

# The Officers' Conference

THE ELEVENTH Women's Institute Officers' Conference opened, as the conferences of other years, with special entertainment for the delegates. As they arrived during the first afternoon they were taken on tours of the campus and Macdonald Institute, arranged by Mr. J. A. Eccles, Director of Public Relations. At the evening session Mr. Eccles formally welcomed the visitors and explained some of the college services, such as providing photographs and slides and setting up exhibits for Home Economics Extension Service and printing the books and manuals that many Institute women's children use in their 4-H Clubs and Homemaking Clubs. Mr. Eccles reminded the women of another service going direct to the Institutes—the loaning of films from the College film library. And he thanked the women for what they are doing in influencing rural young people to consider courses at the O.A.C. and Macdonald Institute.

Special entertainment at this session included music by Wellington county Junior Farmers' Male Quarettte and Clyde and Scott's Corners Women's Institute choral group led by Mrs. H. M. Allemang; and a fashion show staged by the districts of North and South Norfolk under the direction of Mrs. Bruce Nix and Mrs. Michael Ludwig Jr. Most of the costumes modelled had been made as a result of extension courses in Dressmaking and Millinery and 4-H Homemaking Club training, and there were some original comic numbers such as the sack dress made from a jute bran sack. A very smart dress had been made from feed bags of good-quality cotton. A College reception with tea and cookies completed the evening.

Other entertainment was interspersed with the regular business and study of the conference. Especially popular were the sessions of community singing led by Rev. W. A. Young, College Chaplain, accompanied by Mrs. Ralph Kidd and a piano and organ recital by Mr. and Mrs. Kidd. And the conference committee were highly com-

mended for arranging for solos by Mrs. Arleen Barnum; choral numbers by the Choir Boys of St. George's Anglican Church, Guelph; dances by the Anne Richmond School of Ballet. Mrs. Harold Royce, Mrs. W. J. Small and Miss J. McIntosh of West End Institute, first-prize winner in the "Grandmother's Quilt Blocks" competition, provided an interesting quarter hour of slides and commentary on their quilt block books. And members of the nutrition section of Home Economics Extension Service, Miss Frances Hucks, Lois Clipsham, Mary Porteous, Isobel Wishart (author of the skit) and Mrs. Anne Taylor put on a humorous skit "What's Food for the Flock is Food for the Family."

## Greetings From the College

Opening the conference, Mrs. Haggerty, F.W.I.O. President, thanked Dr. MacLachlan, President of the O.A.C., and his staff for all they had done to make the delegates comfortable and to put the facilities of the College at their disposal. Mrs. Haggerty also paid a tribute to Miss Helen McKercher for her helpfulness in "finding special people to do special things" and smoothing the way when difficulties arose. And the president had a special "thank you" for the conference secretary, Mrs. E. V. Thompson for her work both in making arrangements for the conference and in seeing things through while it is in session.

Dr. MacLachlan welcomed the delegates and outlined some of the work of the three colleges on the campus—the Ontario Agricultural College, Macdonald Institute and the Ontario Veterinary College, each with its three fields: education, research and extension. As an example of the research work of the O.A.C., several farms are operated for research with livestock. Altogether the college is spending more on research than on education. It is also spending more on extension work in rural Ontario than on education—as one item in extension, over 50,000 people came to the col-



Discussion group leaders. Left to right: Mrs. R. J. Penney, chairman; Mrs. W. J. Craig, Mrs. J. N. Cameron, Mrs. Lewis Keefer, Mrs. George Ash, Mrs. E. W. Briese, Mrs. H. R. Richards, Mrs. J. P. Corson, Mrs. Russell Wise, Miss Ethel Chapman.