

through distributing high quality seeds and educating the women in scientific and intensive method of cultivation.

The organization has realized the value of participation in cultural activities in the development of human personality. It has encouraged rural women to participate in essay contests, drawing, folk songs, dance and other forms of art. The Institute has given special emphasis to the development of traditional arts.

The production of handicrafts is a major source of income to the rural women and in this connection the Women's Institute provides its best assistance to the rural women through channeling the services of the personnel of the island's department of cottage industries. Locally found twine, fibre and reed are used to produce most of the handicrafts. Some of the items produced by the rural women include twine motifs, hand bags, purses, baskets, mats and table mats.

The Women's Institute is the centre of social life in the village and it is the place where the rural women get together at regular intervals for mutual help and friendly cooperation.

Editor's note: This story of the work of the Lanka Mahili Samiti was sent to the office of Home and Country by a Women's Institute member from Ceylon who receives copies of Home and Country and tells us that she enjoys reading of the Ontario Women's Institutes.

NORWAY

The enjoyment of spectacular mountain and fjord scenery will be a feature for Women's Institute members and others who visit the Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World in Oslo, Norway in August 1971. The delegates will also see thousands of sparkling lakes and modern cities. They will enjoy excellent food and first class accommodations.

The climate of Norway is surprisingly mild thanks to the influence of the Gulf Stream and the long sunlit nights of the summer season. Even in August the temperatures are comfortable because the humidity is low.

The area of Norway is 125,000 square miles with a population of 3.8 million people. King Olav V. is the head of the government. The city of Oslo, where the Conference will be held is the capital. Delegates will have little language trouble since English is spoken in all parts of the country.

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Victor Hugo—"Woods and fields make the education of all great men."

A NEW SECRETARY GENERAL FOR A.C.W.W.

It has been announced that Miss Elizabeth O'Kelly has been appointed General Secretary for the Associated Country Women of the World, succeeding Mrs. Stella Bell who served the organization so faithfully for years.

Miss O'Kelly is a Life Member of A.C.W.W. and those members of the Ontario Women's Institutes who attended the Dublin Conference in 1965 will remember her as a speaker at that Conference. She has had long experience in Community Development work. Of particular interest to A.C.W.W. is her work in the Cameroons and Sarawak. From 1950 to 1961 she worked as an Adult Education and Welfare Officer in the Cameroons, first with responsibility for a large-scale literacy campaign in the interior and then as head of the Division of Community Development. As part of her work in this connection she was responsible for the inception and development of the 'Corn Mill Societies', an imaginative education and agricultural programme for African rural women which is well known to A.C.W.W. In recognition of her services in the Cameroons Miss O'Kelly was awarded the M.B.E. by Queen Elizabeth II and made a Queen Mother of the Nsaw tribe by the Fon of Nsaw.

From 1962 to 1965 she was Adviser to the Government of Sarawak, specially concerned with the setting up of the Sarawak Women's Institutes. For this work she was awarded the Star of the Order of Sarawak (Ahli Bintang Sarawak). She was largely responsible for organizing the A.C.W.W. Regional Conference and Seminar held in Kuching in August 1964.

Miss O'Kelly is thus no stranger to A.C.W.W. In addition to her work in Cameroon and Sarawak, she has paid official advisory visits (as well as those on our behalf) to Ceylon, Sabah, Brunei, Sikkim, Malaya, Northern Nigeria, and Greece, and has also visited Australia, Thailand and Japan. In 1955 she drove across Africa from East to West and has travelled extensively in North Africa and in Western Europe and the Middle East. She has also published articles on her work in community development and is an experienced speaker.

Miss O'Kelly takes up her work with A.C.W.W. at the beginning of August after leave following a 21-month period of work in Saigon with the Asian Christian Service of the East Asia Christian Conference. A.C.W.W. can count itself fortunate to have secured the services of such an outstanding international personality and we give her a warm welcome to our A.C.W.W. family.