

# PROVINCIAL 4-H HOMEMAKING CLUB CONFERENCE

Associate Director, Miss Lorraine Holding and Regional Supervisors Miss Joyce Canning and Miss Carol Crerar were responsible for planning Dimensions '80, "Looking Ahead" Conference.

County and District Home Economists assisting during the Conference were responsible for the activities of the conference and worked closely with the 142 delegates representing every County and District in Ontario.

During the Conference the delegates were constantly challenged by speakers to look to the future with an aim to "getting to know yourself", planning careers and searching for the life styles which eventually would fit into long-term goals.

## OPENING SPEAKER

Dr. Sam Luker, Chairman Part-Time and General Studies, University of Guelph, set the pace for the Dimensions '80 Conference with the subject "Looking Ahead".

Breaking this broad title down into six phases which he called—mate selection, life cycle, sex roles, people making, family commandments and family values—he talked, gave statistics, used a flip chart and divided the audience into groups for buzz sessions.

The whole discussion centred around the family, what it is and what it will be, also including the value of the family.

It is imperative to understand one another, as they really are, not what you want them to be. We are facing a huge change from the stereotyped family. With 10% of families headed by single parents, in most cases Mothers, 1½% living together and not married and more married women waiting longer to have their families, life styles and values are bound to change.

We demand far more from marriage to-day, once it was for religious, social and personal needs now we tend to select a mate who will compliment and fulfill us as human beings, with this dynamic balance the couple will grow together.

Family rules within the family and implied relationships toward the outside world will bring a healthy balance and a new family interaction.

The delegates divided into groups to discuss the elements of a good marriage. After all the discussions the concensus was "marriage is alive and well".

## JOB CAREERS

What Are You Doing The Rest Of Your Life? Leaders, competent in their field in the business world talked about their own careers, their education and where they hoped those careers would eventually lead. It was agreed in the '80's there is a wide choice of career opportunities, work in most cases now belongs to both sex, women no longer are tied to the traditional work roles. However, we must learn to cope with many situations, such as a job, a full-time career, homemaker, a family, yet keep priorities straight and still remain flexible.

## CONSULTANT

Mrs. Elaine Cooper stated most women will change jobs 3—5 times during their working career, what one likes in their 20's may not suit in the 30's or 40's. The right choice will ultimately bring happiness. It is wise to have an alternative career plan, economic changes and job opportunities may change so it is smart to have other options.

## FORMER HOME ECONOMIST

Ms. Elaine Fraser gave the delegates tips and ideas on how to write a resumé, search for a job, the proper dress for an interview and most importantly, how to act confidently and feel at ease during an interview.

## PERSONNEL

Mr. David Gross went a step beyond job hunting and spoke about the obligations an individual must assume after being hired. It is important to use your skills to the utmost advantage both for the individual and the employer. Accept your job as a challenge, use your own initiative and become an achiever.

## CO-MANAGER

Ms. Margaret Stone-Mockler talked about planning a career and the importance of using foresight. Keep an eye on the labor trends and population growth, do not choose a career where there are no job opportunities. Consider non-traditional roles, they often open up more doors.

## CO-MANAGER

Mrs. Elizabeth French, spoke about the value of planning for an education with a practical goal in mind. Take advantage of all the career literature available and be alert to the varieties of career options, making certain a broad choice of subjects are included in the courses selected.

## DIRECTOR

Miss Molly McGhee welcomed the delegates to the evening session provided by the Home Economics Branch. The Branch is delighted to have this special group of club girls attending the Conference. "Because you were specially chosen by your Home Economists for your abilities, I hope you will carry this sense of leadership and citizenship to develop community spirit to help shape the '80's when you return home".

## MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FOOD

The Hon. L. C. Henderson, Minister, reminisced about his days in 4-H and how it opened doors for him in voluntary organizations in the community, eventually leading to an interest in local politics and finally into the Provincial Government.

Mr. Henderson paid tribute to the work of the Home Economics Branch through the Director, Associate Director and all the Home Economists.