



**WI CONVENTION** — Exchanging notes at the annual area convention of the WI at St. Joseph Island are, left to right: Mrs. James Haggerty, provincial president of Federated Women's

Institutes of Ontario, Napanee; Mrs. G. Gillespie, East Algoma District president, Thessalon; and Mrs. Fred Smith, area convention chairman, St. Joseph Island. Star Staff Photo

## St. Joseph Island

FRI., SEPT. 25, 1959

# More Than 200 Attend Annual WI Convention

**RICHARDS LANDING**—Over 200 members of the Women's Institute registered here Thursday afternoon for the Area Convention of the North Central WI.

Theme of the two day gathering this year is "Home is the centre of a woman's interest but it need not be the circumference."

In her address to the delegates, Area Chairman Mrs. Fred Smith said the theme is similar to the motto of the organization "For Home and Country. "While the interest of the rural woman is primarily in her home and family, the WI offers her many opportunities to become a better mother and homemaker.

Mrs. G. Gillespie, Thessalon, president of Algoma East district, presided at the first session of the meeting. She called on Ruth McEwen, Hilton Beach to welcome the visitors to St. Joseph Island.

Miss McEwen compared the advantages of living in a rural community, such as St. Joseph Island, with those in an exclusive residential area in Toronto.

She urged the members to introduce poetry to their children and take time out from a busy schedule to read the works of the great poets. "These beautiful poems may be found in many places,"

Miss McEwen told her listeners. "If you are unable to find any, I have a telephone."

Mrs. F. Cullen, of South Tarentorus WI, replied on behalf of the delegates.

Guest speakers Mrs. James Haggerty, provincial president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, and Helen McKercher director of Home Economics Service with the Ontario Department of Agriculture were introduced by Mrs. Smith.

Minutes of the convention were read by Mrs. A. Brayley and recorded by Mrs. C. Coulter.

Greetings were brought from the District annuals by the federated representatives Mrs. C. Coulter, St. Joseph Island and Mrs. Cecil Runnals, Barrie Island.

Mrs. Coulter, who has served her final year on the provincial board, commended all those who had served their organization so faithfully. She said she found everything in the best order when she visited the districts at the annual meetings. She complimented all those responsible for the arrangements on the clean halls and fine hospitality.

During the afternoon reports were presented by Resolutions Convenor Mrs. Brock Suddaby who gave the delegates 20 resolutions to consider. She asked

them to think them over carefully and be prepared to vote on them at the Friday morning session.

A report on agriculture and Canadian industries was presented by Area Convener Mrs. F. White, Echo Bay, and on citizenship and education by Pearl Cranston, Spring Bay.

Mrs. Sid Dool presented a report on Public Relations prepared by the representative for this committee Mrs. F. Duggan. Mrs. Duggan paid tribute to the local press for the "splendid coverage and cooperation" in publicizing WI projects and meetings.