

Art and Handicraft Contests

AN EXHIBIT of 134 oil paintings by members of Ontario Women's Institutes made an impressive showing in the club rooms of the Salada Tea Company in Toronto on the afternoon of August 13. The paintings had been entered in a competition arranged by the Salada Tea Company in conjunction with the biennial Tweedsmuir Cup Competitions sponsored by Lady Susan Tweedsmuir for the Women's Institutes of Canada. The Tweedsmuir program includes a competition in compiling community histories, a cultural project and a handicraft. This year the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada chose for their cultural project the painting of a Canadian landscape and the Salada Tea Company offered prizes on a provincial level.

Judges of the competition were the well known artists, Palmer and Casson, and their



Miss Lewis, committee convener and Mrs. MacPhatter, President F.W.I.O., at the exhibit of paintings in the Women's Institute Tweedsmuir competition. The first prize painting by Mrs. Mabel Grundtisch of Peace Bridge Institute is on the easel at the right; the second prize painting by Mrs. McBride of Walkerton on the easel at the left.

comments were that the work was well above the standard of the average amateur competition. There was no crude work and very little evidence of copying—the painters had made their sketches from actual landscapes and most of them showed an appreciation and love of the out-of-doors. They managed to put some of this feeling into their work.

The most common weakness, the judges felt, was a tendency of the artists to paint a landscape exactly as they saw it, the failure to see that art is an interpretation of nature, not a copy of it, and that the artist must select and arrange and design the material before him. "Sometimes," Mr. Palmer said, "there is more in knowing what to leave out of the picture than what to put in." The judges felt that for anyone wanting to paint, some guidance from a good teacher right at the start is very important.

Mr. Casson suggested another help, too. He feels very strongly that the Department of Education might well set up a truck with an instructor to go out to amateur groups over the province and show them how to buy and handle materials.

Mrs. Gordon MacPhatter, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario thanked the Salada Tea Company for their generous donation of prizes and announced the winners in the competition. The first prize of \$50 went to Mrs. Mabel Grundtisch of Peace Bridge Institute in Welland county; the second prize of \$25 to Mrs. McBride of Walkerton. Honorable mention with \$10 was awarded to Mrs. H. A. Rowlands, Fairgrove Institute; Mrs. R. Elliott, Morrish branch; Mrs.

Paintings receiving honourable mention, or highest scoring for East, Centre, West and North areas were: left side from top to bottom by: Mrs. R. Elliott, Morrish branch; Mrs. C. D. Gray, Hawthorne; Mrs. Stevenson, Combermere; Mrs. Alton McAllister, Whiteman's Creek. Right side, top to bottom: Mrs. H. A. Rowlands, Fairgrove; Mrs. T. C. Holland, Vittoria; Mrs. J. M. DeMarbois, Haysville; Mrs. Joan M. Bowman, Thornloe.

