

On the program at the Board dinner: Miss McKercher, Mrs. Haggerty, Hon. W. A. Stewart, Ontario Minister of Agriculture, Mrs. Lymburner.



Sale of spoons and other supplies were reported, also that \$973.35 worth of supplies were on hand. It was decided that the F.W.I.O. Fire Insurance Policy on office supplies be reviewed and coverage revised.

Home Economics Service

Miss Helen M. McKercher, Director of Home Economics Service, reported that she had received many letters expressing appreciation of the new Hand Book. At the present time some counties are without a Home Economist but these are being looked after by Home Economists in nearby counties. Miss McKercher mentioned her continuing competition with "diamond rings" in maintaining her staff.

Many branches had written letters complimenting the Home Economics Service on the excellence of the Short Courses. It was stressed by Miss McKercher that all possible support be given to ensure a good attendance at Short Courses and Training Schools. The Needlework Short Course which features the making of an old-fashioned sampler, was planned to be of assistance when samplers are being made for competition in the Tweedsmuir Triennial Competition.

"Home Economics Service has a staff complement of 57", said Miss McKercher. "Of those, 30 specialists in Nutrition, Clothing, Home Furnishing, Health and Handicrafts work out from head office." The co-operation of Women's Institute members in connection with 4-H Clubs was appreciated. The Local Leaders' Training School, "143 Pounds of Meat" had been very successful and through this service improvement in the selection and cooking of meat should be noted by members availing themselves of the course when it is given in their branch by the local leaders. Mrs. Elton Armstrong spoke of the excellence of this course. "The Department is happy to assist the Women's Institute in any way and suggestions and ideas to improve the services offered are welcomed," said Miss McKercher, stressing that Extension Education is "helping people to help themselves."

New System in Secondary Schools

It was a great pleasure for many Board Directors to renew acquaintance with Miss Mary Clarke, a former Director of Home Economics Service. Introduced by Miss McKercher, Miss Clarke who is now an Inspector of Home Economics, Department of Education, amusingly reminisced from her memories of Women's Institute activities before giving a talk on "Vocational Guidance". Changes in method and ideas of teaching were discussed and the revised setup of studies in Secondary Schools explained, also how Home Economics will fit into the new program.

"Premier John Robarts, Minister of Education, is anxious that women's groups know about and become interested in the new program for secondary school education," said Miss Clarke. "The interest of women in the revision of the present program to meet the needs of the students who attend these schools, is important. With regard to unemployment it was pointed out that students who leave school early are the most likely to be in this class; therefore, young people should be encouraged to complete studies which will qualify them for a profession or trade in a competitive world." The value of Vocational Guidance at an earlier age was discussed and the suggestion made that Grades 7 and 8 were not too early for this subject to be included in the school program.

Citizenship and Education

In her report as Convener of Citizenship and Education, Mrs. D. H. Hart spoke of the success of a special committee of F.W.I.O. which met with the Minister of Education to discuss the use of a Mobile Classroom in the rural schools of Ontario. Sanction was given for a pilot project to be initiated by the Stothers Foundation for Exceptional Children. Such a vehicle has been equipped and is in use. The co-operation of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario was gratefully acknowledged by the Foundation.

Area conveners had been contacted regarding the use of the Citizenship Kit prepared by Mrs. Hart and available for use in setting up