

easily breathed into the child's mouth causing suffocation. Keep tools, especially sharp or pointed tools in a locked tool chest. In the basement keep papers and any rubbish away from the furnace, and put ashes in metal containers, not in cardboard boxes.

"Start a safety campaign in your home," Mrs. McCandless urged. "Try to make every member of the family conscious of hazards and ready to remove them."

### A Women's Institute Effort

Summing up the discussion, Mrs. Lymburner gave these figures from the results of the Farm and Home Safety Service for the first and second quarters of last year:

The greatest number of accidents befell children between the ages of 5 and 15 years; adults between the ages of 36 to 45 and 51 to 55.

Out of 187 kitchen accidents, 6 were fatal; 4 suffered permanent injury and the cost for medical bills was well over \$17,000. Yards and gardens were the places for 257 accidents at approximately the same cost, \$17,000.

The overall cost of accidents on farms came to \$249,572 with the average for a single accident, \$77.50.

"And the money is the least part of it," said Mrs. Lymburner, "when computed against the time lost, the permanent injury in not a few instances, the suffering and worry along with the disruption of the whole family's routine. Worst of all is the knowing that with care the accident could have been avoided."

Mrs. Lymburner then announced that to stimulate an interest in keeping homes and families safe, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario would put before their members a plan to carry out in their family life, with fathers, mothers, children and hired help working together. The plan is to award a certificate of merit to homes which have been absolutely accident free for a twelve months period which would begin probably early in the summer. Mrs. Lymburner said:

"The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario are willing to accept their share of responsibility to bring down the number of accidents in the province and have chosen this way of beginning through their own members."

## One Family's Safety Promotion

A DELIGHTFUL feature of the Farm Safety Conference was a panel "What Our Family Did to Promote Farm Safety," staged by an actual farm family, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph French of Perth County and their two sons and two daughters with Mr. William Anderson, another Perth County farmer, acting as chairman. Mr. Anderson said that they have several important things in Perth County but the people are the most important and should be protected by every precaution for their safety.

When the chairman asked Mr. French what he considered his responsibility as the head of a family in promoting safety, he mentioned among other things, that he tries to warn the boys about the risks with tractors and the importance of keeping machinery and other equipment in order. He seemed to believe in establishing some rules too, commending the action of a father who, when he learned that his son had been racing with the car, took away his driver's certificate for a month. The French children learned to drive a car within the boundaries of their own farm, so they were pretty good drivers before they were allowed to take a car on the road. In addition to being warned not to exceed the speed limit, they are told not to let anyone else drive the car when they have it.

Mrs. French felt that it is a mother's responsibility never to leave small children alone. Even things that we never think of as hazards can lead to accidents, such as a kitchen chair or any chair that a child can move. A chair to climb on makes it possible for him to reach shelves or turn on a tap or get his hand in a wringer. Very young children must be taught to stay away from wringers, hot stoves, medicines and such things,

and as soon as they are old enough they should be taught how to use them.

The daughter Helen who is a teacher, paid her parents a high compliment when she said that their example and the safety training she received at home helped her to teach habits of safety at school. She had also learned a great deal through a 4 H Homemaking Club project, "The Club Girl Stands On Guard."

Another of Mr. French's rules is to keep a vigilant eye on such things as weak steps or worn boards in floors, and on the wiring in both house and barn. He said, "Last year when we were going to thresh, we checked the wiring in the barn and found that rats had gnawed a cord. Discovering this in time may have averted a fire."

The French boys, Bob and Bill, sixteen-year-old twins, in Grade X in high school are enthusiastic farmers. Asked to tell something of the safety practices they follow at their work, Bill stressed these points in the handling of a tractor:

"When using a manure spreader behind a tractor we have learned always to put the tractor out of gear before getting off to put the manure spreader in gear. It is very easy to make a slip but not easy to get out from under the wheels.

"There is an open ditch through our farm and we have learned to stay away from it when we are working with the tractor. Coming up to the ditch we always turn in plenty of time.

"After working with a tractor it will pay off to let it cool for twenty minutes before refueling, because if gas strikes the hot motor it is apt to blow up.

"We have learned never to drive a tractor into the barn and if we are working around the barn