institute Branch, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

To get a clear over-all picture of the work done along Historical Research lines in the Province, District conveners are asked to incorporate in their reports to the Area conveners, the number of Institutes in their district and the number of Institutes compiling Tweedsmuir History Books. The Area conveners will include this information in their reports to the Provincial convener.

There will be an all-Canadian competition of Tweedsmuir History Books at the F.W.I.C. Biennial meeting in 1949. It is to be hoped that Ontario will prove to be the successful competitor in this Competition.

There will also be a Provincial Tweedsmuir History Book Competition prior to the Biennial Meeting in 1949.

too impatient with the United Nations. Admittedly it has fallen far short of our hopes. But it has accomplished some encouraging things. Its chief asset is that it is still functioning and that Russia is still a member.

"(4) Willingness to actively promote understanding among the people of the world—to see them not as aliens or 'foreigners' but as human beings."

"The choices we have to make in these days are not easy", Mrs. Sayre concluded, "but the heart and core of our choice does not lie in the compulsion of the atom bomb which can only destroy our bodies. It lies in the souls of men and women—in their moral and spiritual courage."

"The curse of our time is our tendency to disassociate economic and political issues from moral values. It is what goes on in people's minds and in their hearts that decides the fateful future".

(see rules page 7, col. 4.)

The Royal Ontario Museum is carrying on a survey of the pioneer textile industry of Ontario. Since linens wear out and woollens wear out and are also destroyed by moths, these hand-lots of woven products are disappearing. If something is not done now it will be too late and we shall find ourselves with no information on the Textile Arts of Ontario. To correct this state of affairs, the following questionnaire was distributed to the Provincial Board members with the request that they carry this information to the District Annuals:

1. Do you know of any early Ontario tools used in the preparation of flax or wool?

2. Were the great spinning wheels commonly used in Ontario a specialized craft of carpenters or wheel-rights or were they a home product?

3. Have you a small spinning wheel used in Ontario—do you know where and when it was made?

4. Can you give us any specific information about looms used in the early days in Ontario?

5. Can you give us any specific information about the use of Jacquard looms in Ontario? Have you any knowledge of early textile factories?

6. Were any of your ancestors professional weavers—if so, where did they practice? The Museum is anxious to obtain weavers' pattern drafts or log books. Can you help us in this regard?

7. Although insignificant and of little money value any early piece of material made in Ontario would be of interest to the Museum if it is known where and when it was made. Do you know of any pieces available?

8. Many early Ontario hand-woven coverlets are still in use. It is up to us to treasure these superb examples of craftsmanship. If you have a coverlet see to it that it is preserved for future generations. Have you any information concerning coverlets, their patterns and pattern names?

9. Do you know of any complicated weaves such as "Summer and Winter" weave, "Double Faced Twill" or the various linen weaves, woven in Ontario?

10. Knitting, crocheting, and embroidery still flourish in Ontario. Have you any early examples of these arts which would be an inspiration to the modern craftsman?

11. The making of quilts was and still is one of the great creative arts of the Ontario woman. Have you any information about the traditional Ontario patterns?

12. The Museum has an important collection of costumes of the past. However there are still many gaps and we need your help to fill them. Have you any suits, dresses, coats, hats, children's clothes or costume accessories which are in good condition? If so, they may be exactly what we need.

The Museum would be very grateful for further information concerning Ontario Textiles and Costumes which you may have to offer. Please address your answers and information to: The Textile Department, The Royal Ontario Museum of Archaeology, 100 Queen's Park, Toronto 5.

With so many displaced persons and immigrants entering Canada, a large percentage of whom will be starting life anew in the rural areas of Ontario, it is a golden opportunity for Women's Institute members to disseminate knowledge of Canadian life and particularly can the Tweedsmuir History Books be of great help here, to depict the social and cultural life of the pioneers until the present day.

In conclusion I would add that, if we all work together whole-heartedly for the preservation of historical records and the recording of important current events, we shall not only be paying a tribute to the past but shall also be making a valuable contribution to the future.

(Mrs. G. G. Maynard,
Provincial Convener of
Historical Research).

POSSIBILITIES OF THE GIRLS' HOME GARDEN CLUBS

I am going to raise high, I hope, the possibilities of Garden Brigades. Truly they are marvellous for they are educational, economical, highly beneficial to the family's health and lots of fun.

You have to really be in the Garden Club or, second best, see one of the girls' gardens to really fully appreciate the wonderful advantage the Women's Institute places at the girls' disposal.

I would just like to outline the course, to complete it takes three years, each year more interesting than the one before. For a dollar the girls receive 20 varieties of vegetable seeds and 7 of flowers and complete cultural instructions for the seeds, even a garden plan. Early in March our Home Economist calls a meeting for the girls where she gives them full instructions on the preparing of the garden for seeds. One of the things I appreciated in the preparing of the soil was that we were shown how to take a proper soil sample to be sent to the O.A.C. Very promptly they tell us not only the type of fertilizer, but how much to use and how much manure is needed to bring the soil up to full production. If you have never done this you can't imagine the change it makes in the growth and quality of the vegetables.

During the summer another meeting is called, our Home Economist demonstrating the cooking of vegetables in new and different ways and the canning of tomatoes to retain food value. I'll never forget the year she showed us how to can the Pencil Pod Black Wax Beans in tomato juice. Those yellow beans in the red tomato juice just make your mouth water; not to mention how good they taste in December. During the summer the gardens are visited and judged.

In September the Achievement Day is held and the girls exhibit their vegetables and record books. On this day the girls receive instructions on how to store vegetables for winter use.

First year girls plant and care for their garden, they study the part vegetables play in giving health, prepare and serve vegetables for the family to enjoy and plan and carry out winter storage.

Second year girls do all the first year work and in addition are expected to can 12 quarts of tomatoes and plan a vegetable garden for the next year. They also undertake a special project which may be one of the following: planting an asparagus or strawberry bed, a raspberry plantation, a rhubarb patch, a hotbed or cold frame, set out fruit trees or special clean-up and home improvement. Practically all garden club members do the last one but do not consider it their special project.

Now in the third year a lot is expected of the members. They carry on the work of the first and second years. They now can 12 quarts of tomatoes for each member of the family as well as fruit. By this time you know the vegetables not as peas but as Thomas Laxton or Laxton's Progress and you understand which varieties of cabbage are for early use and which do not split in storage.

The Record Books become very useful reference books for future gardening. I am adding to mine even yet. You really realize the value of your garden in the third year when you estimate the market value of the Home Garden Club Products.

You can perhaps see the value of the Garden Club to the girl and her family. With daughter taking over mother has more time for other jobs. The girls take more pride in a job well done.

Along with the food and clothing units, she can complete three units a year so at the end of two years she has County Honours and a real chance to win that most sought after prize, the trip to the 4-H Congress in Chicago. (Speaking from personal experience that is wonderful with a capital W.)

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