

The Banquet

The guest speaker for the banquet was Mrs. Ruth Watson, who demonstrated the art of making dried weeds look beautiful.

At the banquet, Mrs. Austin Zoeller, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, assisted by Miss Marion Ruttan, past Junior Board Director, Miss Susan Eller and Mrs. David Brown presented the Junior Women's Institutes of Ontario presidents' badges to Miss Doreen Harrop, Miss Sylvia Shaw and Miss Margaret Oliphant.

A name for the Junior Women's Institute newsletter was chosen at the banquet. It is to be called "THE JUNIOR ENTHUSIAST."

Following the banquet, there was a wiener roast with the girls huddling around a campfire singing the typical camp songs, spirituals.

The twenty-five girls left the conference on Sunday very tired but with a feeling of satisfaction, answers to questions, a wealth of new ideas and a happy thought of meeting their new friends at a future date — maybe at the next fall conference! Why don't you come next time and find out for yourself? Get actively involved in all the fun. Just don't read about it!

"Junior Institute's the name; Enthusiasm the game!"

To conclude the evening the girls attended a play party which turned out to be a birthday party for Miss Ruth Whitehead from Teeswater Junior Women's Institute. The birthday girl was fifteen on Sunday. A birthday cake completed the festive and happy occasion.

The feature of the Sunday morning session was a Church Service conducted by Mrs. Roy Wright.

The weekend concluded with a short hike. Some, spurred on by Mrs. Watson's demonstration, searched for decorative weeds. After a picnic lunch everyone returned to the lodge with "rosy" cheeks.

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YUKON FLORAL EMBLEM

The Fireweed is the official floral emblem of the Yukon Territory. Being a hardy and beautiful plant that can be seen everywhere in the Yukon, it is a natural choice. It was the subject of a poem by Sarah Drury Taylor, a prominent Yukon pioneer:

"Of all the flowers named in song
To which the woodland nymphs belong
The fireweed in her gorgeous dress
Transforms the earth with her caress . . .

The forest fire's unseemly blot
She covers now, and on the spot
Where blackened embers strewed the ground
Her wreaths of fiery weed abound."

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The Junior Women's Institute Annual Meeting

Are you a whiz at planning meetings or do you join the large majority that always come up with the same old thing? Come to the Junior Women's Institute Annual Meeting. Perhaps you will gain new insight and a wealth of ideas for types of meetings.

The prospective date is mid-April in Teeswater, Bruce County. (Final plans will be publicized later.)

The day's agenda will include a session on meeting planning, types of meetings, and a guest speaker. A provincial project will also be discussed. Bring your ideas. Crafts — Do-It-Flowers and sing songs will add a light, interesting touch to the day.

Everyone come. The Junior Women's Institute of Ontario needs YOUR support. This time, don't be left out of the fun. Come and join the action.

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MRS VAN WAGNER

"I never thought of such a thing. You just go on from day to day," said Mrs. Van Wagner when asked at the time of her 100th birthday by a reporter how it felt to live to be one hundred years old. At that time Mrs. Van Wagner was one of the two living charter members of the Stoney Creek Women's Institute. The other charter member was her sister Mrs. McKinley Morden, of Hamilton.

On November 13, 1970, Mrs. Van Wagner died at the age of 101. Her next birthday would have been on December 30. Mrs. Morden is now the only living charter member of the first Women's Institute in the world.

Mrs. Van Wagner's maiden name was Christy Ann McFarlane and she was the widow of Lt. Col. Henry Picton Van Wagner who died in 1940. There were no children. Both she and her husband were interested in the Farmer's Institutes and she was one of the 101 women who attended that organizational meeting in Squires Hall in Stoney Creek on February 19, 1897.

Mrs. Van Wagner is buried in Hamilton Cemetery.

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