

Health work continues to be a major interest of the Women's Institutes. Wherever a new hospital is being established we find the Women's Institutes contributing their support.

The Institutes of **Elgin County** have launched on a sewing enterprise for their new hospital at St. Thomas. The hospital board is starting the Institutes off with 1500 yards of sheeting and 1500 yards of flannelette, to be made into sheets, pillow cases, nightgowns, diapers and other hospital garments.

In **Waterloo County** the Institutes are making sizeable donations to the building of the new Galt Hospital; we have reports of donations of \$900 from **Central Dumfries**, \$900 from **Preston**, \$900 from **Hespeler**, \$1350 to furnish a two-bed ward from **Galt**; a wheel chair from **Jubilee** branch.

Wellington County Institutes are assisting the county health unit with child health clinics in **Clifford, Harriston, Mount Forest, Palmerston, Arthur, Drayton, Elora, Fergus, Rockwood, Erin, and Puslinch** and **Guelph** townships.

Alliston and **Beeton** have monthly child health conferences with a doctor and nurse from their county health unit. **Grantham** sponsors a monthly Well-Baby Clinic.

County health unit personnel are frequently called on to bring health education to an Institute group. **Pleasant Valley** in Oxford County had an address on Mental Health by a nurse from their health unit. A nurse from the Halton unit spoke to the **Scotch Block** Institute on Cancer, illustrating her talk with a film. **Rockton, Central Yarmouth** and **Roslin** report addresses on Mental Health by psychiatrists. **Tavistock** had a talk and film on heart disease. Halton County **Busy Bees** had an

address on the RH blood factor; **Stroud** a talk on arthritis.

At **Bethany's** Home Economics and Health meeting each member brought a gift suitable for a convalescent child and these were sent to the Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto. The convener read two papers, one on how to prevent accidents in the home, one on the care of the teeth.

Lincoln County is noted for being the first — and so far as we can find out — the only county in Ontario to have a Victorian Order Nursing service for rural people as well as for the cities and towns. A local press report says "Much of the inspiration for the beginning of the service was derived from the Women's Institutes which are still very active in its promotion". In the first full year of VON operation, 1948, nurses made 5919 calls on rural families; in 1951 they made 13,477 calls.

Badenoch had an address by the Guidance Director of Guelph Collegiate Institute on the subject "What our schools are doing to make good citizens". **Hoath Head** had a talk on Mental Illness.

St. George is sponsoring a Blood Donors' clinic in co-operation with the Red Cross branch at Brantford.

Sudbury District Institutes presented the Sudbury Board of Health with a resuscitator for use at the beach during the summer.

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Lorneville-Argyle Institute invited the **Beaverton** Institute to present their "New Canadian Skit" showing various steps to follow when New Canadians come here. The skit included an international parade with each of fourteen countries being represented by a woman in native costume. Each brought greetings in her native language and the group sang a song in that language, concluding with "O Canada" and "The Maple Leaf."

Maynard recently entertained the grandmothers and the girls at the same meeting. The motto for the programme was, "The years teach much that the day cannot know".

Norwich had a unique Historical Research programme featuring a talk by a native of Holland, Mrs. Herman Steinstra, who has lived in Norwich for twenty-five years. Mrs. Steinstra gave the histories of thirty-five Dutch families in the locality and told how they were adapting themselves to their new surroundings and making good Canadian citizens.

Galt had a new Canadian, Mrs. Von Giminger, speak on the life of the farm woman in Germany.

Union Institute in Lambton took a novel way of studying kitchen planning. They had a debate, "Resolved that a large kitchen is more desirable than a small one".

For their January meeting **Sour Springs** Institute women met at the home of an invalid member to do sewing and mending for her, and to finish a quilt which they presented to



West Kent district's booth at Chatham's Jaycee Fair was planned to illustrate various phases of Institute work. Handicrafts and antiques were especially featured.