

The Annual Girls' Conference

For two hundred excited Ontario 4-H Homemaking Club girls their world suddenly took on larger dimensions on Tuesday, July 13, 1971. Then these girls, selected by their county Home Economists, arrived at the University of Guelph for the Annual Girls' Conference for 4-H Homemaking Club members. Girls from every county in Ontario attended and a play party on Tuesday evening helped them to get to know one another and may have established friendships that could last a long time.

Miss Jean Scott, Supervisor of Junior Extension, Home Economics Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food opened the formal sessions on Wednesday morning. In her address Miss Scott congratulated the girls on their achievements in their 4-H Club projects and pointed out that attending this conference would give them an opportunity to realize that in belonging to a 4-H Club they were a part of a provincial and national organization. Miss Scott said, "I urge you to do your club work, school work, community work, everything you do in such a way that you can develop a feeling of pride and satisfaction."

Miss Helen McKercher, Director of the Home Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food brought greetings from her department and congratulated the girls on being chosen to represent their home clubs. She said that there are 20,000 girls participating in the 4-H Homemaking Club projects in Ontario. Miss McKercher asked that these representatives of the clubs feel free to express their opinions and ideas. "You are outstanding club members and we value your opinions. Knowing them gives us assistance in planning new projects and future conferences."

Dr. H. D. Branion, assistant to President Dr. W. C. Winegard, welcomed the group to the University Campus. He said, "Think about your rights, question and discuss your rights, but remember along with rights are responsibilities, duties and loyalties. You have been selected because you have demonstrated that you are capable of accomplishments, of leadership; this entails responsibilities. You are a privileged generation in that you have opportunities to travel. When these opportunities come, take them. Travel breaks down barriers."