



Executive members of North Renfrew District Women's Institute include: Norma Bennett, Bea Vallee, Noreen Desjardins, Susan de Haan, Peggy Marcus, Joan Mottershead, Julie Thur. In back: Vivian Pearce, Peggy McLeod, Christine Raeburn, Joan Lett, Bernice Thur and Dwyla Pilgrim.

WI area meeting held in Ottawa

by Sara Campbell

"Women with vision" was the theme of the Seventy-second Annual Convention of Eastern Ontario Women's Institute, held on October 22, 23, 1987 at Talisman Motor Hotel, Ottawa.

Guest speaker, the Rev Robert Hill of St Andrews Presbyterian Church, Carleton Place, brought the theme "Women with vision" alive as he regaled us with stories and a thought-provoking message. Vision is seeing to the future and doing something for the present. Health care people, heart specialists are visionaries. To make a vision happen we must bury three words "if", "can't" and "impossible". We must have the right attitude and commitment. We should be willing to take the risk and the right people are needed — not everybody, somebody, anybody or nobody but me.

Musical numbers were performed by Mr and Mrs Charles Stewart and Gordon Fitzgerald. A delightful skit was presented by the members of the Berwick and Finch Branches in Stormont District. The "Singing Famers", accompanied on the piano by Kim Allen McGill, were an instant hit with the ladies. A highlight of the convention.

President Mrs Wm Proudfoot of RR 1, Fournier, reported on Thursday morning. She reminded us that we must make our vision of our organization a reality, making changes when necessary in this time of constant change.

Six branches have disbanded in this area due to small numbers. She thanked all members who donated jams, jellies and crafts to Erland Lee Homestead. Approximately \$14,000.00 was realized from sale of these items.

Mrs Margaret Munro, President of Federated Women Institutes of Ontario, brought us up-to-date on important issues.

The Federated Women's Institute of Canada convention will be held in Newfoundland on June 23 - 27, 1988, with 150 delegates allowed from Ontario.

important. A master gardener program is being initiated.

4-H scholarship awards were presented at the banquet to Deborah Mohr, RR 7 Nepean and Cindy St Pierre, RR 1 Winchester.

Eastern Ontario WI scholarships presented

Eastern Ontario Women's Institute Scholarships were presented to Trevor Allan, Prescott County Sub-division 1, Deborah Eggens Carleton County Sub-division 2, Colleen Elizabeth Mott Lanark County Sub-division 3.

These awards are open to girls or boys in Eastern Ontario Area with mothers, grandmothers or guardian, active Institute members and who are second year students in Post-secondary education.

The FWIC past presidents essay competition was open to Grade 7, 8 and 9 students. Area winners are: Janice Ma Greeley, Ont, Jay Fitchett, RR 4 Renfrew, Ont, and Morgan Lester RR 1, Renfrew, Ont.

Bernice Noblitt Award Competition winners are: Calligraphy "A Wedding Invitation" — 1st Marion Russett Glasgow Branch, 2nd Brenda Garrett Zealand Branch — Lanark South.

New Board Director for Sub-division 3 is Mrs Christine Reaburn, RR 1 Westmeath, Ont. Christine farms with husband Larry, on 500 acres in Westmeath Township. They have a hog finishing operation and pedigree and business. Christine teaches Sunday School and in her leisure time likes to garden, spin and read.

Alternate Board Director is Mrs Edna Kilby, RR 2 Golden Lake. She and her husband Walter have a 400 acre farm with beef cattle, 5800 laying hens and raise 20,000 pullets each year. A son and daughter presently work on the farm with their parents. Edna has always been interested in community work.

B1—The Mercury, Renfrew, Ontario—Nov 4, 1987

A manual on Tweedsmuir History to be published soon. \$50,000.00 donated by Women's Institute members to Guelph University some time ago is to be used to help construct a Nutrition Laboratory.

The Bainsville Branch members presented a skit "Past and Future of the Bainsville Branch", put together from Home and Country, a 1947 Branch program, Mary Stewart Collect and a wealth of imagination.

Three resolutions from the Districts were discussed and sustained. These are (1) against rural post office closures (2) landfill sites (3) birdseed packaging — weed seeds.

Peter Fleming, manager of Rural Organization and Services Specialists from Guelph, commented on the reports given by convenors, noting the variety and scope of topics studied by the various branches.

The mandate of ROSS is to promote leadership development in rural communities. 4-H, calf clubs, etc are the tools that help to develop and enhance leadership qualities in rural youth of today. 4-H continues to be the flagship program with safety awareness very