

It Was Vulgar to do Anything Well

WOULD YOU PUT HORSE RADISH on the soles of your child's feet to prevent that child from getting Diphtheria? You wouldn't, but possibly your great grandmother did. Reviewing the customs of a hundred years ago and comparing them with those of today, Mrs. Una Abrahamson, Editor-Publicist, General Foods Ltd., delighted a group of seven hundred women with amusing accounts of such often used remedies, at a Provincial Conference for Women in the Royal York Hotel.

"The favourite word of women in the eighteenth century was, 'gentility'. Ladies were supposed to cultivate their minds by looking at lovely pictures and reading uplifting literature. It was considered vulgar to do anything really well," said Mrs. Abrahamson.

Mrs. Lilah Lymburner, Chairman, Women's Advisory Committee, Ontario Department of Economics and Development, chaired the Conference. The theme was Women — Past and Future.

Mrs. Lita Rose Betcherman, Director Women's Bureau, Ontario Department of Labour, spoke on Women — At Work. Mrs. Betcherman said, "If a married woman went to work in the 1800's, it was thought that her husband couldn't support her. It was considered respectable, though, for an unmarried female to run a millinery shop or to be a dressmaker. The invention of the typewriter got women into office work, where their usual uniform was a white shirt waist and a long black skirt.

The shortage of workers in World War I brought women into the work force, but women have not yet achieved the right of equal pay for equal work. Today in Ontario 60% of the married women work."

The Honourable Judy LaMarsh, Secretary of State spoke of Women in the Professions and Politics. Miss LaMarsh told the ladies that in 1961 only 3% of the lawyers in Canada were women and 7% of the doctors and that these percentages have increased very little since 1961; that there have been less than a dozen women in the Federal Parliament, two in the Cabinet, eight women Senators; that there are now five women Indian chiefs, thirteen hundred women in Municipal politics, eight women ambassadors and one woman federal judge. "It is not the opposition of men but the apathy of women that has kept women out of politics," said Miss LaMarsh.

The Honourable Stanley J. Randall, Minister, Ontario Department of Economics and Development opened an afternoon session. He introduced Mr. Fred Davis, television personality. Mr. Davis chaired a panel consisting of Mr. Randall, Mrs. Abrahamson, Mrs. Betcherman, and Miss LaMarsh. Each panel member made a "Forecast for the Future"; and answered questions directed to them from the audience.

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Only the ignorant man becomes angry
The wise man understands.

Indian Wisdom

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Members of the Glen Charming Chefs, 4-H Club held a party with a "foreign flair" last week at the home of Mrs. C. Rosebrugh on the East River Road. From left, Donna Sharp, France; Kathy Stratford, Holland; Heather Sharp, Scotland; Margaret Wheeler, India; Mrs. Rosebrugh as Sir John A. Macdonald; Wilma Wilbrink, England; Penny Walker, Hungary; Mary Besler, China; Janis Skelton, Italy.