

Scene at the Get Acquainted Party. The drum is to provide an accompaniment for Landyan dancing.



the discussion that in Canada hail has sometimes been suppressed by the seeding of clouds from fires sending up smoke impregnated with silver nitrate.

Reforestation is being practised in most parts of the world and Conservation Days are observed when people, especially school children, are encouraged to plant trees. In Australia around 30,000 trees are planted each year by the Country Women's Associations. In countries where oil is produced some companies limit the production from each well while others have carried out a survey of the possible capacity of production over the next twenty-five years.

It was the hope of the conference that delegates would take back to their own countries any information gained and that country women's organizations all over the world will do what they can to stimulate and support movements to conserve and develop the natural resources of their country.

THE RURAL WOMAN'S PART IN HER COUNTRY'S DEVELOPMENT

This round table was attended by sixty-nine delegates from fourteen countries; and the subject was discussed from three angles—direct contributions, indirect contributions and future responsibilities.

In the way of direct contributions to the country's development one of the first methods discussed was co-operation with organized authorities. In one country the government offered to provide buildings, rent free, if the country women's associations would operate hostels. This was after the women had built and operated some hostels on their own. (We have another example of this where Ontario Women's Institutes financed and carried out medical school inspection in a few counties proving that the service was practical and appreciated by the people. Then the government took over Medical School inspection for the whole province.) Because there is often a wide gap between government programmes

and the needs of country women, small pilot projects were recommended.

Sometimes authorities come to women's groups for help; sometimes it is necessary to offer help. Some groups reported co-operating with health authorities in immunization programmes. In one country, when the government wants to make known a new idea in education or nutrition, it makes use of the voluntary organizations. The debatable question was introduced that too many social services are free and would be appreciated more if they had to be worked for or paid for.

Many of the local improvements initiated by women for the good of their country are so basic in the work of Women's Institutes in Canada that we suspect there may have been some Canadian delegates in this discussion group. Activities listed included assisting hospitals, child health centres and libraries, absorbing new families into the community, sponsoring home economics extension work for women and for girls' 4-H Homemaking Clubs. Women from different countries reported courses — some given in residence schools and colleges — of a duration of from four or five days to several months. To stimulate good craftsmanship one organization sponsored a week-long exhibition with the theme "The Country Woman Can Make It." Health education was undertaken by most organizations.

Indirect contributions to the development of the country were considered mostly from the angle of the development of women themselves so that they could take a more active part in the affairs of the country. The report explained: "From serving in little demonstration units, women have become experienced and branch out into local, county and state offices. They serve on school and hospital boards and should be encouraged to accept the same civic responsibilities as men. From two areas women mayors had had their beginnings in country women's activities, also a woman judge."

In the way of future responsibilities it was recommended that, whenever possible, women should be invited to participate in panel dis-