

Mr. McLoughry referred to the possible benefits that may come to agriculture from the application of atomic energy, the need of research in this field and the responsibility of extension personnel to carry this research to farm people. After reviewing Ontario's research and extension programme through agricultural experiment stations, agricultural schools and colleges and extension teaching in agriculture and home economics, Mr. McLoughry said:

"I am firmly convinced that we can think about the future with confidence and without fear of the unknown, because I believe that the universe is governed in an orderly manner according to natural laws and forces that are dependable."

Commenting on the conference theme, "The Challenge of Tomorrow", Dr. Margaret McCready, Principal of Macdonald Institute referred to the challenge in a recent newspaper headline, "Full Time Housewife Aimless Time Waster." Someone had been criticizing home keeping women for failing to take their share of responsibility in affairs outside the home.

"Women are on the horns of a dilemma," said Dr. McCready. "How can a young mother meet the problems of her home and still have time and energy for work in the community?" She added that one of the difficulties is that some young mothers haven't the background to handle the responsibility of a home and enjoy it instead of letting it get on their nerves. This is a challenge for home economics. We must have research on home management and home life to help women meet their responsibilities in both the home and the community."

Another challenging headline, "Home Economics Shocking Waste," came from a classics teacher. Dr. McCready thanked the Institutes for the support they have given—in scholarships and otherwise—to home economics education. She invited them to visit Macdonald Institute and to let her have their thinking on the relationship of home economics studies to the problems of the home. Dr. McCready felt that research will pay in home management just as it does in agriculture.

Later in the sessions Mrs. Angus Jackson, president of Stoney Creek Institute, announc-

ed that a daughter of Mrs. Hoodless had given \$1000 to Stoney Creek Institute. Rather than let this be "frittered away" in something less important, the Institute added another \$1,000 to provide an annual scholarship to be given to a Macdonald Institute student at the beginning of the second year of the four-year course.

Home Economics Services

"The biggest thing in our home economics extension service this year is what the women themselves have contributed to it," said the Director, Miss Helen McKercher. "Last fall when we started local leader training schools we had a real purpose: to help people to help themselves, to spread knowledge, to help develop leaders and to help develop creative thinking and ideas, knowing that group thinking is better than individual. You didn't let us down. The summary days at the close of the year gave an encouraging picture of what can be accomplished through local leaders and what the experience working with groups can do for the leader herself."

Miss McKercher referred to the originality shown in exhibits and demonstrations and to the quality of workmanship; and reported that 77 training schools had been held with 680 Institutes or other groups represented, and that the local leaders had carried their instruction to 7,227 women. In addition 543 short courses had been given with an enrolment of 11,212.

Speaking of the significance of Institute work in general, Miss McKercher referred to J. M. Barrie's statement that whatever is great in Scotland came from her homes. The Institutes' motto "For home and country" is sound and basic and the objectives, the welfare of the home or the family and the community are objectives we can never outgrow. The important thing is to keep adapting them to the needs of the times. Sometimes we hear it said that women have outgrown courses in homemaking; but we need to constantly challenge and inspire women to see that the most important job in the world is building a home. It is a creative task whether it involves the preparation of a meal, the setting of a table, the baking of a cake, the sewing of dresses, washing clothes, decorating a living-room,



Goshen Women's Institute orchestra — very popular entertainers.

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