

to sample some traditional Scottish dishes. Says Miss Horn: "They will be offered crisp oat cakes which crumble in the mouth, light-as-a-feather soda scones baked on a girdle" (not griddle) "on an open fire and spread with fresh farm butter, mouth-watering golden yellow pancakes — also from the girdle; shortbread, that delicacy beloved by all sweet-tooths; succulent fresh herring fried in oatmeal; kippers that have been smoked in traditional manner over oak chips; Scotch broth—a meal in itself; and homemade haggis, a mystery to the uninitiated, but withal a delightful and tasty dish."

The Scottish Women's Rural Institutes are looking forward to showing their guests places of historic interest in the beautiful city of Edinburgh and its environs and the sheep lands of the Border country and the dairy farms of Ayrshire and Galloway. And of course they will want them to see the birthplace of Robert Burns. Probably most of

the women who will attend the conference have been brushing up on their Scottish history to such an extent that they will have planned a sight-seeing programme of their own to follow the conference. And visitors with their ancestral roots in the old land will be looking up the sites of old family homes.

Perhaps the most interesting part of the conference will be making acquaintance with the Scottish people themselves. "What kind of people are the Scots?" Miss Horn asks. "There are those who have said they are dour and stubborn; there are those who have said they are parsimonious; others doubt their sense of humour, but with due modesty they are willing to leave the judgment to the visitors. But there is one virtue they cherish which has never been denied — they are a hospitable race. They like to be visited and they like to make their visitors feel they are welcome."

What Is A. C. W. W. ?

By Ann Wilson, F.W.I.C. Public Relations Representative

THE QUESTION is often asked, "What is the Associated Country Women of the World?" Here is the story:

The Associated Country Women of the World is the only international organization of country women. It represents more than six and a half million women in some thirty countries belonging to 140 Constituent Societies and 55 Corresponding Societies.

The objects of the organization are, briefly: to promote and maintain friendly and helpful relations among country women's and homemakers' organizations around the world; to further the common interests of these groups, to encourage the formation of similar societies in other countries, to work for the betterment of rural homes through the study and practice of high homemaking ideals and finally, to further friendship and understanding among country women of all nations.

For the individual member, the A.C.W.W. links the members together by means of letter friends and exchange of programs between groups in various countries and gives introductions to members travelling abroad. On the other side, it provides members with an opportunity to entertain visitors from other lands; it brings news of other societies to its members through the pages of its magazine, "The Countrywoman"; it speaks for the country women at the United Nations meetings and acquaints them with the work of this Assembly. In short, it is the international voice of rural women.

As far back as 1797 farm women in Finland had an Agricultural Women's Organization. In 1867 the Grange was established in the United States. The Countess of Aberdeen became the president of the International Council of Women in 1895. Two years later, in 1897, Adelaide Hoodless, at the invitation of Erland Lee, organized the first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, Ontario, to raise the standard of homemaking and rural living. This movement spread across Canada,

down into the United States, across to Great Britain during World War I and around the world.

In the ensuing years the need for an international rural group was seen and in 1930, in Vienna, at a conference of the International Council of Women, a liaison committee of rural representatives was set up, with an office in London, England. Lady Aberdeen and Mrs. Alfred Watt of Ontario and British Columbia, with Miss Pratt and Miss Zimmern in the London Office, gave leadership to this early group. It was in 1933, when the International Council of Women met in Stockholm, that the formal separation took place and Mrs. Alfred Watt was elected president of the Associated Country Women of the World, as it was now to be known. The topic at this conference was, "Food in the Country Home."

The Third Conference was held in Washington, D.C., in 1936, with the topic, "The Use of Natural Resources In and Around the Country Home". At this time a "Pilgrimage of Friendship" was made to the Peace Bridge linking Buffalo and Fort Erie, built to commemorate over one hundred years of peace between the United States and Canada. Mrs. Alfred Watt, the president of A.C.W.W., presented the plaque in memory of the occasion.

London, England, was the scene of the Fourth Conference in 1939, with the theme, "What Country Women Use." "Fifty Years of Achievement," the story of the Women's Institute, tells us that the opening of this conference was a gala occasion with delegates from thirty-two countries dressed in their native costumes. Horizons had broadened since the Washington Conference and respect and tolerance for others was being recognized more and more.

Unfortunately, the Second World War made it impossible to hold an International Conference but the aims and ideals of the organization were carried on nationally.

The war over, the Fifth Conference was held in Amsterdam in 1947. Its one great objective was