

IN MEMORIAM
Miss Esther Slicter

Esther A. Slicter, a valued member of the Women's Institute staff since 1922, died in the Kitchener-Waterloo Hospital on November 17, 1949. The funeral was from Ratz-Bechtler Funeral Home on Saturday, November 19th at 3 p.m. Rev. Charles Cornwall, pastor of Olive Evangelical Church officiated. The interment was in Blenheim Cemetery.

The daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Slicter, Esther grew up in the happy atmosphere of a rural home in Oxford County with her five sisters and two brothers. Here she received her early education and entered the teaching profession for which her keen mind was so well qualified. Her public school pupils remember her in Waterloo, Lambton and Brant Counties.

Miss Slicter attended Macdonald Institute in Guelph from 1920-22 and upon her graduation joined the staff of the Women's Institute Branch as lecturer and demonstrator in Home Economics. In 1931 she was appointed Field Assistant in Housing. During the years she took special summer courses at Cornell University; Chautauqua; Ames, Iowa; New York School of Interior Decoration; Nantucket School of Interior Decoration; Columbia University Correspondence Course and General Electric Course in Lighting.

She will be greatly missed by all who had the privilege to know her through her fine leadership in both Junior and Senior Institute work. The women of Ontario will remember her gratefully for her practical instruction in Home Beautification, Interior Decoration; Room Arrangement, The Farm Kitchen, The Family Living Room and Household Accounting. The homes of Ontario are more truly homes because her sense of values and love of beauty was shared with the homemakers wherever she went. E.M.C.



Stormont Training School in Sleeping Garments.



Tea is served at Kent Co. Training School in The Club Girl Entertains.

At the closing session, in sincere appreciation of the earnest, self-sacrificing work for F.W.I.C. carried forward by Mrs. A. E. Macmillan during her term of office, a handsome cameo brooch was presented to her.

And so we came to the end of a fruitful and successful Board Meeting. A Board Meeting where each officer and member of the Board had made her contribution to the advancement of the Women's Institute. (Contributed by Mrs. H. Summers).

Homemaking Club Leaders Attend Training Schools

Some 713 Homemaking Club Leaders attended 37 Leader Training Schools conducted by County and District Home Economists this fall.

It was back to school for two days for these leaders, some of whom had been leaders of previous clubs—even for eight and ten while others were former club members with County or Provincial Honours.

At these schools Leaders acquired information and subject matter relative to their club unit, developed necessary skills in order that they might in their turn show members "how", and received special publications for themselves and members.

Food was prepared for such clubs as Dressing Up Home Grown Vegetables and Supper Clubs, while Meat in the Menu leaders visited butcher shops. Good nutrition, healthful food for family meals, planning, preparing and serving nourishing appetizing economical meals was considered at food training schools.

Flowers were arranged, sandwiches made and tea served at The Club Girl Entertains schools.

For clothing and housefurnishing Clubs, garments and accessories were planned, cut out and assembled as time permitted. These clubs are more than sewing clubs, endeavouring always to help members meet daily clothing problems and develop a pride in their rooms, and a sense of order and neatness in caring for their personal belongings. Therefore assistance and guidance was given on such topics as selection of material, design, colour, style and personal appearance.

Traffic officers, public health nurses and doctors frequently gave leadership in field of health, accident prevention and first aid, to Club Girl Stands on Guard leaders.

At all training schools, leaders and home economists together set up objectives for themselves and members for their club year, ever keeping in mind the importance of the development and growth of each and every club member. While recognizing the importance of what members do and how they do it, they agreed that what happens to the member in the doing is of prime importance. Therefore leaders were urged to strive continually to develop in members such desirable traits as dependability, integrity, ability to work with others, tolerance and consideration of others. As well, members should ever be encouraged to do their best, do something better than before, rather than something better than another club member,—that is, beat their own pre-

Club Meetings are Being Held

Club meetings under the guidance of these Local Leaders are now being held in every district and county but two in the Province. Home Economists' club visit reports indicate splendid interest and participation on the part of club members. Kent County has over 100 members enrolled in The Club Girl Entertains, while such counties as Bruce, Hastings, Huron, Lanark, Perth, Grey, Renfrew and Wellington have over 12 or more clubs. If all leaders were successful in organizing clubs there should be some 63 Food Clubs, 140 Clothing Clubs, 11 House Furnishing Clubs, 48 Club Girl Entertains and 43 Club Girl Stands on Guard Clubs carrying on club programmes.

And what of these meetings—what does one find? Again reports tell the story of club work making a difference to up and doing members, with indolent, indifferent members being the exception. Other comments are—"Record books excellent right up to date"; sometimes "Too brief", occasionally "Not up to date". "Leader efficient with well-organized meetings", "Girls take pride in their work—don't mind ripping a seam if it needs to be improved"; "Members young, inexperienced, having some difficulties with their sewing, but trying"; "Wonderful spirit of co-operation, members working in pairs", "Experienced Senior members are good club members"; "All members interested—each girl doing all her own work—leader has trouble getting them to leave"; "Seniors probably helping members too much—thereby members losing out in acquiring skills and satisfaction in mastering job"; "Members might have assumed more responsibility in preparing food and cleaning up"; "Leader young, first club, but doing splendid job"; "Members first club—young but interested and making progress"; "Club membership increased due to leader interesting friends and sisters of former members".

Frequently reference was made to membership of New Canadians and how language problems were overcome or accepted for time being. One newcomer from Holland finds it necessary to write her record book in her native tongue.

Repeatedly one finds local Women's Institutes have been instrumental in organizing clubs, securing leaders and encouraging girls. Again Local Leaders are giving generously of their time and energy, doing most commendable work and so making Homemaking Clubs possible in 1949-50. (Contributed by Florence P. Eadie)

vious record rather than some one else. They considered ways and means of encouraging members to complete that which they started, and of developing satisfaction through achievement.

Brant North, St. George: A progressive study "Know Canada Better" is proving very popular. Each province is included in the series.

Junior Institutes and Junior Farmers Attend Officers' Training Schools

Officers of Junior Institutes and Junior Farmers have held Officers' Training Schools at Peterborough, Simcoe, Camilla and Ridgeway. These schools took the form of Workshops in Programme Planning. Miss Helen McKercher spoke on Ways and Means of Finding the Needs of Members of a Local Club. A programme planning panel featured a local programme planning committee meeting with County Home Economist and Agricultural Representative, detailing meetings around Farm and Home Safety. Finally delegates divided into groups and proceeded to plan a meeting around a selected theme for a Junior Institute, Junior Farmer or a joint Junior Institute and Junior Farmer programme. Later, groups submitted their programmes for rating and further suggestions. Detailing a programme took on real meaning as programmes were criticized, when names of members responsible for topic, demonstrations and leading discussions, were not intimated, when theme not timely.

Undoubtedly Juniors in attendance have returned to their local groups, more convinced than ever before of importance of programmes, planned around needs and interests of members and with a knowledge of some of the tools to find out those needs and interests.

They realize, too, the necessity of club members building up objectives, deciding where they want to go, what they want to accomplish and then planning in detail meetings for the year which will make it possible for them to reach their goals. They heard much about members' participation—members assuming responsibility for club meetings, and considered ways and means of encouraging more member participation. Officers were put on the spot regarding starting meetings on time. One is willing to wager that some presidents may be starting on time even with a small minority of membership on hand. Discussion suggested that officers should do just that, first assuring a really good programme right from the very start—so good no one will want to miss it.

These officers' schools doubtless will have a fine carry over to local groups—which after all is the very life blood of any organization.

Bruce South, Kincardine: After unsuccessful attempts to bring the history of the village up-to-date from the year 1906, the aid of the Women's Institute has been enlisted by the council. The reeve has been assured that the lapse will be completed shortly.

Carlton East, Glen Ogilvie: The Women's Institute of Gloucester Township sponsored an X-Ray clinic under The Department of Health's Tuberculosis Prevention Mobile Unit giving service to all the residents of the town attending the clinic.

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When she told us about her perplexities and troubles on an Iowa farm, to which she went as a city bride, we knew that our international president was a person who knew and understood the problems and difficulties which are a part of rural life. Then as Mrs. Sayre told us of her recent visit to Germany and the story of her contacts there, we knew that she had an understanding of world problems and needs. In other words Mrs. Sayre is truly a world minded person. Mrs. Sayre said of A.C.W.W. these words: "It is Fellowship, a coming together of Country Women from all around the world; it is your window to the world where you can look out beyond the horizons of your own home; it is a Bridge of understanding."

A duty performed by Mrs. Sayre was the presentation of the three silver cups given in the Tweedsmuir Competition. These were awarded as follows:

(a) Ascot W. I. Quebec for the best Tweedsmuir History Book.

(b) Pemberton W.I. British Columbia for the best essay on, "Our Women's Institute Takes a Forward Look."

(c) Highgate W.I. Saskatchewan for the best hooked rug.

At each Biennial meeting a subject is chosen for study and action, which is of special importance to W.I. members. The subject which members are asked to consider and act upon is "Food and Soil Conservation."

Western hospitality lived up to its widely known reputation. Two dinners were given in our honour: one by the Advisory Council of the Homemakers and one by the Department of Agriculture and the City of Saskatoon. The Homemakers also arranged a pleasant drive and picnic supper at the Forestry Farm.