

Girls' Conference 1974

Two hundred chosen delegates from 52 Counties and Districts in Ontario arrived at the University of Guelph for a four day Conference.

The get acquainted party sparked the imagination of the delegates and their talents and resourcefulness was evident. The groups could turn their hand to poster making, sing a song, portray a skit with such versatility that I'm certain the Home Economists were pleased with the girls' eagerness and dexterity.

The 4-H Homemaking club members were chosen for their achievements in club work in their local clubs. This was a special week on the campus of Guelph and the delegates were welcomed by the President of the University, Dr. W. C. Winegard. He paid tribute to the program provided by the Home Economics Branch and invited the girls to take part in the OAC Centennial celebrations whenever possible. The President related a similarity to the Girls' Conference and their own celebrations, stating that both events owe much to the rural residents of Ontario.

Miss Jean Scott, Supervisor Junior Extension, welcomed all to the Conference, encouraging everyone to participate and gain as much as possible from the wide variety of program offered.

Horizons '74



Dr. Ethel Chapman, Miss Jean Scott, Miss Helen McKercher, Conference speakers.

Dr. Ethel Chapman has contributed much to the Conference over the years and she certainly was appreciated again as the keynote speaker. After her talk to the girls, they were anxious to chat and take her picture, to ask questions and in general get to know her better.

Her advice to the girls was appreciated and understood. A girl must choose the direction her life will take, she alone can decide. What you are will determine what you do. In "doing" we may try to follow specifics in "being" we try to be the sort of person who does right because that's the way we like.

What do you do to become the girl you want to be? First, clear away the rubbish that clutters your life. The best way, is to become involved in something better so the second rate has no appeal. A word of caution, do not try to drive it out of your life, but crowd it out with something better.

Clearing away the rubbish is the first step toward filling your life with quality. We are shaped by what we learn and think and do every day.

From every experience we have, something is likely to stay with us. The happy thought is that while

you carry in yourself the results of your thinking and learning and doing, you are free to choose the direction this thinking and learning and doing shall take. What do you want to build up in yourself.

To be attractive, especially to men. Beauty in the early days meant physical beauty, today we think of it more of a quality that draws people to us. This type of beauty comes about with a good carriage, becoming styles, your personality and good manners. Any accomplishment that makes you "good company" makes you attractive.

Dr. Chapman cited two evils "where girls of your age are concerned, the evils of violence and the desecration of sex." You must know that with young people, especially young men, what you think, what you accept or reject, carries far more weight than what an older person might preach to them. You don't have to preach, your influence comes from the way you live. Women have gentled the rough, raw places of our new country just by being gentlewomen, gentle in speech, in deportment, the homes they made, the good neighbours they were. Dr. Chapman continued by asking "I wonder if the world ever needed such women more than right now?"

Marriage isn't an immediate goal but it is not too soon to be thinking of what goes into a good marriage also when it comes to choosing a person to marry, more important than cleverness or good looks or anything else is what he thinks about God, money and a crying baby.

Clothing And Fashion Over The Years

Miss Frances Lampman (Mrs. T. Bowen) reviewed a film and spoke to the girls on this timely subject, Fashions. Men's clothes showed the influence of the military look and continued to have this effect over many years. The women's fashions with the nipped in look at the waist, the result of the corset, the long skirts and many petticoats seemed to add elegance and grace to the dress of that day.

Leaders for Tomorrow

Miss Helen McKercher commended all for their contribution not only to the club but to the community. She quoted an engineering executive, "My interest is in the future because I am going to spend the rest of my life there." However, it is not enough to be interested in the future, it is necessary to work hard to achieve desired goals and purposes.

You as delegates must have a vision, make a design and pursue a purpose. Everyone who will be working in 1984 is alive today. What will you be doing? What will our society be like? What will our leisure be like?

It is important what you learn in your 4-H meetings, but more important is what you do about it.

Miss McKercher continued to point out some good rules for leaders: Be yourself; add purpose to your life; prove your love for others; Do you inspire confidence; cultivate true enthusiasm; be willing to suffer; develop a sense of humour; be a doer not a complainer; take responsibility — don't dodge it.