

F. W. I. O. Board Meeting

From a Report by Ina Hodgins

THE Spring Meeting of the Provincial Board of F.W.I.O. opened May 4, 1953, at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph. The President, Mrs. Purcell, expressed the Board's thanks and appreciation to the Department of Agriculture; to Dr. McLachlan, President of the O.A.C. and his staff, for the privilege of meeting at the College and also for making it possible to hold another Provincial Conference at the O.A.C. The President tendered sincere thanks and appreciation to Mrs. McCulloch for her untiring services and assistance, to Miss Lewis and her staff for their many courtesies and valuable assistance throughout the year; to the Honorary President, Mrs. J. R. Fatcher, for her advice and ready help at all times and to the members of the Board for their splendid co-operation.

Since the November Board Meeting, Mrs. Purcell had made three trips East, one being to attend the meeting of the Main Planning Committee of the A.C.W.W. Conference of which she is a member. While in the East she was happy to be able to attend the Fiftieth Anniversary celebrations of Burlington, Georgetown and South Waterloo Institutes.

Mental Health Award

The "Penny Round Up", the F.W.I.O. Project in aid of the Canadian Mental Health Association, met with a wonderful response. Five hundred and fifty Institutes had already contributed \$5700.33 and 330 branches had signified their intention of forwarding contributions soon. Mrs. Purcell told of attending the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Division of the Canadian Mental Health Association where she was presented with the organization's Mental Health Award for 1953, a watch and scroll. Sir Ellsworth Flavelle in presenting Mrs. Purcell with the award, said, "It is desired to recognize and honor Mrs. Purcell and through her to convey deep appreciation to the 1500 Women's Institutes of Ontario for their outstanding contribution to Mental Health work in Ontario". Mrs. Purcell said she felt very humble in accepting the gift because it was not her effort but the effort of the Women's Institutes of Ontario. She also felt that the amount of money raised was not the most important thing. What was more important was the interest in mental health aroused in the home, the school and the community.

Year's Records and Plans

Mrs. McCulloch, Secretary-Treasurer, reported receiving 2121 letters and 5 parcels, mailing 2130 letters and sending 1734 pieces of F.W.I.O. supplies since the last Board Meeting.

Miss Anna P. Lewis, Director of the Ontario Women's Institute Branch and Home Economics Service, brought greetings from the Branch and gave a most interesting report. There are now 1423 Senior Institutes and 80 Junior Institutes in the province, a total of 1503 Institutes. This is an all-time high record. Thirty-five new Branches were organized during the past year and 12 disbanded. Forty-five thousand, four hundred and fifty-seven members are enrolled. One hundred and nine District Annual Meetings and 13 Area Conventions were held in 1952. One hundred and twenty-eight new Friendship Links were established during the year.

The report of the Conservation Council of Canada was given by Mrs. Sam Wilson.

Mrs. R. C. Paisley reported the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Federation of Agriculture.

Mrs. H. Hopper gave the report on the Budget Committee for 1953-54.

Mrs. J. R. Fatcher gave a report of the proposed programme for Canada Day at the A.C.W.W. Conference on Friday, August 21. The pageant, "Dominion of Destiny", will be a colorful spectacle. The production will take the form of a continuous-action cavalcade, combining the services of a full concert orchestra, a chorus of mixed voices, soloists, a large cast of actors, units of the Armed Services, members of the R.C.M.P. and others. A repeat performance will be open to the public on Saturday, August 22.

The Royal Agricultural Winter Fair report was given by Mrs. J. R. Fatcher. Nineteen hundred and fifty-three will be the Royal's twenty-fifth anniversary and their Silver Jubilee will be celebrated. The 1953 dates are Nov. 13 to 21. The F.W.I.O. will again have a booth. Mrs. C. Agnew reported that there will be demonstrations in Home Decorating. The Canadian Packers are again sponsoring a Square Dance Competition.

The F.W.I.O. Tent at the International Ploughing Match report was given by Mrs. E. Irwin. The Match will be held at Cobourg from October 6 to 9, 1953. Citizenship will be the theme featured.

Miss Lewis and Mrs. Purcell reported on the proposed tours for the A.C.W.W. delegates. Three tours have been arranged: A Capital City Tour to Ottawa, a Toronto-Windsor Tour and a Northern Ontario Tour.

Decision was made in regard to article 10 on page 15 of the Hand Book. This will be changed to read: The Annual Meeting (of the Junior Institutes) shall be held in February, March or April. Notice of Motion was given