

Opportunity Class. This is where the Women's Institute can help. We should educate the public that it is not the child who is different. It is his or her needs which are different and Opportunity Classes are furnishing those needs. When Auxiliary Classes were being established in urban centres the same obstacle had to be overcome and it has been overcome.

The emotionally disorganized child needs to be recognized and loved and have a feeling of belonging to his home and community. He or she must be specially trained but must also have the qualities of sympathy and understanding.

An obstacle is the lack of trained teachers for this work. Summer courses for auxiliary work are available and Oxford County Women's Institutes are setting up a fund to provide a bursary to send a teacher to take the auxiliary class training.

The London Convention Area Women's Institutes have a committee which has suggested some problems for discussion:

1. Has the teacher in our crowded schools sufficient time to give the specialized training?

2. Would it be possible or practical to transport pupils to a central location?

3. How can we overcome opposition because of the stigma felt by some parents? This committee has also given some suggested activities:

1. Invite speakers to Institute meetings or community gatherings.

2. Gather as much information as possible from magazines, newspapers, books.

3. Hold discussions on the subject.

4. Be on the lookout for a teacher in your community who might be interested in entering this field to carry on the work when it becomes established.

The Hope Report stated that thousands of children in Ontario are in dire need of special education and thousands more could greatly profit from it. The Hope Report was published in 1950 but the needed legislation has not yet been passed. Boards are not compelled to utilize the service provided by the Auxiliary Classes Act. The responsibility for providing this service rests with the local authority. Many Boards are suspicious, indifferent or actively hostile to the idea and many of them are unaware that it exists. In the meantime country children are being penalized while urban children are given the opportunity to overcome their handicaps. It is a matter of educating the public. These problems need much thought and discussion.

In closing the report Mrs. Davidson said the members of the F.W.I.O. committee, Mrs. N. Keating, Mrs. D. Hart and herself as convener, desired the co-operation of the Provincial Board in creating a new interest so that the handicapped child in rural schools may be no longer ignored.

## Conservation Council of Ontario

Mrs. S. McDonald reported attending meetings of the Conservation Council in Toronto together with Mrs. J. C. Thompson and both agreed that these meetings are among the most interesting and educational they had ever attended.

The committee which had been at work on a report of findings and recommendations concerning Forest Fire Protection in Southern Ontario brought in a full report and after discussion this report was referred to the Forestry Committee for further study. As the outcome of their study, on their recommendation the following resolution was passed by the Council "That the Government be requested to extend the 'fire district' to include all Ontario so that the Forest Fires Prevention Act, with such modifications as may be necessary, will apply throughout the whole Province."

It is hoped that arrangements can be made to have a sixty hour course on Conservation available to teachers which would enable them to obtain a university credit for a Degree course. A list of speakers on subjects pertaining to Conservation will be available throughout the Province for Conservation evenings sponsored by the Women's Institutes, the Federation of Agriculture or other groups.

## Badges — Provincial Presidents' And Life Membership

For many years various committees have been endeavoring to have a suitable design approved for a Provincial Life Member's Badge but have met with no success. In November 1954 a new committee consisting of Mrs. Edwards, Mrs. Paisley and Mrs. Hendry was appointed to bring in suggestions for this badge and also to consider designs for a Provincial President's Badge which the F.W.I.O. had decided to have made. This committee studied many designs, received many suggestions in regard to these badges and after much deliberation, before the conclusion of the Board meeting, brought in a report. Their report was accepted and for the first time since the Women's Institute was organized a Provincial President's Badge and a Provincial Life Member's Badge were made and were on display at the Spring Board Meeting. The very first Provincial President's Badge was presented to Mrs. Gordon MacPhatter and at the Department of Agriculture's dinner, badges were presented to Mrs. Purcell and Mrs. Fitcher, former Provincial Presidents. Badges will be sent to all of the former Provincial Presidents.

## Radio Valuation Report

by Mrs. D. S. MacNaughton

Mrs. MacNaughton said that taking into consideration the reaction following her November report, she felt that though the 1954 survey was far from perfect, it had been worth the effort. The survey and report aroused