

**EDUCATION AND  
CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**  
Mrs. Lowell C. Eller, Convener



**EDUCATION**

**Education — Our organization —** Panel discussions and displays of Women's Institute literature afforded Women's Institute members the opportunity to study and learn more about the Handbook; the Ontario Women's Institute story was reviewed and used as a reference; quotes from the Home and Country; reviewed the origin

of the Crest and Colours; studied about the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada; the International Peace Garden and Northern Canada Institutes; studied aims of ACWW, how it functions, its history and the international link of Women's Institutes.

**Roll Calls** — Name a country member of A.C.W.W.; What are we as W.I. members leaving for our successors? What can we do to improve the W.I. for the future?

**Programs** — School taxes, credit system used in secondary schools, teaching French in kindergarten, early child education, slow learners and how they can be helped.

**Speakers** — Speakers on "Education yesterday and today" — that five-year-olds learn more in their first five years of life than any other five-year-period during their life; Regional government; Education system in other countries.

**CULTURAL ACTIVITIES**

**Music** — A paper on the life and works of Mendelson; a demonstration of folk dancing and the history of music; formed a choir; organized a glee club; sponsored musical evenings.

**Art** — A paper on the Group of Seven, illustrated by some of their paintings which was reviewed with a contest; A display of public school art, posters, calendars and pictures at meetings; A donation and visit to Tom Thomson Art Gallery; Paintings and displays of Eskimo carvings.

**Drama** — Members attended plays at the Little Theatre and National Art Centre; presented an original one act play at a Branch "Variety Night".

**Literature** — Kars Branch had a book published, "Kars on the Rideau; book reviews of the Ontario Women's Institute Story; a book collection by Marion Keith for the county archives at Midhurst.

**History** — Members have taken many trips to Ontario historical sites including the Bell Homestead, Mohawk Church, Sharon Temple, the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead at St. George and the Erland Lee Home at Stoney Creek.

**Motto** — History is a fabric of man on the loom of time.

**Crafts** — Reports indicate active participation again this year — burlap string tying; rug making; jewellery from polished local stones; picture crafts using beads or braid; sculptures from old scrap metal and farm implements.

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS**  
Mrs. Brock Suddaby, Convener



Much time and effort have gone into the organization in the past seventy-five years. Perhaps now is the time to assess our organization's values to Canada and the world.

Reports show women with imaginative ideas have planned many of the programs. I do hope the following roll calls formed but a part of the main topic.

**Roll Calls** — What are you doing about pollution? Name an item that might be forgotten in estate evaluation; A rule you would give young people on money management; How many calories have you had today? Are family relationships changing today and why? Give your blood type; Look for the little things that make life wonderful; Do you use safety belts in your car?

**Papers and Topics** — dealt mostly with things close to the home, such as food, health, advertising, family living, drugs, household products and inflation.

A few forward-thinking Branches are studying and discussing the metric system, credit buying and estate planning.

We as consumers should be ever aware of our dwindling-value dollar. A study of good nutrition at a reasonable cost could be made by all. A motto which might be used, "Feed the family what they require not what they desire."

**Speakers** — Many Branches had speakers to give them up-to-date information, doctors, nurses, lawyers, policemen, firemen and speakers from health and safety organizations. A great deal of literature is readily available on abortion, drugs, acupuncture, and could provide information for programs. Do allow time for a discussion period in your program. It could be the most educational part.

Some Branches find help locally. People of the community, educators, and merchants can be called on for specific help. Community people are often very interested in demonstrating their skills.

**Courses** — All reports told of work with 4-H girls, senior training schools, food forums, cooperating with other local organizations.

**Services Provided** — In many areas the Women's Institutes remember the sick and shut-ins, sympathize with the bereaved and offer help, cater for parties and provide much of the social activities.

**Suggestions** — It is suggested that every Branch Convener prepare a program NOW for the coming year. Choose a topic you think would interest your community. Answers to the roll call might show a wide variety of ideas on the subject. A speaker or paper on the topic not more than twenty minutes in length could provide the basis for a discussion which should be flexible but not take more than fifteen minutes.

In conclusion, "the Area Conveners' reports were well organized and informative, and trust the assistance given upon request was helpful."

The "Communication Gap" between the levels of our organization has been narrowed. Let us strive for 100% reporting.