

# Special Programs and Projects

## A Note to P.R.O.'s

The purpose of this Special Programs and Projects section is to give Public Relations Officers a spot in Home and Country where they can tell all the Institutes of the province about anything done in their own Institute which might offer a suggestion to other branches.

As we have explained in previous issues, we cannot give space to routine reports of meetings—unless the program is so original or outstanding as to give an idea to other Institutes. A particularly good subject for a topic, discussion, debate, motto or roll call would be welcome.

Some years ago it was decided that we could not report anniversary celebrations. These are of interest mainly in the local community where the participants are known and of course P.R.O.'s will see that they get into the local papers.

And please note that to produce an illustration we require a photograph, not the negative; and that we cannot make a cut from a colored picture or from a slide.

Perhaps the best way to see the sort of material we need for this section is to look at the topics in this and previous issues. Then, as P.R.O. for your branch or district or area, if you have a story that should be told, do, please, send it along. — Editor.



Mrs. Beverly Schram, President Port Dover Institute, presents the Institute's gift of an ambulance to the town by way of the Mayor and the Deputy Reeve.

## High Financing

By Mrs. Beverly Schram

ON DECEMBER 24, 1962, our branch purchased a \$4,000 fully equipped ambulance and presented it to the town, this being the largest single project we have ever undertaken.

In order to raise money we operate a booth at the community arena. A percentage of the profits is paid to the Arena Commission each year as rental and the balance is spent on various projects. We also installed an exhaust fan in the arena lounge to overcome the smoke problem during hockey games. As another fund-raising project we hold weekly bingos. During our meetings we pass around a box marked "Pennies for Friendship" into which every member makes a donation, and any person having a birthday during the month adds 25c to her contribution.

With the money raised by our various projects we contribute to a Scholarship Fund and a Nurses' Bursary Fund. Each year we present trophies to the junior boy and girl winners on field day at the local public school. Each month cigarettes are sent to the Ontario Hospital at Aurora to be distributed among the male patients. Two retarded boys in this hospital were adopted by our branch and they are remembered on their birthdays and at special dates throughout the year. Two years ago we adopted a little girl through the Save the Children Plan. She lives in Austria and at Christmas and on her birthday she is remembered with a gift. Members of the Women's Institutes and residents of the town celebrating their fiftieth and sixtieth wedding anniversaries are remembered. We also send flowers to those celebrating their eightieth, eighty-fifth and ninetieth birthdays.

We are most fortunate to be able to raise money in various ways and in return use it to help others. (Editor's note: We still wonder how one Institute can raise funds to carry on so much work. If Port Dover has any recommendations along this line may we have them, please.)

## Entertaining Historical Exhibit

By Elsie Little

WOMEN'S INSTITUTES of Norfolk County marked their sixty years of activity and the sixty-five years since Women's Institutes were founded by staging a historical display at the Norfolk County Fair. Three rooms, parlor, bedroom and kitchen were furnished in the manner of sixty years ago and all during the five days of the fair Women's Institute members were present in these rooms wearing costumes of the period.