

OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

(Continued from Page 2, Col. 4).
how to co-operate. You are a bulwark of strength in rural communities".

He told of the work of the Department of Public Relations. This Department does press and radio work and provides bulletins. Rural circuits are being extended by the Film Extension Division. Films do help in providing programmes. Catalogues can be procured from the College Library.

Mrs. J. H. McCulloch brought excellent advice to secretaries.

Mrs. Hugh Summers, past president F.W.I.O., conducted a quiz on F.W.I.O., F.W.I.C. and A.C.W.W.

Miss K. Taggart, Home Economics Supervisor in Home Furnishings, Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service, showed charts of designs explaining which had the best lines and why. She expressed a hope that some of the design knowledge acquired would be applied in the homes of members upon their return.

Mrs. J. R. Futcher presented "Qualities of an Ideal Institute Member." She stated that the loyal enthusiastic member is the most important factor in our work and progress. Her life has also been enriched for she is a better citizen and a better homemaker through being a good member. The ideal member will have the courage to find out what is the matter when something is wrong and right it. She will be energetic, she will not put a task on someone else's shoulders that should be her own responsibility. She will be willing to sacrifice some pleasure and some household task in order to be at the Institute meeting on time. It is said that there are three types of members, the "worker," "chirper," and "shirker." Don't be the latter type. The attitude of the ideal member will not be what can the Institute do for me but what can I do for the Institute. Enthusiasm is the life of the soul and the enthusiastic member is the ideal member. The ideal member is a good citizen and she will teach her children to be industrious. Her faith in the Institute motto will make her all these and through her our Women's Institutes will flourish and prosper.

The Ontario winner of the Tweedsmuir Cup Essay Competition, won by Mrs. Berton Axford, Delhi, was read by Mrs. McCallum.

The second prize winner was read by the author, Mrs. W. H. McCreary.

The Women's Institute Question Box was in charge of Miss Anna P. Lewis.

A discussion on future Officers' Conferences was in charge of Mrs. J. R. Futcher.

The Conference concluded with Rex Frost Farm Broadcast interviews

ONTARIO WOMEN'S INSTITUTE HELPING CANCER SOCIETY

In reply to a letter sent out by Mrs. J. R. Futcher, Institutes throughout the Province have given wonderful support to the work of the Canadian Cancer Society in the Province.

From all parts of Ontario member Institutes are sending in used linens and donations of money. The welfare department in Ontario distributes free cancer dressings to needy sufferers, and during the past year over half a million of these dressings have been sent out. Volunteer drivers are on hand daily to drive those suffering from cancer to clinics for treatment and return them to their homes. In many cases patients depend entirely on this welfare service for their dressings and transportation.

"CANADA" CHOSEN AS SPECIAL SUBJECT FOR STUDY BY DUTCH WOMEN

Any Ontario Institutes wishing to send information, (Canadian recipes, songs, magazines, catalogues, needlecraft and designs, scrap books, etc.), please send either to Miss Anna P. Lewis, 1207 Bay St., Toronto or direct to Miss M. Boekel, Gen. Sec., Nederlandsche Bond Van Plattelandscrowen, Heeresingel 20, Gronningen, Holland.



F.W.I.O. BOARD IN SESSION, MAY, 1949.

Snags and Snails in Women's Institute Work

Actually this title has no connection with the old saying about little boys and puppy dogs tails but it might be true that the snags in our work are the things that hinder our growth and greater efficiency and the snails are the practices that slow us down.

If we are adult now and we ought to be at fifty-two years of age, it is well for us, at times to assess our work and recognize and try to correct our faults. There are a few which are quite common to us all—

1. We get into a rut in our programme and business meetings; 2. We become exclusive; 3. We deteriorate into a money-raising or social organization; 4. We have never assumed our full responsibilities as moulders of public opinion.

It is very hard for the same group of officers and leaders to think of new and interesting projects year after year. This is a good argument for not holding office too long. New people have different interests and a new group of friends. Try to have brisk business sessions, started promptly, and a programme that has continuity of thought and does not last too long. Many farm women must get home in time to prepare the big meal of the day since the family may be scattered at noon.

Does it seem absurd to say we are exclusive in our membership? In actual fact, many of our local Institutes make little or no effort to attract new members. The increasing trend toward rural life on the part of those engaged in urban occupations has not been looked upon with favour by some Institute individuals or groups. This is a narrow minded attitude and unworthy of our high ideals. We should welcome interchange of ideas with both this group and our New Canadians. We can contribute much to the enrichment of life for all our women by working together and we do well, also to remember that the tenant farmer's wife, the women with large families and perhaps small incomes are equally at liberty to join the Women's Institutes and should receive a most hearty welcome.

Women's Institute leaders and members should remind themselves often of our main objective. We were organized as an educational group yet so many of our Institutes have drifted into social clubs or money raising institutions for any worthy cause which extends an outspread palm. If we want only social life then let's call ourselves the Four Leaf Clover Club or anything else but a Women's Institute. And if our only purpose is to raise money we must face the fact that we will lose members by a heavy financial burden and that the Women's Institutes stands for something quite different. Is it fair to give so much money outside our community and then fail to send delegates to Conventions because we can't afford it?

Our educational programme has a definite connection with the fourth "snag" mentioned above.

In a world which travels so swiftly where new discoveries and ideas are so important, rural women can not afford to neglect the chances they may have to keep up with a modern

age. Too many of us have neglected the Co-operative Programme offered by the Department. Here is an opportunity, a privilege, let us profit more by it! And how can we influence public opinion if we don't know enough about matters of public interest to have a worthwhile opinion. It is true that we do not interfere with political or sectarian subjects but such a large group of intelligent women is certainly not living up to its plain duty as citizens if they fail to express a strong interest in such subjects as improvement in the status of teachers, getting every citizen to vote, rights of minorities as citizens, need for education reform, Sabbath observance etc. Surely, most of our readers will agree that our silence on these and many other subjects is no credit to us as citizens or as progressive farm women.

All of these comments do not indicate a lack of appreciation of Women's Institutes or their fine record of accomplishment. We need to grow and improve, to face our faults and try to better our record.

"Couldn't thou in vision see—
Thyself, the man God meant.
Then never would'st thou be
The man thou art, content".

(Contributed by Mrs. J. E. Houck).

**PLOUGHING MATCH
OCT. 11-14**

While at the Ploughing Match be sure to visit the F.W.I.O. tent, see our exhibits and enjoy a friendly chat and cup of tea.

En route visit the Brant Co. Adelaide Hoodless Memorial Cairn and birthplace of Adelaide Hoodless at St. George.

Osgoode, Carleton South: At the request of this Institute, action has been taken by C.P.R. engineers in preparation for the installation of a Wig-Wag Signal, at a dangerous crossing.

**When Applying For Film
"Let There Be Light"**

It is essential that the following information be sent to the FILM EXTENSION DIVISION, ONTARIO AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE, GUELPH, ONTARIO, before arrangements can be made to ship the film, "LET THERE BE LIGHT".

1. The date and alternative date for showing the film.
2. The nearest express address.
3. The MAKE, MODEL and SERIAL NUMBER of the 16 mm. SOUND PROJECTOR.
4. The assurance that a qualified projectionist will run the film.

Your co-operation in following the above request will save both you and the Ontario Agricultural College much time and effort. The Film cannot be loaned without the above data.

ONTARIO WOMEN'S INSTITUTE SCHOLARSHIPS FOR JUNIOR INSTITUTE AND JUNIOR HOMEMAKING CLUB GIRLS

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario have asked that the Ontario Women's Institute Scholarships for Junior Institute and Junior Homemaking Club Girls be made the special project of ALL Ontario Institutes this year.

Each district or area is asked to sponsor a drive through its Branches to raise money for this fund and any district or area raising \$3,000.00 in one amount or in several donations will be assured of an annual scholarship for a girl in that district or area. That district or area may also have the scholarship named for it or for anyone whom the district or area wish to honour. An individual who donates \$3,000 or more to this fund may name an Ontario Women's Institute Scholarship.

The scholarship or scholarships will be awarded in recognition of (1) achievement and accomplishment in Homemaking Club project work over a period of time, (2) growth and development on the part of the girl and traits of leadership, co-operation and dependability as well as acquired knowledge.

The following recommendations concerning the selection of winners of the Ontario Women's Institute Scholarship awards have been adopted by the F.W.I.O. Board.

(a) That these awards be open only to rural girls at least 16 years of age who have completed successfully six or more Homemaking Club projects or who are completing the sixth project in the current year in which the awards are made.

(b) That the awards be made to such persons showing steady improvement and definite personal growth during the course of club work and who have given leadership and carried on club work of a high quality.

(c) That the winners shall be selected by the staff of the Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service in conjunction with the Scholarship Committee of the Provincial Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

(d) That the type of course selected by the winners be subject to the approval of the Women's Institute Branch Staff and the Scholarship Committee. It shall be a course of sufficient length and high standard that it will definitely benefit the participants.

(e) That the scholarship awards be made regional, if and when there is sufficient money available, with a possibility of one or more awards for each of the following regions—East, West, North, Central and at large.

The Scholarship Committee recommended to the Board that a request go to the Minister of Agriculture asking for the establishment at Guelph and Kemptville of girls' courses of varying lengths (2 to 12 weeks).

The Ontario Women's Institute Scholarship Fund will be left open indefinitely but a scholarship or scholarships will be established and awarded as soon as funds warrant.

Russell, Russell: A suitable medal was donated to the winning contestant in the vocal class at the Musical Festival.

PROVINCIAL TWEEDSMUIR HISTORY

Have you in your possession any information which you consider should be included in the Provincial Tweedsmuir History? If so, please send it to the Women's Institute Branch, 1207 Bay St., Toronto 5.