

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.

Varied Centennial Projects

NOT CONTENT with their imaginative national projects, almost every one of the 1,545 branches of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario is engaged in some private project of its own.

Beautification is high on the list. The Devlin Institute, for instance, is creating a park at the entrance to the village, featuring a flower garden in the shape of a trillium. The Kipling Branch in Nipissing is also planning a garden—this one of flowers in the Women's Institute colors, blue and yellow. Golden Lake is planting flowers around hydro poles along the streets.

Harwood Institute is making a wishing-well out of the everflowing well in Memorial Park. Bobcaygeon is planting silver and red maples.

Inglewood is beautifying the approach to the village. Dayton is helping create a public park.

Millhaven and Gordon Lake branches are beautifying community centre grounds. Branches in two very small communities (Stella, 90 inhabitants, Staffa 68) are making a park and beautifying it with bulbs and flowering shrubs.

At Sparta, the local branch of the Women's Institute is repairing and restoring a mud-walled blacksmith shop built in 1825. Known as "The Forge and Anvil", this building was used to stable cavalry horses during the Rebellion of 1837.

A quilt of ten provincial floral emblems, to be featured at local fairs, is the project of Dunning Institute. Fergusons Falls branch is making an autograph quilt, and Baltimore plans one of provincial floral emblems.

At the 1967 Fall Fair in Harrow, the Institute members are planning an 1867 kitchen and tearoom, staffed by members in the costumes of the era.

A Pioneer Variety Night in 1967 will be held in Dunedin by the Pine Tree Institute, featuring an 1867 village store, antiques and pantomimes.

In the Tiverton district, each institute will dress a doll in the garb of an outstanding woman of 100 years ago.

The Spanish River Institute is engaged in the restoration of the first white settlers' cemetery in the Massey area; Lanark North District will offer a bursary for a Grade XIII student; and the Bainsville branch is purchasing a mobile library.

And these projects are in addition to contributions to the national ones, which include The Canadian Mosaic, a book tracing the development of crafts in every province, and the presentation of 11 ornate chairs carrying the provincial and national coat of arms (one from each province and one from the national federation) to the Fathers of Confederation Memorial Centre at Charlottetown.

There will also be four competitions for institute members; one for an original short story based on Canadian historical fact; one for a poem about any phase of Canada's 100 years since Confederation; one for the best village history, and finally, one for the best sample of drawn-thread work, which is one of the oldest forms of embroidery.—From Centennial, Ontario.

Pioneer Cemetery Restored

Froomefield on the banks of the St. Clair River is hardly a village, but its residents have conceived, executed and financed their Centennial project all by themselves. The project actually got underway in 1953 when the