

Scrapbooks

THE WORD "SCRAPBOOK" has a fascinating ring to it. Many of us have scrapbooks on various subjects — events, historical items, odds and ends, personalities — such as the famous Quints; others on art, crafts, and, of course, the more recent Expo 67 spectaculars.

True, scrapbooks are a simple way of grouping and preserving items of interest. They are a pleasant and interesting pastime. They are a dream for our "retiring years" when we might exploit their worth and interest. They can fill many a lonely hour.

Some of our Branches have followed through with the scrapbook for each standing committee convener. Whenever I think of this I visualize the little Women's Institute Hall where I conducted a Tweedsmuir History Workshop some years ago. As you enter, there on the wall is a neat array of five shelves with the scrapbooks of related subjects compiled by each convener over the years. Of course they contained the convener's annual reports as well as those of her provincial counterpart.

Many of our Branch Curators throughout Ontario have chosen to record their community history this way rather than doing the deeper research and spending endless hours of time needed in preparing the traditional Tweedsmuir History Book. It is often said, "We put the clippings in a scrapbook first, then will transfer the material later to our Tweedsmuir History." But how often is this done? We, in the most part, are women too busy to do anything twice, so the scrapbook actually becomes the Tweedsmuir History. Many of them are splendid records being preserved, too.

For those who wish to continue with the scrapbook form of Tweedsmuir History, may I pass along a few suggestions:

1. As you paste, try to group relative subjects together.
2. Be sure each article is dated with month and year, as well as the source.
3. Number your pages and set up an alphabetical index in the back, listing all names—proper and common — throughout your scrapbook. In this way you have an immediate ready reference that will prove to be most indispensable. It is hoped that these indexes will be made of all our Tweedsmuir History Books, also.
4. A looseleaf scrapbook is preferable to a bound one. Use the glazed manilla refills and never bristol board.
5. Covers can be designed to portray the contents.

No matter whether your Branch Curator and her committee work on a scrapbook or a Tweedsmuir History, the main thought and desire should be to record the history of your own community as thoroughly as possible.

"Our fathers braved the toils and strife
To give us a home and a happy life,
Let us remember our debt to these men,
Record the past with scissors, paste, and pen."

Hester M. Walker,
Provincial Curator F.W. O.
April 1968

An Adventure in Friendship

ALTHOUGH PEOPLE ARE TRAVELLING more these days, there are many of us who cannot leave our homes for a very long time for various reasons. One of the exciting things about travelling is the making of new friends from other parts of our province, our country, the United States and other parts of the world. We can make new friends and enjoy new experiences right at home by acquiring a letter friend or through our Women's Institute Branches, participating in Exchange Programs.

It is amazing how close to and how interested a person can be in a woman in another province or country. Then, when the opportunity to travel comes, a visit with this new friend can make a holiday trip much more interesting.

The Women's Institutes of Ontario are members of the Associated Country Women of the World. The first aim of A.C.W.W. is to promote international goodwill, friendship and understanding between the country women of the world. To study the history, customs and people of other countries will bring knowledge which is a basic step towards this international understanding.

Why not open for yourself the door to a new adventure in friendship and understanding?

To take the first step write to the Home Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, 20 Spadina Road, Toronto 4. Give your name and address, approximate age, your hobbies and interests.

For a friendship link send the name and address of your secretary, the name of your Branch and the number of members. Women's Institutes in Great Britain, New Zealand and Australia are eager to correspond with Canadian Women's Institutes.