

Women's Institute Holiday 1949

At the Officer's Conference in Guelph, early in May, announcement was made that the week of July 11-15 would be set aside for a Women's Institute Holiday at the Agricultural College, Guelph. Provision was made for guests to register for the week or a shorter time if preferred.

Although this was a new venture and the season of year did interfere with many farm women from attending who might have enjoyed this experience, yet, to enjoy this unusual holiday there were guests from an area bounded by Renfrew in the East, Lambton in the West, Grey in the North and Niagara Peninsula in the South. Some 42 spent the full week at Guelph while over 900 were in attendance for part of the time.

The College and campus provided every facility for comfort, interest and entertainment and yet the ease and freedom of the day's programme provided refreshment for mind and body.

Since the holiday was arranged to cater to house-guests and daily visitors it was necessary to have the programme for the general public repeated daily with a Food's Demonstration in the morning where each day ninety women enjoyed this experience of watching a Food's expert prepare a supper-meal and had the added satisfaction of sampling the finished product as served by Miss Brill.

The afternoon programme began in Memorial Hall with an organ and piano recital by Mr. and Mrs. Kidd of the College staff. This was followed by an enjoyable sing-song led by Mr. Young. On two afternoons there was a Panel Discussion on "The Farm Family and Family Income" arranged and given by six members of the Women's Institute Branch staff.

In the Horticulture Building Mr. Wells gave a lecture on Home Beautification. It was cleverly illustrated with coloured crayon drawings by which was created from a most austere and unattractive setting a picture of growing loveliness. To complete the instruction Miss Heringa, formerly of Holland, gave a demonstration lecture on Flower Arrangement which will result in a more artistic use of cut flowers.

Many of the guests were interested in poultry and for them was provided each day an opportunity to hear a lecture and see an exhibit on poultry and eggs.

All the guests were loud in their praise of the delicious food served in Creelman Hall, the College Cafeteria.

Each evening many enjoyed a baseball game played by local teams on the Campus and after the sun went down the O.A.C. and Women's Institute staff entertained the guests with Movies and Travelogues.

After breakfast each morning the house-guests met for a devotional period under the direction of Rev. Mr. Young, the College Chaplain, and at this time announcements were made and plans arranged for the day's activities which included a bus trip all around the farm to see the crops and stock and a special demonstration by the Scotch Shepherd, his dogs and the flock of sheep.

An interesting afternoon was spent visiting the Beatty Plant in Fergus and the Chand Dam and on two successive mornings there were special features including a supervised tour through the Ontario Reformatory and the Veterinary College.

It was a great privilege to live in residence in Macdonald Hall, to enjoy all the beauty of the campus, green houses, and gardens and learn more about our great Agricultural College and the members of the staff who so unselfishly contributed of their time, and added so much to the profit and enjoyment of those who took advantage of this first Women's Institute Holiday.

Contributed by Miss Edith Collins, Women's Institute Branch.

HERE AND THERE WITH THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES



Upper left: ATTENDING MAYNARD WOMEN'S INSTITUTE WERE 9 CHARTER MEMBERS. Left to right: Mrs. W. N. Barton, Mrs. E. B. Fratwell, Mrs. Geo. Robinson, Miss Maude Rowe, former district president, Mrs. E. D. Perrin, Mrs. A. E. Carson, former district president, Mrs. N. M. Attridge, Mrs. David Bovaird and Mrs. Wm. Green, president. Maynard Institute was instrumental in the formation of South Grenville District.

Upper right: BRAMPTON EAST HELD A BAZAAR TO RAISE FUNDS FOR FURNISHING HOSPITAL ROOM. Committee is pictured left to right: Mrs. V. Upshall, Mrs. A. Snider, Mrs. G. Bland (first president of Brampton East) and Mrs. M. Ackroyd.

Lower left: GRANDMOTHERS OF ROYAL WOMEN'S INSTITUTE, GUELPH dressed in period costume of the "gay nineties" provided a full show of entertainment. Pictured with the old spinning wheel which was in use 250 years ago in Ireland are: Seated: Mrs. L. J. Hannigan and Mrs. J. Nosslin; Standing: Mrs. Forrester, Mrs. E. R. Graham, Mrs. F. O. Barber, Mrs. G. P. Britton, secy-treas., Mrs. J. G. Fletoher, programme convener, Mrs. John G. A. Price.

Lower right: MAPLE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CELEBRATES ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY. Head table guests included past presidents, past secretaries, charter members and special guests. Top Row left to right: Mrs. A. Snider, Mrs. F. S. Rumble, Mrs. Feiheller, Mrs. Anderson, Mrs. R. Rumble, Mrs. H. Todd, Mrs. P. White. Middle Row: Mrs. M. Palmer, Mrs. H. Bailey, Mrs. G. Lloyd, Mrs. D. Allen, Miss Anna Lewis, Director, Mrs. G. Mathewson, Mrs. Curtis, Mrs. W. Olliver. Bottom Row: Mrs. N. McCullough, President, Mrs. J. Luca, Secretary, Mrs. Wm. Cook, first secretary and only charter member present, Mrs. E. Harris, District secretary and Mrs. D. Smith.

WHITBY INSTITUTE CELEBRATES ITS FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY

The Fiftieth Anniversary of Whitby Women's Institute, marked a half century of continued activities of that organization. Following that of Stoney Creek, the first Institute, Whitby is the second oldest Women's Institute in the world.

About one hundred and twenty-five members of the Institutes in Ontario South were guests of the Whitby branch and were given a cordial welcome by the president, Mrs. H. T. Wilson.

Mrs. Stephen of Ottawa, was escorted to the platform after which a short programme was given including dance numbers by three of Mrs. Ralph Wilson's pupils, Misses Diane Brady, Doris Clark and Anne Cuddy. Each of the girls was presented with a small gift on behalf of the Institute.

The secretary of the Whitby branch read a short paper, reviewing the activities of the branch since its organization and recalled many of its past presidents including, the late Mrs. George Ross, Miss Maud Annis, Mrs. Peel, Mrs. J. Fletcher and Miss E. Fletcher. Other past presidents are: Mrs. Levi Dudley, Mrs. F. Roberts, Mrs. Desmond, Mrs. J. Ormiston, Mrs. W. C. Town, Mrs. O. Matheson, Mrs. W. G. Lavis, Mrs. Maude Patterson and Mrs. H. T. Wilson.

Many letters of congratulations were received from Southern Ontario and other branches, most of which were well represented.

Miss Anna P. Lewis, Toronto, Director, Women's Institute Branch sent

greetings but was unable to be present as she was in the west attending a Biennial Conference of the Federated Women's Institute of Canada. Regret was expressed that two life members, the Misses Powell, were unable to attend but, through the kindness of Miss M. V. Powell, several pictures of Institute gatherings were on display.

To Start a Museum

To commemorate its Fiftieth Anniversary, Whitby Branch has decided to take steps to start a museum, in the county town, in which to house, permanently, many valuable articles and antiques. The members of the other Institutes in the county were asked to preserve all such articles for that purpose.

The most honoured guest and speaker was Laura Rose Stephen, of Ottawa, who organized Whitby Branch fifty years ago. At the age 84, Mrs. Stephen is still a distinguished speaker and told many interesting incidents of pioneer life.

Whitby Advocated Wrapped Bread

Miss Edith Collins, of the Women's Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture, Toronto, brought greetings. She referred to the wrapping of bread which found its origin in the Whitby Branch and was passed on to the Legislature, and later adopted.

Mrs. Brady, of Pickering, District President, extended congratulations.

Mrs. Norman White, Brooklin, chairman of the Toronto Convention, read some very interesting articles on the work of the branch years ago.

About 5.30, all sat down to a banquet arranged by Mrs. Wickett. As

a memento of the occasion, the words "Whitby Women's Institute 1899-1949" were embossed, in gold letters, on each serviette.

The favours were cookies in the form of miniature garden hats, trimmed with flowers of coloured icing.

A birthday cake, decorated in Institute colours, was cut by Mrs. Stephen.

The gathering dispersed, all expressing their appreciation and leaving behind all good wishes for the future.

THANK YOU FROM UNITARIAN SERVICE COMMITTEE

Ottawa, May 9, 1949

It is difficult to thank you in this cold way when my heart overflows with gratitude towards all you faithful and generous Women's Institute members who contributed to the recent drive of the Unitarian Service Committee of Canada. Your record is imposing: 123 Ontario Women's Institutes sent clothing; 152 sent cash donations. We received \$2,101.00 and more than 12,000 pounds of good, serviceable garments to help war victims in Europe. Unfortunately, some Women's Institutes could not be thanked direct for their clothing because no return address was indicated.

On behalf of those who will receive your gifts, may I express my deep thankfulness.

Dr. Lotta Hirschmanova,
Director for Canada.

Fordwich, Huron North: The Roll Call, "How We Met Our Husbands" brought a splendid response from twenty-two members and proved to be quite entertaining.