



Ontario delegates to the 12th triennial conference Associated Country Women of the World in East Lansing, chat to world president Mrs. Aroti Dutt

from India. Left to right, Mrs. Stanley Bride, Fordwich; Mrs. Dutt, Mrs. Austin Zoeller and Mrs. Clarence Diamond, both of New Hamburg.

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Country women discuss home customs

By **BERYL VOLLMER**
of The Free Press

EAST LANSING, Mich. — Chief topic of conversation at the 12th triennial conference of The Associated Country Women of the World here was the way of life in the 35 countries represented.

Free times and during meals a babble of accents mingled as the women exchanged news on customs, prices and way of life.

All the women with national dress proudly wore the dress of their region and explained its finer points to those interested enough to ask questions.

A tiny, attractive Japanese delegate chatted to a stat-

uesque woman from Fiji. The delegates from Camerouns discussed farm problems with women from West Virginia and Ontario.

The gathering represented women from all walks of life and all income brackets. The majority paid their own way to the convention. Others from the Asian countries received assistance from their individual organizations.

Although a large contingent from England attended, having saved for the trip and sent money ahead for the last year or more, many would-be English visitors had to cancel their trip, due to currency restrictions.

Another setback for the conference was the fear that violence, which marred the Democratic party's national convention in Chicago, would flare up again. The set back was only temporary, and registrations continued to come in steadily, although some U.S. delegates said they knew of some cancellations due to the violence.

A few European delegates only decided to attend after they found they could land in cities other than Chicago.

Canada has 315 representatives at the convention, 135 from Ontario and two from North West Territories.

By Friday, 3,000 women were registered and were participating in day-long open forums on the convention's theme topic, "Learn to live".

Taking part as a speaker on one of the Friday forums was Miss Helen McKercher, director of home economics services for the Ontario department of agriculture.

One woman much in demand at Lansing is Mrs. Nell Schroder, editor of The Countrywoman, magazine of ACWW.

Mrs. Schroder, an MBE and native New Zealander makes her home in London, England, where the magazine is published monthly.



TAKING PART IN A WORLD-WIDE GATHERING of the Associated Country Women of the World recently were Mrs. Roy McCorquodale, Lakeside (right) and Mrs. O. C. Powers, of Thamesford. The conference was held on the Michigan State University Campus recently in East Lansing.

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