

as the essential unit from which all effective effort and results must spring. Our organization is entirely voluntary and self-controlled and provides a means for the co-ordination of all local forces--talent and material resources-- for the common good. Besides, the Institute provides a means whereby departmental effort in education and administration are made most effective. One cannot overestimate the value of an organization which is broad enough to include all classes and which provides for the utilization of local and outside resources and services to the best advantage for the whole people.

Our methods of work are a source of great strength. We have no cut and dried programme. Each organization maps out its programme in consideration of the needs of the people and the available resources. The practice of utilizing women who are not members, as well as men, both in the formation of our committees and the carrying out of our plans, has added greatly to the strength and efficiency of the Institute. Talent in the Institute consists not only in knowledge and efficiency but in willingness to give to each other of the best we have. While the Institute was attractive at the beginning from the standpoint of being a centre where knowledge could be acquired, the compelling force now is a sense of power to serve and responsibility as a citizen, a natural development in an organization made up chiefly of mothers whose time is largely occupied in looking to the comfort and welfare of those dependent upon them.

Another source of great value in the work of the Women's Institute is the co-operation of men, both individuals, voluntary organizations and officials of the municipality. Women do not necessarily undertake to perform all the labor found necessary in obtaining their objective. The advice of the men is sought and freely given in carrying out some of our plans.

Some of the results accomplished are:

(1) Mothers of the rural districts have enjoyed the variety and sociability provided while acquiring knowledge along both practical and cultural lines and rendering service of real value and worth to the community and nation.