

Here and There With the Institutes

A Timely Exchange of Ideas

SOME idea of the sound, steady work being carried on quietly by Women's Institutes over the province is indicated in this routine press report of **Keene** Institute's January meeting: "In spite of the icy roads, 200 members answered the roll call with 'A necessary article for the sick room'. It was announced that the travelling library had arrived and later in the evening books were distributed. It was decided to accept the responsibility of sponsoring films in the Institute room each month." This was the meeting for the Home Economics and Health committee's program and one of the two joint conveners spoke on home economics, the other on health. There is nothing spectacular about the report but it leaves no doubt that this is a thriving, happy, educational Institute.

Another press report shows that **Elk Lake** Institute is quietly carrying on some excellent health work. At the January meeting a nurse from the district Health Unit showed a film depicting the unit's public health services. When the nurse suggested a plan to provide cod liver oil capsules for every child in the schools, the Institute voted a donation for this purpose. The benefits of the Child Health Centre were discussed, especially since there is no doctor practicing in or near Elk Lake. Plans were made, too, to show health films to mothers at the Child Health Centre. At this meeting the Institute completed arrangements to hold a skating carnival and to bring in a travelling library.

As evidence that Institutes are studying homemaking at their meetings, **Maple Leaf-Lennox** reports a meeting where the roll call was "What makes children happy in the home?"; a member spoke on the motto "Bringing up the farm child. Enjoy it while you can"; and another member gave a paper on "Does our educational system educate?"

For their Home Economics and Health program, **Norwich** enlisted the help of two registered nurses in the area. One nurse prepared a paper on "Big troubles can hatch from a little scratch", stressing the need of attention to even the smallest injuries and the importance of keeping certain supplies and medications on hand. The other nurse, now retired, spoke on the difference in home economics education now and in the days of her training, the emphasis having moved from "cooking and sewing" to "family living."

Willow Grove had an interesting talk on "How does television affect our community?"

Royal Institute announced in March that with the co-operation of merchants and business men of Guelph it would put on a Spring

Fashion Show in the Guelph Memorial Gardens with a seating capacity of five thousand. Probably no other Institute has ever sponsored a fashion show of such dimensions as this, but several branches located close to cities or large towns have found that a fashion show in co-operation with local clothing merchants is a very practical way of raising funds.

Bala, as a means of raising funds to build a community hall, is making plans for a Gala All Star Revue with television and radio star performers.

Jean Brumpton had a very successful fashion show with the local florist, furniture dealer and electrical appliance merchants, a London organ company and a local breeder of canaries co-operating along with eleven clothing merchants. The proceeds will go to pay for "a fence around the children's playground at the back of the library".

Among the interesting program features reported in the last few months, **Georgian** Institute had a panel discussion led by three of its members on "Which is the most responsible for bringing up a child—the home, the school or the church?"

W.I.

Roseneath had a rather unusual party — an "Open House" afternoon for the ladies of the community, with tea, euchre and crokinole games.

Last fall **Esquesing** Institute issued a Personal Recipes Cook Book. A few months later one of the members gave a demonstration of her recipe over the local television and the sale of the book was boosted considerably.

Tranquility and Fairview, for their "family night," had a family supper in the school with ninety-six men, women and children attending. They had a sing-song and variety program; the children's librarian from Brantford entertained the children with stories; and a man—possibly from the county film council—showed movies.

Seaforth's family night program was carried on after the pattern of a regular Institute meeting. The roll call was answered with a quotation about "A peaceful, happy home." (No doubt the men were asked to take part in this, too.) A program of music and recitations was given by the young people, and a local minister spoke on "What it takes to make a happy home." They had community singing and refreshments served in the cafeteria of the high school where the meeting was held.

In spite of stormy weather on a February night, **Ripley** presented a variety concert to a