



Miss Grace Hamilton, Women's Institute Branch, in uniform, at Winterburn Institute's course on Home Care of the Sick.

result of a resolution from farm women to have feed bags dyed in colors suitable for making into dresses or household "linens". An Institute on an island near the Quebec border passed a resolution asking for a bridge so that in seasons when travel by water is impossible, sick people could be taken to the hospital on the mainland. Now the Quebec and Ontario governments are co-operating in building a bridge. If several organizations pass the same resolution it is very effective in promoting legislation — As for example the Bill of Human Rights. A resolution on a local problem should go through the local authorities, such as the municipal council, and have them promote it. A resolution need not start with a branch; it may start with a district or a convention area. Be sure to send explanatory material with a resolution. "Whereas" means "because"; never pass a resolution unless you have a reason for it. A resolution passed in a branch Institute should have the signatures of the mover and seconder, the president and secretary. It is sent on to the district and then to the area where it is treated in the same way. In each case the convener moves the resolution, the presiding officer asks for a seconder, then for discussion, then for the vote.

Resolutions and Public Opinion

"No Government could carry on legislation agreeable to the people without the help of the opinions sent in from various groups of the people", the Hon. Dana Porter, Attorney-General of Ontario, told the conference. Mr. Porter said that very little legislation is passed that has not been recommended in resolutions from various organizations. Legislation recommended is not always implemented immediately but it may be studied along with other points of view — in case an organization may be pressing only its own point of view. As an exception to this, Mr. Porter referred to the dairy farmers' brief concerning edible oils as one of the most reasonable and constructive briefs ever presented. "From this brief", the speaker said, "we were able to persuade our city groups that the dairy industry is basic in agriculture, and that un-

less it can continue other industries will suffer." It is much more difficult, for example, to harmonize the resolutions from landlords and tenants on rent regulations. The Attorney-General emphasized the importance of being informed about legislation already in force, to know the laws of the land and to obey them. "When you take out your cars to go home", he said, "remember that the speed limit is fifty miles an hour."

Putting Resolutions to Work

Miss Byrne Hope Sanders gave these five steps as essentials to make a resolution effective:

1. Get the facts. Often we ask for legislation that is already in existence or that is impossible to implement.
 2. Be aware of the need. Is action necessary and of vital importance?
 3. Enlist the support of everyone you can get to help you. In presenting a case to those in authority nothing is so effective as a mass of evidence from individuals to support your appeal. (Miss Sanders gave as an illustration the hundreds of letters from housewives asking for war time butter rationing as against the protest of merchants' organizations.) Use the press and radio to enlist support for your cause, but use personal contacts still more, having one woman "talk up" the cause to another.
 4. Send your resolution, or take it, to the right source, the right Government Department.
 5. Keep everlastingly at it, until you have achieved success or know why it is impossible.
- "Don't have too many resolutions", Miss Sanders advised. She suggested that an organization would probably accomplish more if it would work on only one or two resolutions each year and concentrate on them. "And if you don't get results from a resolution, send a delegation."



Miss Jeanne Armour, Women's Institute Branch, lower right, demonstrating slip covers at a course with Trout Mills Institute.