

Special Programmes and Projects

A Note to P.R.O.s.: The purpose of this section is to carry special reports or news stories that may offer suggestions or inspiration from one Institute to others. For example, "International Day" comes in February. If you feel you have had an especially good "international" meeting, and if it has created a "good feeling" among Canadians of different national backgrounds, do tell us about it. And if you have members or guests of varied racial origins we would like to have a picture of the group.

And will you note these points, please:

To reproduce a photograph we require a print, not the negative.

We cannot make a cut from a coloured picture or from a slide.

We cannot give space to reports of anniversary celebrations or other local meetings; but the title for a particularly good topic, roll call, "motto", debate or panel would be welcome because it might be taken up by other branches.—Editor.

A Christmas Carol Festival

FOREST Women's Institute has sponsored its second annual Community Christmas Carol Festival, with a programme based on the theme "Christmas Around the World", a programme planned to secure the participation of the whole community and to recognize especially those who have come to the community from other countries.

In a "Christmas Around the World" pageant, members of the Forest Inter School Christian Fellowship posed in costumes in the manger scene. Then as various countries were named, natives of those countries living in the community (and "contributing much to the community life" says the Institute Secretary) "dressed in their native costumes, and carrying their flags, marched to the platform and spoke a few appropriate words in their native tongue. The large stage was soon filled with a blaze of colour. Twenty members of the Canadian Legion, carrying flags of nations, slowly marched to the front and lined up. In all, thirty flags were dipped to the Christ Child and a soloist sang 'O Holy Night'. The organist provided background music of the various countries during the pageant."

The President of the Forest Women's Institute welcomed the crowd who filled the high school auditorium; other Institute members assisted in various ways, working behind the scenes in cooperation with members of Churches and other organizations. A member of the District High School Board acted as Chairman, and the following school groups took part in the programme: The public school Kindergarten children singing "Away In a Manger" and "It Came Upon the Midnight Clear", the Forest District high school choir; Bosanquet No. 4 Public School; Kettle Point (Indian Reserve) school told the nativity story in choral speaking and sang "A Pure Christ-

mas Carol"; the combined choirs of two Roman Catholic schools sang a carol in English and one in Latin.

Church choirs of many denominations and other music groups made their contribution: Forest United Church choir; the Presbyterian Church choir; the Anglican Church Choir; a girls' choir and a mixed choir from the Dutch Christian Reformed Church, one of their members being the Dutch language; two boys represented the Pentecostal Tabernacle contributing a duet and saxophone solos; the Forest Youth Band; and a newly formed Legion choir.

The Secretary of the Institute read the Mary Stewart Collect, well known to Institute members, and a woman of the Bahai World Faith read the Christmas story from Saint Matthew. The Secretary says: "Next year's Carol Festival has already been mentioned in the community and other choirs have indicated their wish to join in it."

Grey's Agnes Macphail Scholarship

By Mrs. Ivan McClure

AGNES CAMPBELL MacPHAIL, the first woman member of Parliament was born on March 24, 1890, in Proton Township. Her parents were hardy pioneers of Scottish stock. When she was five she attended her first school S.S. No. 4, Proton. At the age of thirteen she passed her high school entrance and decided to become a teacher. It was not for two years after this, however, that her parents gave her permission to attend high school. She enrolled at the Owen Sound Collegiate, which was sixty miles from her home. She was very clever and showed splendid cooperation with both the Principal and the other pupils. After finishing her high school course she attended Stratford Normal School. She taught at Gowanlocks, Kinloss and Sharon.

Miss Macphail was an eloquent speaker and as a result the young people of the community, where she taught, received some training in public speaking and debating.

After Miss Macphail's death in 1954 the Women's Institutes of Grey County, recognizing the training so ably given to their youth, decided to have a scholarship set up in her honour. The Institutes responded well to this project. On August 19, 1960, the Agnes Macphail Scholarship Fund was completed by each member giving fifty cents. The interest from this fund will be used to send two young people in the 16-21 age group to attend a short course during the Christmas week at the O.A.C. The first award will commence in 1961.

On Sunday, October 2, 1960, the unveiling of a historic plaque to commemorate the late Agnes Macphail was held at Hopeville in Grey County. This plaque is one of a series being erected throughout the Province by the Department of Travel and Publicity, acting on the advice of the