

9. Do you think the people of your community can see in you any benefit from your experience in club work?

On the questions of why they are members of 4-H Homemaking Clubs, some of the girls said that in addition to wanting to learn to cook and sew and garden and be good hostesses and good homemakers, they joined the club to overcome shyness, to meet new people, to learn something about leadership. Others had found that when they applied for work preference was given to girls with club experience. One group reported: "Some of us joined the club because others did but we stuck because the programme interested us."

Out of their club work they want to learn "how to get along with others and be better citizens," how to make their clothes and be well groomed, how to be a benefit to the community, new ideas in cooking, and how to speak and demonstrate. And from the report on what club work had meant to them, it appeared that most of these objectives had been reached.

One of their first responsibilities as club members, the girls felt, was to keep the 4-H Pledge:

"I pledge  
My Head to clearer thinking,  
My Heart to greater loyalty,  
My Hands to larger service,  
My Health to better living for my club,  
my community and my country."

Other responsibilities, in addition to completing all club assignments were to welcome new members, and one secretary reported: "Since the Women's Institutes have done so much for us, we should help them in any way we can."

The question, "How can you work together for the benefit of all in your club?" had answers like these: Try to work younger members into discussion groups. Don't make any girl feel she can't do something as well as anyone else. Don't gossip at meetings. Be friendly, not cliquy or clannish. Give the County Home Economist a warm welcome when she comes to the meetings. One group had the school teacher for their leader, so they hold their meetings at the school, after four o'clock, have supper together and finish the meeting early in the evening.

There were some interesting answers to the question "Has club work made a difference in the methods of doing things in your home?" The girls reported better meals from the standpoint of nutrition, more vegetables as a result of garden clubs, vegetables cooked in less water, potatoes cooked in their skins, new ways of canning vegetables, new vegetables introduced in the garden. One girl said she had four brothers and she couldn't get them to eat certain vegetables; now she puts these vegetables in salads and the brothers don't know they're getting them. Cereal Shelf Clubs have started better breakfasts in some homes. At a result of "The Milky Way" project more sanitary ways of handling milk have

been practised. Members of "The Club Girl Stands on Guard" unit have introduced some safety measures in their homes. A girl whose mother is busy in the store they keep, said that she and her sister always prepare supper and the family are now having dishes the girls learned to make in their club. Some mothers are using recipes brought from the club. Better storage of all the family's clothing has been arranged in a home where the girls took the club unit "Clothes Closets Up to Date." Sewing club girls help mothers by doing their own mending and sewing for their younger sisters.

Evidently most girls' families are sympathetic to club work. It was reported that they encourage the girls to join clubs, that the mothers let the girls have club meetings in their homes, that many of the mothers are club leaders, that fathers and brothers help with the heavy work of gardening such as ploughing the ground, that they co-operate in getting the girls to Achievement Days.

Do the people of the community see any benefit in a girl as the result of club work? The girls believe that they do. They say the community can see that club work has taught them better posture, better grooming, how to make their own clothes, "how to be better behaved." School teachers say that club work makes a girl a better student. The Women's Institute can see that they are more efficient in Institute work, and the community sees something of what they learn in their junior exhibits at fairs. One group secretary said, "If the family and the community didn't see some benefit in club work, Women's Institutes wouldn't encourage their children to join."

### Youth and Citizenship

Mr. Alex Sim, Chief Liaison Division, Canadian Citizenship Branch, Ottawa, first sketched a picture of what it was like to be a girl on a farm sixty years ago, when few girls went to high school and a girl, when she grew up, had nothing to plan for except marriage. She helped with the work at home or she might keep house for a brother on a nearby farm until he married. Her outside interests were mostly centred in the church. Her views on politics, if she had any, were likely the same as her father's. About this time the suffragettes started campaigning for votes for women. They thought that if women got the vote and got into Parliament all social wrongs would be set right, but it hasn't worked out that way. A little later people thought if they could just get organized they could have hot lunches in schools and other such benefits and that would solve the community's problems, but that hadn't proved to be the answer either. The girls were divided into groups to consider such questions as "Is citizenship something we owe to the government or is it more?" "Is it harder to be a good citizen now than in 1920?"

One question the girls asked was whether boys should not be allowed to vote at eighteen, since in time of war they could be called to military service at that age. Mr. Sim replied