



Leaders of Discussion Groups — Officers' Conference, 1968 — left to right — back row — Mrs. Leonard Trivers; Mrs. Charles Beamer; Mrs. Ross Johnston; Mrs. J. Hermansen; Mrs. John Charlton; Mrs. J. Sherman; Mrs. R. J. Penney; Mrs. Russell Wise; Mrs. H. Strang; — front row — Mrs. George Reist; Mrs. C. E. Yeates; Mrs. Wm. Gates; Mrs. John Craig; Mrs. Elton Armstrong.

Officers' Conference

"No man is an island, entire of itself; every man is a piece of the continent; a part of the main."

This quotation from the 16th century poet, philosopher, John Donne, was the theme for the 1968 Conference which brought together over five hundred women, officers of the Women's Institutes of Ontario at the University of Guelph on April 30, May 1 and 2. The officers for whom this Conference was planned were: Branch Citizenship and Education Groups — chairman, Mrs. J. Sherman; Branch Presidents — chairman, Mrs. L. Trivers; Members-at-large — Mrs. Elton Armstrong; District Secretary-treasurers — Mrs. J. Charlton.

Group leaders were: Mrs. George Reist, Mrs. Charles Beamer, Mrs. William Gates, Mrs. C. E. Yeates, Mrs. John Craig, Mrs. J. Hermansen, Mrs. H. Strang, Mrs. R. H. Wise, Mrs. R. J. Penny, and Mrs. Ross Johnston.

Registration for accommodation in residences on the campus of the University of Guelph and Conference registration started at 2 p.m. on Tuesday, April 30. Bus and walking tours of the University Campus were arranged for early arriving delegates and some delegates enjoyed a visit to the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead at St. George. On Tuesday evening, Women's Institute members were able to renew old friendships and make new friends at a coffee party in the Macdonald Hall dining room.

Mrs. Everett Small, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario opened the Conference Sessions at 9 p.m. on Wednesday, May 1st. Mrs. Small welcomed the delegates and thanked Dr. W. C. Winegard, President of the University of Guelph for the warm welcome received by the members of the Women's Institute at the University and for the opportunity of visiting the University Campus.

Miss Helen McKercher, Director, Home Economics Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food expressed her pleasure at the fine attendance and the great interest shown by the delegates in the work of the Women's Institutes. She congratulated leaders of 4-H Homemaking Clubs and said that she considered the program of the Home Economics Branch one of the best examples of Adult Education.

"Today," Miss McKercher continued, "we must learn how to live, not just how to make a living. We must try to understand why we are doing the things we are. We must experience the excitement of continuous learning. We must give thought to enriching our lives to cope with increasing leisure times. We must guard against becoming the victims of rush.

"We have exciting opportunities now for knowing more people and developing longer and longer chains of friendship," said Miss McKercher.

"The aim of the Home Economics Branch is to help people to help themselves, to develop