

and the agricultural engineer for the area. Peterborough concentrated on putting red flags on "slow-moving vehicles" on the highway.

Perth did some of its educational work by means of illustrated stickers, such as a spring sticker showing children riding on tractors and falling off; a sticker showing a harvest time accident and labelled: "You can't harvest a crop in the hospital". The 4H Club boys and girls helped to distribute these.

Temiskaming sponsored a "Family Safety Social" and a Safety Week in July with a family safety course in the evenings—this included water safety and sessions with the agricultural representative on safety in the operation of machinery. The 4H Homemaking Club girls demonstrated safety measures in the home, as they had learned them in their unit "The Club Girl Stands On Guard".

Renfrew distributed a copy of the Ontario Farm Safety Survey report to every farm home in the county. The 4H Homemaking Club girls had a project on winter safety "from fires and other hazards of the season." Courses on water safety were given for local leaders who would relay their training to others. The council sponsored a competition to get photos and slides to use at safety meetings; and skull and cross-bone stickers were given to children to place on safety hazards in their homes. Most of the parents were interested and took action to have the hazards removed.

An excellent twenty minute film produced by Imperial Oil was shown: "Farm Tractor Safety is a Family Affair". Copies of this film will soon be available in Ontario, distributed by Mr. Harold Wright, Engineering Department, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

F.W.I.O. Safety Project

Mrs. Gerald Holder, Secretary - Treasurer F.W.I.O., reported on the Institutes' project "Safety on Stairs", in which every Women's Institute in Ontario was asked to co-operate: "to be alert to **all** the hazards of **all** the stairways in their individual homes and in community buildings; and to do their utmost to remedy any dangerous conditions they found." Mrs. Holder said:

"Have you ever stopped to realize how many steps there are in and around the average farm home? There are steps to the second and even the third floor; steps down to the basement, sometimes both indoors and out doors; steps in and out of the many doors which seem to be common to most farm homes; steps up to clotheslines; steps on step-ladders and on extension ladders; steps on step-stools — in fact almost everywhere you turn you go either up or down".

Some of the requisites of a safe stairway Mrs. Holder gave were: solid construction, any

rotting of supports or unevenness in the step itself presents a hazard — this happens most often in "outside" steps exposed to the weather. Many Institute members reported having wooden porch steps repaired or replaced by cement. One branch provided new cement steps for the school where they hold their evening meetings. Another group co-operated with the township council in having the back entrance to the township hall repaired as to porch, railings and stairs. In an Institute in the North, of the thirteen members, nine have had stairs in their homes either repaired or replaced.

Safe construction, Mrs. Holder said, requires a step wide enough to accommodate the largest foot; it calls for filling in the pits in cement steps; for hand rails on either one or both sides of almost every stairway. A well-marked cellar stairs should be painted a light colour from top to bottom or at least on the top and bottom steps; and there should be a light switch at both top and bottom. Some other safety measures reported were replacing worn stair treads; discarding old cocoa matting; placing gates at the top and bottom of stairs in homes where there are young children or old people; keeping articles off steps; in winter time using rock salt to remove ice from outdoor steps; providing safe ladders where they are needed. Mrs. Holder said:

"Several families purchased extension ladders for extra safety in case of fire or for use in reaching upstairs windows or the roof. Many others took a critical look at their present ladders and replaced loose rungs or wobbly steps; and many women persuaded their husbands to take the same precautions with the ladders at the barn."

Other features of the Women's Institutes' safety program for the year were sponsoring St. John Ambulance courses in first aid and Red Cross courses in home nursing and water safety; having demonstrations of artificial respiration; holding competitions for children in safety posters and bicycle-riding; eliminating fire hazards by having chimneys cleaned and repaired; installing fire extinguishers in homes, barns and community halls. Many Institutes concentrated on safety with electricity, appliances and wiring. Firearms were also discussed — some felt that children should be taught the proper use of guns, others that they should be kept entirely out of their hands. A good deal of attention was given to keeping medicines or anything else that might poison a child, safely out of his reach.

Problems, Projects and Challenges

"In planning a safety program, for a year, select one area of emphasis," advised Dr. Richard G. Pfister, Agricultural Safety Engineer for Michigan. "If you try to cover