

# Oxford North W.I. Returns Executive



At Brown's Church yesterday, about 200 Women's Institute members from 15 branches met for the Oxford North district annual. Pictured discussing the business of the day: Standing Mrs. F. H. Lederman, Bright, first vice-president (left), and Mrs. Conrad Wittig, Jr., Embro, second vice-president, seated, left to right, Mrs. Cyril Williams, St. Thomas, London area chairman, Mrs. G. M. Ross, Embro, district president, and Mrs. Charles Elsom, Woodstock, secretary-treasurer. Officers were re-elected by acclamation.

## "Think Clearly," Miss Lawson Urges Delegates to W.I. District Annual

By Gladys Houck  
Free Press Staff Reporter  
LAKESIDE, May 30. — After seeing a skit which pointed up the dangers of racial and religious discrimination, at the Oxford North Women's Institute annual meeting today, at Brown's Church, 194 members from 15 branches were urged to "learn to think clearly" if they would make their greatest contribution to community living. The speaker was Miss Anne Lawson, of the Ontario Department of Agriculture. "Our emotions so often get mixed up with our thinking," declared Miss Lawson. "A group of women which has learned to think clearly — this is the greatest asset a Women's Institute branch can possess, benefiting the entire community."

The annual meeting re-elected Mrs. Gilbert Ross, Embro, as district president. Mrs. O. O. Smith, St. Marys, was elected honorary president, and the remainder of the executive was re-elected, as follows:  
First vice-president, Mrs. J. H. Lederman, Bright; second vice-president, Mrs. Conrad Wittig, Jr., Embro; secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Charles Elsom, Woodstock; assistant, Mrs. Sydney Pearson, Embro; F.W.I.O. representative, Mrs. O. O. Smith, St. Marys; alternate, Mrs. J. D. Hossack, Embro; auditors, Mrs. E. Montgomery, Woodstock, and Mrs. Charles Dunn, Woodstock.  
Conveners of standing committees are: Agriculture and Canadian industries, Mrs. James Goodwin, Drumbo; citizenship

and education, Mrs. Benton Symons, Woodstock; home economics and health, Mrs. Fred A. Stock, Tavistock; historical research and current events, Mrs. Victor Woods; community activities and public relations, Mrs. Roy McCorquodale, Lakeside; resolutions, Mrs. George Hart, Woodstock. Miss Adne Bell, Tavistock, was named area delegate, with Mrs. T. L. McMurray, St. Marys, as alternate. Mrs. Thomas Myers, Zurich, provincial board director, conducted the election.  
The following district directors were ratified: Brown's W.I., Mrs. George Martin, Tavistock branch; Mrs. Robert Matheson; Kintore W.I., Mrs. O. O. Smith; Unlondale, Mrs. Wallace Hutton; Plattsville, Mrs. K. Smith; Hickson, Mrs. George Berg; Drumbo, Mrs. J. Goodwin; Anna P. Lewis W.I., Mrs. E. J. Hansuld; Grace Patterson W.I., Mrs. D. S. McKay; Princess Elizabeth W.I., Mrs. Carman Facey; Embro-West Zorra branch, Mrs. R. H. Clark; Lakeside, Mrs. H. Munds; Woodstock North, Mrs. Howard Marshall; Brooksdale, Mrs. Emerson Symons; Braemar, Mrs. A. McKay.

The financial report, presented by Mrs. Elsom, indicated district receipts of \$497.06, expenditures totaling \$366.33, leaving a balance of \$130.73. The combined financial statements of 15 branches in the district disclosed a balance of \$1,855.73, the difference between receipts of \$7,114.79, and expenditures of \$5,259.06, much of this money going to charitable causes.

Mrs. Cyril Williams, St. Thomas, London area chairman, urged W.I. members to "keep your ideals high" when she addressed them at the beginning of the afternoon session. She reminded that one of the main purposes of the Women's Institute is "to develop an abundant life for rural people." Mrs. Williams asked W.I. members to enter their handcrafts in the Western Ontario Fair. She announced the London area conference dates, October 23 to 25 at Hotel London.

Presenting the playlet, "Second Class Citizens," on an anti-discrimination theme, Mrs. J. H. Lederman, of Plattsville Women's Institute, declared: "Canada has signed the Charter of Human Rights at the U.N. — it is up to us as citizens to uphold and guard these rights."

The cast, drawn from the Plattsville branch, included: Mrs. Wallace Brown, Mrs. Clarence Hallman, Mrs. Gordon Kaiser, Mrs. Ken Bell, Mrs. Elgin Bullock, Mrs. George Harrison, and Mrs. Millard Falls, with Mrs. Mary Snyder as assistant director.

A quartet, satirizing the farmer's life, in depression days and now, was presented, in costume, by four members of the Unlondale branch, Mrs. John Bolton, Mrs. Ray Slater, Mrs. Enos Hutton and Mrs. Douglas Muir.

Displays of Girls' Club work were explained by Margaret K. Innes, of Brooksdale; Margaret Grace Innes, of Embro, and Mrs. John Garlick, of North Woodstock.

Greetings from the Ontario W.I. president, Mrs. R. G. Purcell, of Fort William, were read by Mrs. Ross.

A salad meal was served, in two sittings, by members of the Brown's Women's Institute.