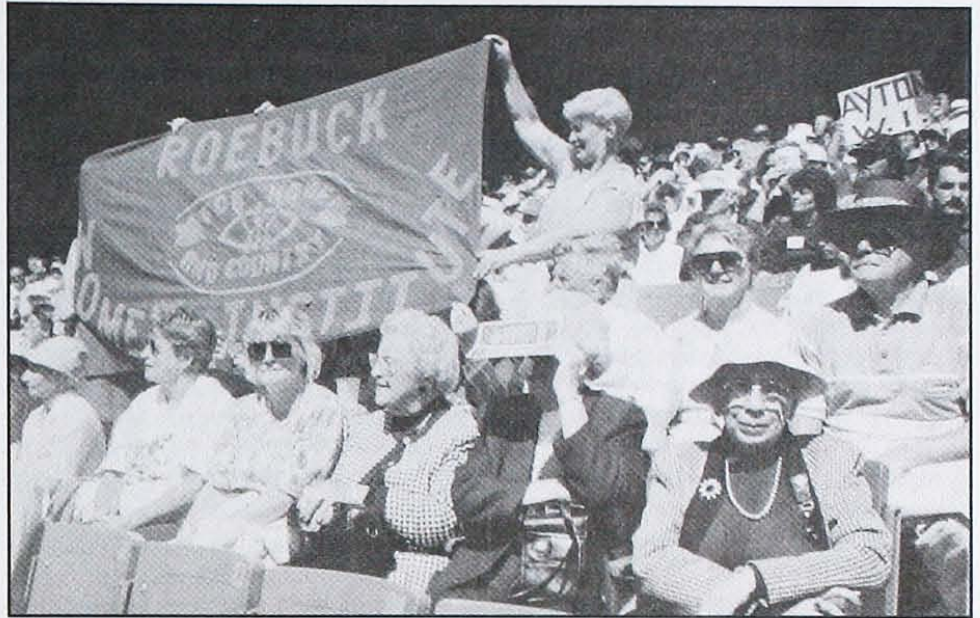


Take Me Out to the Ball Game



On May 24th the Roebuck Women's Institute members left at 7 a.m. for a two-day trip. The first day they stopped at Burlington Ontario, where they stayed at the Holiday Inn and enjoyed an afternoon of shopping and an evening of entertainment. The next day - May 25 - they left for Toronto to join WI members from across Ontario at the Skydome to watch a Blue Jays game. Roebuck members are pictured above holding their Institute's banner.

Submitted by Edna McCrea, PRO, Roebuck WI, Grenville District.

Marg Harris, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO), is pictured at left, throwing the opening pitch at the Blue Jays Game at the Skydome on May 25. The ball was later photographed and is on display at the FWIO Provincial Office.

Resolutions ...continued from page 6

- asking that imported dairy products produced from rBST injected cows be labeled as such

To be dealt with at the end of this report.

From the Northern Area:

- asking that the name Monosodium Glutamate or MSG be used on foods containing free glutamic acid

The reply from David Dingwall, Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, states, "The safety of MSG has been investigated extensively on a worldwide basis. Thorough evaluations have been conducted by numerous international expert groups... All of these organizations have concluded that the use of MSG in food products does not constitute a health hazard to consumers... It is recognized that some individuals may experience an allergic-type reaction or hypersensitivity when exposed to MSG... Your suggestion to require a declaration of MSG on the labels of all foods containing glutamic acid in any form certainly has merit. However, such a requirement would mean that even if MSG has not been directly added, the labels of most foods containing protein would have to be declared. A regulation of this kind could severely and unnecessarily restrict the diet of some individuals."

From the North Central Area:

- asking that rBST be banned for use in Canada

To be dealt with at the end of this report.

- asking that the present food labeling regulations be changed to include the amounts of trans-fatty acids with other fats

The Hon. David Dingwall, Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, replied that the Consultation Document on Nutrient Content Claims contains a proposal for the inclusion of trans-fatty acids in the criteria for claims for cholesterol and saturated fatty acids. This will be included in the discussion paper on nutrition labeling to be published later this year.

- asking that the colours blue and gold not be used for any signs other than museums and historical markers

In his reply to my letter, the Hon. William Saunderson, Minister of Economic Development, Trade and Tourism, states, "Signs leading to operations frequented by visitors to Ontario, including those currently used for museums and historical sights, are presently under review. Incorporated into a single, distinctive signing system, the symbol proposed is a stylized "M" to denote museums."

Regarding resolutions about rBST:

The reply from Hon. David Dingwall, Minister of Health and Welfare Canada, stated that "rBST is being evaluated with respect to human safety, as well as with respect to safety and efficacy in the animals to which rBST may be administered. The review has not been concluded and no

decision has been made concerning the granting of a Notice of Compliance for this veterinary drug product. As a result, rBST cannot legally be imported for sale in Canada at this time... The European Economic Community has acknowledged that there is no scientific evidence to preclude the use of rBST.

The Hon. Ralph Goodale, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, stated in his reply that "There are currently no test methods available which can distinguish rBST from naturally-occurring rBST. At the present time, imported dairy products from outside Canada must be labeled to identify the country of origin. Canada may not dictate the labeling practices of other countries, particularly when it involves a product such as rBST, which has been approved in that country as safe."

From the Ontario Rural Heritage Preservation Committee

- regarding the proposed closure of the Ontario Agricultural Museum at Milton

Replies were received from the various ministries involved. They all stated that every effort is being made to keep this important Museum open and that a board of private citizens is presently working on a feasibility study.

Gillian Catto is the Resolutions Convener for the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. She can be reached at Box 16, Site 14, RR 1, Whitefish ON POM 3E0, Phone: (705)866-0253.