

Special Programmes and Projects

A Water Safety Campaign

By Mrs. E. B. Wright

THE idea of sponsoring a water safety campaign was conceived by the Nephton Branch during the winter months. The community is situated close to the head of Stoney Lake on the Kawarthas.

The Lakefield Lion's Club offered to buy the necessary equipment — catwalks, floating dock and buoys; and the American Nepheline Limited and the local Union, United Cement, Lime and Gypsum Workers, each offered a week's salary for an instructor. The balance of the money was raised by the Institute through the sale of sandwiches at the local curling rink, tickets on a quilt and individual members earning talent money.

Seventy-five people took swimming instruction during the month of July in the Nephton district. Sixty of these tried for, and received, their awards from the Red Cross. One Senior swimmer was instructed and passed her test for the Royal Life Saving bronze medallion.

Mr. M. A. McMartin, Ontario Red Cross Director of Water Safety, came from Toronto to examine the Junior, Intermediate and Senior classes and was delighted with the hundred per cent success attained.

The community hopes the Institute will take on this project another year.

A Christmas Carol Festival

FOREST Women's Institute last December sponsored a very happy community event in the way of a Christmas Carol Festival. A review of the programme may give some idea of the extent to which the whole community had a part in it, and of its high calibre and fitness for a Christmas celebration. The secretary says "We kept away from the Santa Claus idea, making it truly a Christmas programme."

The gathering was held in the District High School. The Hammond Organ Company loaned an organ and organist for the occasion and Miss Margaret Fawcett, ATCM.LRCM, organist and choir leader of Forest United Church played the piano. The Kiwanis Club and some local business men provided programmes, carol sheets and coloured lighting.

The children of the community made their contribution. Those of the public school kinder-



As a part of Nephton Institute's Water Safety programme, Mr. N. A. McMartin, Ontario Red Cross Director of Water Safety, examines juniors on "reaching assists" in rescue work.

garten sang "Away In A Manger" and "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night." One country school choir sang a "Bohemian Carol", "Come All Ye Shepherds" and "Redeemer Divine". The High School enacted a colourful pageant, the Birth of Christ in pantomime and read off-stage from the Bible. Kettle Point Indian school choir sang an old French carol and two German fifteenth century songs. Junior church choirs were there from various churches. The Forest United Junior Choir sang "Friendly Beasts", "Tis the Moon of Winter Time", "The Birthday of a King"; the First Baptist Juniors, "O Come Little Children" and "Today is Jesus' Birthday". The Presbyterian minister's son sang "All Through the Night" and "A White Christmas". And two boys from the Pentecostal Tabernacle, "One Lost Sheep" and "You Can Have a Song in Your Heart".

It would seem that all faiths must have been represented in the adult church choirs. The United Church choir of Ravenswood, a small community a few miles away, sang "High O'er the Hills" and "Beautiful Starry Night"; an Anglican choir, "Jesus Joy of Man's Desiring"; the Dutch Christian Reformed Church choir, "Break Forth in Beauteous Heavenly Light" and in Dutch, "Silent Night" and "Oh Come All Ye Faithful"; a Roman Catholic choir sang in Latin and English, "Ave Maria" and "Gloria".

Miss Fawcett played "He's Got the Whole World" and "Chapel Chimes". A member of the Women's Institute read a classic poem "The Inn Keeper", and a woman of the Bahai World Faith read the Christmas story from the Gospel of St. Luke.

The President of the Women's Institute at the time, Mrs. Harold Hall, whose idea it was to