

Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Annual Meeting Provincial Board of Directors

Mrs. Harvey Houston — Public Relations Officer

The Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario Annual meeting was held at the Lord Simcoe Hotel, Toronto, November 29 through December 3, 1976.

Mrs. Herb Maluske welcomed the 34 Board Directors and Executive, challenging all to aim for excellence.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Herb Maluske

During the past months since the Semi-Annual Board Meeting in April, I've enjoyed so many wonderful experiences and in no way in a report am I able to communicate satisfactorily the feelings of my heart.

I wish to welcome the nine new Board Directors. I hope you will leave this meeting with a clearer knowledge of the work of the Women's Institutes throughout Ontario. I also hope your energies will be rekindled and you will be desirous to direct those energies to the work of F.W.I.O. through your own Branches, Districts and Areas.

To the Second and Third-Year Board Directors, it is good to welcome you back. May you likewise receive continuous inspiration to carry on and fulfill your obligations. I know you will welcome the new Directors and assist them at every opportunity in becoming acquainted with one another and with the work involved.

I would thank the regional vice presidents for assisting me when I was either out of the country or already involved with other duties.

Along with the regular presidential duties I attended the spring meeting of the JWIO, seven District Annuals, Erland Lee Week, the 7th FWIC Convention, anniversaries, and a hobby and craft fair. In addition I was on the local radio programme "Open Line," the response was so good the programme was extended a half hour.

HOME ECONOMICS BRANCH REPORT

Acting Director, Miss Margaret Myer was appointed when Miss Helen McKercher retired at the end of October. We miss the guidance and support she has always given but I will assist you in any way I can until a new Director is appointed.

Tweedsmuir History Workshops, Women's Institute Procedures Workshops, will continue and speakers for District Annuals provided by the Home Economics Branch.

SECRETARY TREASURER'S REPORT

Mrs. Earl Morden

FWIO statistics:

Number of Branches	1,268
Number of Members	29,861
Number of Life Members	2,881

FWIO Secretary

Letters, minutes, notices.....	907
Receipts	725
Cheques.....	531

Office mailings—Mrs. H. Armstrong

Letters.....	1,643
Receipts, mail, parcels.....	3,018
Parcels containing WI supplies	677

Articles sold—Mrs. H. Armstrong

Spoons	347
Cups and saucers.....	99

sold to date, 3,123

Ontario WI Story	124
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sold to date, 3023

The above does not include the large mailings done by the Home Economics Branch.

The job of carrying out the directions from both the Board meeting and special meetings has been completed.

All investments and business transactions have been completed. FWIO and Erland Lee supplies were sold at Officers' Conference.

Messages of sympathy, congratulations and retirement were written and receipts written to all for the Helen McKercher Scholarship Fund.

Hand written thank you letters were mailed for donations and articles received by the Erland Lee Home.

Because of the air strike I missed the first two days of the FWIC Convention however, while there a bus was chartered so the 45 stranded Ontario members could return home.

PUBLIC RELATIONS OFFICER'S REPORT

"There is a tremendous power in WI, we have experience in which to draw from, a wealth of knowledge, and an immense appreciation of what is worthwhile."

Mrs. Houston is completing her fifth term as Provincial PRO. In presenting her report she cited both the Northern and Cochrane Temiskaming Areas attained 100% for the first time. Grey Bruce lead with a perfect score for the 13th time, in fact only 5 branches in the whole province failed to report. One of the reports was high in its praise for last year's Officers' Conference, stating "reports have been most clear and complete, I'm sure the Officers' Conference section for PRO's was just what we needed."

Women's Institute Projects:

Pennies For Friendship have increased about \$3000.00. Three Districts involved in the International Plowing Match collected \$860.00 in their hospitality tent.

Women's Institute Educational:

It is gratifying to note an increase of almost \$2,200.00 spent for Officers' Conference, as more officers take advantage of this training. Branches continue to support the 4-H Homemaking, while the majority pay leaders' expenses to 4-H and training schools however there are some who do not BUT they have funds to support other organizations. It was noted \$2408.00 had been spent on gifts, speakers, etc. and only \$6.00 on workshops. Perhaps our spending should be reassessed?

Community Projects:

Educational: A bookmobile was organized to supply a community with reading material. MPs and MPPs received letters concerning local problems as a result of discussions at meetings.