

noons; "Understanding Your Teen-Ager"—4 afternoons.

Events of the past few years and particularly this last year, with the A.C.W.W. Conference meeting in Canada, have given Institute members a live interest in their responsibilities as citizens. The extension service course "You and Your Citizenship" is really a conference on a woman's citizenship responsibilities as an individual, as a member of the family, as a parent and as a member of the community, the nation and the world. This is a one day course.

A few years ago the Women's Institutes asked the Department to provide a course in "Cultural Activities" — a course that would develop cultural interests in literature, music, art, drama and a deeper appreciation of the things at hand, as learned through natural science. This course has been very well received. It takes one day.

Then there are the courses planned to strengthen and improve the Women's Institute as an organization by training women in "How to Conduct Meetings," "Programme Planning," "What Makes a Good Officer," "Effective Speaking." Each of these is a one day course.

Applications for courses will not have to be made before the end of June, but it is not too early, now, for Institute members to be considering what phases of the service might be of most interest or help. Each Institute is free to choose whatever course it likes, provided it can get a class of the required number. (These numbers are given in the bulletin

"Extension Services for the Homemaker—1953-54," copies of which were distributed to members last spring.)

If there is difficulty in getting the required number for the class from the local Institute, very often this can be solved by asking one or two neighboring branches if any of their members would like to join the class. Instructors have found very lively, stimulating classes where neighboring Institutes have sent two or three or a car load of women to join the group. But it is more important than bringing in visitors from outside, to see that every woman in the community is invited to the course whether she is an Institute member or not. One president had a warm response when she invited the women's organizations of the local churches. And almost everywhere the officers seem to be more conscious of the importance of publicizing a course through the local press and radio.

Wherever extension services are given it is important to serve as many women as possible. So we would suggest that Institutes ask for courses only when the members are really interested and are ready to support the course with their attendance. It is not necessary that an Institute take a course every year—or that it take a course at any time; but now when we are being so wisely reminded that the Women's Institute is, first of all, an educational organization it is likely that more and more branches will want to promote this adult education especially planned and designed for homemakers.

In Memory

SINCE our last issue was published, the Women's Institutes have lost two friends of long standing in the deaths of Dr. Helen MacMurphy and Miss Gertrude Gray.

Dr. Helen MacMurphy

From the earliest days of the Women's Institutes, Dr. Helen MacMurphy, then a practicing physician in Toronto, was the organization's staunch ally. Her warm personality, her human understanding and her way of interpreting medical science in the most understandable terms, made her a popular speaker at conventions. Later when she went to Ottawa to head the Maternal and Child Welfare Division of the National Department of Health, her "Little Blue Books" were circulated and read by Institute women all over Canada.

Always keenly interested in the problems of the mentally defective or otherwise handicapped child, when Dr. MacMurphy retired from Ottawa she did some valuable writing on this subject. One of her books was "The Almosts," now out of print. At this time, too, well after she was seventy years old, she took over the health departments of two magazines

and had a wide following of readers. For a few years she traveled about, giving health lectures at the Normal Schools of Ontario; and some of the younger women in the Institutes will remember her as guest speaker at Girls' Conferences not so many years ago.

Dr. MacMurphy enjoyed remarkable health until, in her ninetieth year she was stricken with an incurable, lingering illness. She died last summer at the age of ninety-three.

Gertrude Gray

Gertrude Gray was one of the Women's Institutes' early field workers. After taking a "Domestic Science" course in Toronto, Miss Gray did her first work with the Ontario Women's Institutes in 1903, giving demonstrations in Foods and Cooking and speaking on various phases of homemaking. In 1906 and 1907 she did extension work in New York State and Ontario alternately and from 1909 to 1912 she assisted in organizing groups of rural women in Delaware and Ohio; but after demonstration-lecture courses were introduced in Ontario in 1912, Miss Gray was pretty steadily employed by the Ontario Women's