

also moving closer and closer to the old family home, "Clochmhor." This name was given to this farm by the Scottish family when they came in 1834. "Clochmho" is Gaelic for large or great stone.

On their walks, the present family often lifted wild flowers and carefully planted them in the shadiest nook of the garden just north of the house. Here blood-roots, trilliums, violets, meadow rue, ferns and columbine have taken root and flourished in their new home. And now as one leaves this rural home, may a prayer for all rural homes ascend from the

heart—a prayer, similar to Felicia Hemans' prayer for the homes of England:

"Long, long in hut and hall
May hearts of native proof be rear'd
To guard each hallow'd wall.
And green for ever be the groves,
And bright the flow'ry sod,
Where first the child's glad spirit loves
Its country and its God."

EDITOR'S NOTE: Perhaps in later issues we may publish the second and third "prize" essays in the Ontario competition.

Convention Highlights

Conventions were well publicized in their areas at the time they were held. The reason for recording some of the "highlights" here is that they may offer suggestions to committees planning next year's conventions.

A special feature of the Guelph area convention was a historical pageant. Each district had a member representing a historical figure such as Queen Victoria, Laura Secord, Florence Nightingale, Pauline Johnson. In the finale, Emily Pankhurst and her campaigning suffragettes did a song and skit. At this convention Dr. McCready, Director of Macdonald Institute, was presented with a silver entree dish to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary.

Among Eastern Ontario's convention highlights was a Panel Discussion on Laws Relating to Women. Other Institutes desiring information on this subject should write the Canadian Committee on the Status of Women, c/o Mrs. W. John Craig, Csgoode, Ontario. Another feature which might offer a suggestion to branches not too far from the United States border was a visit from the Executive Committee of the Home Bureau of St. Lawrence County, New York State.

Conventions are assured of a popular feature when it is possible to have a visitor from another country tell about the work of rural women in her country. This year Mrs. Edis Bott of Australia accompanied Miss Lewis to the Northern conventions and our reporter from the Cochrane and Temiskaming area considers Mrs. Bott's message the highlight of the convention. For example, Mrs. Bott described the Australian rural areas where homes are sometimes fifty or one hundred miles apart and "the wireless" or amateur radio set is used as a means of holding meetings, with one woman talking for a while, while the others listen, then turning over to the next one, and so on until all have had their turn. The sets are called "pedal wireless" because they work on the same principle as an organ with the operating power supplied by the pedals. Australia's "home science vans" are fitted out with books and handicraft supplies and two demonstrators travel with each van, giving instruction to different groups for periods ranging from a day to a week. The

Australian women's groups have established a "home help" scheme through which a mother may find help with her work as she needs it.

The Belleville convention area is right in the heart of one of Ontario's largest cheese producing districts, and from this convention came the resolution, later sustained by the provincial board, that "Whereas the price of cheese on sale by auction on the open market is too low and the twenty-four cent floor price set by the Dominion Government does not cover cost of production of cheese milk in Ontario, and whereas the Dominion Government has refused to set a higher floor price than world cheese prices: Be it resolved that both the Provincial and the Dominion Governments be requested through their Departments of Agriculture, to immediately work out a method whereby producers of milk for cheese will be paid cost of production plus a reasonable profit for their milk regardless of the export or domestic price of cheese." A feature of this convention was a tour of the County Home.

What is reported as "the grand wind up" of the Mindemoya convention was "a mass visit of nearly 200 of the delegates to the Sheguiandah historic site where the National Museum has uncovered traces of the earliest man to roam the North American continent more than 15,000 years ago." The convention passed a resolution asking that this site be protected by law as a national park . . . A special display at this gathering was a "Manitoulin Quilt," designed by Miss Geraldine Batman and made by the Sheguiandah Institute. The design incorporated the flowers of the racial stocks that settled the Island—the thistle, shamrock and rose, with the wild orchid for the native born Manitoulinites.

A highlight of the Central Ontario convention was the "Conference," conducted by Mrs. J. E. Houck. For about an hour, while the late-comers were arriving, the women discussed Institute problems, asked questions, offered suggestions and altogether had a lively session with Mrs. Houck directing. Usually a convention is so crowded with addresses that the women have little or no time to talk over their special Institute problems, and this discussion period seemed much appreciated.