

Highlights of Edinburgh Convention Reviewed by Mrs. Somerville, Delegate

(Continued from Page Nine)

As the United to entertain us with a hot dinner and evening's entertainment. This included Scottish dancing, solos and duets, and some square dancing. Auld Lang Syne was the favorite way of ending our evenings.

Symposium Subject

The Most Worthwhile Project of My Organization was a very interesting subject for a symposium. On the closing evening of the conference, the delegates were invited to the Esplanade, Edinburgh Castle, for Beating Retreat. This was a display by the massed pipes and drums of the 156th Infantry Brigade. The pipe band gave the usual numbers, followed by the drum band. Then both played together while the flag was being lowered. After a hymn and The Queen, the bands retreated together into the castle.

The delegates were transported by bus to the Music Hall, where a farewell party was held. Many

good-byes were said and the Ninth Triennial Conference of the Associated Country Women of the World was over, until they meet in Australia in 1962.

Visit Ireland

From Edinburgh, the Ontario group gathered themselves together for the tours to Belfast, Dublin, Amsterdam, Brussels, Paris and London. In Belfast, the city was well built and many beautiful buildings were visited. In Dublin, the National Botanical Gardens were visited. The rose gardens throughout the park were lovely. In the bathhouse, foliage and other rare plants were viewed.

At Amsterdam we found things very different. Everywhere we looked we saw water. With a population of 900,000, there were 90,000 bicycles. Many were seen to come to the bridge, park their bicycles and go aboard a pleasure boat to travel to their place of business. There are about 50 miles of canals in the city and a great deal of

transportation is done by boat. With so much calm water around, we looked for flies and mosquitoes. There weren't any.

Dutch Farm

We were taken out through the country for a drive. The grass was green and the country looked very prosperous. There was lots of water everywhere. The roads were all hard-topped with additional narrower roads for bicycles. We called at a farm home where we visited both house and barn. In the summer the cows are taken to pasture land and left until fall. They take the milking machine to the field to milk the cows. The barn on this farm was cleaned and painted and during the summer months they made cheese.

By boat we went across to Haarlem. Here the natives were ready for the tourists. Many little stores were full of trinkets for sale. The people were dressed in native costume. One storekeeper showed the costumes worn 100 years ago and

then charged us for showing them. In the evening, a pleasure boat trip was taken through the canals. We passed in front of many beautiful homes, churches and buildings, all floodlighted, which made a very impressive scene. In Amsterdam, many sidewalk cafes were operated. In front of every hotel restaurant, chairs and tables were set up for refreshments.

Beautiful and Clean

Brussels was our next stop and it was a most beautiful clean city. We visited the diamond cutting place. Young boys start at the age of 16 and very few could stay with it for 12 years because of their eyesight. Many other precious stones were on display. Another call in Brussels was the home of hand-made lace. One of the experienced lacemakers is now 92 years of age and still loves to show how to do it. Lace articles ranged from a tiny bow and handkerchiefs to pillow cases, centrepieces, lunch cloths and tablecloths. Prices also ranged from a small price to fabulous sums.

In Paris, everything was entirely different. We visited the grave of the Unknown Soldier under the Arc de Triomphe where the flame is never allowed to go out. The grave was covered with beautiful wreaths and sprays of flowers for

the anniversary of the Battle of Dunkirk. The Eiffel Tower was visited but none of us were in the spirit for climbing so far up in the air.

Palace at Versailles

The trip to Versailles was the most beautiful of our whole trip. The palace with its mirror gallery, the royal avenue and Apollo's basin, the queen's bedroom, flower beds and myriad fountains as well as the Little Trianon palace were beautiful. These and many other parts could only be described by pictures in color.

We returned to England and were billeted in Kensington. We visited many notable places such as Big Ben, Windsor Castle, Buckingham Palace with the changing of the guard, the horse artillery parade and much more.

Our last weekend was spent in Wales as guests of the Welsh W.I. Nine of us went by train to Chester where we were met by our hostesses. I was at Wrexham, a very beautiful home. I was shown much of the countryside, the many collieries and taken to the seashore where I watched the tide coming in. This was a new sight to me.

Welsh Countryside

The country was very rolling, the fields are small and divided by hedges. However, even up the

mountain sides and in lanes and back roads, the roads are all hard-topped. On Saturday night the W.I.s of Wales held a united party and had as their guests the Canadians. We had only been separated two days but we had a lot to tell each other of how we had been entertained. Each one thought theirs was the best.

The program for the evening was in Welsh and included solos, choruses, clog dancing, Welsh square dances and the Canadian guests were invited to join in the square dancing. Miss Daffin Queen of Wales was introduced and sang a solo. A typical Welsh lunch was served and Auld Lang Syne was sung. We returned to London, quite happy to have spent this last weekend with the Women's Institute members in Wales.

I hope I have given a little idea of our very busy four and a half weeks overseas.

Debate Concert

The band is holding the first of its annual winter dances on October 2 at the Legion Hall in Milton, and all funds earned will go towards paying for the trip abroad. As well, the group is debating the presentation of a spring concert in the arena, with guest bands in attendance.

The pipe band appeared at the massed bands concert at the C.N.E. stadium, which many local followers enjoyed. This concert includes all the bands in the reserve forces in eCentral Ontario, and is certainly a spectacle to see.

H. Q. in Brampton

"C" Company of the Lorne Scots makes its headquarters at the Milton Armouries, and the unit's brass band is also headquartered here. The pipe band makes its headquarters in the Brampton Armouries.

The band boasts a strength of 32 men, 21 from Milton and the rest from Brampton, Orangeville, Georgetown, Oakville and Preston. There will be 25 handmen going to the festival if their job allows and they meet the standards of playing quality set down.

Lorne Scots Pipers To Play in England

The Lorne Scots pipes and drums have set their sights on the famous Edinburgh Festival in Scotland next summer. The annual event is slated for August 20 to September 10, 1960, and if all goes well, the pride of the Peel, Dufferin and Halton Regiment should be airborne and festival-bound next August 15.

Each company within the tri-county unit is helping to establish a fund to send the band overseas, and each man is deeply honored to have the unit's popular band take part in the huge festival which draws participants from all over the world.

Accommodate Wives

Wives and friends of the bandmen have expressed their interest in making the trip, and arrangements can be made for accommodation in Scotland if notification is given by April 1.

The Duke of Argyll, Colonel in Chief of the regiment, has invited the band to his castle, as have the Lancashire Fusiliers of Manchester, a sister regiment affiliated with the Lorne Scots.

NOT ONE WORD

Mother asked little Willie what his father said when he fell off the ladder. Willie said: Mother, shall I leave out the naughty words?

Mother: Of course, dear.

Willie: Well, Mother, he said nothing then!

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