

**CONSERVATION COUNCIL**

The work of the Conservation Council, Mrs. Trivers explained, is that of an advisory group to strengthen the work of all associations concerned with protecting our natural resources. Their greatest concern this year has been with the problems of lake levels and water pollution. They have also worked with the Parks Commission, Shade Trees Research and Waterfowl Research Foundation which established a park and waterfowl sanctuary in Guelph in September. The Council is working to have Conservation included in the courses of study in schools at all levels; to promote education in land use, to co-ordinate the work of the Departments of Agriculture and Lands and Forests as part of the A.R.D.A. program; and to establish more parks along our main highways.

**ONTARIO FOOD COUNCIL**

Some notes from Mrs. Trivers' report of the Ontario Food Council were: As a result of a request from the Women's Institutes, a new bacon package is to be put on the market. Again this year the Food Council will put on a program to promote the sale of the surplus onion crop. Miss Ruth Moyle prepares a regular food information service "Food Notes" available to anyone asking for them. Early this year the Food Council prepared an exhibit for the Home Show in London, England, to help develop a market for Ontario beans, fall wheat, cheese and honey. The Consumer Section of the Council tries through education on Ontario grown food products, to help the consumer provide a better way of life for her family.

**ONTARIO WELFARE COUNCIL**

After touching on the work of the twenty-four Family Agencies now operating in Ontario to assist not only the underprivileged but also well-to-do families who need counselling, reporting that the Council had completed a study of Nursing Homes and that Conferences on Family Relationships had been held in Detroit and Toronto last fall and announcing the Conference on Aging meeting in Toronto in January, Mrs. Trivers said:

"A three-months' training course for Visiting Homemakers is now available under Vocational and Technical Training. Local Red Cross Societies are developing night courses in this subject—14 weeks with 2 hours each week. The city of Hamilton has a night course of 20 weeks; also a plan by which older women in good health may attend other aged people, helping for about 3 hours a day at the rate of 85 cents an hour." Mrs. Trivers suggested that Women's Institute members might bring this type of service to the attention of local authorities in smaller towns and villages.

The Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. John Charlton reported that at the end of September 1965 there were 1416 Women's Institutes in Ontario of which 21 were Junior Institutes and that the total membership was 34,443. There were 2494 life members—68 of these had been added during the past year.

Supplies sold from the F.W.O. office during the year totalled a value of \$3921.79. In addition to the large mailings done by the Home Economics Branch, 1592 letters, 2809 receipts and 960 parcels were mailed from the F.W.I.O. office. The organization's current assets as at September 30th, 1965 showed a bank balance of \$19,319.04 and an inventory of merchandise, \$4,421.13. Investments in bonds—most of this is the capital investment—to provide scholarships—amounted to \$125,100.00.

**Public Relations and Donations**

Mrs. Austin Zoeller, provincial Public Relations Officer, reported Institutes publicizing their work or their programs through the press, radio, television and telephone; through displays of work at fall fairs, maintaining wards in hospitals, printed programs, making use of Institute seals, crests and stationery, having displays in shop windows, giving scholarships and bursaries. Good public relations are being established through such community services as assisting needy families with food and clothing, helping with baby clinics and blood donor clinics, sewing for institutions, sending flowers to the sick, erecting historical plaques, maintaining memorial grounds. To these could be added centennial projects—planting trees for community beautification, preserving things of historical interest such as placing an old school bell in a cairn.

In donations or the spending of funds, \$3,307.19 was invested in Institute projects this year, which included \$9,437.72 for the International Scholarship. (Local scholarships given during the year amounted to \$7,196.03 but these are classed as community projects.) Institutes gave \$15,929.98 to the Sponsor-a-Child or Save the Children Fund; \$1,177.81 to the UNESCO Coupon Plan 367 for work with Indian and Eskimo women in our far North; and \$4,124.71 in Pennies for Friendship. Women's Institute Educational Projects such as conventions and expenses for training schools were given \$38,779.64. Community projects in education, health and welfare showed expenditures totalling \$104,382.93. (The editor has done some addition of separate amounts not added together in the report to arrive at this total.) Cash donations to other organizations added up to \$16,540.59. The grand total