

## Varied Program for Halton Leadership Training School

Mrs. R. A. Eilenton

For some time farm people recognizing the need for more efficiency in conducting their meetings have asked for some assistance in Group Leadership Training. It was their hope to improve the quality of the work to be done, by their organization, which have an important contribution to make to our Canadian Life.

In order to meet this need and request, the Ontario Federation of Agriculture, Ont. Farm Radio Forum, in cooperation with community programmes branch of the Dept. of Education, and the Dept. of Agriculture, sponsored a Leadership Training School in Halton County, at the United Church Sunday School auditorium, Milton.

Immediately after registering we formed a circle and by means of singing games we were duly introduced to each other, which broke the barrier of stranger to stranger and instead we were a group of friends. We then assembled for Community Singing, led by George Atkins, Bronte with Mrs. R. Coulter at the piano. This also proved very helpful as a means of promoting good fellowship among the students.

Our group leader, Mrs. Eleanor Sim, was introduced as being the wife of our First Provincial Farm Radio Forum Secretary, and as an experienced leader in Group work and adult Educational methods. Mrs. Sim briefly outlined the purposes and aims of this Training School by taking the parable of the Apple tree which needs to be fed and nourished in the right type of soil, with proper amount of moisture and fertilizer in order to bear fruit, so we as members of an organization must see to the needs and requirements of our organization that it is kept alive and flourishing, if we expect to have it continuing to bear fruit.

We then divided into groups for our first discussion period, with the topic "Difficulties in Organization." Some of these were as follows: (a) Lack of members assuming their fair share of the responsibility toward the welfare of the organization, as well as towards the officers whom we appoint as leaders; (b) members not speaking openly at the meeting, but after the meeting has adjourned; (c) regular and punctual attendance at all meetings; (d) Selecting your executive carefully and with consideration for the welfare of your organization.

The next topic for discussion "Who is your leader and what are his responsibilities?" (a) His first interest must be the success of the organization, and the question box was a means suggested to find out the wishes of the members as regards the type of programme. (b) Leader in a discussion group must know his subject, and must endeavor to keep the members on the topic for the allotted time. (c) Keep the topic for discussion as the theme for the meeting. (d) Do not allow one person to accept more than one office. (e) In the election of officers an outsider can be called in to pave the way by giving a short talk on members' responsibility to their organization.

At 12 noon we adjourned to an adjoining room where lunch was prepared in banquet style and with Mr. Atkins planning a head table, with master of ceremonies, guest speaker, introduction of head table guests, toasts to the Queen, the ladies, the gentlemen, with proper responses, were all enacted which proved highly educational and informative. At the conclusion, Mr. Clifford Waite, Provincial Farm Radio Forum Secretary, voiced his comments and constructive criticism of this procedure, giving kind criticism where necessary as well as praise where it was deserved.

The afternoon session in small group discussion of "Programme Planning" proved interesting and we concluded some of the basic principles were (a) Purpose of our programme must reflect the needs and interest of our people. (b) Planning of our programme before, during and after the meeting to meet the needs of the organization. (c) Enthusiasm cannot be bought, we must be sure all have a specific job to create interest. (d) Budget or finances of our organization need careful planning and in conclusion shared Leadership.

Parliamentary Procedure being our next topic for discussion, proved helpful, as we considered the proper procedure of calling a meeting to order with an agenda on hand previously prepared by chairman and secretary.

All business conducted by each person, who wishes to voice his opinion, rising and addressing the chair, after which chairman announces the name of the person speaking and advises the meeting this person now has the floor. Speaker states his motion, clearly and distinctly, while secretary records same, chairman asks for a second, before the question is open for discussion, after which the chairman asks if they are ready for the question and with assent he puts the question. Vote is carried, lost or defeated, and recorded. An amendment cannot change a motion, but can add to the motion, omit part, or substitute a part. In case of a motion, an amendment or an am-

endment to the amendment, all must be moved, seconded before the discussion, and the latter comes first, the amendment next, and the motion last. Reports of conveners of committees are brought in merely as recommendations.

"Duties of officers" was our next discussion topic. A leader of a group must first know and have knowledge of his subject before attempting to lead the group in discussion. He should acquire a liking for people and have respect for the other persons opinions as well as the courage of his convictions. He must insist on the elimination of gossip and see that all participants keep to the topic. He must practice as well as preach punctuality. Meetings should be well planned by either dramatizing, demonstration, films, debates, mock parliament. There are many avenues of entertainment which give interest and enthusiasm to meetings. Everyone in a community is a potential leader.

Films were shown introducing different meeting procedure, followed by the report of the committee in charge of registration, 37 people registered with 7 church groups, 6 Farm Forums, 8 Women's Institutes, 1 Folk School, 3 Township Federations; 2 Jnr. Farmers, 1 Junior Institute; 1 Agricultural Society, each representing their own organization. This concluded the first day's programme.

On Tuesday we assembled and enjoyed a film on parliamentary procedure, which depicted the findings of our discussion of the previous day. After our sing song and plans for the day were made we divided into our customary groups for the discussion topic "Discussion methods." We decided a definition for discussion was a sharing of our opinion and receiving of communication of ideas. Each participant brings to a discussion an attitude of give and take. A tolerance and respect for other people's opinions, a spirit of harmony and loyalty. Experience is a better teacher than a college education, as we learn to do by doing.

At the conclusion of lunch we had an active demonstration on the con-

## Early Communion For St. George's Men

Thirty men of St. George's Church attended eight o'clock communion on Sunday morning and met afterwards in the church basement for toast and coffee.

Similar services are planned once a month by members of the Men's Club. Officers elected for the year are Sam Penrice, president; Fred Chapman, past president; Irwin Noble, vice president; Cecil Davidson, secretary-treasurer; Harry Adams, Walter Blehn, Stan Finlay, executive committee.

The value of Canada's production of ski poles and fittings in 1950 amounted to \$27,142 and should be even greater during the 1953 season with the sport becoming ever more popular.

ducting of a business meeting, conducted according to parliamentary procedure with chairman presiding, secretaries minutes read and adopted, as well as the treasurer's financial statement. Meeting concluded with motion for adjournment.

A group discussion was next demonstrated, taking as their topic: "What is a community centre, and do we need one?" Miss Ann Pelletier was group leader and carried out her duties quite efficiently, not allowing one person to do all the talking and yet seeing that all participated in the discussion.

Mrs. Coulter gave a short talk on the social part of a meeting emphasizing the fact recreation at a meeting tends to make participants out of spectators. Recreation is known by the three P's, Fun, Fellowship, and Friendship. Do not be afraid to try, as one does not know what they can do until they try.

Mr. Clifford Waite delivered comments on these demonstrations, which pointed out our stronger and commendable points.

We were again divided into groups of six for a panel summary of what we had gleaned and thereby could take back to our organization as a means of improvement and benefit. Various answers were brought forth when we re-assembled to compare our notes, for the evaluation of our training school. (a) the method of procedure for breaking down bar-



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### SCOUT NEWS

The Ladies Auxiliary of the Boy Scouts held their reorganization meeting in the St. John's Church Parlour on Monday evening, January 19th. The following officers were elected for 1953:

Honorary President, Mrs. R. Hardman; President, Mrs. D. Kidd; Secretary, Mrs. G. McGilvray; Treasurer, Mrs. J. Emmerson; Social convener, Mrs. A. Tost; Sick Convener, Mrs. P. Gribbons; Membership Convener, Mrs. R. Eason.

Plans are well under way for the annual Father and Son banquet, which is to be held on Thursday, February 26th. Dads and lads reserve the date.

Scouts and Cubs look better if they are wearing the full uniform. Our aim is to have every Cub and Scout in full uniform at the Father and Son banquet.

We were sorry to hear that one of our Scouts suffered concussion while playing hockey on Saturday. We are happy, however, that Bobby Kidd is making a quick recovery and will be back in hockey and scouts very soon.

Senior Scouts and the regular Troop are combining forces and will meet together in the future.

### BALLINAFAD

The sympathy of the community is extended to Mr. Gibb in the loss of his father Mr. A. Gibb of Galt who passed away Friday morning. Mr. A. Logan, a student at Emmanuel College had charge of the service Sunday morning. The theme for his sermon was "Wanted; More Prophets." He took as his text Numbers, Ch. 11, verse 25 "... and when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied and did not cease."

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today...  
tomorrow.

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