

Here and There With the Institutes

Notes From "Reports of Meetings"

Again we have gathered from the Secretaries' Report of Meetings, ideas that we think may carry suggestions or inspiration from one branch to another. Because this is our purpose rather than to give publicity to any Institute, it may happen that some of the branches having the best programmes are not mentioned—their topics are already well known and many other branches are studying the same things, such as Making Wills, United Nations, Flower Arrangements.

This is true, too, in reporting Community Activities. Nothing could be more important than sponsoring a baby clinic or making cancer dressings or keeping supplies in the school's first aid kits or providing something for the local hospital or the community hall, but everyone knows these are good things to do. Even when we try to avoid repetition it does creep in sometimes and this makes tiresome reading. Still we hope that in the notes we have made there may be something of interest for everyone.

Only about half of the reports are reviewed here. The others will be dealt with in the next issue.—Ed.

Programme Features Recommended

In the "Report of Meetings" questionnaire, the Institutes were asked if they had some feature on their programme this year that they would especially recommend to other branches. These are some of the features recommended:

MacLennan reports: "A roll call which proved very successful was to have each member present in writing an idea for next year's programme or pay a twenty-five cent fine. This way you can have everyone's ideas to work into the programme in some way and we got a wonderful response."

Central Yarmouth mentions an interesting paper on the origin of the Institute Motto, the Ode and the Mary Stewart Collect and the duties of each officer in the Institute.

Several branches had a talk on municipal government by a member of the township council.

Eden had a talk on Fire Prevention, so stirring that "one member went home and checked the fuse in the fuse box before retiring."

Solina makes a special feature of programme by 4-H Homemaking Clubs. Last year the girls gave demonstrations at three meetings on "Cotton Accessories for the Club Girl's Bedroom," "Sleeping Garments" and "The Club Girl Stands on Guard."

Jasper recommends a study of public safety and fire prevention.

Campbellville had a lawyer speak on Wills—this was at an evening meeting—and the members' husbands were invited.

Nassagaweya says: "The film from the Cancer Society on Self Examination for Breast Cancer" was very informative and could be obtained, we believe, from any local Cancer Society."

Bluevale: For their community night with men, women and young people attending had a debate: "Resolved that a woman does a man's work better than a man does a woman's work."

Moncrieff recommends a roll call answered by showing an article made from a flour sack; and addresses on "What a Woman Should Know About Banking," also a florist's talk on the care of flowers and how to order flowers.

Fordwich especially enjoyed their buzz sessions and final analysis of the effects of radio and television on today's child.

Bethany, an address by a Probation Counsellor.

Mansfield reports: "We formed an orchestra using musical instruments and kitchen utensils. It proved very interesting and we had a lot of fun."

Melancthon recommends an occasional skit and a change of programme such as introducing an auction sale of articles which the owners don't need and someone else might need.

Whitfield finds displays of work interesting and practical.

The Institutes of **East Haldimand** district made a study of the city of Ottawa and the capitals of the provinces, taking one city a month as part of their regular programme.

Dunn: "In order to have all members take part in the programme, our convener asked each member to give an idea on the motto or topic instead of one person giving a paper."

West Korah especially enjoyed a demonstration of an automatic washer and a tour of a local dairy. Several Algoma branches recommend visiting local industry plants.

Spanish River made a special study of mental health and how to help in the rehabilitation of persons following mental illness.

Blue Lake and Auburn made a study of Pioneers of Adult Education in Canada. (We wonder if the study material for this came from the Canadian Association for Adult Education, 113 St. George St., Toronto. A few years ago a series of articles on this subject was published in the C.A.A.E. periodical Food for Thought.—Ed.)

Glen Morris mentions a demonstration on making a stool from tin cans—"seven large juice cans fastened together, padded and covered."

Moyle recommends a "Do it yourself" programme, requiring everyone to say, sing or act. They report that everyone took part making it a varied programme.