

Workshop on procedures

by Debbie De Bellis
On February 21, a workshop on the procedures of the Women's Institute was held at the library. The speaker was Mrs. Clarence Diamond of New Hamburg.

Each topic can be discussed together, or broken into two different ideas.

Mrs. Diamond mentioned that many Women's Institute resolutions of the past have become common practice, and even in some cases laws. For example one of the first resolutions passed by the Women's Institute was that bread should be wrapped for sanitary reasons.

She then went on to say that all Women's Institute groups of Ontario now have the same objectives, including "to help identify and resolve needs and problems in our community". The Women's Institute is non-partisan, non-racial and non-sectional. The last thing discussed was the different levels of the organization. The branch is the main hub, followed by the district, then the area, then sub-divisions, followed by provincial, national and world level. The latter is the only level where the president can serve for more than one term of office.

At the end of the workshop, Mrs. Diamond was presented with a small plant, in appreciation for her enlightening talk on the procedures of the Women's Institute.



WOMEN FROM several area Institutes gathered at the library on Friday to listen to Florence Diamond who is an instructor in Women Institute procedures. She is with the home ec. division of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Left to right are Mabel Denny, the Acton W. I.; Betty Armstrong, Dublin W. I.; Mrs. Diamond, holding a towel with flags of all participating countries; Reina Morrison, Bannockburn W. I., and Elva Pearen, Greenock W. I.

the painted box



By Wendy Thomson

Guess what I did yesterday! Booked a flight for Scotland! Yes, come the end of May, I'm off for a three week jaunt through the highlands, lowlands, islands and whatever else I can get to.

Day by day, since I had the first glimmerings of the idea, more and more things are fitting into place and I'm getting more and more excited.

Other than a couple of brief dips into the States, I've never been outside Canada, so there'll be all kinds of fun in planning this. It'll be something like that first year, way back.

That all began one day (February 2, 1970, to be exact) when Alice-from-town and I were singing the "winter blues"—sick kids, ratty kids, shedding dogs, pregnant cats, muddy floors, stuck doors and bills.

Within 15 minutes, we'd decided to forsake home and family that summer and go trail riding in the Rockies.

Foresook family
And we did! On July 9, we said a gleeful goodbye to everybody and boarded a train to Banff. I think that, until that moment, everybody thought we'd be content with just the five months of planning and wouldn't really desert our families like that.

Anyhow, that summer seemed to get my husband and I out of a stay-at-home rut. The next year, Gord went

with me to Alberta, and every summer after, either one or both of us have gone.

Last year, Gord was lucky enough to manage six weeks there, and is at present figuring whether six would do this summer or should he make it eight weeks?

(It isn't that we're firm believers in separate vacations. I'd be extremely happy if Gord could come with me, but when he has the chance to work with horses way up in the mountains, I wouldn't think of asking him to turn it down.)

Anyway, last week, after having the car quit, the water pump quit, the cows get out and all those other minor daily annoyances (like putting a scratch right down the side of Gord's truck) I decided Gord shouldn't be the only one to sit and daydream about the coming summer. And that's all it was at first—just daydreaming.

When I casually mentioned I'd like to see Scotland sometime, he just as casually said, "Well, why don't you go?"

The main "why-not" was holidays from work. I didn't even know if the Free Press believed in holidays or not! However, the next day editor Kay Dills stuck her head in the darkroom to ask when I'd like my holidays. Caught off guard, I mumbled something about "early June" and "Scotland" and Kay said, "That'd mean two weeks. Let

me know." The next step was to phone Barber and Henley, the travel agency who've booked us along on every escape. There was only one two week charter flight to Scotland (\$209), all kinds of three week ones (\$274) and the regular ones at \$505.

Scottish spring
And both Gord and Kay said if I was going it might as well be for the three weeks. So there it is—I'll be spending spring in Scotland.

Doing what? I don't know, really. I'll figure that out when I get there, but very likely there'll be a lot of walking, a lot of sitting, looking, and a lot of sitting, looking. I might even get all practiced up on bicycle riding before I leave, if my old bike is in any reasonable shape.

There've been all kinds of suggestions, helpful suggestions, on things to see and do from people who've always wanted to see and do them themselves, but I've said I'm not making definite plans.

Right now, I'm waiting for a packet of brochures to arrive from the travel agency, and when the postal strike's over in Toronto, I'll send to the British Travel Authority for more information, then I'll take it all to bed and figure out all the places I could go—and then probably go to none. Springtime in the highlands. How about that!

Madeleine Gibbons retirement party

After 30 years of devoted service to the public in three different drug stores, Miss Madeleine Gibbons has retired. She began work in Cooper's drug store in November, 1944, and after that worked at Morris Pharmacy and Acton Pharmacy.

The staff of Acton Pharmacy held a surprise party for her Sunday at the home of Bill Yundt, and presented her with gifts and flowers. She had been on the staff there for the past six years.

She thanked them all and

said she is sorry not to be with them and the public any longer.

Nursing career
For 20 years Miss Gibbons was supervisor of the nursery and assistant on obstetrics at St. Michael's hospital in Toronto. Family reasons brought her back home again, and from then on she stayed in town rather than resume her nursing career. She had frequent reunions with St. Michael's colleagues over the years.

She was chosen Acton Citizen of the Year in 1962.

Officers hear of work

The Provincial Board Director of Subdivision 12 of the Women's Institute of Ontario, Mrs. R. John Reed, Hillsburg, called a meeting of the district officers of the three districts which includes Halton District on Feb. 11 at Erin Fair Board offices. There were 16 ladies present and the work of the Provincial Board was discussed.

One of the projects of the F.W.I.O. is the restoration of the Erland Lee Homestead, where 1,300 visitors attended during W. I. week. This home

is being restored by the donations of 10 cents a member as well as gifts directly to the home.

The new F.W.I.P. President is Mrs. Herb Meluske of Chesley, Ont. and the new secretary is Mrs. Earl Morden of Rodney, Ont.

Display

John Secord's White Oaks Ceramics had a large display at the gift show in Toronto last week

Inspirational talk on branch history

Mrs. Clark Armstrong, Lake Avenue, hosted the monthly meeting last Thursday evening of Dublin Women's Institute members. A fine turn-out of members and one visitor was present.

Mrs. E. Norton, 1st vice-president, presided. Roll call was answered with "A family superstition". Many responded with superstitions that had almost become a family tradition.

Correspondence was read by the secretary, Mrs. N. Douglas, and as a result, a donation of \$10 was approved for the Creative Arts (Music Festival); also the pooling fee of \$50 be forwarded for the Officers' Conference at Waterloo University on April 29, 30 and May 1.

A training school for 4th Leaders will be held on March 12 at Milton, when instruction will be given on "The Garden Club".

Considerable interest was shown in the International Women's Night to be held in the Maple Leaf Auditorium, 7th Line, on March 20. A lady lawyer will speak on "Family Property Law." In order for as many as possible to attend this meeting, the regular meeting of the branch will be held on March 13 at the home of Mrs. D. Hunter.

Plans to cater at a wedding reception lunch for 150 guests on May 24 were finalized. Several suggestions for celebrating the 50th anniversary of Dublin Women's Institute Branch this year were presented, and preliminary plans were commenced.

Reports were received from the following chairmen of Standing Committees: Agriculture Mrs. W. Lasby; Consumer Affairs Mrs. R. L. Davidson; Family Affairs Mrs. E. Norton; Visiting Mrs. F. McCarron and Mrs. E. Wilson.

In absence of Mrs. M. Nellis, Mrs. C. Armstrong reported on plans of commencing work on a quilt soon. Mrs. J. C. Dennis reported on a Work Shop held on January 31 at Acton library where 26 ladies from different W. I. Branches, and visitors had received instruction on

"Choosing and Using of Fabrics". The Greenock W. I. ladies were the host branch, and Miss Heather Barrett, of the Department of Agriculture, was instructor.

Another workshop was announced for February 21 in the Library, and several from the Branch expected to attend to get instruction on "Institute Procedure". Acton W. I. will host the meeting.

The motto for the month "Do not put all the learning into childhood, all the work into middle age, and all the regrets into old age" was well taken by Mrs. W. J. McIntyre, and enjoyed by all the ladies.

Mental Health bags were distributed by Mrs. A. Diamond, when particulars of the work of the Association were read, in their annual appeal for funds.

After a long absence due to illness, Mrs. H. Dodds was welcomed to the meeting. As curator of the Tweedsmuir History Book, she gave an inspirational talk to the members on the necessity of giving full information in order to keep the book up-to-date. It is an every-member endeavour to provide data and pictures so that they might be recorded. The completed Tweedsmuir Book, along with the second Book, also a scrap book were on display, and all were keenly interested with



DISPLAY OF articles made by activity group of the Acton branch of the Cancer Society is shown Wednesday by Mary Papillon to Acton branch president W. J. Beatty, Georgetown unit president G. Henderson and Central Counties district president Bruce Humphreys of Richmond Hill.

Unit workshop for volunteers

Many volunteers from Acton and Georgetown were involved in a unit workshop sponsored by Central Counties district of the Canadian Cancer Society at St. Alban's hall Wednesday, Feb. 19. They gathered to learn about the Society's organization and services.

Bruce Humphreys, president of Central Counties executive, introduced the district executive and explained the total set-up of the Society—a large, well-organized group.

Education
Mrs. Susan Sale, education chairman for Central Counties district, stressed the importance of educating the public. Only through education can lives be saved. Education is available through films, speakers, pamphlets, posters to any group or school. Volunteers will present programs by contacting Marlon Patterson 653-0896.

Mrs. Helena Reeves, publicity chairman for Central Counties district, stressed how education and publicity work together.

Mrs. Gloria Coals, services to patient vice-chairman for Central Counties District, gave an overall view of services available, some needing doctor's approval (dressing, transportation, nursing, home care, drugs, mastectomy visiting, activity group, housekeeping and lodge accommodation). Person to contact is Mrs. Cathy McGillivray, 853-2806.

Mrs. Anna Farkas, chairman of Planning, Development and Nominating committee for Central Counties said its purpose is to set up executives for new units, branches or sections.

Praise
Bruce Humphreys explained how campaign funds are used in their fight against cancer and praised Acton branch for the very successful fund-raising campaign and also for their very active branch including services, education and campaign. He made special mention of the Acton group which is well-known to both Princess Margaret Hospital and lodge.

"The Acton branch is known and respected for its

hard working and dedicated volunteers all over Ontario," he said.

Bill O'Connor, field secretary for Ontario division, also praised the local volunteers. He showed a very informative film We Can Help concerning services.

The volunteers broke into groups and discussed many problems in detail regarding campaign, services, education and publicity.

C. Henderson, president of the Georgetown unit, thanked all those who came to learn and participate in such an informative workshop.

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Meeting
The annual meeting of the Y board is tonight (Wednesday) at St. Alban's parish hall.

In, out
There was a huge outdoor swimming pool right beside the new indoor pool Monday, when the thaw turned the high school grounds into a lake.

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