

"The challenges today," continued the Minister "are as great if not greater than they have ever been before. We have the challenge of mass travel and mass communication. We have the challenge of the generation gap in families, and many more."

He was impressed, continued Mr. Stewart "with the young people of today." He found them impressionable, enthusiastic, questioning and much more serious than we give them credit for being. "We should take heart that the disturbers are really a comparatively small group."

Regarding his own special work as Minister of the Department of Agriculture and Food, Mr. Stewart mentioned briefly that he had introduced a bill in the House re a new organization for the farmers of Ontario and explained some of this thinking re Bill 73 which deals with the use of animals for medical research.

Solos by Mrs. Marion Hilliard of Orangeville, with Mrs. Maltby at the piano were a pleasing part of the evening's entertainment.

Plenary Sessions — The Way It Is

Plenary sessions for the Discussion Groups were the feature of the Thursday morning program. The groups were given an hour to discuss and assess the information given and the exchange of ideas presented to them in the smaller Wednesday afternoon groups. All of the delegates then reassembled in Memorial Hall where the co-chairman of the four groups presented a report, using the title "The Way It Is."

Mrs. R. J. Penney, co-chairman, president's group said that in their group they presented information on the duties of the presidents and concluded with the presentation of a dramatization of the correct procedure for conducting an election of officers.

Mrs. J. S. Holden, co-chairman for the group for secretary-treasurers said that their group leaders had had a busy time giving information and answering questions re minute books, report forms, and the general duties of the secretary-treasurer as an officer in the organization.

Mrs. C. E. Pink, co-chairman for the members-at-large reported that these groups had taken as their special feature the project of making the members more knowledgeable about the history, affiliations, constitution and the Hand Book.

Mrs. Robert Weber, co-chairman for the district public relations officers told the delegates that in their groups they had had lively discussions on the duties of public relations officers for improving the image of the Women's Institute and the use of P.R.O. report forms.

Mrs. Zoeller in her remarks re the reports of the Discussion Groups said that she expected that by now the delegates must feel that each member, officer or non-officer is certainly The Most Important Person.

Questions from the Question Box answered by the Discussion Group chairman completed the Thursday morning program.

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"It is not luck but pluck, which weaves the web of our work."

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Barrie Island — When the Barrie Island's Women's Institute make a resolution to the government it is not ignored.

Barrie Island, part of Manitoulin Island on Georgian Bay has many dangerous winding roads. There was one spot through dense forest that was particularly dangerous, and especially so since the school bus carried children along that route.

The men of the Island had tried in vain for a long time to get some action on having it straightened out. Mothers of small children were very concerned. Many of these mothers belonged to the Women's Institute . . . so . . .

They made up a resolution giving the many reasons why something should be done about the road and then sent copies of the resolution to their own member of parliament, and to the local department of highways, and to the department of highways in Toronto.

This was done in February 1968 and by March 1968 the work crews had huge signs up, trees were cleared, holes were drilled through the massive rock, and dynamite was set to clear the curve and straighten it out.

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THE MAGIC OF A FRIEND

It's the little things that matter
The unexpected things . . .
The thoughtful gift that gives a lift
The thrill a phone call brings!
The kindly deed for one in need,
The willingness to share;
The happy smile that helps a while
And tells someone "I care!"

It's the little things that matter
That add up in the end . . .
To the priceless, thrilling magic
Found only in a friend.

From Home and Country,
published by the
Alberta Women's Institutes

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