

The F.W.I.O. booth at the Royal Winter Fair, in keeping with the Institute's Safety project of the year, drew attention to "hazards in the home."



would serve to give national leadership and which could provide overall scientific knowledge and support.

#### Report of the Handbook Committee

The following is a report by Mrs. L. G. Lymburner, Chairman of the Handbook Committee, given to the members of the Board at the annual meeting:

The recommendations are the result of many hours of serious and thoughtful discussion on the part of the members of the committee, each of whom has had years of experience in the work of the organization and has given out of that experience a wealth of assistance. It is no exaggeration to say that we have wrestled upon occasion for long periods on a single word or phrase, even going back to the Latin root in order to make certain that the wording of a clause shall not in future be misconstrued or misunderstood. Even so, it may be that there will be occasions in the future when someone will wonder how we arrived at the final wording of a sentence. We are but human beings who have been entrusted with what all of us are agreed is probably the largest responsibility we have ever assumed in our years of work with the Women's Institutes.

The Constitutions of the branch, district and convention areas were read and discussed. This work has now been completed. The proposed Constitution for the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario was also studied and also that of the Junior Women's Institute. Prior to this, Mrs. Lymburner traced the growth of the Women's Institutes for the past 57 years, showing the advance in size of the convention areas. From this, Mrs. Lymburner stated the committee is convinced that two of the areas, Guelph and Toronto, have grown too large for the good of their members. This ideal is a convention in which most members may know most of the others and at least know the officers and those who aspire to office. The subdivision and their districts were then discussed and further recommendations were made. This proposed Constitution will be given further study before it is adopted. There will then be thirty members on the Board instead of the present 27.

All recommendations made to the committee have been given careful consideration, and always in the best interests of the greatest number, keeping in mind as we must the over-all picture. In order that all those concerned with changes might have every opportunity to be prepared for the changes, information was given to them so that they might assess the advantages of the proposals against the disadvantages which were presently theirs.

As chairman of the committee Mrs. Lymburner said she was overwhelmed with the evidence of co-operation on the part of all the board members in their consideration of the committee's recommendations. The Handbook, she said, would be the backbone of the Women's Institutes. The members of the Board extended a vote of thanks to the Handbook Committee for their work, and Mrs. Haggerty thanked Mrs. Lymburner for the splendid way in which she had presented the work of the Handbook Committee to the Board.

#### Study of Infant Mortality and Maternal Care

The report shows progress. Many inquiries have been received from individuals who are interested in the study of the infant death rate and who are vitally interested in a programme to educate parents through the Women's Institute to the need for better care throughout the whole life cycle and especially during pregnancy. Through the symposium at the Guelph Conference in May, the radio broadcast at that time and the press releases, much interest has been aroused throughout the Province and as far away as Vermont. Many members assist with health units, prenatal clinics and baby clinics and give considerable encouragement to expectant mothers, reported Mrs. Redford.

Dr. F. M. Schwenger, Medical Health Officer of Dufferin County Health Unit wrote a very detailed article encouraging preparation for childbirth. This was published in the Shelburne Free Press and Economist. Mrs. Jean Leyland has recently been appointed as a technologist for a group of researchers in the Obstetrics and Gynecology Department of the University of Toronto's Medical Faculty. This programme has been made