

county raised \$3300. A planned canvass of rural Elgin in the early summer brought in \$4500. Letters to former Elgin citizens and to a special list of men and women in St. Thomas resulted in donations of several thousands. Because the I.O.D.E. is interested in preserving local history their co-operation was enlisted. Mrs. Futcher—who by the way had been elected Chairman of the museum committee — spoke to each of the seven I.O.D.E. chapters in St. Thomas and they made a canvass of the city that brought in approximately \$4000.

Because the museum building is so old it required a lot of renovation. Fortunately it provides space for an apartment so that the curator can live in. There is also space for a small tea room. The apartment, the tea room and the lavatories had to be modernized and the whole place re-decorated; and because the cost of this work is so high the women decided to do a great deal of it themselves. For some time they held weekly bees, papering, painting and doing odd jobs themselves. As an example of what this means to the budget, Mrs. Futcher explains that in a room where the plaster had broken away it would have cost \$170 to re-plaster it. The women, using gyptex, "plastered" it themselves at a cost of \$7.60.

Plans for the maintenance of the museum have been laid soundly. The County Council last fall accepted ownership of the building, making it eligible for a grant of \$600 a year from the Department of Education. The County Council and the City Council will each give a grant of \$500 a year. The Women's Institute branches of the county have each pledged a token amount of \$10 to \$25 yearly until the museum no longer needs their help. This will add about \$400 to the budget. And there will be some income from the admittance charge of 25 cents to adult visitors.

To keep the museum before the people of the county, Mrs. Futcher has a weekly column of "Museum News" in the St. Thomas Times-Journal. Here, she says, she can keep the public informed of both developments and needs, and often she can report some item or story of local history. When the museum is opened no doubt this column will be an effective means of attracting visitors.

Note: The Elgin County Pioneer Museum was formerly opened on April 6. A full page spread in the St. Thomas Times-Journal shows pictures of the attractive stone-faced building—once a spacious, gracious home of colonial design; a fireplace, which had been removed from a home built in 1857 with its accompanying cooking equipment; a melodeon imported

from England in 1819; and views of the "medical room" with a local doctor explaining the "monaural," forerunner of the stethoscope and the same doctor demonstrating the use of the mortar and pestle once used in filling prescriptions. On another page is a picture of the museum tearoom, special project of North Yarmouth Institute, and a recognition of the work of their president, Mrs. J. Gowan Young. The editor pays a special tribute to Mrs. Futcher "who first broached the subject of setting up such a museum to the Women's Institutes of the county nearly three years ago, and whose vision and dynamic leadership have seen the big task through." The editor also says: "Together with accepting the responsibility as chairman Mrs. Futcher has been among the foremost in the hard, practical work which has been a joint effort of many energetic, devoted people."

THE COLLECT CORRECTED

IT has been discovered that when the "Mary Stewart Collect" was printed years ago in the Hand Book of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario the paragraphs five and six were misplaced. Naturally the error has been repeated whenever the Collect was copied from the Hand Book.

At the F.W.I.C. Conference at Edmonton in 1939, the late Mrs. Alfred Watt, M.B.E., explained that Mary Stewart who wrote the prayer in 1904, had later visited at Mrs. Watt's home in England. Being concerned about errors in versions of the Collect that were being circulated, Miss Stewart had Mrs. Watt's artist son make a copy under her own supervision. The title she gave it was Collect for Club Women. Mrs. Haggerty thought it would be well to publish the correct version in Home and Country. It is as follows:

COLLECT FOR CLUB WOMEN

Keep us O Lord from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word and deed;
Let us be done with fault finding and leave off self seeking;
May we put away all pretence and meet each other face to face, without self pity and without prejudice;
May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous;
Let us take time for all things: make us grow calm, serene, gentle;
Teach us to put into action our better impulses straight forward and unafraid;
Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things of life we are one
And may we strive to touch and know the great human heart common to us all, and
O Lord God let us not forget to be kind.