

Editor's Note

Shortly after the Winter 1972 issue of *Home and Country* is in the hands of our members, branch program planning committees will be starting to plan their meeting programs for the 1972-1973 year. Since so much of the success of the Women's Institutes depends on interesting, up-to-date, carefully thought-out meeting programs, this is an extremely important task. The Women's Institute, once a prime organization in the community (except for church societies) now faces much competition for a woman's spare time or as an interest outside her home. It is the job of the branch committees to plan programs that will not necessarily entertain but will offer information, give members an opportunity to develop leadership skills, and a chance to serve her community through an organization.

Program planning will have a special significance this year with the initiation of the re-arranged Standing Committees.

For the convenience of our members the new names and the suggested programs are repeated in this issue of *Home and Country*. Also in the "With The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario" section the new names are used for the first time.

Too much stress cannot be placed on the necessity for careful program planning. Every branch president should make it her personal responsibility to oversee the proposed programs over which she or one of her vice presidents shall preside in the coming Institute year. She should ask herself pertinent questions: "Will this be a program after which the members will say, 'I wouldn't have missed it for the world' " or "How can we involve several of our members to take part in this program?" or "Will this program stimulate as well as inform our members?" or "Will this program attract non-members to the point that they might want to be a member?"

Agriculture and Canadian Industries — Conservation, Pollution, Natural Resources, Production and Marketing Methods, Labour and Economics Consumer Interest (Quality Control, Organizations to promote rural living.

Citizenship and World Affairs — Civic Affairs, Legislation, Immigration, Current Events, United Nations, Exchange Programs and Letter Friends.

Education and Cultural Activities — Women's Institute Organization — Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, Federated Women's Institute of Canada, The Associated Country Women of the World.

Education at all levels — Music, Art, Drama, Literature, History, Crafts, Museums and Libraries.

Family and Consumer Affairs — Foods and Nutrition, Clothing and Textiles, Housing and Home Furnishings, Home and Money Management, Family Relationship, 4-H Homemaking Clubs, all aspects of Health and Safety.

Resolutions — Group Study — Community Concerns and Needs, Existing Laws, Study good form of resolutions, Review resolutions previously presented.

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Citizenship and World Affairs

Galetta. "The blending of nationalities enriches the nation" was the topic of an address at a branch meeting. Interest was added to the address through the use of clippings from magazines and newspapers.

Listowel East. The township reeve addressed a Women's Institute meeting and explained the work of the County Council.

Elora. A branch convener arranged a panel discussion with the purpose of giving information on the work of the United Nations through F.A.O. (Food and Agriculture Organization), I.D.A. (International Development Association), U.N.I.C.E.F. (United Nations Children's Emergency Fund), and U.N.E.S.C.O. (United Nations International Scientific and Cultural Organization).

Ed. Note. Do plan a meeting with the purpose of informing your members about the work of the United Nations. Material is available in the Loan Library. The booklet "What Everyone Should Know About the United Nations" gives excellent information which is easy to understand.

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"We are guilty of many errors and many faults, but our worst crime is abandoning the children, neglecting the fountain of life.

Many of the things we need can wait. The child cannot.

Right now is the time his bones are being formed, his blood is being made, and his senses are being developed.

To him we cannot answer 'Tomorrow'. His name is Today."

—Gabriela Mistral, Nobel Prize winning poet from Chile.

The above verse is quoted from the U.N.I.C.E.F. booklet "Tomorrow is Too Late."