



Citizenship

What is Citizenship? We might wisely state that "Citizenship is the right ordering of our several loyalties." To properly develop a national consciousness, arrangement must be made for systematic study, and most careful selection is needed that the sources of information may be of that character which will be productive of the truest constructive activities and spirit.

We are not likely to perish in Canada for want of ideas. They are plentiful, but ideas, without education to digest them, means chaos. The call is for wise leadership and constructive programmes that will meet the need.

First we will consider "The Home." This is the centre of life for the family and the foundation of our most important institutions. One of the functions of the home is to provide the family with shelter, food and clothing, but this is not enough. It should also provide mental development and refreshment for the spirit.

Next we will consider "The School." As children spend so many hours there and quite often from the school, lay the foundations of their lives, great care should be exercised in the choice of a teacher, not only from the standpoint of his educational ability, but also as to his character. What child does not wish to do things that his teacher does?

The Church and Sunday School play a large part in developing good citizens. We often say that these are for religious education. That is true, and surely it is much needed in this generation. The Church should also endeavour to surround the young of the community with the highest type of entertaining sociability.

Then we have different organizations. These should be educational, literary, musical and patriotic. They should also develop an interest in all national questions and public speaking. Neither would we forget the social side of these organizations, particularly in rural sections.

Now we come to "The State." We have Municipal, Provincial and Federal franchise, but do we always use them? We should study as many as possible of the questions coming before the different Legislatures. What is more deplorable in this age than a man or woman voting Liberal or Conservative because his or her father and grandfather voted for that Party? Also we should be willing

to give something of our time and energy in the interests of the State.

Lastly we would not forget "Neighborliness and Friendliness." Many a discouraged person would become a better citizen if given the hand of friendship. This does not always mean the giving of money but an understanding friendship.

If we all develop in these ways, we can surely make Canada a land of which to be proud, and her citizens will be of the highest type.

—Mrs. L. J. Goodman,
President Tyrone Women's Institute.

The W. I. Programme

It is indeed a privilege to present to the reading public a few of the ideals which govern the Women's Institute as an organization. We trust the individual members, those who are not engaged as active members, are prone to regard it as a social event, but this is far removed from our ambition. We have come far, not in years, but in ideals. When one stops to consider the rapidly changing panorama of concepts, ideals and views on everything from governments to religion, our reaction to every phase of life's relationships, one is not surprised to note a change in educational systems, curricula, texts, methods and units. So it is, that the work of the Women's Institute has been systematized and we too have a definite new plan of program to follow, training and educating the home-maker to meet new conditions and raise the standard of home life.

After careful study by competent leaders, we are asked to base our studies along the following lines: Education, Health and Child Welfare, Home Economics, Agriculture and Canadian Industries, Legislation, Historical Research, Community Activities and Relief, Peace Education and International Relations, Canadianization.

Under Education we strive to know and better understand Canadian Literature, Poetry, Music and Art. To know the lives of those who have given us these treasures, and to bring to the life of each Institute member the refining influence of educational topics, with the realization of their influence in the home life.

A present survey of world conditions is anything but reassuring to workers in the cause of Peace, but we must not be discouraged and must combat these challenges by "Thinking Peace — Talking Peace and Willing Peace."

The Health and Child Welfare program appeals to the home-maker and these meetings are most interesting and helpful. First Aid, Care of the sick, Prevention and Treatment of Diseases and Sanitation are all educational factors in making the mother more efficient.

Agriculture has been lifted from its mundane existence and now is an interesting study of soil conditions, listed seeds and registered stock, etc. The young men and women of the farm are a new virile race of enlightened agriculturalists, to whom we gladly pay tribute.

If we are to lead young Canadians to a realization of their responsibilities as citizens it is well for any organization to study Canadianization. Let us know Canada — her opportunities and more of our standard of living as compared with other nations. The Women's Institute also tries to reach out a helping hand to the New Canadians.

Many districts are collecting accurate data and personal histories of pioneer days. National events is a large and varied field of study in the phase of Historical Research.

It may be our expanding vision which makes Legislation so absorbing a topic. The terminology of law may be interesting but law itself under its formal and obsolete trappings is the very essence of our national life. We as members of Women's Institute, must do our part to rouse Canadian women from apathy and stoic endurance to vital growing interest in standards of life as portrayed in law. Let us learn at least those laws pertaining to women and children.

Our program of Relief is one of action rather than study, and no worthy call is unanswered by a Women's Institute organization.

Most surely it behooves us to endeavor to be worthy members of our Branch and to take advantage of every opportunity that presents itself to make of ourselves better home-makers and citizens and thus qualify ourselves to render the highest type of service to our homes, our community and our country. For only in so doing can we hope to live up to our noble and inspiring motto: "For Home and Country."

—Mrs. O. W. Rolph, Orono,
Secretary West Durham District.



Our Motto, Ode and Creed

Our motto — "For Home and Country."

What more sacred places on earth than our homes? We women are classed to-day as the most potent factor in human progress. We are told that we hold the destiny of the world in our hands, that we control to a large extent wealth, education, religion and morals as well as social and home life of the people. Our W.I. aim is "Peace." We are making studies in our work for Peace through our affiliation with the Associated Country Women of the World. It will only be when we can develop and maintain within ourselves that sympathetic understanding for the views and opinions of other nations that we can hope to promote Peace. It is an ideal that cannot be obtained without the co-operation of all the women of the world. Let us work together and accept our share of responsibility. It is not enough to dream of blessings of World Peace but "if we are to save ourselves and those who come after us from a repetition or worse of what occurred during the Great War, then we must, in every thought, and word, and action, seek Peace and ensure it."

Our Ode:—

"A goodly thing it is to meet
In friendship's circle bright,
Where nothing stains the pleasure sweet,
Or dims the radiant light.
No unkind word our lips shall pass,
No envy sour the mind,
But each shall seek the common weal,
The good of all mankind."

The name of the author of this Ode is unknown but it sets forth splendidly the spirit displayed by Women's Institute members. The Institutes have been noted for their readiness to co-operate in all worthy undertakings and they have originated many worthwhile methods for co-operative effort on the part of country women.

Our Creed:— "Keep us O Lord from pettiness; let us be large in thought, in word and deed. Let us be done with fault-finding and leave off self-seeking. May we put away all pretence and meet each other face to face, without self pity and without prejudice. May we never be hasty in judgment and always generous. Teach us to put into action our better impulses straight forward and unafraid. Let us take time for all things; make us grow calm, serene, gentle. Grant that we may realize that it is the little things that create differences; that in the big things we are one. And may we strive to touch and know the great human heart common to us all, and O Lord God, let us not forget to be kind."

This prayer was written thirty-five years ago, by Miss Mary Stewart, then Principal of a High School in Colorado, and is known as a "Collect for Club Women." It has an official place on hundreds of programmes of major women's organizations in the United States, Canada, England, Scotland and other countries where English-speaking women meet together, and it has been reprinted in many lands. The Women's Institutes have made it their own and have reproduced it beautifully.

—Mrs. Johnson Thickett, Bowmanville,
President West Durham District.

