

An interesting point in the discussion from the floor was that the girls were thinking about such matters as the responsibility of repaying their parents for money spent on their education; what responsibilities a girl should take if she works and lives at home, such as paying for her board, and sharing the expense of running the family car.

Choosing a Career

For guidance or inspiration in choosing a career six former club members spoke on "This is What I Am Doing."

Mrs. Wallace Knapp, speaking on her career of farmer's wife and mother suggested that most of the girls would "end up" in this career, whatever they might do in the meantime. In this career women have in their hands something more powerful than the atom bomb—the children who will guide the affairs of the next generation. The homemaker works with the most effective of human techniques "TLC" (tender loving care) whether it be in the first dress she makes for her little girl or the good meal she prepares for her family. She listens. She is there—not all the time, for she needs some diversion if she is to be at her best for her family, but her home is her centre. She shares her husband's plans and the hopes and dreams of her children. She makes home attractive and a place where love waits whether you win or lose. She hasn't lost the art of preserving and she processes food for the freezer. She bakes her own pies and pastry. She works long hours keeping the garden weeded and is happy with her children seeing the miracles of life and growth.

"You must begin early to prepare for this vocation," Mrs. Knapp told the girls. "In school, try if you can to finish Grade XIII. Scientists say that they have plans for agriculture now that farmers will not be able to deal with unless they have a complete high school education. So a farmer's wife, if she is to be his partner, needs this education too, not just for vocational reasons but for interest—for example, 'Poetry is the perfume of life.' The homemaker needs religious faith—so keep your faith renewed and guard it well. She needs the skills of the teacher, nurse, interior decorator, psychologist and some-

times she must act as umpire. Homemaking is not easy; and sometimes it frightens you; for you hold the future of the world in your hands."

Miss Lois Graham spoke on her work as executive director of a YWCA. In preparation for this work Miss Graham had taken sociology at university. She had also found her experience in homemaking clubs and junior farmer activities a help. YWCA work means working with young women and girls in an educational, recreational and organizational programme. It usually includes supervision of a residence for girls from out of town, and helping the staff to work with other groups such as the Children's Aid Society. Specifically the programme is likely to include classes in crafts and swimming, discussion groups especially on citizenship and public affairs, classes in English for new Canadians, a discussion on integrating New Canadians and young Indians moving into urban centres. The usual requirements for entering this field are university standing and it is an advantage to have some experience in social work, but people such as teachers and nurses are taken and given in-service training.

From public school teaching, Miss Kay Ferguson went to University and to high school teaching. She encouraged the girls to plan for the experience of attending university where there is "a sense of equality found nowhere else." And she cited cases where students had helped to pay their expenses by baby sitting or had worked for a few years before entering university. In addition to the actual teaching in a high school, Miss Ferguson felt there were other opportunities for service because high school pupils need someone to listen to their problems, and some of them are very lonely and need a friend.

"Choosing a vocation is the second most important decision a girl has to make," said Sandra Taylor speaking for the career of County Home Economist. "I'm married," she added, "so you know what the most important decision is." Preparation for the work of County Home Economist is a degree course in Home Economics such as the four year course at Macdonald Institute. Some of the satisfactions of the work, Mrs. Taylor said were "Seeing a girl develop through 4H Homemaking Club work to take her place in the home and the community, seeing some of the things taught in club work put into practice



One of the small discussion groups studying club problems.