

Provincial Convener's report at a Branch meeting, reading reports of resolutions that appear in Home and Country and encouraging branch studies on current topics.

Historical Research and Current Events

Mrs. Morris Martin, Convener, presented a review of Provincial Reports. A lack of coordination of the programs was mentioned, and an example of good coordination was given; i.e.,

Roll Call — Name an article found in Grandma's bedroom.

Motto — A priceless possession is a heritage.
Program — Old fashioned program in an old fashioned setting. Members wore period costumes, used antique china, old furnishings and oil lamps.

Display — Night attire worn through the years.
Lunch — Each brought her own in a paper bag and ate by candlelight.

The convener said that the branches reported that many anniversaries had been held, scrap books made, and museums visited. As convener her activities included attending a Tweedsmuir History workshop and making suggestions for study. She suggested that more District workshops be held.

Reporting Current Events she told of branches participating in local fairs, hobby fairs, sending letters and telegrams expressing opinions to governments, simulated newscasts, promoting contests and quizzes on current events. One Area Convener suggested tuning in via short wave radio to newscasts from other countries. Hearing different interpretations of the same event is an eye opener.

Concluding her report Mrs. Martin referred to the value of Historical Research and quoted. "It is true we cannot drive into the future looking in the rear view mirror but people will not look forward to posterity who never look back to their ancestors."

Cultural Activities

This report compiled by Secretary Mrs. Murray Smith was read by Mrs. Wm. Miller.

Mrs. Smith reported that little musical activity was reported but one branch told of enjoying a "Kitchen Kutie band," using kitchen tools for instruments; another put on a Minstrel Show; members enjoy singsongs and a few help local music festivals.

More interest is being shown in drama, with branches putting on plays, some original, and members attending classical and Shakespearean productions.

Much interest is shown in Literature with members reading biographies, donating books and assisting libraries. A favourite book was "Silent Spring" by Rachel Carson.

High participation in Arts and Crafts was

reported with members attending Short Courses offered by the Home Economics Branch of the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, and sponsoring 4-H Homemaking Clubs.

Art Galleries were visited, posters and school projects promoted and arts and crafts encouraged among senior citizens.

Starting and keeping Tweedsmuir Histories up to date was strongly urged. Museums were staffed and visited by members. Adult Education is gained through short courses and tours and Women's Institute members are taking part in events where leadership and public speaking abilities are developed. Mrs. Smith urged conveners at all levels to give active leadership for the newly established convener-ship of Education and Cultural Activities.

United Nations

Convener Mrs. R. C. Moffat, report read by Mrs. Wm. Miller. Ninety-five per cent of the branches sent in reports on activities to do with the United Nations — 315 branches had United Nations or International Day programs, an increase from the previous year. Topics included U.N., F.A.O., Feeding The Hungry, North American Indians, Transient Young People and Outer Space Communications. 136 Branches reported examples of program materials with another country through pen pals or showing personal letters. 200 foster children are adopted by Branches, Districts and Areas, mainly in Hong Kong, Korea, Turkey, Greece and West Indies. Six handicapped children in Smith's Falls and Orillia have also been adopted. U.N.I.C.E.F. is supported by 115 Branches. In one District every Branch fills Christmas bags for children who receive no other gifts. In answer to a questionnaire 526 would like ideas for programs, and 216 would like a nation-wide program. Most Branches collect "Pennies For Friendship" for A.C.W.W.

Home Economics and Health

"Roll Calls and Mottos should fit into the program theme and stimulate discussion," said Convener Mrs. J. A. Fairman. "Try not to repeat those used last year but to come up with some new thought provoking ideas."

The convener reported the use of speakers, films, debates, papers on knowledge of safety signs, eye bank, hair care, abortion, cancer, detergents, new fabrics, etc. Tours provided visual education; Short Courses were well attended, branches sponsored, gave financial assistance, provided leaders for 4-H Homemaking Clubs, and attended achievement days. Members canvassed for other organizations, visited sick and shut-ins, remembering them with gifts.