

Junior Institutes' Annual Meeting

THE Junior Women's Institutes of Ontario held their annual meeting, as usual, in a session of their own at the time of the Junior Farmers' annual conference at Guelph in April.

Mrs. Ann Alexander, Junior Convener on the Provincial Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, spoke of the educational and enjoyable experience it had been to sit on this board. Miss Marion Conklin, also a Junior representative on the Board, reported the work of the seventy-five Junior Institutes in the province. Miss Conklin named these program features: A demonstration on "Make-up," by a beautician, a series of meetings on "Safety on the Highway and in the Home," with a roll call "A hazard I can eliminate"; a program on cooking with the roll call "My favorite recipe" and a demonstration on making chocolate cake; programs on Floral Arrangements, Interior Decorating, How to Conduct a Meeting, Being a Canadian, Dollars and Sense, Christmas Decorations and Gift Wrapping, Farm Family Business. There were demonstrations on Snacks and Sandwiches, Good Grooming, How to Use Cosmetics, Making Wall Plaques, First Aid, Smocked Cushions, Rug Hooking.

During the year Junior Institutes gave donations to the Mental Health Association, The Cancer Society, Save the Children Fund, Canadian Institute for the Blind, Sick Children's Hospital, Tornado Relief Fund, Community Christmas Trees, Homes for the Aged, The Boy Scouts, Girl Guides and Brownies. One branch provided sweaters for needy children at Christmas time. Every year the Junior Institute of Haldimand County sends two Children's Shelter girls to camp for two weeks. West Elgin girls are providing for a little Italian girl whom they adopted last year. A branch in the Barrie Area sponsored a Coronation Year Scrap Book Competition among the Grade VII and VIII pupils in six neighboring schools.

Social events in the Junior Institutes last year included Hallowe'en and Christmas parties, a parents' banquet, showers for brides and entertainments for mothers and Senior Institutes. Many of the Junior Institutes' social events are held in conjunction with the Junior Farmers' Association—events such as dances, box socials, corn roasts and weiner roasts, banquets, Parents' Nights. The girls also join the Junior Farmers in church services, conferences, field days, public speaking and debating competitions.

A number of Junior Institutes take an active interest in Girls' Homemaking and Garden Clubs—not only sponsoring clubs but often

providing the leaders. And Miss Conklin expressed the Homemaking Club Girls' appreciation of the support the Senior Women's Institutes are giving to club work.

Mrs. Gordon MacPhatter, President F.W.I.O., brought greetings from the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, and said that the members had a warm place in their hearts for all Junior organizations. She thanked the Junior Institutes for their response to the Korean Widows' Self Help project and explained its function and purpose. Then the Provincial President said she had "an axe to grind": Juniors don't remain Juniors and she is looking forward to the time when they will take responsibility in the Senior organization; their experience in Junior work is giving them excellent training for leadership.

Several girls took part in a discussion on clothing fabrics, leading up to a talk by Miss Lulu Row, Clothing Supervisor, Junior Work, Women's Institute Branch, on the new project for girls' groups, "Know Your Fabrics." In the discussion Geraldine Brackenbury of East Elgin advised the girls in buying clothing to read the labels carefully. Miss Brackenbury had collected twenty different labels giving information about fibre content, shrinkage, moth resistance, color fastness and directions for washing and ironing. Margaret Jamieson of Port Elgin spoke on choosing nylon hosiery to suit the activities when they will be worn, saving the sheerer stockings for special occasions. Elizabeth Young of Sarnia Township suggested that when buying slips the girls should consider such points as the material, the durability of seams and the trimming.

The program concluded with a panel discussion on "You and Your Family" led by Mrs. Alex Sim of Bronte. Mrs. Sim sketched briefly three types of family organization. First she described the traditional type in which the father was the sole authority in the home, characterized by severe discipline and very little affection for the children. At the other extreme is the child-centred type where father is merely the breadwinner and the mother is in complete charge of the children.

Between these two extremes, a new type of family is emerging, which Mrs. Sim described as the democratic family. Here no one person has complete authority, father and mother share the task of bringing up the family and the children are also given responsibility as they grow older. In the brief discussion the girls agreed that this was the type of family in which they were interested.

Miss Josephine Bird, President of Haldimand County Junior Institute, was elected representative to the F.W.I.O. Board replacing Miss Conklin who has completed her term.