

30th W.I. officer's annual

By Mrs. John Brown
Enthusiasm was the theme of the 30th Annual Officer's Conference for over 550 Women's Institute delegates from across the Province, when they met at the Waterloo University. What a tribute to the founder Mrs. Fitcher who 30 years ago became aware of the need for learning sessions so that members would become informed and inspired.

Mrs. C. Diamond, the Provincial President, urged the members to use their imagination, take chances and above all be enthusiastic. Preserve the best in personal, family and social life. The volunteer work of this organization is a boon to the individual, contributing to the creation of an alert, concerned and responsive public and thus a blessing to the community. Mrs. Diamond asked the members to go home enthused with what they had learned and reflect the image of what can be done.

R.K. McNeill, M.P.P. Parliamentary assistant to the Minister of Agriculture and Food was aware of the concerns of the W.I. explained the governments actions regarding marketing, exports, and imports of food products. The Ontario Foodland Program has been a successful promotion and consumer education.

The enthusiasm of the delegates impressed the National President Mrs. Joseph Beilish of Warspite Alta. It was her first visit to an Officers Conference and she hoped to walk the 2-way street of learning with them, to receive as well as give. She asked that the W.I. support other organizations in topics that we believe in and thus have more weight. The women's Institute across Canada will be taking part in a child safety program for the International Year of the Child in 1979. Mrs. Beilish spoke of her visits to the other provinces, each with the same purpose despite their different ways. Together they must meet the needs in their areas with educational and leadership programs.

The conference was well-attended to the campus by the President Dr. B.C. Mathews who compared the University to the Women's Institute with its efforts to promote good citizenship.

"I wish to compliment the women for their continued leadership" said Miss Molly McGhee the Director of Home Economics "every member has an important role."

The need for better nutrition was the concern of Miss Corinne Terrie, Executive Director, Ontario Dietetic Association. She was alarmed at the lack of education in schools and Universities and the effect on our society. Government cut backs have limited many worthwhile programs and follow-up studies. Where is the much needed education on budgeting, meal preparation, the buying and care of foods, and nutrition which should be a priority. Fitness and exercise is being promoted but what of the nutrition which is so vital to our well being. Miss Terrie was especially concerned about obesity and overweight among Canadians and the alarming consequences. Prenatal malnutrition is too common and can start in the teens. It is important that babies start with well nourished bodies. She put out the challenge to the delegates to get acquainted with nutrition and don't wait for the professionals.

The members had a short reprieve from the discussions and leadership sessions when they attended the excellent performance of "Mikado" by the Glee Club of Waterloo Oxford D.S.S.

Mrs. Forsyth spoke at the Plenary Sessions on Communications especially in our organization. At the opening of the Conference Mrs. H. Maluske had said "It's not what come into life that makes the pattern now but how we use it that counts, it is important that the delegates use the training that they had received."

4-H Club on conservation meets

By Dale Wickson
The first meeting of the Halton 4-H Conservation Club was held on April 25th at the agricultural office.

The meeting was started with the election of officers as follows: President - Elaine White; Vice-President - Richard Stanley; Secretary - Norma Wilson; and Press Reporter - Dale Wickson. There was a discussion on the number of points awarded in the club.

The project will be an anything the members choose and an outline is required for the next meeting.

Places for the meetings to be held was discussed. A film was shown called "Wildlife Sanctuary" followed by discussion and a small quiz. The meeting was adjourned.

We pick the best...



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