

HOME ECONOMICS BRANCH

Miss Helen McKercher, Director, said the Home Economics Branch through its programme of extension education for women and girls, endeavours to improve the quality of life in rural Ontario through updated homemaking practices and good management of time and family resources.

1. To fulfill the objectives and carry out its extension programme, the branch relies heavily on assistance from the women of Ontario who work in close cooperation with the county and district Home Economists. These women, after training by the Home Economists and specialists, convey what they have learned to their own local groups.
2. As well as promoting new ideas in practical homemaking, the Home Economics Branch makes available courses in clothing, crafts and home furnishings, which inform rural women and girls of developments and ideas in textiles, colour and good design. Another important part of our programme is the promotion of good nutrition through demonstrations, courses and publications. All teaching materials are prepared or approved by staff.

As a follow up to the workshop "All About Nutrition" (presented mainly in '74-'75 a new food forum "More About Nutrition . . . and Family Meals" was presented.

The 4-H Homemaking Club programme for girls and young women of twelve to twenty-six years of age offers twenty-four clubs in foods and nutrition, clothing, home furnishings, home crafts, hospitality, citizenship, health and gardening.

Clubs are directed by leaders who take instruction at training schools conducted by Home Economists. Following the training school, a leader works with the members at club meetings held locally. Last year, 346 leaders' training schools were held for 6,267 volunteers. There were 3,331 clubs with a membership of 26,097.

A summary of the participation in the senior programmes resulted in increased numbers over last year.

Training Schools.....	15,189 participants
Summary Days.....	7,077 participants
Short Courses, Food Forums,	
Workshops	3,828 participants

OFFICERS' CONFERENCE

Mrs. Russell Campbell presented her first interim report.

She expressed thanks to Miss McKercher and the Home Economics Branch for sponsoring Mrs. Phyllis Meiklejohn, author, lecturer at the University of Toronto and Ryerson at the Officers' Conference leaders training session in Toronto. Mrs. Meiklejohn worked with the leaders to assist them in preparing their group presentations at the Conference. She used visual aids, ideas on communications and methods of relating in a group situation to stimulate thinking.

Officers' Conference delegates will be limited in numbers this year as the University of Waterloo Humanities Theatre is not available to Women's Institutes. The Conference will be confined to the Arts Theatre which has a total seating capacity of 504.

From past experience we know there is a 10-15%

cancellation. Mrs. Campbell asked Board Directors to urge Branches to notify her if their delegate is not able to attend so those on the waiting list might have a chance to attend.

There is a \$5.00 holding fee for cancellations, but those on the waiting list will receive the full \$60.00 back.

Mrs. Campbell expressed appreciation for all the help offered during her first year in office, "I hope everything goes well."

BE IT RESOLVED

Mrs. Harvey Noblitt, Resolutions Convener, and the Committee researched the 43 resolutions passed at Area Conventions last Fall. Two emergency resolutions were presented for the Board Directors' consideration. Some resolutions had similar requests so were combined, or if legislation was already in effect letters will be written. The following resolutions were sustained and will be sent to the proper authorities.

WHEREAS at present Canada has no official tartan for public use, while many provinces have their own tartan; and

WHEREAS such an official emblem for the whole Dominion could have a unifying effect; and

WHEREAS the Maple Leaf Tartan is now the authorized tartan for kilts and plaids worn by the Canadian Armed Forces Pipe and Drum Bands;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT we request the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada to petition the Federal Government of Canada to pass legislation making the Maple Leaf Tartan the official tartan of Canada.

WHEREAS at present 16 and 17-year-old offenders are required to appear in Adult Courts in Ontario; and

WHEREAS this can be a traumatic experience; and WHEREAS many adult rights are not given to persons under 18 years; and

WHEREAS in the Province of Quebec, Manitoba and British Columbia, persons under 18 are not required to appear in adult courts but instead are handled in Family Courts which are not open to the public;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario recommend to the Ministry of the Attorney General of Ontario that the present law be changed to permit only persons of 18 years and over to be summoned to Adult Courts.

WHEREAS the language used on CBC programmes is offensive and unnecessarily vulgar, e.g. in most "Performance" programmes, such as "Ten Lost Years" and the one about the Newfoundland Fishermen, to the extent that CBC suggested they are unsuitable for children, yet we have to endure the profanity we would never use in our own homes;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario request the CBC to eliminate the foul language so that listeners may enjoy the often fine content of such programmes.