

THE 32nd ANNUAL GREY-BRUCE AREA CONVENTION

Lucknow Community Centre was the location for the W.I. Convention on October 4, 1990. The President, Mrs. Tonia Kingma welcomed the assembled members and commented on our theme, "Family and Community."

The National Anthem and Institute Ode were sung and the Mary Stewart Collect repeated.

Women's house prepared to celebrate

Dear Editor:

The members of the Bruce East District Women's Institute would like the public to know that we are in preparation for our Ontario Centennial Celebration.

Our organization until now, seems to have been the 'best kept secret in Canada.'

It is an educational forum; being non-partisan, non-sectarian and non-racial addressing the needs of today's women, and we want new members.

We have accomplished many things over the past 95 years.

Your local Institutes have supported libraries, parks, 4-H Clubs, agricultural fairs, hospitals, nursing homes, community halls, museums, agriculture studies in schools, and foster children overseas.

Also, we developed and maintain Tweedsmuir History Books; recording for the people of the future--all about changes in the community--buildings, businesses, social life, stories of people, farms, homes, births, deaths, wars and other tragedies.

We offer scholarships for continuing education and support local members with leadership training.

The Women's Institute is the largest rural women's organization in Ontario with over 1,000 branches. Provincially, the Erland Lee (Museum) Home in Stoney Creek is owned and operated by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario; our co-founders' original home; refurbished, and open to the

TO THE EDITOR

public, Tuesday through Saturday, 10-4 p.m., closed in February. Buses must reserve (416) 662-2691. Nationally, we support competitions and scholarships and maintain the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless (Museum) Home, the other co-founders original home; open to the public at St. George, north of Brantford. Internationally, Women's Institutes belong to the Associated Country Women of the World, over eight million members, and support community projects in third world countries like: nutrition education and implementing sanitary water facilities.

The Women's Institute at all levels is an organization for personal growth and community action. The objectives at all levels are: To assist and encourage women to become more knowledgeable and responsible citizens; to promote and develop good family life skills; to help stimulate and develop leader-

ship skills; and to help identify and resolve needs in the community.

In order to meet these objectives, Women's Institutes have influenced government action to improve the community and country. This has been done by lobbying through letter writing campaigns, drafting resolutions, briefs and submitting presentations that accomplish these things:

- Wrapping on Bread.
- Lines painted down centre of highways.
- Red dye removed from meat.
- Fluorescent paint on sides of R.R. cars.
- Garments-labeled: content, quality, etc.
- Music on school curriculum (1937).
- "Stop" signs at R.R. crossings.
- Fowl-graded for sale.
- Legal age for marriage.
- Car owners had to obtain public

liability insurance before getting a license (1938).

Stop for school bus (1962).

Hot lunches in schools.

International Peace Garden (Border Manitoba-N. Dakota, 2,200 acres, 1935).

Breathalyser and blood tests for motorists (1962).

T.B. tests for food handlers.

Sex Education in schools (1945).

Poison Containers-clearly marked.

Banning mineral based detergents.

Household Science course at MacDonald Institute.

Dental and Medical inspections in schools.

Pasteurizing milk.

Restoration of cemeteries.

4-H Homemaking Clubs.

Letter friends and Exchange

programs began 1941 through As-

sociated Country Women of the

World.

Tent at I.P.M.

I could go on and on; but you

would run out of space. Thanks for

allowing me to bring our campaign

for more members to the attention

of everyone.

Bruce East District 2nd Vice Pres.

Lucille Shaw, Walkerton

entertained us with an amusing pantomime on chewing gum.

an, Third Vice President, introduced the President of F.W.I.O.,

Mrs. Knapp finds the position one of great honour, but also

. In Future Planning, she told us if we are going to be a

zation, we must be viable and visible. Change must begin right

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W.I. Grace was sung and a delicious lunch was served.

The Afternoon Session opened at 1:00 p.m. led by Mrs. Ruth Thomas, First Vice President. The session began with a lively Sing-a-Long. The draw winners were: Marion Hayes, Charlotte Wilson and Vi Chambers.

Mrs. Borden Fenton conducted "In Memoriam" assisted by Vi Chambers.

One of the most important ways to have your voice heard is through letters. If you want junk mail taken out write to: Canadian Direct Mail Marketing Assoc. Suite 607, 1 Concorde Gate, don MILLS, Ont. M3C 3N6.

Rural Organizations Specialists, Denise Edwards and Sharon Gardiner gave their presentations.

Roll Call - Have you increased your membership? By how many?

An informative presentation was given by the F.W.I.O. Board members, Irma Clark, Helen Braithwaite and Jean Fenton. An interesting and humorous report was also given by Helen Braithwaite and Irma Clark who attended the 75th of the founding of W.I. in Britain. This event was at Denham College, Oxfordshire, England.

All Tweedsmuir books should be microfished. Disbanded W.I.'s should keep their books in their District.

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