

Institute Holiday at O.A.C.

By
Ethel McCandless

From the Interest Group in Stuffed Toys. Left to right: Mrs. Wm. Ross and Mrs. E. V. Thompson, instructors, and Mrs. Jas. Haggerty, President, F.W.I.O.



THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE ANNUAL HOLIDAY, held at the Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph, this year, was voted the very best ever, and happy memories will linger for a long time. Over two hundred women registered from Institutes all over Ontario. This was a large increase and more than double that of two years ago. Holidayers came from as far north as New Liskeard, and from Leamington and Chatham in the south.

The programme commenced in Memorial Hall in the afternoon, with a musical recital by Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kidd. In the absence of Dr. J. D. MacLachlan, President of the College, Dr. H. D. Branion welcomed the guests to the College. In his address Dr. Branion asked parents not to sell agriculture short to their children when considering a profession. Top brains are needed in agriculture and its allied fields just as much as in other professions. There are many openings for qualified graduates, and opportunities of making a good living in agriculture, said Dr. Branion.

Mrs. James Haggerty, President of the F.W.I.O. and chairman of the Holiday Committee, welcomed the guests, telling them they were there to enjoy themselves and to do just as they pleased. A radio soap opera, written by Mrs. Haggerty, was performed with a cast recruited from the Holidayers. It was quite hilarious and very much enjoyed. In the absence of Padre Young, who is heading a group of young people touring England, Mr. Ralph Kidd led the community singing.

In the evening a get-acquainted party was held in the Common Room of Macdonald Hall. Each morning the day began with a "Good Morning" and the singing of a hymn and prayer. While this part of the Holiday

programme has always been led by Padre Young, Mrs. Haggerty, in her own charming way, carried out the devotional services admirably. Her talks each morning were so well received that the audience asked for their publication in Home and Country, and as far as space will allow these will be found under the headings of "Good Morning," The Mary Stewart Collect, For Home and Country, and Racial Brotherhood. After the opening ceremonies each day those who wished to take advantage of the instruction in the Interest Groups entered their classes. The Choral Singing was under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Kidd, Textile Painting with Miss Isabel Leslie from the Department of Agriculture Extension Service, and the Making of Stuffed Toys and Dolls with Mrs. E. V. Thompson, Holiday Secretary. Each of these groups was filled to capacity.

On Tuesday afternoon Miss Marilyn Walker of the Horticultural Department of the O.A.C. gave a very interesting demonstration in floral designing. No programme was planned for Tuesday evening. Many took the opportunity to see a show or take a trip by car to nearby places of interest. This was a good opportunity for some of the older women, living alone, to get together and play cards, and it was wonderful to see how these women enjoyed one another's company. On Wednesday afternoon the guests were treated to a programme of demonstrations at Macdonald Institute. They were shown films on the easy way to make jams and jellies and the method used at the Institute since 1949 of sterilizing jars. (Wash jars in hot soapy water and rinse. Add two tablespoons javex to a quarter of water, soak jars for a few minutes in this. Rinse and use.) A fashion show film, "Through the Looking Glass" staged by stud-