

Glasgow Women's Institute

- March 17 & 18, 1948

The celebration of a third anniversary, a spice of Irish wit and gaiety, and a visit from the district president as guest of honor, all combined to make the March meeting of Glasgow Women's Institute one of the most delightful of the entire year. Mrs. Janet Jamieson was hostess for the occasion, and In rooms made gay with festoons or green and white, a record number of members and visitors gathered for the third birthday of their organization, which this year fell on the natal day of the good Saint Patrick himself and thus called for a double celebration.

Highlight of the evening was a most interesting address by Mrs. John Henderson of Renfrew, president of South Renfrew district Women's Institutes. Mrs. Henderson touched on many phases of Institute work, making special mention of some of the aims and objects toward which South Renfrew branches were working. She spoke of the fair work contributed by the Institutes to the agricultural fairs Renfrew and Arnprior. of their interest and help in providing equipment for the hospitals in these towns, and of plans already under way for the district annual meeting, to be held this year at Admaston. She stressed also the good work done by many of the local groups in studying and taking membership in the new Renfrew County co-operative hospitalization scheme, adding that already more than 200 members had signed up and that the first members' meeting would be called in the near future.

The speaker emphasized, however, the thought that Institute activities should not be "all work and no play." True, the objectives of this organization stressed the dissemination of knowledge, the welfare of the home and the community, and training for leadership; but Mrs. Henderson contended, there was also need for Institute women to take a leading part in promoting sociability and good.

Mrs. J. Watt took the motto for the month, which was "The Institute Creed." giving a thoughtful little talk on the beautiful message contained in its simple words. The speaker was introduced by Mrs. M Barr, president of the Glasgow branch, and Mrs. W. Hamilton, district director, voiced the appreciation of the members to Mrs. Henderson for a delightful address.

A short program with a pleasantly Irish flavor added to the enjoyment of the evening, including the singing of Irish songs, a mirth-provoking reading, "Biddy O'Brien Has a Toothache," by Mrs. A. Carswell, an interesting history of the life of St. Patrick contributed by Mrs. Watt and read by Mrs. K McNamara. a medley of Irish airs played by Mrs. Jamieson, and the circulating of an Irish joke pot" by Mrs. J. Cherry. A cleverly arranged contest, with picture cards representing well-known songs, was conducted by Mrs. A. Carswell.

At the close of the program, a beautifully decorated birthday cake, adorned with three candles, was brought in for a short, anniversary ceremony, when the candles were lighted by the three leading officers, Mrs. Barr. president, Mrs. A. Carswell and Mrs. R. A. Stewart, vice-presidents.

Following the singing of Auld Lang Syne, the guest of honor was invited to blow out the candles and make the first cut in the cake.

The serving of refreshment, and a social chat over the tea cups, brought the evening to a close, with another milestone passed for the Glasgow Women's Institute.