

## *By car, by plane, by bus, by train*

Two hundred girls representing 4-H Homemaking Clubs in all accessible parts of Ontario arrived at the University of Guelph on May 24, 1969 for the Annual Conference for 4-H Homemaking Club Members. As they arrived at Lambton Hall they were met by Provincial Supervisor of Junior Extension, Miss Jean Scott; County Supervisors, Miss Rosemary Clark; Mrs. Margaret Woof, and Mrs. Patricia Jackson.

Excitement was the word as the girls were assigned to their rooms, then gathered for supper in Creelman Hall. Early in the evening new friendships were initiated as the girls assembled on the campus lawn for a session of fun and games. Later the girls moved to the lounge of Memorial Hall. Under the direction of Mrs. Woof, Mrs. Jackson and the newly appointed County Home Economists, the representatives of the 4-H Clubs enjoyed a singsong and showed amazing ingenuity by creating costumes using household tissue paper and pins. Competing in the fashion show later were hula dancers, blushing brides, and other colourful characters. The show elicited some interesting comments, flattering to the models, and otherwise. The evening ended with juice and cookies and then to bed for two hundred excited, travel-worn girls.

The 1969 4-H Girls' Conference opened officially at nine o'clock on Wednesday morning with Miss Jean Scott presiding. Miss Scott welcomed the girls and congratulated them for having been chosen to represent their home clubs at the conference. The Provincial Supervisor pointed out that attendance at conferences and other activities open to members of the 4-H Girls' Clubs were rewards for good work, conscientious attendance and evidence of high ideals and character as it was shown in their own community. "The conference would be an opportunity to broaden their horizons in friendship, personal development and services."

Miss Helen McKercher, Director of the Home Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food also welcomed the club members. She pointed out that the delegates at the conference were representatives of their Home Clubs and a part of a

great national organization. Miss McKercher congratulated the girls for the excellent work that they are doing and told them that they would from now on be looked upon as leaders in their home communities. She urged the girls to complete their twelve projects and then plan to work toward the eighteen clubs for Advanced Honours. The director urged the girls to give suggestions for future projects and expressed her wish that the girls would really enjoy the conference.

Dr. H. D. Branion, Assistant to Dr. Winegard, President of the University of Guelph addressed the conference, welcoming the girls to the University and inviting them to see as much as possible of the colleges and facilities for students at the renovated University. Dr. Branion told the girls that each one had a peculiar responsibility to her own club. He commented on the theme saying that the world of girls was now extremely interesting and challenging.

"The female of the species," said Dr. Branion, "can play, has played and will play a most important role in the world. Men so often fail to realize the importance of woman power." Then the speaker observed that Napoleon once said that an army marches on its stomach. "Many wives have accomplished exactly what they wanted by preparing well cooked meals," quipped Dr. Branion.

### **Music**

A part of the conference to which the girls look forward is the musical training given to them by Mrs. R. G. Marshall, A.T.C. of Fergus, Ontario. On the first morning of the conference the two hundred girls, most of whom had never seen each other before, with Mrs. Marshall directing and with Miss Marion Crane of Fergus at the piano were introduced to A Wonderful Day Like Today, Done with Pacem (Give Us Peace), Dominique, and Oh What a Beautiful Morning and their attempts at harmony were far from successful. Even so, as the sessions progressed the improvement was remarkable. The climax came on the evening of the banquet. There before the invited guests the performance was delightful.

Dr. Margaret McCready, retired dean of Macdonald Institute, gave the girls an amusing and interesting account of her stay at Dijon in France while attending the University there for the purpose of becoming more fluent in French.

In describing her experiences Dr. McCready remarked on her interest in observing the closeness of French family life. She urged the girls to make very serious efforts to keep the lines of communication open with their fami-