

The Director Writes . . .

As I write, February has arrived and many rural organizations are busy preparing for their annual conference. My calendar is quickly filling up. In our branch, the 4-H leadership workshops have been given for the current projects, adult courses are being held and plans being made for achievement programs and summary days. It is gratifying to learn that both the 4-H and adult programs have been well received by participants.

Your new president has been busy working on your behalf and we have had several productive meetings.

ONTARIO AGRICULTURE

On February 4 and 5, the Ontario Conference on Agriculture, 1981, will be held in Toronto. Its theme is "Growing With Agriculture in the 80's". Readers will be interested to learn that Mrs. Hiepleh has been asked to speak on behalf of rural women's organizations. As FWIO president, as a director of her local fair board and her county safety committee, as well as a woman active in her family's farm, she will have much to offer.

R. Gordon Bennett's report on The Future of the Family Farm in Ontario has just been released. The major concern of the farmers surveyed were high production costs, high land costs and low product prices. This report would form a good basis for your agricultural convener's program at branch level. Ask your local agricultural office to loan you a copy.

FWIC Mrs. Emmie Oddie, the national president, has just forwarded a copy of the submission relative to proposals for constitutional reform presented by FWIC to the special joint committee on the constitution. In the conclusion of this submission, it states:

"Federated Women's Institutes of Canada represents groups of women meeting together in the rural areas, hamlets, towns and, in a few cases, the cities of Canada, groups widely dispersed over the 3,000 miles east and west. These women meeting together in triennial conferences recognize the disparities, the needs and the resources unique to the various areas of Canada. Theirs is a firm belief in the unity of Canada and the conviction that we have the ability to shape an even better nation."

Please keep an eye open for the entire submission in the Federated News. Try to discuss it in detail at branch level.

IYDP In November, your provincial board decided to support the 1981 International Year of Disabled Persons, so proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly. The U.N.'s theme is Full Participation and Equality.

The U.N. has identified five principal objectives for the year:

1. helping disabled persons in their physical and psychological adjustment to society;
2. promoting all national and international efforts to provide disabled persons with proper assistance, training, care and guidance, to make available opportunities for suitable work and to ensure their full integration in society;
3. encouraging study and research projects designed to facilitate the practical participation of disabled persons in daily life (for example, by improving their access to public buildings and transportation systems);

4. educating and informing the public of the rights of disabled persons to participate in and contribute to various aspects of economic, social and political life; and
5. promoting effective measures for the prevention of disability and for the rehabilitation of disabled persons.

HEALTH From time to time, the Home Economics **IN THE HOME** Branch receives requests for our staff to offer programs in health care. Recently, St. John Ambulance and the Canadian Red Cross Society have developed a multi-media program based on the theme, "There's No Place Like Home for Health Care". The program has two purposes; to teach people how to keep themselves and their families healthy and to teach the knowledge and skills necessary to care for sick and convalescent family members or friends in the home. The program is unique because it has been developed in Canada, taking into account Canadian needs. If you want further information, contact your local branch of either organization or write to the following addresses:

The Canadian Red Cross Society OR St. John Ambulance
95 Wellesley Street East 312 Laurier Avenue East
Toronto M4Y 1H6 Box 388, Terminal A
Ottawa K1N 8V4

HOME ECONOMICS STAFF NEWS Jane Muegge, Home Economist in Simcoe North from 1976 to 1979, was recently appointed Home Economist in Huron County. She assumed her new duties on January 5, 1981.

Maxine Innes Holbrough, Lambton County, became the mother of a baby boy on December 11. Joyce Anderson, a former Lambton County staff member, is substituting during Maxine's maternity leave.

Kathryn Biondi, Home Economist in Kent and Essex, expects to take maternity leave in March. Brenda McLeod of Elgin County will substitute for her.

HOME ECONOMICS BRANCH PROGRAMS AUGUST '81 - JULY '82 The following programs will be offered. Please do let your Home Economist know which adult ones you would like in your County/District. Do make an effort to attend them and bring as many of your friends and neighbors with you as possible.

4-H Homemaking Club: available August 1981—Which Came First; Ready, Get Set, Sew! available January 1982—Bread is Back; More Outdoor Living.

Adult Leadership Workshops: available August 1981—Food For All Seasons; Quilts.

Short Courses: available August 1981—Appliances; Energy Conservation; Interior Design; Fitting and Sewing Pants; Healthy Babies—It's Up to You; Food Additives; Food Preservation; Good Shopping Practices; Bazaars—Food For Fun and Profit, Fund Raising With Crafts; available October 1981—Microwave Cooking; available January 1982—Simple Home Repairs.

Food Forum: available August 1981—Parties To Please Your Purse.

I look forward to meeting many of you at Officers' Conference, May 5-7. It is my hope that there will be a record attendance.

Kathy McGehee