

Here and There With the Institutes

Gleanings From "Reports of Meetings."

Editor's Note:— Again, as in our 1954 Winter issue we are taking the material for "Here and There with the Institutes" from the annual Reports of Meetings prepared by the Branch Secretaries. Our main purpose is to gather from these reports notes and ideas that may carry suggestions from one branch to another — not to give publicity to any particular Institute. So it may happen that an Institute carrying on an excellent program and contributing to all sorts of community projects may not be mentioned because what it is doing is already well known and many other branches are doing the same things. We hope the Institutes not mentioned will not be disappointed and that the notes recorded will be of inspiration and practical use.

Outstanding Programs

AS THE outstanding program of the year many Institutes named the meeting when the Homemaking Club girls demonstrated their club work. Several branches selected an illustrated lecture on landscaping farm grounds, by a representative of a nursery firm. "Grandmothers' Meetings" were popular — some Institutes had a banquet for the grandmothers; some arranged exhibits of antiques. **Kintail** had a meeting honoring their older members and presenting each with a cup and saucer, an Institute pin and a picture of the entire group; the district president spoke. There were several mentions of the outstanding meeting being the meeting of the District President's visit.

Choosing their most outstanding program, a number of Institutes gave first place to a meeting addressed by a local or special authority in some field. Doctors and nurses brought valuable health education. At **Ballinafad** the nurse from the county health unit explained the services available from the health unit. At **Gloucester Glen** a Victorian Order Nurse spoke on her work. At **Blount** a nurse spoke on "Childbirth Without Fear", **Melrose** reported their health meeting when a registered nurse spoke about "Cobalt Beam Therapy", describing her personal experience and "creating a hopeful keen desire to fight cancer." At the same meeting the Supervisor from the Children's Aid explained her work and the report says: "We realized more fully how we could help in this work with underprivileged children." **Shelburne** and **Lunenburg** each named a doctor's talk on the heart and high blood pressure; **Rugby** a doctor's talk on Polio and Other Diseases; **Pinkerton**, a doctor's lecture on the symptoms and treatment of cancer; **Lynedock** and the **Busy Bees of Halton**, a talk and film on "The Fight Against Cancer"; **Holyrood** a talk on

Polio; **Salford** a public health nurse's talk on Mental Health; **Burriss** and **Devlin** had talks on Polio and Mental Health by the same doctor. **Hornings Mills** had a paper on Poor Housing's Relation to Health; **Campania's** health meeting featured first aid. Pamphlets were distributed and a First Aid Kit was shown.

Interest in mental health seems to be general among the Institutes. **City View** and **Merivale** had a doctor speak on Child Psychology and invited the neighboring Institutes. As their outstanding program **Wingham**, **Alice** and **Zion** listed addresses by Mr. J. D. Parks of the Canadian Mental Health Association. At the **Zion** meeting there was discussion of the motto: "Be too large for worry, too sensible for anger, too strong for fear and too happy to think of trouble." At **Wingham** they had "a film showing how to quicken the minds of slow children." **Amherst Island** reports: "After hearing an address by a teacher of retarded children we sent for the Penny Round Up bags." And **Lucan** says: "As a result of our meeting on mental health, a series of lectures on Mental Health will be given this fall." **Buckhorn** had a talk on child welfare by the president of the county Mental Health Association. **Point Alexander's** discussion of mental aid to children, dealing with Fear, got the members interested in further study. **Fisher's Corners'** best program featured two films, "Your Children and Mine" and "Why Tommy Won't Eat." All the women of the community were invited to this meeting. **Manilla** put their health program first, with the film "Shyness", obtained from the Mental Health Association, 111 St. George St., Toronto, and a review of the book "The Power of Positive Thinking." **Torbolton** had a social evening with an address on mental health.

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A considerable number of outstanding programs had to do with the school and education in general, including the study of citizenship and cultural interests. The following seem well worth recording:

Britannia: a Parent-Teacher's meeting with a panel discussion on parent teacher relations. **Sunday Creek:** a teacher's talk on how parents can help the teacher. **Dunrobin:** an address by a Vocational School teacher on his work with problem children. **North Gower** during "education week" entertained the school children and they provided the year's outstanding program of music, choral speaking and recitations. **Phelps:** a school Inspector's talk explaining the working of the central school sys-