

Belmont W. I. Hear^{June 1965} Paper on Education

The members of the Belmont Women's Institute held their regular meeting in the Belmont Hall on Thursday last with 14 members and 2 visitors present. Mrs. Hazel Hartin was convener and the motto was "The foundation of every country is the education of its youth". She said we all know the story in the Bible of the house built on sand which could not withstand the winds and storm, but how the one built on a rock could withstand the storms. This points out that a proper foundation is necessary in any walk of life and should be carefully constructed in the home. Home is where a child receives its first education which starts when he is very young. One can tell what kind of home a child comes from by his actions towards others, his manners, and by listening to him talk. Education is a lifetime job.

If we have a desire to have our country take its place among the nations of the world we need leaders and workers. We have great natural resources but the greatest resource we, or any country, can have is its people. The only way we have gained leadership is through education.

Education is also necessary to be able to earn our daily bread. For the days of manual labour with pick and shovel is ending. Education is most compulsory in the handling of machinery in our present day. Thus our children need this firm foundation of education, but they also need ambitions to put into practice what they are taught.

Mrs. Louise Keene prepared a paper on "The Changes In Education", but owing to illness she was unable to attend and the paper was read by Mrs. Wm. Harris. Mrs. Keene stated that during the last twenty or thirty years she thought there had been more changes in education than in all the previous history of education, it being necessary to keep up with technical develop-

ments. She stated that years ago education consisted mostly of reading, writing and arithmetic, and penmanship was very important. She drew attention to how the readers have changed over the years, and about how the

beginners had changed from writing to printing; also agriculture is very important as many of the pupils are children of the farmers. She said, on the whole, every child is encouraged in every way to go to school, and we should be thankful that our system of education is based on the public school system instead of a private one.

It was decided to ask for a Short Course, 1st choice: "What's new in home furnishings"; 2nd choice, "Choosing and using fabrics". The following were appointed to work on the Tweedsmuir History, Mrs. J. Anderson, Mrs. Hazel Hartin and Mrs. Pearl Elmhirst.

The members wished to continue sponsoring the Girls' Club and it is expected Mrs. Lois Minnie and Mrs. Wilma Barker will be leaders as Mrs. Wright wishes to resign owing to ill health. Thanks were expressed to Mrs. Wright for her interest in the girls of the community and the education she had given them. It was decided to start work on an exhibit for the Norwood Fair.

Mrs. Wilma Barker invited the Institute to hold their July meeting at her home, Belmont Lake. She was thanked for the invitation by the president, Mrs. H. King.

Lunch was served by the hostesses of the day.