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JUST A FEW WORDS TO REMIND —

PLUMBING DONE OF EVERY KIND

Silver-Wood President Tells of W.I. Conference

Mrs. R. E. Carbett

It is always a pleasure to go to the College in Guelph, and I anticipated the pleasure of seeing the campus at this time of year, but that pleasure was decidedly dampened, as I only went between the Memorial Hall, dining hall and the Administration building where I was billeted. As you know the weather was awful. However, there was a nice spirit about the Conference and the new seats in the Memorial Hall were very comfortable.

The theme of the conference was "Start where you are, with what you have" which was a quotation from one of Mrs. Sayre's speeches at the ACWW convention last year. Dr. MacLachlan, the president of OAC welcomed us. He said no organization was more welcome at the OAC campus, that the W.I. has the same objective and the same

problems as the college, helping with the rural problems. Where there used to be about 50 per cent of the population on the farms, now there is only 12 to 15 per cent on the farms. Farmers produce one and a half times as much food as they did ten years ago, and with more consumers and less producers it demands more ingenuity. We have to think of world production, and the cost of production is the big problem. He urged that we try and influence young people to take advantage of our Agricultural Colleges and Schools. He told of a mother whose son wanted to go to OAC, so she came to see what it was like, and was so surprised to find out all the things that went on there, as she had thought it was where they learned to braid horses' tails to show them at fairs.

Dr. Margaret McCready, of MacDonald Institute, also welcomed us. She said that the W.I. provides five scholarships for students at MacDonald Institute, and one more for an overseas student. (The first student to be brought for this scholarship is from Jamaica next fall.) Mrs. Hoodless started MacDonald Institute 50 years ago, by interesting a wealthy man, Mr. Macdonald. One argument to use with the girls if you are trying to persuade them to go to Mac, is that there are five times as many men on the campus as girls. The marriage rate is high.

Of course Padre Young and the Kidds were there for the sing songs, and we enjoyed them as much as ever.

Miss Lewis spoke on the theme, and of the Branch and Extension Courses. She quoted further from Mrs. Sayre, when she spoke at Stony Creek to the delegates to the ACCW said, "A legend has become a living reality for all of us. The story of Stony Creek has four important and significant points, and shows the power of an idea — and ideas can be more powerful than armies, it shows the power of an individual and it proves that everyone must begin where they are, and with what they have!"

Speaking of the Extension courses, she said "We have a setup for adult education in homemaking right at our front door step — it is provided as a service for you from the department of agriculture and for free." These courses are to help women acquire sound and approved practices for greater home efficiency, to train leaders, to develop a more abundant life in our communities, and to develop better, happier and more useful citizens.

Miss Lewis spoke further about the Extension courses, urging each Branch to make use of them, as it is one of the best examples of adult education. Every member is supposed to sign the blue sheet giving her choice, and then the secretary hands it to the D.D. and she examines it and takes it to the D.D. meeting and they can arrange joint services with neighbouring branches. There are over 12,000 take these courses, and they have 15 instructors so it is very convenient when a branch backs out at the last minute.

Mrs. J. E. Houck spoke about the United Nations. The Toronto Telegram referred to her as "Mrs. Women's Institute." She stressed that the branches should study the work

FARM NEWS

Trafalgar Couple High In Judging Contest

The pictorial judging contest held recently by the Guernsey Breeders' Journal took on world magnitude. Contestants took part from all but one of the states of the USA; most of the Provinces of Canada, Costa Rica, England, South Africa, and Turkey. A new record was set when 2499 replies were judged by the committee at the American Guernsey Cattle Club. In the senior section, Mrs. Wm. G. Booth, of Craig Lawn Meadow Farm, Trafalgar, Township tied for second prize, while her husband took the seventh award in the same section.

of the U.N. There are 400 projects being managed by the U.S. The people from Asia ask for help to help themselves, not for money. More than half the world is hungry and 75 per cent of Asians are illiterate. The next money raising project, such as helping the Korean widows, is expected to be for UNICEF or UNESCO. They have a gift coupon plan to help organizations in other countries to buy the supplies they need.

A skit was put on by several ladies, showing a WI meeting as it should NOT be. The roll call was to imitate the sound of a farm animal. Mrs. Lorne Guild wrote the skit.

The afternoon was spent in discussion groups, and then the leaders of the group pooled the ideas and gave a report. This of course was of great interest, as we heard of the problems of other branches. Some have a terrible time getting officers changed. I realized what a blessing it is that we have started out by changing our officers regularly. One woman told of a secretary they had for 17 years, and then when they did finally put in another, she was so displeased that she only turned over the current record book, and as they had been organized over 20 years, they have no record of the former years. No officer should be in office more than six years.

I was rather surprised to find that about half the branches pay their secretaries, the amount varying from five to 25 dollars, which is really just a token of appreciation.

Of course as it was a presidents' conference, there was a lot of advice to presidents. Start meeting on time, if a quorum is present. This point was stressed.

A nominating committee was recommended for elections. Pick your committees down the membership list, so each member shares in the work.

Each branch can make its own by-laws. A notice of motion, for a by-law, should be given in advance. Vice presidents should take one or two meetings a year.

All motions should be made before the matter is discussed, and the president must repeat the motion. A good member abides by the will of the majority. Those who do not vote at all are counted as positive votes.

The executive can act for the Institute in emergencies between meetings.

Programs should be planned a year in advance. It was recommended that they have a line of continuity throughout the year. The UN could be chosen, and each month study a different project of theirs. One branch studied Canada, taking a province at a time. But that subject could be taken from each conveners point of view.

It was suggested that each convener have a group of the members to help her, and they could be chosen by number. And it was stressed several times that we should use our own women for the programs, rather than getting outside speakers so often. The W.I. is to develop leaders, and of course it does help to develop one to study up a subject and then present it.

Mrs. Summers, vice-president of the ACWW gave news of that organization. The next conference is to be in Ceylon. Mrs. Sayre, past president, has been appointed to some national organization in Washington. There are plans to organize W.I.'s in Pakistan, Egypt, Gold Coast, Turkey, Thailand, Argentine and others. This is very encouraging, as it should begin with women to raise the standard of living.

The aims and objectives of the ACWW are to promote International goodwill, friendship and understanding of the countrywomen of the world, to raise the standard of rural people the world over, to better international relationship.

We must learn to accept people of other countries as they are; all have the same heart hunger. We should teach our children and grandchildren to have tolerance for people who have different ways of life.

Mrs. Adams, the FWIC president, spoke in the evening. She is a young woman under forty, who comes from a farm near Eshelton, Saskatchewan. She was telling that she never had lived in the country except to teach school, until she married a farmer. She was very determined to make a success of it, etc. (chickens, cats, lambs, in the

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mothers leaving their homes and bringing in part of the pay packet, and that this is stealing the role from the father of the family. Many mothers, especially rural mothers have been forced to enter the teaching field. She stressed the need of adult education, but urged that we take a positive approach to combat crime comics, etc. for the children, by seeing that decent reading material is available for rural children.

She suggested we study conservation. We could do that by interesting ourselves in the Credit Valley Conservation, which is afoot now.

The Beaverton W.I. choir put on a pageant Tuesday evening. There were 19 women dressed in costumes of different countries. Each woman greeted us in the language of the country she represented, and then in English and announced the song they would sing in honour of that country. The woman representing Africa, who was as black as the ace

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