



Dr. Janet Wardlaw, Associate Dean, Macdonald Institute, University of Guelph, with Miss Helen McKercher, Mrs. John Charlton and Mrs. Everett Small at the Spring Meeting of the Board of Directors, Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Photo courtesy of the Audio Visual Services Department, University of Guelph.

Director of Home Economics Reporting

"The Women's Institute has always been noted for aggressiveness," said Miss Helen McKercher, Director of the Home Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food; "and there is no reason why they should not continue to flourish as the need for what the organization has to offer the homemaker increases with every new development in science and society." Miss McKercher challenged the Directors that "they must not work harder but must work with wisdom, using the new knowledge of the age. It's not so important to know how, as it is to know why.

"We must think in terms of the future. We don't want to become victims of rush or exponents of a product; but the Women's Institute wants to demonstrate the excitement of continuous learning. If we are going to proceed adequately, it will demand all of our imagination, reflection and powers of planning. We're going to have more leisure and will have to give special thought to the richness of a person's life and put more attention on creative activities. Your chain of acquaintance is going to get longer," said Miss McKercher, "and we're going to have to learn to think in terms of people outside of the Women's Institute and outside of Ontario."

Reporting statistics, Miss McKercher told the Board that in 1967 there were 141 more 4-H Homemaking Clubs with 2,613 more girls completing projects, than in the previous year. For this increase, 116 more leaders volunteered for 4-H leadership. There were 346 more volunteer leaders for Senior Training Schools, and in Centennial year, 12,000 women participated in the "Baking With Yeast" project.

Junior Women's Institute Activities

Mrs. T. A. Farrell, Junior Board Director of the Provincial Board, expressed pleasure at receiving more Junior Women's Institute reports relating to local activities. At the county and provincial level, Junior Women's Institutes are amalgamated with Junior Farmers.

Some of the topics they discussed were collector's items, meat cookery, party hints, personality traits and how to improve them, and remodelling and replacing heating systems.

Many Junior Women's Institute members have been chosen for provincial trips, such as Annual Conference, trips to British Columbia, to the United Nations, to New York and Washington. They attend provincial public speaking courses at Albion Hills, hold socials, compete in debates, field days and fall fair exhibitions.

Junior Farmers

Miss Barbara Watkins, Junior Board Director, reported on the Toronto Conference of over 1,000 Junior Farmers. Competitions were held in drama, music, public speaking, etc.

The theme of the Junior Farmer's Annual Meeting at the University of Guelph in March was "Community Betterment Around the World." Miss Marion Ruttan, Teeswater, was elected new Junior Director of the provincial Board of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. Highlight of the Conference banquet was the announcement of the overseas delegates.

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God is not willing to do everything and thus take away our free will and that share of glory that belongs to us.
—Machiavelli

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