

# The Spring Meeting of the Provincial Board

By Mrs. C. Diamond

The Semi Annual Board Meeting of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario was held in Lambton Hall, University of Guelph April 22-25, 1969. President, Mrs. Austin S. Zoeller welcomed the twenty-nine Board Directors, three Alternates, and one Junior Board Director, Miss Marion Ruttan. Alternate Board Directors, Mrs. Cecil French for Mrs. R. McElwain, who was unable to attend; Mrs. T. J. Cornish, for Mrs. A. Teasdale who was ill; and Mrs. Andrew Dodds, for Mrs. H. Empey who suffered a fractured limb last winter, were introduced by Mrs. Zoeller.

Mrs. Zoeller emphasized that a Meeting of the Provincial Board of Directors requires concentration and deliberation. She urged that Directors feel free to ask questions and said, "for only through being knowledgeable can you have interesting discussions and make responsible decisions."

Mrs. Austin S. Zoeller reports thirty-six days spent at meetings as representative of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario to other organizations or at committee meetings, since her election to the office of president five months ago.

Mrs. Zoeller said that included in the meetings she has attended was one regarding Indian Homemakers. Field Worker, Miss LeBlanc, Mr. Weldon of the Indian Affairs and two Indian Homemakers from the Sturgeon Falls area met with Miss Helen McKercher, Miss Jean Scott, Mrs. J. Charlton and Mrs. Zoeller requesting financial support. They were assured of every assistance through courses presented by the Home Economics Branch, the local Home Economists, and the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario by working with them or having them become Women's Institutes, but it was explained that Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario are not in a position to grant them financial aid.

Nineteen invitations have been received to attend Anniversaries but time and distance are factors that must be considered in accepting invitations. She regretted very much having to refuse, Mrs. Zoeller explained.

The President expressed appreciation for filing cabinets, typewriter, letterheads, etc. purchased for the president's use, and also for the assistance of the executive in carrying on the work of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

## The Secretary Treasurer's Report

Mrs. J. A. Charlton, Secretary Treasurer of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario reported that Life Membership cards are ready for distribution to the Board of Directors. Later in the Board Meeting these were checked and readied for distribution to the Branch District Directors at the 1969 District Annuals.

Lists of eligible Federation Representatives and Alternates who may stand for election as Provincial Board Directors at Area Conventions this fall have been sent to the eight subdivisions electing new Board Directors in 1969.

Scholarship Annual reports for the calendar year 1968 were mailed to twenty-six Scholarship Chairmen on February 18, 1969 and all other correspondence and business completed by secretary.

Mrs. Charlton reported that new office equipment, filing cabinets for the President, Public Relations Officer and Secretary Treasurer as well as a typewriter for the use of the President has been purchased.

Membership figures announced were: Number of branches, 1,342; Members, 31,141; number of life members, 2,416.

The Interim Treasurer's report showed that as of March 31st, 1969, \$16,691.85 had been contributed by the branches towards the 25th Anniversary Project, of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario to raise \$50,000 for expansion and facilities at Macdonald Institute.

## Investment Committee

The report of the Investment Committee was read by Mrs. Wilbur Lawrence and the Board Directors accepted their recommendations, that the District, County or Area Scholarship Awards will be \$100 each for 1969; and that approximately \$2,000.00 be made available for assistance in training young women.

## Budget Committee

Mrs. John Bell presented the report of the Budget Committee and the Provincial Board again accepted the recommendation from them, that funds be made available to Board Directors to be used for the organization of new Branches, or any meeting to promote the welfare of the organization, at the direction of the President.