

Theme: "Let us now rededicate, as
80 years we celebrate."

Northern area Women's Institute

W.I. members throughout Ontario, Canada and the World, 1977 will be a year of remembrance as members celebrate in their own way the 80th anniversary of Women's Institute, the oldest active organization in existence. The objective, to develop people. Make them aware, promote and stimulate, encourage their skills and to make use of available resource material. Let us now re-dedicate. 80 years ago was the beginning, through the death of her child, a concerned mother filled with grief, with one thought in mind, and that was to help others. Make mothers aware of learning new and safer homemaking skills. Today things taken for granted with all the techniques, time saving devices and safety precautions, we still have poor nutrition, poor eating habits, malnutrition. We ask ourselves why. 80 years later, W.I. members are still promoting better and safer homemaking skills, and community achievements for home and country. It would be interesting to hear what Adelaide Hoodless would have to say to us if she were alive!

Introduction of guest speakers, Mrs. Herbert Maluske, President with Federated Women's Institute of Ontario and the new Director, Home Economics Branch, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Miss Molly McGee and Home Economist, Mrs. Janet Foreman, and Mrs. Harvey Houston, P.R.O. with Federated Women's Institute of Ontario were welcomed to the convention by Area P.R.O., Mrs. Harry Smith.

Roll call - 97 members and four visitors present. Reading of seven resolutions by Mrs. Ralph Black and one recommendation in preparation for voting by delegates the next day. Resolutions presented, raising the drinking age to 21 years, and the continuation of showing identification cards with his or her picture and date of birth. The use of illicit drugs

and enforcing stiffer penalties against the vendors of such drugs. And as expressed by the Government of Canada to bring the British North America Act (BNA) to Canada, the resolution read that the BNA should remain in England. Other resolutions reported are already being dealt with at Board level.

Mrs. Wm. Grenke, Area Curator, reported 100% reporting, and outlined the material received, and the Area Book is up to date.

Area PRO, Mrs. Harry Smith, read her report, with 100% reporting, with five convenorship reports short of 100% reporting. She urged the convenors to "Reach For the Top" next year. Mrs. Smith reported attending the six District Annual Meetings. She gets first hand information, makes for better reporting. Each district has something different to offer and pass the information on to each other at area reporting. She encouraged members to take office, don't deny yourself an opportunity when it comes your way. The W.I. can open many doors for you. Mrs. Smith told of her visit to the International Peace Gardens on the Southern Manitoba, North Dakota border, having her picture taken standing beside the "Federated Women's Institute of Canada Sponsored Area" sign. How proud she felt, and proud to be a W.I. member with a share in this beautiful garden. She gave a descriptive outline touring the grounds. Said we should learn more about the Gardens and especially its meaning, and W.I. members help sponsor the Gardens. Outlining her activities throughout the year, including visiting the Erland Lee Home and attending the 80th anniversary birthday celebration at Kitchener and being host to Mrs. Maluske, and Mrs. Hackett-Pain with Associated Women of the World, England.

Mrs. Herbert Maluske, President of F.W.I.O., brought greetings from the Board and all levels of W.I., concluding her three-year term of office, her last visit to

Columbia). After attending all the area conventions, Mrs. Maluske will fly to Nairobi, Kenya October 11-21st to attend the 15th triennial conference. The theme to be Building for Tomorrow. Study sessions will be on Family Life, Education and Training, Opportunities for Women, The World's Resources, News and Views will be available for discussion by delegates. A full session will be devoted to ACWW co-operation with the United Nations. Other sessions will cover Handicraft, Folklore, Aid to Speakers.

After the banquet in the Parish Hall, guest speaker for the evening was Mrs. Mary Ascah, Chairman of the Board of Education, who spoke on the role of a trustee. She told of her activities, and what is involved, and the responsibilities for fixing broken water pipes, to changing blown out light bulbs, to working with a budget and late school busses. The changes in her home life as mother and wife, and the adjustments that had to be made in family life. With her family proud of her new career and proud of her, it has made adjustments much easier. Mrs. Ascah was interested to learn that the W.I. share the same interests and concerns in education and was pleased to be asked to speak at our convention.

The announcement of Miss Donna Smith, winner of the Northern Area 4-H Scholarship, was announced by Mrs. Maluske. Following was a 4-H Exhibit "Fabrics and Finishes" for Leisurewear by Lori Reville from Port Carling 4-H Club work and senior training schools and courses available for the year, then showed slides "Energy Conservation" showing the proper insulation for homes, fixing drafty windows, leaking water pipes and taps, cooking short cuts, all very informative, and we can save energy by following a few simple rules, and not take things for granted, as we do today. Entertainment is always an enjoyable and relaxing

ity by sponsoring 4-H Homemaking Clubs, senior courses. One branch had benches made for the local park. An OPP was guest speaker for a district annual, and was very interested in the resolutions presented at that meeting.

Several branches reported having speakers at meetings. Also working on Tweedsmuir History Books that are used for reference; honouring a deserving person in the community as "Man of the Year", and the opening of a new library in the basement of Ullswater W.I. Hall; presenting a member with a District Life Membership. House logs are taking on a new interest in a number of branches; providing swimming lessons; remembering the sick and shut-ins, sending cards; W.I. cups and saucers and spoons given as 25th and 50th wedding anniversary gifts; donations to help purchase a bus designed to accommodate wheel chair patients; sponsoring a child; Scholarship Awards to Grade 8 public school level; and to Save the Sight. Greetings from provincial board members, Mrs. Charles Fetterley and Mrs. Ethel Liddard were expressed. Mrs. Fetterley concluding her three-year term, passed her folder on to Mrs. W.D. Wahl, and wished her the best. Mrs. Fetterley said her term has been one of learning and participation that will help to carry out other duties and told the members to enter their handicraft work in to the Tweedsmuir competitions. Mrs. Liddard spoke a few words, thanked everyone for their co-operation and understanding while she convalesced, and hoped she could carry out her duties in the coming year. Courtesy convenor, Mrs. Johnson, spoke a few words which brought the 1977 area convention to a close.