

**WI REGISTRATION** — The registration desk at 19th annual Women's Institute convention at Knox United Church in Durham was busy Monday. Left to right are: Mrs. Carl Klages, registration, Desboro;

Mrs. E. G. Urstadt, Owen Sound; Mrs. H. McArthur, Dobbinton; Mrs. Ken Spence, Leith; and Mrs. Francis Gemmell, president, Ripley.

# Have pride, WIs told

By ANN KELLY  
Family Living Editor

**DURHAM** — "We can look back with pride on the achievements of the Women's Institute. Some said it would never last, but it has. No other group has such far reaching association around the world," Mrs. Francis Gemmell, president, told 380 delegates and visitors to the 19th annual Grey-Bruce Area Women's Institute convention.

The two day convention, held in Knox United Church, Durham opened Monday morning.

"The Women's Institute was founded in 1897, as an educational organization, by Adelaide Hoodless and Erland Lee because Adelaide Hoodless had a dream. That dream she had we're living in the

reality of," said Mrs. Gemmell.

Reflecting on the successes of the Women's Institute Mrs. Gemmell said, "These didn't happen by chance. Women of great talent and vision had dreams that there were places for women in the scheme of things."

She challenged members, in 1977, to take a stand on issues including strengthening the family unit and pornography.

Mrs. Gemmell touched on the past, present and future of Women's Institute. "Our future depends on new ideas and dreams," she said. In conclusion she quoted the words of the late John F. Kennedy, "Some men see things as they are and say why, I dream things that never were and say why

not?"

The theme of the two day convention was, "Our dreams take on a softer glow as the years roll back to long ago." This year marks the 80th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute.

The past, present and future, with costumes for each era, were reviewed by Mrs. June Sparling, Mrs. Graham Chambers and Mrs. William Middleton, Federated Women's Institute of Ontario board directors.

Songs of a bygone era were led by Mrs. Clarence Coxon with Mrs. George Maluske the pianist.

The welcome, in poem form, was presented by Mrs. Carman Hamill, chairman of the Grey County rally. Rev. Kenneth Tanner, minister of the

host church, brought greetings.

The morning session was conducted by Mrs. Francis Gemmell with Mrs. Kenneth Spence, first vice-president, conducting the afternoon session. Guests were welcomed from Guelph and Simcoe districts.

Mrs. Percy Radbourne presented the Tweedsmuir curator's report. The junior institute report was given by Linda Tottenham, North Grey Junior Women's Institute. The organization was chartered in Nov. 1974 with 10 members and now has a membership of 31.

Diane McCormick took the delegates on an arm-chair trip to Ottawa and the Canadian Council on 4-H. A member of the Teeswater Club, Diane was an Ontario delegate to Ottawa.

The in memoriam was conducted by Bruce North District, Adamsville Branch.

Mrs. Hazel Davey of Williamsford Women's Institute gave a reading entitled, Before the Meeting.

An invitation service into the "shell club" was presented by members of Bognor Women's Institute.

## World meeting outlined

**DURHAM** — Mrs. Herbert Maluske, president of the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario and a winner of the Queen's Silver Jubilee Medal, highlighted her trip to Nairobi, Kenya, and the 1977 conference of the Associated Country Women of the World when she spoke at the 19th annual Grey-Bruce Area Women's Institute convention Monday.

"It's almost unbelievable to hear the cries for help in developing countries. I saw a section of Kenya that hasn't had rain in six years. I stayed in lodges where water was only turned on for brief periods in the day. It does give you a funny feeling," said Mrs. Maluske.

She reported on the tight security at the conference centre and asked delegates to reflect on what it would be like to have armed guards at the door of their meeting.

"Give it a thought," she suggested. "We were warned never to walk on the street alone. You couldn't go out and do things on the town unless you were very brave or very venturesome. We had to be careful of what we ate and drank. There were instances of thievery and people being accosted." No pictures were allowed during sessions and the Canadian delegation was warned not to break the rules.

Among the interesting experiences was living, for two weeks, surrounded by wild animals.

Mrs. Maluske reported on institute activities during the past year and brought greetings from the

federated Women's Institute of Ontario.

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) conference in 1980 will be held in the federal republic of Germany. Canada extended an invitation but it wasn't accepted.

Mrs. Maluske is asking for ideas for the 1980 Jubilee year. The new ACWW president is Mrs. Raigh Rowe of Australia.

Starting after the district annuals this year, a special drive is to be launched for the Erland Lee Home. It will continue until 1980 when it is hoped the foundation fund will be large enough that the interest will operate the home. Mrs. Maluske urged that contributions to the Erland Lee Home Foundation Fund be correctly marked, otherwise the money will be spent on the Erland Lee Home rather than going into the foundation fund.

The 1978 officers conference will be held May 2 to 4 at the University of Waterloo. It will be the 30th anniversary of the officers conference and Mrs. Martha Bielish of Alberta, national president, will be invited to speak.

Ontario contributions to pennies for friendship last year totalled \$15,280. The world contribution was 76

thousand pounds or about \$125,000.

Mrs. James Kirkpatrick presented Mrs. Maluske with \$500 for pennies for friendship from the Bruce County rally. The money was from the International Plowing Match.

The 1979 convention will be held at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon June 21-29. There will be a display of handicraft articles of excellence at this national convention.

Rev. Lloyd Wiseman of Owen Sound spoke about Participation Lodge for handicapped adults to be built three miles east of Holland Centre on Robson Lake. The Lodge will provide permanent, year-round care as well as camping facilities on the 340-acre property.

"To be imprisoned for life in a body that cannot be controlled is not an easy life. I think Participation Lodge will provide a new day for physically handicapped," said the minister.

The two-day convention will conclude Tuesday afternoon.