

# Programs varied, current

## Education and Cultural Activities Nancy Murray Convener



Branches continued to educate the members about the WI organization. Here are some ideas:

- prepared a skit "Know your WI"
- compiled their branch history for 25th anniversary, each member received a copy
- compiled a booklet to help new members understand what WI is all about
- many studied the handbook, followed by a quiz
- held workshops related to the convenership
- attended the FWIC Convention in London, Ontario and gave reports
- prepared studies and quizzes on ACWW to become familiar with this part of the organization

Some people have difficulty deciding what should be reported under education programs. One convener explained how to differentiate when she stated, "almost any program can be educational" but only programs that are "studies of education" should be reported here. Some that were reported are 200 years of education in Lincoln County; assertiveness training; programs on computers and microtechnology; a teacher being the occupant of the "hot seat" during a question period about the local school system; community action was shown when a committee worked to keep their local school open.

Programs related to cultural activities are as varied as our imagination can carry us and branches had no problem finding something to do. They remembered Johann Sebastian Bach's 300th birthday by playing his music; made visits to the theatres to see live productions; presented histories of fans, dolls, quilts, paisley print; reviewed books; compared the uniqueness of Canadian painting to worldwide art; formed a singing group which entertains at various functions; held a workshop on water colours; hosted a history fair and invited all other branches of their district to participate; promoted International Day with an exchange of ethnic recipes and learned about culture and customs of many countries; watched a master potter at work and visited local stained glass works. And craft demonstrations were numerous.

### Resources:

- Videotape — "People Patterns"  
— history of W.I. available from Film Library,  
OMAF Communications Branch,  
University of Guelph N1G 2W1.  
519-824-4120

### Books

- Ontario's Ethnic Mosaic  
— compiled for FWIC Convention  
originals on display at Hoodless Home  
photocopy at FWIO Office.

## Citizenship and World Affairs Billie Forrest Convener



What is democracy? The roots go back 2400 years to Athens with each individual equal to any other in the eyes of the law. During one program the Maori of New Zealand who enjoy full equality with other citizens were compared to Canadian Indians who have their affairs controlled by the Indian affairs department.

Discussions were held on the Canadian Constitution; immigration laws and custom levies; how our parliamentary system works; duties of an ombudsman; Charter of Rights; world population growth; funding for R.C. schools; the Morgentaler abortion clinic; the Ontario Highway Traffic Act re: drinking and driving. Speakers were from all levels of government.

Activities were varied. Visits were made to registry office, Citizenship Court, Provincial Court and council meetings. Here are some other activities:

- attended stress seminars
- held soup day for World Hunger Mission
- kept scrap books on world, area and community news and events
- viewed displays of foreign stamps and souvenirs, program materials
- held citizenship workshops

### Resources:

#### Films

- "Canadian Electoral System" — teaching film about duties of returning officers, counting ballots, etc.  
"Citizen Harold" — a comic look at City Hall  
"The Visible Woman" — struggle of women from pioneer to present  
"Something Beautiful for God" — story of Mother Teresa  
"Make It Happen" — job opportunities for women

#### Books

- "Why We Act Like Canadians" — Pierre Berton  
"A Confident Nation Speaks Up" — Peter Newman

#### Reference re Child Abuse Films

- Local library — "The People Next Door"  
"Do I Have to Kill My Child"  
"Interviewing the Abused Child"  
National Film Board — "An Unexplained Injury"  
"Telling Yes and Feeling No"  
Video Tapes — "Strong Kids, Safe Kids"  
"Good Neighbours"

The new convener for 1985/86 is  
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*Family and Consumer Affairs and Agriculture and Canadian Industries convener reports will be in the next issue of Home & Country.*