

Here and There With the Institutes

Notes From Reports of Meetings

EDITOR'S NOTE: — Again the editor has gone through the secretaries' Reports of Meetings from the nearly fifteen hundred branch Institutes in the province. Our object was two-fold: to learn more about what the Institutes are doing and the service that would be most helpful from the Department, and to gather for our paper ideas and experiences that might be of value to other Institutes. 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 THEIR outstanding program of the year, many branches named an anniversary meeting or the grandmothers' meeting or the annual visit by the district president, or a talk or demonstration by the county Home Economist. Several reported that the social friendliness of their community night or the Christmas meeting made it the best of the year. **Lamb's Corners** sends this note: "Being a newly organized Institute we feel that each meeting was outstanding in that members were willing to participate and many of them had never belonged to an organized group before." And perhaps the **Edgeley** secretary speaks for many branches in her comment: "All our conveners had excellent programs. It is impossible to say which one was most outstanding." We know how difficult it must have been for some Institutes to choose one program as their best, but their answers may give other branches ideas for their next year's program.

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Here are some of the good programs built on standing committee subjects:

Skipness' home economics program: "The roll call was 'A Favorite Supper Dish' and some recipes were given from the Institutes Branch booklet 'Cooking Short Cuts'. A special method for making buns was given and a paper 'Safeguarding Our Holidays'. There was a display of articles suitable for a bazaar." **Lavender's** August meeting featured an exhibition of flowers and the women came wearing hats trimmed with vegetables. **Haldimand Juniors** took Decorating and Furnishing a Living Room as a special project and most of their programs were based on it. **Vellore Juniors'** outstanding program was a fashion show "because," the secretary writes "it took

the co-operation of all the members to put on this display as each girl was required to sew her own costume and to design a comical Easter hat."

Bay View in Lennox reports: "Our outstanding program was on historical research, dealing with the local history of our first settlers. We had an exhibit of photos of early settlers and their homes taken over a hundred years ago and such interesting old things as candle snuffers, brass scales to weigh mail, a framed proclamation of 1788 and excerpts taken from the records of the Court of Request held in Bath in 1819. Many old family names were recognized." **Micksburg** had a display of antiques to draw attention to the need for a museum to preserve the relics of pioneer days before they are lost. **Delhi** had a display of quilts and a talk on quilts and their history; **Aberarder** a talk and display of antique glass and china; **Laurentian View** rated high its historical research program dealing with the first users of the telephone and hydro in the district.

Sunday Creek places first, their home economics and health program "giving a lot of useful information on The Care of Clothing, Canada's Food Rules, Canning and suggestions for helping the Red Cross." **Molly Creek:** a meeting when one member showed how to make leather purses; another, hammered aluminum trays; and another, fancy ribbon bows for gift wrapping. **Willow Run:** a home economics meeting with demonstrations on the use of bias binding, faggotting and covering dress and coat hangers. **North Perth Maple Leaf:** a program where three members spoke on the place the Home, the Church and the School has in the lives of our children. **Central Dumfries:** a program in which three of the younger members gave papers on "Helpful Hints for Homemakers" and demonstrated new ideas and gadgets for home decorating. **Calton's** home economics program featured demonstrations in quilting, rug making and smocked cushions.

Crowland: a meeting on agriculture when a member gave a demonstration on the planting, pruning and care of rose bushes. This was followed by a quiz on the subject and the winner received a rose bush. **Whitby:** the program on Agriculture and Canadian Industries. A speaker talked about the industrial developments right in the area and what they contribute to the community. Then they had a debate, "Resolved that horticultural and fruit lands should be preserved for such production rather than used for housing and industries." **Burwick:** a panel discussion stressing the need of conservation, by members of the Humber Valley Conservation Authority. The report says: "The truth of the facts brought out in