

possible to the convention, district annual, extension service in Women's Institute Procedures and officers' conferences. These meetings are of value not only because of the speakers and formal discussions during sessions but also because of the valuable information gleaned through informal discussions in between sessions."

Miss Lewis said a good Women's Institute should be both practical and progressive. At the end of the year every Institute member should feel she has learned something she did not know or know how to do before. Her life should be enriched, her vision broadened. She should be a better wife, a better mother, a better homemaker and a better citizen because she has been an Institute member. Homemaking is just as much a profession as teaching or nursing and through Extension Services for the Homemaker the Women's Institute Branch helps to make it a profession. In closing Miss Lewis reminded the members that "through service we achieve our greatest happiness" and quoted: "Be Serviceable," by George Matthew Adams. "I do not think we were put into this world just to serve ourselves, or to expect love or happiness for ourselves alone. Not until we put it to the test do we come to realize the significance of serviceableness—happily going out of our way to make someone else happy. If we make ourselves serviceable, humbly and without boast, it is like putting an extra deposit in the bank of character."

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Mrs. G. Gordon Maynard reported considerable mail received and sent out—letters, parcels, badges, stationery, life member's certificates, hand books. All office supplies and equipment were adequately insured.

The total receipts to September 30, 1954, were \$33,774.28. The total expenditures, \$18,285.12. The auditors' report was read and accepted.

Conveners' Reports

Home Economics and Health, by Mrs. John H. McCulloch.

The reports received indicate very clearly that our Women's Institutes are doing a marvellous work in meeting the needs of the women of our communities for information and instruction to enable them to best meet the challenge of today as the central figure, or hub, around which the wheels of the home turn. The woman who can raise a family of healthy, spiritually controlled and physically balanced children on a limited income deserves all the help and credit possible. Study has been made of Essentials in human nutrition, Cheese in the daily diet. The rural women in the home and community, Value of Home Economics in High School, Table etiquette, Origin and care of rayon, Usefulness of citrus fruit rinds, Care of furniture, Furniture cleaners and methods of use, Dangers of luxury in modern living. Are working

wives a menace to Canadian home life? The Extension Services of the Women's Institutes Branch and Home Economics Service have assisted greatly in making our Women's Institutes in reality a "Rural University".

Keen interest in Health has been shown. A wide variety of health subjects have been covered in the meetings by guest speakers as well as by papers, mottoes and demonstrations by members. "Conservation of life is foremost among the material things in the minds of men today" was one of these subjects. Branches sponsored X-ray clinics, Toxoid clinics, Well Baby clinics, Eye X-ray and assisted at Blood Donor clinics and Immunization clinics. They placed first aid kits in schools, supplied free dental care and cod liver oil to school children, gave kitchen showers for burned-out families, donated layettes to Health units, sent jam and jellies to hospitals and county homes.

Agriculture and Canadian Industries by Mrs. J. C. Thompson.

A review of the reports showed an ever-widening horizon of interest relevant to the study through papers and addresses, discussions, films and demonstrations of some of the problems in Agriculture and Canadian Industries, i.e. Marketing problems of Canadian farmers, diseases of animals, the effects of vegetable oils on the dairy industry, the high cost of labour and its effect on production costs, a study of agreements which enable young farmers to remain at home as partners on the home farm with provision made for financial security for the son and his family, and retirement security for the parents. More mention was made of the formation and support of Farm Forums and Folk Schools, both of which do much in educating rural people towards self expression and leadership. Real work has been done in every part of the province to produce a more understanding relationship between producer and consumer, urban and rural dweller. Working with the Canadian Association of Consumers has been a great help in this problem.

The increase in interest and work in Conservation has been phenomenal. Reports mention the study of topics such as soil testing, reforestation, wild life and its protection, water level control, erosion problems, fattooed fish, the work of the Conservation Council of Ontario, the curse of pollution, woodlot management.

All conveners expressed thanks to the Agricultural Representatives and Extension Service Leaders for their invaluable help, to the Ontario Agricultural College for many courtesies, to the Ontario Department of Agriculture for their assistance, free bulletins and guidance and to our Director, Miss Anna P. Lewis, for unceasing help, inspired leadership and elastic patience.

In closing Mrs. Thompson said, "I believe in Agriculture — agriculture as an industry, primary to Canadian industry, and in agri-