

At Grey county's first home-making clubs' Achievement Day, in 1935. At the right, front row is the County Home Economist, Miss Flora Durnin. Second from left, second row, is her assistant for the day, Miss Helen McKercher who, at that time, was Perth County's Home Economist.



From Extension Staff Reports

Editor's Note: We thought these notes taken from the routine reports of extension staff members conducting courses and local leader training schools, might be of interest to a number of our readers.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES: "This was a young mothers' group not connected with any organization. What a grand Institute it would make! All were enthusiastic and were particularly interested in the choral reading and drama. The president said 'We wondered how we would spend a whole day on books and reading but the day has gone before we realized it'."

At another place (this was recorded as an instance of what reading in the home can do for children) a mother had read to her son and given him an appreciation of English at an early age. He had just graduated from Grade X with honour standing in ten subjects, 95% in History and 85 in English.

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Home Crafts: Several of the group came to the training school on Hooked Rugs still wearing the gloves and carrying the purses they had made at our Workshop five years ago."

"For material for rug hooking one woman had dyed handmade blankets too worn for their original use, in three soft shades of green. They will make a beautiful rug."

"Several women were interested in dyeing with natural materials and they intend to experiment in this."

Ontario Institute members who have been taking part in the Rugmaking project and who have been using our booklet "Hooked Rugs," may be interested to know that a few copies of the booklet have found their way to Scotland and that the Secretary of the Handicrafts and Housewives' Committees of the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes has written Home Economics Service to

say that the Scottish women are "most enthusiastic" about the booklet.

In a Leathercraft course the place of meeting was changed from an unused school house to a private home so that two young mothers could bring their new babies, who behaved beautifully in their bassinets."

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A course on Hospitality Foods had such a good attendance that the instructor demonstrated with double the usual quantity of food. There were representatives of five Institutes in the class.

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Of a Millinery course a member of the class who is crippled said, "The course is good occupational therapy."

An instructor expresses her satisfaction with the way the women, after they have mastered the basic techniques used in Millinery, use their own creative ability in choice of trimmings and styles.

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At a course on Sandwiches for All Occasions the Institute invited two Grade IX Home Economics high school classes to be their guests. Forty students and thirty-eight Institute members attended.

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At Leonard in Russell county, at the Rugmaking project Summary Day, a member brought in not only the rug made in the current project but also a rug made during a short course in Rugmaking 25 years ago, when the members brought in wool sheared from their own sheep and at the course dyed and prepared it for hooking. Our instructor says this was a beautiful rug in soft colours and of a landscape design, suitable for a wall hanging. Another rug in the display of old rugs at this Summary Day was made in 1901. It was not hooked, but loops of yarn were made by sewing them over a pencil.