

Resolutions

Mrs. Everett Small, Convener, presented a progress report on the resolutions which were sustained at the 1970 Spring Board Meeting.

A copy of the resolution re changing the Succession Duty Act to eliminate payment of duties on all estates passing to the spouse of deceased was sent to Prime Minister Robarts who expressed his thanks to the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario for their concern and forwarded a copy to the Honourable John White, Minister of Revenue. Mr. White replied that the Government of Ontario recognized interdependency of partners in marriage and the Treasurer's latest budget proposed certain changes to provide substantial relief. As of April 1st, 1970, exemption for widows and widowers of a deceased person was increased from \$75,000 to \$125,000.00 resulting in less than one per cent of estates now involving duty payable by a widow. The Treasurer also announced that Ontario will vacate the death duty field in the near future and accept a portion of the Federal Estate taxes.

A Resolution re encouraging adoption of a promotional campaign to plant new shade trees to replace those lost through Dutch elm disease was sustained. Thus it is now the responsibility of each Women's Institute member to promote tree planting throughout our province.

Another sustained resolution asked that the Legal Association of Ontario institute procedures necessary to have documents printed in easy to read, uniform type. Copies were sent to the Honourable A. A. Wishart, Minister of Justice and Attorney General, and to the Secretary of the Law Society of Upper Canada. Mr. Wishart replied that over the years the Ontario Government has introduced programs requiring that certain documents be printed in a specific manner such as in Insurance Acts of Ontario and Consumer Protection but that it would be impossible and rather unnecessary to legislate so as to require particular size type for all conceivable legal documents. He expressed his appreciation for comments from public spirited citizens making it helpful to arrive at decisions. The Law Society also reported no control over size of print used by commercial firms.

The resolution asking the C.B.C. to continue the Don Messer show brought the reply that it is now produced by an independent TV station in Hamilton and, although not carried by the C.B.C., is available to privately owned stations wishing to acquire it.

Request for the Ontario Department of Health to include Nursing Home Care in

the Hospital Care Insurance program brought a reply from Mr. Larry Kent, Executive Assistant for the Minister of Health, stating that all of the ramifications surrounding extending of the Ontario hospitalization to cover cost of patients in nursing homes is being seriously studied and views of Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario will be well accepted as the reviews continue.

Another resolution asked the C.B.C. to give programs with better morals than a Festival program of January 15, 1969. The C.B.C. replied expressing their regret that this program was found objectionable and drawing attention to the end of Festival programs in the spring of 1969.

The Consumers Association of Canada was asked to use its influence to encourage producers of grocery items to set standards for more uniform packaging. The Honourable Ron Basford, Minister of Consumer and Corporate Affairs replied that there is some standardization but room for improvement and a proposed Packaging and Labelling Bill, when enacted, will provide improved means of meeting these problems.

A resolution to prohibit the sale of non-returnable beverage bottles brought a reply from Mr. S. D. Turner, Director Consumer Protection Division, Department of Financial and Commercial Affairs and the Honourable Ron Basford. Mr. Turner replied that the Honourable G. A. Kerr, Minister of Energy and Resources Management recently told the Ontario Legislature that meetings have been held and legislation is being considered. A copy of this resolution was sent to Mr. Kerr who thanked Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario for their support on this ban of non-returnable bottles. Mr. Basford expressed his concern over the litter created and said he had had dialogue with provincial governments and industry concerned.

The Honourable E. J. Benson, Minister of Finance replied to the resolution that tax free exemption be raised to \$2500, stating that changes are proposed in the Government White Paper on tax reform.

The Executive of F.W.I.O. was left in charge of a resolution re tangible recognition at provincial level for prize winning entries in the A.C.W.W. competitions.

A resolution asking the Department of Highways to change signs and show on which side of the road parks or tables are located brought a reply from Hon. G. E. Gomme, Minister of Highways, that in the interests of safety roadside table signs are only erected for facilities on the right side of Highways in Ontario.