

Members of panel on Projects and Problems. Left to right: Mrs. R. J. Penney, Mrs. Douglas Hart, Mrs. R. C. Walker, Mrs. Elton Armstrong.



Miss McKercher asked the Institutes not to apply for a course unless they are prepared to support it, and if, shortly before the time for the course, they are not assured of the required attendance, to cancel their application.

The Director announced that there is now in the Loan Library of Home Economics Service a tape-recording of Mrs. Haven Smith's address at the 65th Anniversary Luncheon. Institutes may borrow this if they would like to have it for a meeting.

A Tribute from the Minister

Bringing greetings from the Ontario Government, the Hon. W. A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture said the Women's Institutes have done more than any other organization to elevate the standard of living in rural homes, and as the father of four girls, all in 4-H Homemaking Club work he appreciates what the Institute is doing for his family. His mother had been an Institute member before he was born and he has recollections of the Institute's work in his own community in such projects as heading a drive to clean up the cemetery. Believing that the Women's Institute has a stabilizing influence on homes the world over, and thinking of the conference of the Associated Country Women of the World to be held in Australia this summer, the Minister said, we can be proud that the movement was started in Ontario.

"The challenge of the future is perhaps greater than any in the past," said Mr. Stewart. "We must recognize the changes taking place and either go along with them or guide them in the way they should go, preserving what is good in the traditions of the past and instigating or developing new things worth doing."

At one point in his address, paying tribute to the work the Institutes are doing in preserving traditions of rural Ontario through their Tweedsmuir histories, Mr. Stewart observed: "Some people say that our association with the sun, air, wind and water helps rural people to understand some of the finer things of life. What is more important, perhaps it helps us to understand our fellowmen and their problems."

In a provocative discussion of the problems of "Communication," Dr. W. R. Mitchell of

the Ontario Veterinary College, convinced the gathering that it is not easy to transmit our thoughts to others so that they will really understand us. Even the same words can be given different meanings by different intonations of voice, different body movements or a different facial expression. Also the meaning of certain words is continually changing. Out of a lively give-and-take between speaker and audience one idea was made clear: Communication is a two-way street; and it is important that we try seriously both to make ourselves understood and to understand others.

Projects and Problems Panel

Four well-known authorities on Institute affairs, Mrs. Douglas Hart, Mrs. R. J. Penney, Mrs. Elton Armstrong and Mrs. R. C. Walker staged a panel discussion on "Projects and Problems," Mrs. Hart acting as moderator. Here are some of their observations and recommendations:

Sometimes a secretary with a report to forward does not send it through the proper channels. A branch report goes to the District Secretary; the District secretary compiles her report from branch reports and sends it to the Area secretary. The report of a Branch convener of a standing committee goes to the District convener of the same committee. Yet Mrs. Haggerty, Provincial Convener of Resolutions received a number of resolutions direct from branches and other provincial conveners had the same experience. It was suggested that at the annual meeting of the branch, the secretary have envelopes addressed to the District Conveners and when a Branch convener of, say Home Economics and Health has read her report she should hand it to the secretary who puts it in the envelope addressed to the District convener of Home Economics and Health and after the meeting mails it. The same practice should be followed at the District Annual, forwarding District conveners' reports to Area conveners.

Conveners' reports should also be kept in the Branch. The advice was to buy an exercise book for each standing committee convener to enter her report for the year. When her term of office ends, have her give the book to her