

## "The Club Girl Stands On Guard"

By Jill Young

Elgin County Home Economist

Elgin County 4-H Homemaking Club leaders, and the County Home Economist with the St. Thomas Fire Chief and the Fire Prevention Officer, learn why and when a fuse will blow causing a short circuit in electric wiring.



SHOWN in the picture are three Elgin County 4-H Homemaking Club Leaders and the County Home Economist, discussing electrical wiring in the home with the St. Thomas Fire Chief and the St. Thomas Fire Prevention Officer.

At the Elgin 4-H Homemaking Club Training School on the project "The Club Girl Stands On Guard," the two men from the St. Thomas Fire Department spoke to the 4-H Homemaking Club Leaders about fire prevention in the home. The switch box shown to the Leaders was used to illustrate how much electricity one uses in the home. The switch box also showed why and when a fuse will blow causing the circuit of electricity in the home to be broken. Looking closely at the photograph, one can see the fire damage in the upper right hand corner of the switch box. A fire was created when a copper penny was inserted behind the fuse after it had blown. A visual aid such as this impressed upon the leaders the importance of adequate wiring in their homes.

The Fire Department Officers also showed an excellent film entitled "That They May Live" at the Elgin County Leaders' Training School. This is a half-hour educational film dealing with artificial resuscitation. The film comprises a wide variety of scenes and studies where artificial resuscitation would be necessary.

As a further service to the 4-H Homemaking Club members in Elgin County, the St. Thomas Fire Department Officers have consented to go out in to the County and show this film to all the 4-H Homemaking Club girls. I am certain that anyone interested in this type of program would receive the same wonderful co-operation locally that we in El-

gin County have received from the Fire Department in St. Thomas.

"The Club Girl Stands On Guard" covers many additional topics. One of these which is very important to the girls is the topic of First Aid. For this project Elgin County has three new Leaders, nurses, who were prompted to become Leaders because of the subject material contained in the unit. Each girl, during the course of the project, will completely equip a First Aid Kit. I was surprised to learn at an Institute meeting last week that only one of the members present had a First Aid Kit in her home. I hope that after this project is completed, most of the rural homes in Elgin County will have a First Aid Kit or will be in the process of putting a First Aid Kit together.

4-H Homemaking Clubs' influence goes farther than just to the girls themselves. Consider each girl going home after the Homemaking Club meeting and discussing the subject material she learned. The other members of her family in turn may discuss this subject with neighbours. I hope that in Elgin County the far-reaching results of "word of mouth" will be effective. One can not stress too much the importance of preparation in the event of an emergency.

Most rural young people to day have a variety of clubs and groups to belong to. However, quite a few of the young rural people have lost the knack of entertaining themselves beneficially in their leisure time. This is another area that is covered in the project "The Club Girl Stands On Guard". Reading, nature study, handicrafts, music and art appreciation are only a few of the uses suggested for 4-H Homemaking Club members to use their leisure time effectively.