

County are each sponsoring a "York County Museum Night."

York East Institutes have planned their night in October with Rex Frost as guest speaker. This meeting will be in the "Community Hall in Buttonville.

Centre York District is having their Educational Night in November and through the kindness of the Board of "The Aurora District High School," will meet in that auditorium.

The committee in charge has secured John Fisher as guest speaker. Those attending will include members of the County Council and municipal councils, High School Students and Public School Students of Grades 7 and 8. All admissions are free.

York West and York North Districts will have their "Furtherance Nights" early in 1955. When these gatherings have taken place we hope to have created an interest and aroused the public to such an extent that Sharon Temple will become our County of York Museum.

—Mrs. Elton Armstrong.

South Ontario District

It was at the suggestion of Miss M. V. Powell, resident of Whitby and a member of the staff of the Women's Institute Branch, that the Whitby Women's Institute commemorated its fiftieth anniversary by starting to collect articles for a local Museum. In January, 1950, Miss Powell passed away but her suggestion still lives. Sometime later it took the form of a district project for South Ontario, but all agreed the Museum should be located in the County town of Whitby.

The first problem was to find a suitable place. In answer to a letter written to the Town Council the Town Clerk stated that when a new Town Hall was built every consideration would be given to having a special room to house antiques. In the meantime the convener, Mrs. Roberts, wrote to the Library Board and permission was granted to place a cupboard in the auditorium. A cupboard was purchased and with contributions from the institutes and friends it is now filled and more space could be used. The branches are advised to retain such articles as they can until more space is available, and then put them together in one building.

This project is financed by contributions from the Institutes in South Ontario and the Historical Convener of each branch is on the committee and is expected to look after her own branch and get as many articles as possible.

Miss May Brown, the District Treasurer, has charge of the funds. A tag is placed on each article with the donor's name, age of article and any other information obtained. These donations are subject to withdrawal at any time by the donor, so people do not feel that they are giving away anything they might want later on for themselves.

For the first two or three years nothing



Simcoe County Women's Institute Museum at Barrie.

much was accomplished, then the project suddenly took on new life and contributions started to come in. We were fortunate in getting two rooms in the old Registry Office and now we have the whole building. So we are hoping that some day we shall have a Museum to be proud of.

—Mrs. F. Roberts

Bruce County

The South Bruce convener of Historical Research, Mrs. Walter MacKenzie, was largely responsible for the Institutes of Bruce County undertaking to set up a county museum. Following the suggestion in Mrs. MacKenzie's report at a District Annual meeting, Mrs. R. J. Gatis, who was our board member at the time, moved that a committee consisting of the Historical Research conveners of the three districts in the county be appointed to investigate the possibilities of a county museum. Mrs. Gatis was added to this committee.

Our committee interviewed the County Council three times. This year Southampton offered their vacated public school for a rental of \$1 per year and upkeep. The County Council Committee has taken the building temporarily until the Council as a whole votes on the plan whereby the County is asked for \$3,000, not necessarily to be paid in one year. The Institutes have voted to raise \$1,500. This was done by contacting each branch in the three districts, asking that each district raise \$1 per member and voting on this at District Annuals. (There are 2,100 members in the County so this will allow a good margin, although there is a fine enthusiasm).

The County Council Committee has been empowered to visit and investigate museums and has secured the help of Miss Ruth Holm of the Ontario Government Archives. Miss Holm and her assistant Mr. Murray Oliver have made blueprints of the building with recommended alterations and their possible costs.

The Material Committee Convener, Mrs. Dudgeon of Doddington, is requesting a member from each branch to round up material. Mrs. Dudgeon visited the fairs in the County that had museum exhibits. This gave good publicity and it was surprising how many