

*Mrs. Rowland*

REPORT OF THE  
SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL  
CONVENTION

∴ Alberta ∴  
Women's Institutes



Held in the Arts Building, University of Alberta  
Edmonton, Alberta

May 19th to 22nd. 1931, inclusive.

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SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL  
CONVENTION

∴ Alberta ∴  
Women's Institutes



*Compiled by Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Recording Secretary of Alberta Women's Institutes  
and printed under the direction of the Provincial Council.*

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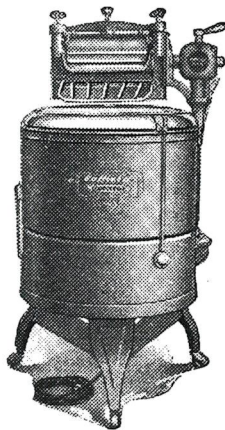


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Canadianization and Immigration—Mrs. F. G. Grevett, 240-13th Ave. W.,  
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## MINUTES OF THE SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion, Recording Secretary.

Tuesday Evening, May 19th, 1931.

Formal Opening of Convention, 7.30 p.m.

The Seventeenth Annual Convention of Alberta Women's Institutes opened in the Arts Building of the University of Alberta on Tuesday evening, when Convocation Hall was crowded with approximately three hundred delegates and a large number of visitors.

Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Provincial President, presided, assisted by Mrs. A. H. Rogers, Vice-President. Others occupying seats on the platform were: His Honor Lieutenant-Governor Walsh, Premier J. E. Brownlee, His Worship, Mayor James M. Douglas, Rev. Bro. Rogation, S.S.C., Rector of St. Joseph's College, Mrs. W. Huyck, Past President A.W.I., and Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Past President and Recording Secretary.

The session opened promptly at 7.30 o'clock, with O! Canada, followed by the Invocation and Creed led by Mrs. J. L. Scott of Kinsella.

The delegates were greeted by His Honor W. L. Walsh, the newly appointed Lieutenant-Governor of Alberta, this being his first official address. His Honor admitted that his acquaintance with the Alberta Women's Institutes was somewhat limited and his only knowledge of the organization had been gleaned from reading a copy of the Annual Report, which some one had been kind enough to hand him; he expressed his admiration for the work done by the Institutes and marvelled at the scope of their efforts. His Honor wondered if possibly they did not attempt too much; if it might not be better to concentrate on the things most worth while than to undertake so many subjects. He urged all present to continue diligently and enthusiastically the work of Canadianization and to bring to the new Canadian a true conception of British ideals and citizenship.

Honorable J. E. Brownlee, Premier of Alberta, in extending the welcome of the Provincial Government, stated that this year above all others there is great need of the work of such organizations as the Women's Institutes, and expressed his hope that in the future they would stand fast to see that the policies of the future decades will not be as ill-balanced as those of the past have proven. He touched briefly on some of the problems of the Province; unemployment, communism and immigration, stating that one of the greatest needs of today is the preservation of a proper psychology, of a proper outlook on life, of sanity of judgment. "We are suffering today from ill-considered and false land settlement and immigration policies of the past; and in forming new ones we must consider them carefully and avoid past mistakes," he declared.

Mayor James W. Douglas extended a cordial welcome to the delegates on behalf of the city of Edmonton.

Mrs. F. A. Nye, President of the Edmonton Women's Institute, brought hearty greetings to the visitors and presented the executive and convention with two beautiful baskets of flowers, which graced the platform during the session, adding their beauty and fragrance to the surroundings.

Mrs. Carl Brunner, President of the Shepherd W.I., and a new Canadian, replied in a very witty and clever manner to the addresses of welcome. See Page 65.

A charming interlude was presented at this time by Mr. William Townend, baritone soloist, accompanied by Mrs. Fred Smith. Mr. Townend's selections included "The Floral Dance" by Katie Moss, "Sea Fever" by John Ireland, "The Blind Plowman" by Coningsby Clark, "Tommy Lad" by E. J. Margetson.

Mrs. Smith gave two organ selections which were greatly enjoyed by the audience.

The evening concluded with an inspirational address, "A Plea for Higher Education," given by Rev. Brother Rogation, S.S.C., Rector of St. Joseph's College, Edmonton. This address may be found in full on page 70.

### Wednesday Morning, May 20th

Promptly at nine o'clock the meeting was called to order with assembly singing, Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Rogers presiding. Throughout the convention the intervals of assembly singing were most enjoyable features, and due appreciation was expressed to our leader, Mrs. J. E. Bowstead, and accompanist, Mrs. H. E. Kelly.

Mrs. J. A. Campbell, of Milk River, was appointed on the resolutions committee to serve with the Executive and Convener of Legislation.

By request of Mrs. Nellie McClung, the President called attention to the McKinney portrait fund, which is still considerably short of the estimated cost. Contributions from individuals or organizations will be gratefully received and response at an early date is urged so work may be started.

The customary letter of greetings from Miss Isobel Noble, Past President of Alberta Women's Institutes, was read and received with the demonstration of hearty approval and pleasure always accorded Miss Noble's messages. Telegrams bringing greetings and best wishes from Mrs. D. R. McIvor, of Stettler, past vice-president A.W.I., and from Miss Margaret Hudson, Drumheller, President A.W.I.G.C., were received and read at this time.

The report of the Recording Secretary, Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion, was read, and may be found on page 17.

Mrs. J. Regan, Business Secretary-Treasurer, presented an interesting report of official activities and the present status of the Alberta Women's Institutes. There are 280 branches on the official register; 16 new branches were organized during the year, and four others re-organized after several years of inactivity; yearly report forms were returned by 226 branches, showing a membership of 4657; the total sum of money raised and distributed during the year amounted to \$54,997.23. The records show 54 branches not reporting. Report in full on page 20.

The President, Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, followed with her report, which opened with the business-like statement,—"This morning we don our working clothes, roll up our sleeves, as it were, and proceed to the real work of the convention." She pointed out the need for budgeting and greater attention to financing in the future, with drastic changes in policies, in order to live within our means. In her official capacity the President visited seventeen Constituency Conferences and two District Conferences. See page 25 for full report.

Our faithful Publicity Secretary, Mrs. J. F. Price, was pleased with the continued publicity activities. She outlined her work which consists in putting into news form 253 monthly branch reports for publication in three newspapers in the province, besides special articles for several magazines. Full report on page 27.



A general discussion of reports and policies followed, which developed many interesting phases and a clearer conception of A.W.I. business affairs by the delegates. Definite action was deferred until report of financial committee was presented.

In the absence of Mrs. Maurice Gossip, Convener of the Standing Committee of Household Economics, her report was read by Mrs. A. H. Rogers, and appears on page 46 of this report. Subjects receiving special attention under the direction of this committee were General Sanitation, Home Management, Treatment of walls and floors, besides a large number of demonstrations of various home industries.

At this time the Convention was favored with special music by Mrs. Walker, soloist, accompanied by Mrs. F. Smith, which was greatly enjoyed.

Reviewing the progress of the Alberta Women's Institutes Girls' Clubs during her tenure of office as supervisor, Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith mentioned the winning team who represented us at the C.N.E. in Toronto in 1928, the publication of a magazine following the 1929 and 1930 conventions, and a scholarship fund of \$100.00 to be awarded in household science. See page 64 for report in full.

The four District Directors reported the activities in their respective districts as follows: District No. 1, Mrs. W. R. Roberts, Sexsmith; District No. 2, Mrs. W. C. Short, Edmonton; District No. 3, Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu, and District No. 4, Mrs. F. C. Alcock, Champion. These reports in full may be found on pages 31 to 34.

#### Wednesday Afternoon, May 20th

The afternoon meeting opened at 1.30 with assembly singing, with Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Alcock presiding. The time until 3.30 o'clock was given to reports and greetings, each speaker contributing to the interest and information of the assembly.

Mrs. G. M. Gibson, Drumheller, gave a most comprehensive report as Convener of Education and Better Schools, with an interesting account of the many educational activities engaged in by the Women's Institutes throughout the province, including a study of teacher and parent problems. The report appears on page 36.

On behalf of the University of Alberta, Dean W. A. R. Kerr, of the Faculty of Arts and Sciences, brought cordial greetings from that educational institution. In the course of his remarks Dean Kerr said that the only formal standard that the University can set for the students is that of intellectual equipment; there is no way of improving a character standard over that of knowledge; he urged the assistance of the Women's Institutes in recruiting only the "moral cream" of the youth of the province to come to the University for higher study. Accommodations are limited and many applications have to be declined.

Mrs. A. H. Warr, Waskatenau, President of the U.F.W.A., brought cordial greetings from the sister organization, stressing the fact that both are doing all they can to aid the people of the province in a constructive way.

Greetings from the Red Cross Society were presented by Mrs. C. B. Waagen, who declared that this organization is one of the greatest promoters of peace existant in the world today, and gratefully expressed appreciation of the continued and generous assistance given towards its maintainance by the Alberta Women's Institute.

Speaking of Public Health Nursing in Alberta, Miss Kate Brightie, Superintendent of Public Health Nurses, told of the pre-natal and post-natal letters which are sent out from the office upon request, numbering over 300 per month. The demand for Baby Clinics has swelled to such proportions that it has been necessary to divide the territory into three parts, each with a nurse in charge. Miss Brightie accompanied the A.W.I. exhibit to Toronto last year and spoke in highest praise of the reception which the exhibit received.

The convention then enjoyed two delightful songs by Mrs. N. A. McPhee, soprano soloist, accompanied by F. Holden Rushworth. The numbers were: "Who'll Buy My Lavender?" and "A May Morning."

Mrs. Wellington Huyck, Strome, Supervisor of the A.W.I. exhibit at the C.N.E., gave a very explicit description of the various booths; each province strove to call attention to their principal products and industries. The Alberta booth had a background of mountains, sloping gradually down to broad wheat fields. Four models of travelling clinics were shown. Reported in full on page 69.

Miss Marion E. Story, director of the Alberta Women's Bureau, gave a comprehensive idea of the work taken up at the four agricultural schools in the province: Olds, Vermilion, Raymond and Claresholm. Some idea of the work done during the two-year course offered to girls over sixteen at these schools, was gleaned by members and visitors who paused to see the display of work on exhibition. The collection included such articles as it was possible to bring, representing the many activities of the hundred or more girls who took courses last year and were actually designed and made as part of the school work. It was impossible to show any of the cooking, nursing, dietetic and academic work, but there were displays in sewing, painting, decorating and rug-making as taken from the beginning to the end of the course. Commencing with simple underwear the course goes on through all sorts of sewing to the tailored articles such as coats and suits, finally finishing with their own graduation frocks. They make baby clothes, bassinets, cushions and all sorts of modernistic and smart fancy work for the home. A prettily decorated hand made bedroom suite, including dressing table and chairs, was shown.

The only entrance requirements for these students are that the boy or girl be 16 years of age at least, in good physical condition, and of good moral character. The courses last from October until the end of March, and aim to send the pupils home better equipped to make the best of their opportunities and to become good citizens of their respective communities.

Referring to the short courses offered through the bureau, Miss Story stated that this year there are 268 short courses offered with a total registration of 1500 in attendance. Most of these are three day courses and are divided as follows: Sewing 78; basketry 77; interior decorating 44; cooking 34, and the rest deal with a variety of subjects, such as glove-making, millinery etc. Financial conditions this year have necessitated curtailment of expenses and some of the demonstrations have been cancelled, but it is hoped this will be only temporary. The short courses for farm women are to be continued this year on the following dates: Olds, July 13-17; Vermilion, August 5-7. See page 66 for full report.

At 3.30 o'clock convention adjourned to attend a tea at the beautiful home of Mrs. R. C. Wallace, on the Campus. The hostess was assisted in entertaining by the wives of the members of the faculty, including Mrs. E. A. Howes, Mrs. Frank Wyatt, Mrs. A. Henry, Mrs. Percy Talbot, Mrs. John Newton, Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, Mrs. J. Fryer, Mrs. E. H. Strickland, Mrs. H. Sackville and Mrs. A. E. Ottewell.

Wednesday evening the delegates and visitors were guests of the management of the Capitol Theatre, when George Arliss appeared in "A Millionaire," a most delightful performance, which was thoroughly enjoyed by the audience. Following the play the ladies adjourned to the MacDonald Hotel where they were guests of the Edmonton Women's Institute. A most charming musical program was presented, the artists participating being Mrs. M. W. Dawson, soloist, accompanied by Miss Leona Huffman, and Miss Selma Myers, violinist.

Delectable refreshments completed a most enjoyable evening.

#### Thursday Morning, May 21st

With Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. W. R. Roberts, Director District No. 1, presiding, the meeting opened at 9 o'clock with assembly singing.

The first order of business was the report of the special finance committee, appointed by the president to bring in recommendations for reducing the A.W.I. budget for the coming year. The committee, consisting of Mrs. E. R. Morley, Verdant Valley; Mrs. E. E. Bird, Aldersyde, and Mrs. W. A. Brown, Paradise Valley, presented the following suggestions:

No. 1. Federated Officers expenses be paid out of federated funds. As this is the custom except in instances where officers of the F.W.I.C. are invited as special guests, this recommendation was tabled on motion of Mrs. Bell and Mrs. Gillespie.

No. 2. Sustenance allowance be exchanged for expense accounts for all members of the Council. Moved by Mrs. Morley and Mrs. Leavitt that sustenance allowance remain as at present. Carried.

No. 3. That Business Secretary-Treasurer's bond be reduced to \$3000.00. As the Council had already arranged for a bond in accordance with the money on hand, this suggestion was tabled on motion of Mrs. Grevett and Mrs. Walker.

No. 4. That the Provincial organization pay the official delegate's fare to the convention and the branch pay the return fare. Adoption moved by Mrs. Bell; seconded by Mrs. Gillespie and carried.

No. 5. That there be a temporary reduction in federated fees. Moved by Mrs. Leavitt, seconded by Mrs. Durstan that this matter be left to the Council. Carried.

No. 6. That printed report of convention be eliminated. Moved by Mrs. T. L. Montgomery, seconded by Mrs. ———, that this recommendation be adopted. Lost.

Moved by Mrs. Grevett and Mrs. Scott that Annual Report be printed as heretofore. Carried.

No. 7. That personal representation at the C.N.E. be dispensed with for the present.

As the Council had already decided to discontinue the A.W.I. separate exhibit and to join the other provinces in one large display, it was moved by Mrs. Martin, seconded by Mrs. Miller, that the suggestion be tabled and the action of the Council be sustained. Carried.

The report of the committee on The League of Nations was given by the convener, Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, and appears on page 60.

The Standing Committee of Agriculture was reported by Mrs. D. H. Galbraith, Vulcan. Convener, who gave an encouraging summary of general conditions throughout the province, and especially urged more extensive planting of shrubs and trees, with particular attention to the home garden. See page 55 for full report.

Mrs. J. W. Johnston, Edmonton, convener of the Standing Committee on Canadian Industries, covered a wide field in her report, and established the members of the Women's Institute as strong supporters of Canadian products. The report is printed in full on page 57.

Nominations for President, Vice-President and Recording Secretary were received, with only the names of the incumbents presented, each in turn being re-elected by acclamation. The executive remains: Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin, President; Mrs. A. H. Rogers, Fort Saskatchewan, Vice-President; Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion, Recording Secretary.

A delightful interlude was presented by Mrs. J. E. Bowstead, Edmonton, in a group of songs. "Do You Know My Garden?" by Hayden Wood, and "Bird Song at Eventide," by Eric Coates, were the numbers rendered.

Co-operation as the key-note upon which re-established world economics would be built, was discussed at some length by the Hon. Geo. Hoadley, Minister of Agriculture and Health. Mr. Hoadley stated that 83 cents out of every dollar of health expenditure was spent on people in institutions. He reviewed his favorite scheme for community health centres by which all-round preventive care, as well as care during illness, would be assured. He regretted the passing of the family doctor, who was acquainted with and understood the health history of the whole family. In his opinion, clinics were more essential today than ever before, especially when many people cannot afford to pay regular fees to doctors.

Mr. Hoadley then touched upon the financial situation, not only as it affected Alberta, but the world at large. He felt that a great world co-operative system would be the only solution to the entanglement in which finances have become involved, and the only remedy at hand is cutting out all unnecessary expenses. He further referred to the great power of insurance companies today, which control greater wealth than banks, loan companies or other financial organizations. He explained the system by which holdings and produce on the farms were no longer of sufficient value to insure safety and comfort, and reminded the delegates that every foot of land was as good and as valuable as it ever had been; that the system of handling was to blame. He quoted a great financier as saying that while the present system was at fault, it would be bad policy to pull it down with the idea of building a new one out of uncertainties. Careful remodeling was the great necessity.

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#### Thursday Afternoon, May 21st

The afternoon meeting opened with a short period of assembly singing, Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Director of District No. 3, presiding.

The first order of business was the election of District Directors, which resulted as follows:

District No. 1.—Mrs. W. R. Roberts, Sexsmith, re-elected.

District No. 2.—Mrs. W. C. Short, Edmonton, re-elected.

District No. 3.—Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu, re-elected.

District No. 4.—Mrs. J. A. Campbell, Milk River, newly elected.

Miss Zelma Moyes, Edmonton, favored the audience with a pleasing piano solo, and was greeted with hearty applause.

The report of the Standing Committee of Canadianization and National Events was ably presented by the convener, Mrs. F. G. Grevett, Calgary, who referred to the increasing interest shown in the department during the past year. She urged greater use of play-lets and pageants and handicraft festivals, and the adoption of the slogan, "A flag for every school." This report appears on page 51.

"There has been a material change in the attitude of the Canadian people toward Immigration," declared Mrs. C. Lynch-Staunton, Lundbreck, convener of the standing committee on Immigration, in giving her report. The change was attributed to general financial depression and serious unemployment. One of Canada's fundamental needs is population, and yet immigrants are refused admission unless they have means to establish themselves. Report in full on page 48.

Mrs. Maurice Gossip, Calgary, convener of the standing committee on Household Economics, was granted a few minutes to bring greetings to the convention, having arrived after her paper had been read.

Mrs. Tom Gardner, accompanied by Mrs. James, gave two very pleasing vocal selections.

No part of the four days' program created a greater degree of interest or held more closely the undivided attention of the delegates and visitors than did the splendid address of Dr. Helen MacMurchy, Chief of the Division of Child Welfare, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa. We are pleased to be able, through the courtesy of Dr. MacMurchy, to print the full text of her inspiring address in this report, beginning on page 72.

At 4.30 p.m. convention adjourned to the Medical Building, where J. W. Cahill, of the Federal Livestock Branch, staged a demonstration in beef grading, which proved to be one of the most interesting features of the session. Three sides of beef, displaying the red (choice) and the blue (good) along with an unbranded side of medium beef were shown, and one side was cut up during the demonstration. Numbers were placed on 20 cuts to test the judging ability of the delegates. Mrs. T. R. Blaine, 10124-106th St., Edmonton, turned in a perfect score card with every cut properly named. Two scores of 90 (the high mark is usually 85, stated Mr. Cahill) were won by Mrs. J. Stormquist of Cherhill, and Mrs. G. A. Weber of Sedgewick. The demonstration was arranged jointly by the federal and provincial departments of agriculture.

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#### Thursday Evening, May 21st

Thursday evening was given over to the Edmonton Women's Institute, who were most gracious hostesses to a delectable banquet served to over three hundred delegates and visitors in Athabaska Hall. A most tempting menu was served the guests, who were seated around long tables artistically decorated with lighted candles and flowers. At the head table were seated His Honor Lieutenant-Governor and Mrs. Walsh, Hon. J. E. Brownlee and Mrs. Brownlee, His Worship Mayor Douglas, Mrs. R. C. Wallace, Dean and Mrs. W. A. R. Kerr, Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Mrs. A. H. Rogers, Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Mrs. W. Huyck and Mrs. F. A. Nye, who acted as toastmistress, and others.



The after-dinner program sparkled with witty anecdotes and entertaining narratives; the tables were then removed and the latter part of the evening was given over to a concert program of orchestral music, instrumental solos, fancy dances, bright songs and impersonations. The entire program was delightfully snappy and entertaining, with no delays between numbers, and was greatly appreciated by the audience. Informal dancing climaxed a most happy evening.

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#### Friday Morning, May 22nd

The last meeting of the session was called to order at 9 o'clock, Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. W. C. Short, Director of District No. 2, presiding. Mrs. Wellington Huyck, Strome, presented a comprehensive report of the work of the standing committee on Child Welfare and Public Health. Judging from this record, no branch of Institute work received more attention or produced more satisfactory results than this department. See page 40 for full report.

At this time Rev. G. H. Villett was granted the privilege of the floor to briefly explain the nature and purpose of the World Disarmament petition, which is being circulated under the auspices of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

Mr. D. E. Cameron, Librarian, University of Alberta, then addressed the convention on "Modern Library Service in Alberta." The address appears on page 79.

The final report for this session was read by Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu, Convener of the Standing Committee on Legislation, in which statutes recently enacted by both provincial and federal governments were reviewed. See page 43 for report.

Discussion of various topics relative to policies, finances and numerous resolutions was introduced at opportune moments during the session. In planning the budget for the coming year, the convention voted to reimburse the official delegates to the amount of their railway fares to the convention only, the branch paying the return. This will mean the saving of a large sum, approximately \$1000.00 to the provincial fund, as compared to the former method of refunding the full fare.

Further saving will be effected through not sending a representative with the A.W.I. exhibit to the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. A smaller display in connection with the other provinces will be placed in one large booth and expenses will be greatly reduced thereby.

The annual discussion re a biennial convention and discontinuing the publication of the Annual Report met with the customary defeat, the delegates deciding that it would be most detrimental to the progress and best interests of the organization to make a change in either instance.

With careful discrimination between essential and unnecessary requests, the convention relentlessly tabled numerous resolutions; some were deemed too expensive to ask of the government at the present time; others indicated lack of thought and care in preparation, while still others required further investigation before an intelligent decision could be made.

Altogether it was a very sane and conservative convention; not afraid to tackle the most serious problems with earnest intelligence and ready to ripple with merriment at the suggestion of a joke. Optimistic in spite of the ever-present financial depression and courageous in the determination to meet future difficulties with faith and fortitude.

With all business completed, the Seventeenth Annual Convention of Alberta Women's Institutes adjourned at noon on Friday, May 22nd, 1931.

## RESOLUTIONS

The following resolutions were dealt with:

1. "Whereas the initiatory ceremonies of the freshmen at the University of Alberta are often of an extreme and severe nature, we petition those in authority, to use their influence towards modifying them in future." Carried.
2. "Be it resolved that October 1st be called 'Alberta Peony Day'." Carried.
3. "Be it resolved that May 18th be observed as Universal Peace Day, in all schools." Carried.
4. "Whereas delinquent youths between the ages of 16 and 21 are sent to jails and penitentiaries, with older criminals, because there is no other place to send them to serve their sentence, and said delinquency in the majority of cases is the result of mental deficiency and lack of proper training, and whereas the association with older criminals only tends to confirm criminal habits in the young,

Be it resolved that the Women's Institutes petition the Government to establish an Institution, patterned after the Borstal System in England, where these young offenders may be sent with the hope of turning them into decent citizens and useful members of society." Carried.

5. "Moved that we ask the Dominion Government to hasten the time when the addition to Waterton Lakes Park be fenced and stocked with Buffalo and Elk." Lost. Passed at District No. 4 Conference.
6. "Inasmuch as it is commonly reported by the examiners of the papers of the June departmental examinations that the standard of severity in marking is not uniform from year to year, but that some years the papers are marked according to a much more rigid standard than at other times, be it respectfully petitioned that the Department of Education be asked to make every effort to have a fair and even standard of marking from year to year so that there may be less element of luck in the marks obtained in the June departmental examinations; and be it further requested that in case the Department deems it advisable to tighten up the standard on any grade, then the teachers be notified the fall before of such intentions." Tabled.
7. "Whereas the Alberta Women's Institutes have no work strictly its own, be it resolved that a provincial fund be established sufficient to send a girl student, a daughter of a W. I. member, who obtains the highest average in Grade XI. (seven subjects at least) each year for a year's advanced work, Grade XII., Normal or University." Tabled. Bow Valley Constituency Conference.
8. "Be it resolved that under present conditions an Annual Provincial Convention is unnecessary, that a biennial Convention would be more satisfactory to the Branches." Camrose Constituency Conference. Lost.
9. "Resolved that each Women's Institute of Alberta, give a cash donation of \$10.00 to be divided equally between the Junior Red Cross and the Wood's Christian Home to establish a memorial to Alberta Women's Institute work." Clearview, Penhold and Balmoral Institutes. Tabled.
10. "Whereas there is serious waste and lack of co-ordination in the establishment and maintenance of school libraries throughout the Province, which in the opinion of the Conference, is detrimental to the education of the

public and high school students; and whereas no grant is made by the Provincial Government for school libraries, except in the case of new schools, thus placing full responsibility for the creation of school libraries on individual school boards; and whereas there is a very definite need for systematic and intelligent selection and distribution of books for supplementary reading by pupils in both public and high schools;

Be it resolved that this conference respectfully urge on the Provincial Government the necessity for immediate restoration of Government aid for school library purposes, and the desirability of administering Government aid to school libraries in accordance with modern practice and needs. Carried.

11. "Whereas this Conference is convinced of the need of library education, it is urged that a course of library work be included in the curricula of all Provincial Teacher Training Institutions." Carried.
12. "Resolved that one of the first duties of the Executive Committee shall be to approach the Federal Government on the elimination of postal rates on books circulated between libraries or on books circulated by libraries and a general reduction on book rates." Endorsed and forwarded to the F.W.I.C.

13. "Resolved, that in order to curtail expenses during period of depression, that we recommend to the Provincial Council of the Alberta Women's Institutes that:

First—"Provincial and District Conventions be held alternate years;

Second—"That we dispense with printed report of Convention;

Third—"That we do not send a personal representative to the Toronto Exhibition this year." Verdant Valley, Rosedale, Sentinel Hill and Horseshoe Canyon Institutes. Lost.

14. "Whereas it has come to the notice of the Willowdale W. I. that the Baker School Bill, passed by the legislature, provides that any resident for one year of School District, of full age of twenty-one years, is eligible to vote for trustee";

Therefore be it resolved that this at once be changed to read: "Any resident ratepayer and members of his or her family of the full age of twenty-one years is eligible to vote for trustee." Willowdale and Springvale Women's Institutes. Tabled.

15. "Whereas many mothers are left without doctor's care at confinement, and many ills resulting therefrom both to the mother and the child, and whereas the greatest reason for this is lack of funds; and

"Whereas the boys and girls are the country's greatest asset, and only those who are strong mentally and physically are an asset;

"Be it resolved that we ask the Provincial Government to make a survey to see if it be possible to pay one-half of the cost of the doctor's fees for confinement cases, and that the need of operations arising out of confinement cases should be reported to the government and assistance be given if necessary." Philo and Little Gem W. I. Tabled.

16. "Whereas it is understood that foreign produce is being sold in Canada, wrapped to look like made in Canada products;

"Be it resolved that the Conference at Priddis go on record that some distinguishing mark be made to show from what country the product is produced." Calgary-Okotoks Constituency Conference. Lost.



17. "Whereas we believe that numerous accidents are caused by cars running into wagons and other vehicles without lights and frightening horses by coming too close to them and causing accidents; and whereas we believe that everything should be done to avoid accidents;

"Therefore be it resolved that we petition our government to make it unlawful for any vehicle whatsoever to travel the public roads without a light which can easily be seen both from the front and the rear." Hughenden and Provost Institutes. Carried.

18. The final resolution, proposed by Mrs. Ferguson as convener of the committee, and heartily endorsed by every delegate present, was a vote of thanks to all who extended courtesies and contributed in any way to the success of the Convention, including:

The use of University Buildings; Miss Eager and her efficient staff for their untiring efforts to make the delegates comfortable and happy; Mrs. R. C. Wallace and members of the Women's University Club for the delightful reception and tea; Mrs. F. A. Nye, President, and members of the Edmonton Women's Institute who excelled in hospitality; the artists who furnished delightful music; management of the Capitol Theatre for the enjoyable play; the Rotarians for cars to and from the University; the Press for generous publicity, and to each and all who contributed to the pleasure of the delegates in any way.

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### REPORT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion.

Madam President and Ladies,—

Father Time's clock never stops even for repairs, but persistently ticks off the days, weeks and months in rapid succession until, before we realize it, another year has slipped by and we must take stock of our achievements or failures. What a faithful monitor is this A.W.I. Convention, keeping us on tip-toe all the year through, that we may have something worth while to relate to our friends and co-workers in exchange for their new ideas and experiences.

It is my great pleasure to submit to you this report of the Recording Secretary for the year 1930-1931 at the Seventeenth Annual Convention. Lest some of you may be harboring the impression that this office is merely one of honor, without the usual penalty of labor attached, I shall mention a few of the details in connection therewith.

A meeting of the Council of Alberta Women's Institutes was held in Calgary immediately following adjournment of the 1930 session. All unfinished business left over from the Convention received attention. The usual expense allowance of \$300.00 for the use of the President, and the honorarium of \$50.00 to the Recording Secretary, as authorized by the Convention, were approved.

Final arrangements for the Alberta Women's Institute Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition were left with Mrs. Montgomery and Mrs. Short, with the stipulation that expenditures connected therewith, including those of the attendant, should not exceed \$350.00. A full report of the exhibit will be given by Mrs. Huyck later in the session.

At the earliest possible date, letters of appreciation were written to all who assisted in making the convention so successful, including the Calgary W. I., the special speakers, musicians and entertainers; also to the newspapers for the splendid publicity they gave us. Messages of regret went to a large number of absent members, and resolutions dealt with by the convention were forwarded to their respective destinations. A total of fifty-three letters went forward in connection with this division of the work.

Without doubt the most exacting and perhaps the most interesting task falling to the Recording Secretary is that of compiling and editing the Annual Report. Days and days were spent at this work; I leave you to judge the results, providing you have taken the trouble to look the book over. All manuscripts were in hand, edited and ready for the printer early in July, excepting two delayed reports, which caused postponement of publication until August. It is unfortunate that the Report containing the outlines for the year's work does not reach the constituency conveners before the conferences begin.

My sincere thanks are herewith extended to those speakers and conveners for the nearly perfect manuscripts handed to me so promptly and their adherence to space limitations.

A new departure in connection with the last issue was that of including advertisements. The suggestion was presented at the Council meeting as a means of reducing the expense of printing. Financially the venture proved quite satisfactory, netting the organization around \$140.00, about one-half of the expense of publishing.

Mrs. Short of Edmonton, Mrs. Grevett of Calgary, Mrs. Snelson of Lethbridge, and Mrs. Rogers of Fort Saskatchewan, assisted in soliciting the advertisements, and to them belongs the glory.

The time was short, plans indefinite, and arrangements incomplete owing to the suddenness of the inspiration, hence the degree of success was rather an agreeable surprise, all things considered. I think the experiment worth repeating under more favorable circumstances.

The committee in charge of the railway refund—Mrs. Regan, Mrs. Roberts and Mrs. Grevett—were paid a tribute of commendation by the Council for the splendid manner in which the business was conducted with the minimum of confusion and interruption in the Convention.

On February 24th and 25th, 1931, the Council met in Edmonton to plan the program for this convention, and to dispose of whatever items of business might arise.

The advisability of limiting reports to be printed in the Annual Report to 1500 words was discussed. As this plan worked out so satisfactorily last year, it was thought best to continue it.

A letter signed by the President and the Secretary of the South Alberta Branch of the Dominion Social Service Council, asking the co-operation of the Women's Institutes in providing adequate protection for female help going into rural districts, was given consideration. The Recording Secretary was instructed to express our willingness to co-operate in every possible way in this effort, with the understanding that any information given be held in confidence. Also that we assume no financial responsibility.

The Council was unanimous in recommending that each convener of a Standing Committee prepare at least two papers on some phase of her work

to be available for use by branch chairmen, on application. The advantage of this plan appeared to be two-fold: Correct information would thus be distributed and the work of the convener greatly reduced by eliminating a large share of her personal correspondence.

For a number of years, as you know, it has been the practice of the Alberta Women's Institutes to send an exhibit to the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. These exhibits have been of inestimable value to both the province and our own organization, but the necessary expense in putting this over has increased to an enormous amount. Other provinces also find the drain on their treasuries too great to be continued, so a new plan has been evolved whereby the expense may be reduced materially and still not eliminate the connection between the Women's Institutes and the C.N.E. The plan favors one large display, with each Provincial Women's Institute furnishing a portion. The small exhibit would not necessitate sending a supervisor and would reduce the expense to a nominal sum. The Council unanimously sanctioned this arrangement and allowed \$50.00 to cover the cost of the A.W.I. share of the exhibit.

The customary allowance of \$150.00 for the expenses of the Supervisor of the W.I.G.C's. when in the discharge of her duties was allowed.

Inasmuch as the work assigned to conveners of standing committees in the constituencies seems to overlap, causing confusion and complaints, the Council recommends that in future these conveners be eliminated and the branch chairmen confer directly with the Provincial Conveners.

As often occurs in "lean years" when money is hard to make and demands more numerous than usual, some of our branches found it difficult, even impossible, to finance a delegate to this Convention. Then inquiries begin to come to the Council concerning payment of provincial dues. A common question reads like this: "Are we obliged—or expected—to pay provincial dues if we do not send a delegate to convention and no railway refund is claimed?" At first thought this appears to be a reasonable question, inasmuch as the heaviest single item of the provincial fund is used for the purpose of paying the railway fare of one delegate from each W.I. to the Convention. But let us think again, as the second thought is always the best, and there appears a long list of other demands for not insignificant sums, by any manner of means. A glance at the financial report of the Business Secretary-Treasurer will verify this statement.

There are our yearly dues to the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, stationery and printing, postage, office expenses, travelling expenses, expenses of District Directors, the President's grant, the grant to the Girls' Club and innumerable incidental items, which during the year total an enormous amount. Year after year the finances of this organization are brought before the Convention for discussion and you—the delegate body—in whose hands rests the power to restrict or increase the expenditures of this organization, persistently declare you cannot dispense with one of these items; and neither can you without detracting from the efficiency of this organization which has been carefully builded year by year. Then when the most important question of how to meet the accounts when payment is demanded, comes up for discussion, you show your confidence in your officers by magnanimously leaving all financial adjustments in the hands of the Council. We certainly revel in the delicious brand of reliance you place in our judgment, but consistency is a jewel.

If we can not have a new suit this year we shorten the coat and lengthen the skirt of the old suit "even as you and I," and feel quite dressed up in it.

When the "bottom fell out" last fall we abandoned the hope of the vacation trip east or south, and remained in Alberta—boasting of the unparalleled weather conditions right here at home. As individual members of any organization we pay our dues and contribute regularly to its maintenance, whether we attend every meeting or not. Should we not be equally loyal to our A.W.I., even though by force of circumstances we may not be able to take advantage of all the opportunities offered?

Study carefully the financial report; if you see where expenditures may be curtailed without causing disaster to the organization, frankly say so when this matter is under discussion; but if you demand all that you are now receiving, then, without a murmur, pay your provincial dues, not forgetting exchange.

Last, but not least, one word more about the Annual Report. As previously stated, weeks and weeks of close application are given to the compilation and editing of this Report, and the cost of printing runs into hundreds of dollars. Of the former I am not complaining; the work is interesting and agreeable, while the information gained well compares with a post graduate course in A.W.I. work. But when we invest our precious dollars and cents in any enterprise, it is only good business to be certain that the investment returns a fair rate of interest.

There is a question whether the Report is worth the money we put into it. Not as to its literary value, for it contains real masterpieces in addresses given by noted speakers at each session. Not as to its educational standard, for the reports contain the most authentic information on the foremost topics of the day. The vital question is, do the W.I. officers and members read or hear read any portion of its contents?

In this day and age every home owns a Bible, I hope; but how many souls are comforted or how many children are blessed by its teachings if it is carefully locked in the bookcase, except when the minister comes to dinner. If the copy of the Report, which is mailed to the Secretary of each Women's Institute in the province, is carefully, or otherwise, pigeon-holed in some dark closet, never again to see the light of day until house-cleaning time, when it journeys forth to the bonfire in the back yard, then, I say, the time and money spent in its issuance is foolishly spent. Please give this problem serious consideration. We, the Council, wish to spend the Provincial Fund to the very best advantage and according to your wishes; it is your privilege and duty to say how that shall be.

I sincerely thank you for the opportunity you have given me of serving this organization, which I love so dearly. To come in contact with officers and members once again has been a real pleasure and inspiration.

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## REPORT OF BUSINESS SECRETARY-TREASURER

**Mrs. J. Regan, Edmonton**

It is my privilege and pleasure to again submit my report as Business Secretary-Treasurer. Once again co-operation of the Branch Secretaries has played an important part in my work, as information has been easily obtained by forms being filled in and promptly returned. Keeping Institute affairs in order takes considerable time and attention and I have to spend a great deal of time each day answering letters and working on the books. Circular letters dealing with Constituency Conferences, Outlines of Standing Committees,



Peace Petitions, Yearly Report forms and Convention letter and Resolutions have been sent out to all Institutes. Circulars were also sent to the Girls' Clubs at the request of the Supervisor.

On my Institute register I find that there are 280 branches; of this number 16 have been organized since last convention and four Institutes, namely, Belloy, Cardston, Turner Valley and Nightingale, have re-organized after several years of inactivity. The new Institutes are as follows: District No. 1, East Glen at Bezanson. In District No. 2, Elk Point, Paradise Valley, Smoky Lake, Wabamun and Spruce Corner at Conjuring Creek. In District No. 3, Sunset at Bentley, and in District No. 4, Armada, Battersea at Iron Springs, Diamond at Black Diamond, Glen Banner at Orion, Highwood at High River, Mossleigh, Mizpah at Vauxhall, Rosemary and Rolling Hill at Kipp. Notice has been received during the year that 19 Institutes have dis-organized; some of these have been dead for many years but no notice sent to headquarters until I wrote them a year ago asking them to let us know definitely whether or not their branch was active. We also have on the books the names of 32 branches that have not been heard from for over two years and we can only presume that they are not functioning. If there is any branch in your district I would be pleased to have a report on same.

Yearly report forms were returned by 226 Institutes showing a membership of 4657 and a financial return of \$54,997.23 for the year. What is the matter with the other 54 branches? Your branch may be one of them so when you go home ask your secretary to look about and if she still has the form please ask her to fill it in at once and send it back to me; it is the only way I can get the name of your new secretary, so don't blame me if the Institute mail goes astray. Also if it is necessary to change your secretary during the year please notify me at once so that Institute mail will not be forwarded to your former secretary if she has moved from your district. It would be well for you to remember that it is your branch that suffers as they are not in touch with the work.

To date 226 Institutes have paid their Provincial dues for 1930-31. Our current dues are, this year, slightly lower than last year, but over \$400.00 has been collected in arrears of dues from 1929-30. I hope that times will be brighter next year and that all the branches will be able to pay their dues in full.

During the summer and fall of 1930, 37 Constituency Conferences were held with a total attendance of 2,301.

Two District Conferences were held, one in District No. 4, which was, as usual, an exceedingly successful conference. The other was in District No. 1, and although this was the first attempt the enthusiasm was great even though the attendance was small.

Monthly report forms and envelopes addressed to our Publicity Secretary will be supplied free of charge upon application to my office. Minute and Cash Books are \$2.00 per set, Handbooks are twenty-five cents each, Alberta Women's Institute Pins are thirty-five cents each and Federated Women's Institute Pins are seventy-five cents each.

This year, when printing our Annual Report it was decided that we sell several pages of advertising and you will be pleased to know that the few advertisements we were able to secure paid exactly one-half the printing expenses.

May I urge each delegate to impress upon the Treasurer of her Institute the necessity of adding exchange to cheques when forwarding money to me.

## ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

As the rate of exchange varies in different towns it would simplify matters if, after the amount of the cheque, the words "plus exchange," were added. Your Institute would then receive credit for the full amount of your dues, whereas now I have to deduct the exchange. May I also ask that excise stamps be added to all cheques. Please also see that the correct signatures appear on the cheques.

In conclusion may I urge upon the Secretaries the necessity of passing on, to all members of the Institute, the contents of any letters and pamphlets sent out by the Provincial Officers. Notify your President as soon as possible when correspondence is received and be sure to read same at the next meeting of the Institute for the information of all the members, as this is the only medium between officers and branches. Prompt co-operation on the part of the Secretary will materially help and quickly produce an effective and well-informed Institute.

I wish to thank the members of the Council and also the Branch Secretaries for their kind co-operation and assistance.

Following is my Financial Statement from May 7th, 1930, to April 30th, 1931:

## Receipts

Current Dues .....	\$3,070.28
Arrears Dues .....	432.60
Sale of Pins .....	71.90
Sale of Minute and Cash Books .....	20.00
Sale of Hand Books .....	12.00
Advertisements in Convention Report .....	140.00
Bank Interest .....	73.97
	<hr/>
Balance in Bank, May 1930 .....	\$3,820.75
	4,886.16
	<hr/>
	\$8,706.91
	=====

## Disbursements

Postage .....	\$ 145.05
Exchange .....	13.98
Stationery and Printing .....	812.73
Travelling Expenses .....	1,716.65
Salaries .....	600.00
President's Grant .....	300.00
Convention Expenses, 1930 .....	2,017.00
Office and Sundry expenses .....	82.30
Purchase of W. I. Pins .....	70.00
Recording Secretary's Honorarium .....	50.00
Grant to Girls' Clubs .....	150.00
Federated Women's Institute Fees .....	400.00
	<hr/>
Balance in Bank, April 30th, 1931 .....	\$6,357.71
	2,349.20
	<hr/>
	\$8,706.91
	=====

**Trust Account**

Balance on Hand, May 1930 .....	\$1,422.15
Government Grant 1930 .....	1,500.00
Interest on Bonds .....	130.00
Bank Interest .....	17.44
	<u>\$3,069.59</u>
	=====

**Disbursements**

Transfer to General Account .....	\$1,422.15
Bank Balance .....	1,647.44
	<u>\$3,069.59</u>
	=====
<b>TOTAL BANK BALANCE—</b>	
Trust Account .....	\$1,647.44
General Account .....	2,349.20
	<u>\$3,996.64</u>
	=====

LILIAN A. REGAN,

Business Secretary-Treasurer.

I hereby certify that I have checked the books and vouchers of the Alberta Women's Institutes and have found same to be correct, the Bank Balance in the Trust Account being \$1,647.44, and in the General Account \$2,349.20.

(Signed) A. R. KIRKWOOD, Auditor.

**Arrears 1928—1929**

Peace River .....	\$7.50
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**Arrears 1929—1930**

Arrowwood .....	\$22.00	Kerndale .....	18.00
Acadia Valley .....	24.90	Lacombe .....	19.90
Beaver Mines .....	10.00	Leedale .....	20.00
Chesterwold .....	10.00	Metiskow .....	8.00
Coronation .....	24.75	Milnerton .....	16.00
Cessford .....	8.00	Peace River .....	23.50
Clarendon .....	10.00	Rainier .....	4.00
Cowley .....	12.90	Strathmore .....	18.00
Drumheller .....	41.00	Sibbald .....	24.00
Endeavor .....	20.00	Taber .....	25.50
Hand in Hand .....	10.00	Three Hills .....	19.90
Hughenden Village .....	9.75	Willow Creek .....	22.00
		Warspite .....	26.50

**Current 1930—1931**

Alix .....	\$12.90	Argyle .....	30.00
Ashvale .....	8.00	Arthurville .....	7.90
Albury .....	26.00	Armada .....	14.00
Angus Ridge .....	18.00	Amisk .....	10.00
Acadia Valley .....	17.00	Busy Bees .....	20.00
Atlee .....	15.00	Blackfalds .....	36.00

Big Meadow	19 00	Garden Prairie	20 00
Beaverlodge Centre	30 00	Glendale	13 00
Bassano	15 00	Glen Banner	10 00
Byemoor	19 75	Garrington	18 00
Bindloss	14 85	Hardisty	10 00
Brant	20 00	Hillsdown Valley	13 00
Blackie	15 00	Highwood	12 00
Boyle	19 00	Hussar	22 00
Berwyn	22 00	Halkirk	24 75
Brooks	33 75	Hemaruka	12 00
Beaver Mines	10 00	High Prairie	26 00
Bruce	8 00	Horseshoe Canyon	21 00
Buffalo	10 00	Irma	37 00
Bashaw	25 00	Independence	8 00
Botha	20 00	Jasper	26 75
Benton Valley	12 00	Kirriemuir	16 00
Balmoral	21 00	Kerndale	10 00
Bon Accord	8 00	Kanata	9 00
Better Days	36 00	Lens	8 90
Clarendon	9 00	Lougheed	16 00
Champion	25 00	Lockhart	16 00
Cremona	24 00	Loyalist	12 00
Czar	12 90	Lakeside	17 00
Consort	19 00	Little Gem	12 00
Carmangay	22 85	Langdon	26 50
Coronation	20 00	Lochearn	20 00
Calgary	45 00	Lethbridge	34 00
Coaldale	28 00	Little Horse Guard	8 00
Centre Valley	29 00	Lone Pine	19 00
Conjuring Creek	12 00	Lacombe	22 00
Chinook	24 00	Milnerton	14 00
Carrot Creek	13 00	Mountain Park	11 00
Clearview	19 85	Milk River	14 00
Condor	11 00	Metiskow	8 00
Cluny	19 75	Maple Leaf	26 00
Donalda	34 00	Millet	10 00
Daysland	29 25	Mizpah	19 00
Dinton	17 00	Marwayne	17 90
D E L	15 00	Ma'haska	8 00
Elnora	23 00	McHendry	13 00
Elk Point	35 00	Neutral Valley	15 00
Ever Ready	12 00	New West	10 00
Enilda	13 75	New Dayton	34 85
Erskine	23 00	Olds	12 00
Edmonton	35 00	Ohaton	18 00
Eastway	12 00	Picardville	24 00
Endiang	17 00	Penhold	16 00
Eckville	13 75	Prairie Circle	21 75
Eagle Hill	15 03	Patricia	23 00
Enterprize	20 00	Provost	26 85
Ensign	16 85	Peace River	20 00
Foremost	11 50	Queenstown	25 00
Flat Lake	12 00	Rainier	17 00
Falun	20 05	Rose Willow	10 00
Fairview	24 75	Raymond	21 00
Grande Prairie	27 50	Rush Centre	12 00
Gadsby	33 00	Rugby	22 00



Springvale .....	15.00	Sentinel Hill .....	18.00
Sibbald .....	15.00	Thigh Hill .....	16.85
Silver Heights .....	8.00	United Prairie .....	24.00
Scollard .....	18.00	Veteran .....	17.00
Streamstown .....	14.00	Vermilion .....	13.85
Sexsmith .....	32.00	Vulcan .....	16.00
Stettler .....	41.00	Warner .....	25.00
Starline .....	18.00	Wooddale .....	34.00
Stoneyhurst .....	25.00	Wembley .....	18.00
Sunshine .....	18.75	Wetaskiwin .....	26.00
Spring Coulee .....	18.00	Winterburn .....	19.00
Strathmore .....	18.00	Willing Workers .....	12.75
Shepard .....	28.00	Westward Ho .....	12.00
Sylvan Lake .....	16.90	Watt Lake .....	11.00
Stony Plain .....	20.00	Walsh .....	18.00
Standoff .....	38.00	Wainwright .....	30.00
Springburn .....	12.00	Weisonford .....	12.00
Siebertville .....	18.00	Westlock .....	10.00
		Youngstown .....	30.00

NOTE:—The following Institutes have paid to the Provincial Fund since my books were closed on April 30th and will appear in next year's audit:

Diamond .....	\$17.85	Carstairs .....	24.00
Three Hills .....	15.00	Cherhill .....	10.75
Cowley .....	8.90	Edson .....	30.00
Hughenden Village .....	9.65	Vegreville .....	18.00
Drumheller .....	50.00	Strome .....	8.00
Taber .....	27.50	Burnt Lake .....	8.00
Nilrem .....	16.00	Manola .....	11.75
Nightingale .....	13.75	Acadia .....	10.00
Kitscoty .....	10.00	Mirror .....	41.75
		Fort Saskatchewan .....	37.00

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

**Mrs. H. J. Montgomery, Wetaskiwin**

Last night we opened our Seventeenth Annual Convention in this pleasant setting, enjoyed beautiful music given by some of the city's leading artists, and listened to addresses of welcome from the honorable gentlemen who hold the highest offices our province affords. Our Edmonton Women's Institute also added its welcome through their President, Mrs. Nye, and before the convention closes we will have several evidences of this hospitality and be given opportunities to enjoy it.

This morning we don our working clothes, roll up our sleeves as it were, and proceed to the real work of the convention.

Since we have been under our own autonomy, this, the session in which we deal with our future policy, has greatly increased in its importance.

Your Council has done its best during the tenure of its office to further the work and conserve the funds. In a measure it has been successful for we find it has cost a little less to finance the organization this last year than it did the year before. It will be necessary however to still make some drastic changes in our policy in order that we may live within our means.

According to the agreement made in 1928 our Government grant is growing smaller and next year will see its final payment.

Mrs. Regan will report that \$1422.15 was taken from the Trust Fund and placed in the general account. This will show that we lack this amount of having lived on our income, or in other words that we have not been self-sustaining.

It may seem strange but it is the older Institutes in most cases that are finding it hard to finance themselves. The newer ones apparently have little trouble.

From reports received during the year, I find twenty-one gave to Wood's Christian Home, forty to the Red Cross, nineteen to the Salvation Army, two or three to Beulah Home, and one to Armenian Relief. These are all worthy causes but in these times there is danger of leaving our own funds short if we continue to distribute our earnings in this manner.

It would be well if at the beginning of the year every branch would make out a budget of all its obligations and needs. In this way the danger of over-spending will be greatly lessened.

While our financial situation requires serious thought and careful management, I do not think our women should be disheartened. What we need is plenty of courage, hope, patience and faith mixed with a generous amount of common sense.

We cannot all understand Milton's "Paradise Lost" or "Paradise Regained," but we can understand the blind poet sitting down to write and saying:

"I argue not  
Against heaven's hand or will, nor bate a jot  
Of heart or hope, but still bear up and steer  
Right onward."

Many of the constituencies are holding fine and well attended conferences. This is comparatively easy when there are a number of Institutes, but not so easy in the constituency with only a few branches. These can have good conferences if the members co-operate with the Constituency Convener in arousing enthusiasm and making an effort to have a good attendance. Good conferences and also good meetings with interesting programs can be had without the outlay of much if any money. It takes time and thought, but what worth while does not?

Before another Convention there will no doubt be District Conferences held in all the Districts. I hope that Districts I. and III. will make an effort to strengthen theirs and that the Directors will have the co-operation of all Constituency Conveners and members in making them a success.

Reports show 253 Institutes reporting and I hope those who are here will urge upon their secretaries the need for reporting regularly and for marking the attendance in the little space allowed for it. It is not possible to tell the number who attended meetings during the year owing to some of the reports not stating it, but 26,675 members have been reported as attending and 1657 visitors.

It was my privilege to visit six Constituency Conferences with Mrs. Alcock last summer, two with Mrs. Ferguson, six with Mrs. Short and three with Mrs. Roberts. I also attended the District Conference at Fairview in July and the one in Lethbridge in March.

In the fall I attended a conference in Edmonton with representatives from the I.O.D.E. and U.F.W.A., called by Doctor Bow, the Deputy Minister of Health. Here arrangements were made to have Doctor Margaret Owen give lectures on Sex Hygiene at over fifty points in the province. Our women deserve credit for co-operating and making local arrangements for holding these.

In December I also attended a Library Conference which was held in the Senate Chamber of this building and presided over by Mr. Cameron, librarian of the University. A Library Association was formed of which more will be heard when Mr. Cameron speaks to you on Friday morning.

In January I carried the greetings of this organization to the convention of the U.F.W.A. in session in Calgary, and at the invitation of the principal attended the closing exercises at the School of Agriculture in Vermilion late in March. I have also been asked to be a member of the Advisory Committee to the Home-Makers Hour broadcast over CKUA which will meet next Saturday morning.

During the year we have been called upon to part with four faithful officers of the Women's Institutes whose removal by death has cast a gloom over the district in which they resided. Mrs. Greenway, a former Constituency Convener of Taber, and Provincial Convener of Child Welfare and Public Health; Mrs. Bessie Eaton, President of Griffin Creek; Mrs. Palmer, President of Cluny, and Mrs. Goundry, Secretary of Ohaton. To their relatives and friends we extend our deepest sympathy.

I here express my sincere appreciation to the members of the Council who at all times have given me their hearty support. I wish especially to mention the kindness of Mrs. Roberts, Mrs. Short and Mrs. Ferguson who by taking me in their cars have saved railway fares, thus enabling me to visit more Conferences; also to the ladies in the south who arranged pleasant little motor trips for our enjoyment, and gave me the opportunity of viewing some of the south's beauty spots. I also wish to express my appreciation to Mrs. Regan and Mrs. Price for the many courtesies they have shown me. My thanks are also due to the Chairmen of Standing Committees and Constituency Conveners for their splendid work and loyal support, to the Secretaries for their reports and little personal notes some times enclosed, and to every member of the Alberta Women's Institutes. To one and all I say thank you and may prosperity and health be yours in the near future and throughout time.

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### PUBLICITY SECRETARY'S REPORT

Elizabeth Bailey Price, Calgary

Again it is my pleasure to report the yearly publicity activities of the Alberta Women's Institutes. In these days when we hear depression talked on every side, I am pleased to record that the publicity of the Alberta Women's Institutes flourishes as never before. This material comes pouring in to me, eight and ten letters a day; I feel like a dressmaker who has to make a dress and hasn't enough material. I haven't enough space to keep up to the reports. It requires the utmost ingenuity to cut my news copy—such as using initials for names, etc., and all year I have been supplying an extra sheet of it weekly. Even with this I get behind at Convention and Conference times, so don't be impatient if your news reports that you have sent in so faithfully are late at these particular times.

The papers too have not as yet murmured on the increase of copy. Sometimes I wonder if we fully appreciate the amount of space given us by the newspapers of Alberta. In the past twelve years of our work, we have given to the reading public of this province what is equal in length to fifteen average sized books. There is no organization that gets the publicity that we do and let us hope and pray that in these days of retrenchment the newspapers will not cease to finance this department of our work. Let me explain.

#### Financing the Department

Three newspapers, the Calgary Herald, Edmonton Journal and Lethbridge Herald pay for every expense connected with our publicity, cuts from photographs (and these are very expensive), paper, the larger part of the postage and a person to run it. The reports do not appear regularly in the daily issues of the Calgary Herald and Edmonton Journal, but only as space permits. They do in the weeklies, the Alberta Farmer and Alberta Farm Journal. They also appear daily in the Lethbridge Herald.

They are apportioned as follows:

Alberta Farmer—Published every Thursday, takes news of the whole province.

Alberta Farm Journal—Published every Wednesday, news north of Calgary.

Lethbridge Herald—News appears every Saturday, covers country south from Calgary.

In return for a total revenue of \$47.50 per month the newspapers expect me to prepare news copy for each week, one and a half to three columns. They expect this copy to be in on a set time, just as the copy from any other member of their staffs. The newspapers realize the commercial value of our news as subscription getters or they would not run it. They, too, are receiving a bargain in the buying of it, for they get it at approximately half the price of their regular space rates.

The preparing of this copy is equal to writing of two full length novels a year, if it only appeared in one paper. Of course it means hours of work filing, writing it in triplicate form and editing it. It means, if one keeps in touch with the work constantly, the attending of the District Conferences, Annual Convention and Council Meetings.

From the monthly revenue of \$47.50 I buy all the paper, envelopes, carbon paper, stamps and provide the typewriter with all its attendant expenses, so its net remuneration at the most is about \$40.00 per month.

In addition to the regular work I also furnish the odd article for the Farm and Ranch Review, the Canadian Press and to the W. I. papers of other provinces. It entails a huge correspondence, an average of five letters each week.

#### Pictorial Viewpoint

If I were to suggest a publicity slogan for the Alberta Women's Institutes this year it would be "Get the Pictorial Viewpoint." As you know there is a terrific sameness about our news—it is as you all say "those monotonous reports" which you read and I write. Each year I need material for 52 leaders for our columns—so delegates take out your note books and take this message back from your Provincial Publicity Secretary:

1. Look over your activities from a pictorial viewpoint and send me a story and picture of your rest rooms, play grounds, beautified cemeteries, rinks, etc.

2. Take back the slogan that "Names are News"—and names with husband's initials. I had to write 50 letters to get the lists of officers at annual meetings—don't say "A member gave a paper" or "The President gave a report," give their names.

3. Avoid general statements such as "Mrs. Brown gave a paper on Agriculture." Pick briefly the main points of that paper. Let me illustrate:

Agriculture Meeting—Mr. L. Evans, High School Principal, gave a talk at the March meeting of the Minburn W.I. on the "Cultivation and Propagation of Perennials and Flowering Shrubs." He said, "Perennials are expensive to buy but with a little care, they can be grown from seed. Some of the hardy varieties suited to Alberta are, delphinium, iris, peony, hollyhocks, scarlet lightning, baby's breath, blue flax, iceland poppy, oriental poppy, bleeding heart, yellow daisy, sweet william, shirley poppy, and the shrubs are: honeysuckle, white and red, spirea and lilac."

4. Read over the finished publicity in the newspapers.

5. Tell secretaries to read publicity "Do's and Don'ts" in the Annual Report.

#### **Publicity Programme**

This year I believe each Provincial Convener is to be asked to outline a programme of her particular work for a meeting. I would suggest:

1. Get your local editor to give you a talk on "The Power of the Press to Hinder or Help Reform." This will serve two purposes—you will get his sympathy and interest in your work and he will reward you very materially with space. You will learn much from him too. If you are in a place where you cannot get in touch easily with your nearest editor, Mr. John Wodell, editor of the Alberta Farmer, care of the Calgary Herald, has written a paper on this subject and will be glad to supply it.

2. I will also endeavor to prepare two "thumb nail" sketches on "Janey Canuck." Mrs. Arthur Murphy of Edmonton, the first president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada, prominent journalist and author; and Mrs. Laura Rose Stephens of Ottawa, prominent W. I. worker and lecturer and author of books and pamphlets on agricultural subjects.

In closing I ask your co-operation in getting your reports in faithfully and on time—your indulgence for delays and misprints, and I thank you one and all for your steady and hearty support in the publicity work of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

#### **PUBLICITY "DO'S" AND "DON'TS"**

Following is a set of directions in preparing reports for newspapers:

1. Write plainly, and in case of names, where typewriter is not used, print them.
2. In using names, use "Miss" or "Mrs." with initials. In case of "Mrs." use husband's initials, as that is the name known in the community.
3. Make copy brief as possible, to the point, writing as you would tell the story of the meeting to one who was not there.



4. Write the most important thing first.
5. Study good newspapers for style; compare printed articles with what you have written and keep a scrap book of your clippings.
6. Get personally acquainted with your local editors. Find out what they want and give it to them.
7. Do not send special Women's Institute stories to the three papers which publish our news regularly. Please send them to me, then our work is not duplicated and these papers do not waste space.
8. The earlier your report is in the better your local editor will be pleased, and the earlier you send them to me, the earlier they will appear.
9. Above all, be accurate.
10. Do not send a blank sheet. Surely you did something when you met.
11. Don't put "Regular business done." Tell what it was.
12. Don't refer to "One of the members spoke," or "The President gave an address," or "We appointed a delegate to the Convention," or "We presented the secretary," or "We had a reception for a member leaving the district." In each case tell the names of members.

#### **Publicity Material**

As the majority of our stories concern the following subjects, I am giving a few headings for reference.

**COMMUNITY HALLS:** Tell cost, how money was raised, a description of hall, number of rooms, kitchen, stage, furnishings, etc., and send picture.

**PRESENTATIONS TO MEMBERS:** Names of members, gift, details of work done by her, where going.

**CLEAN-UP DAY:** Describe campaign, what you intend doing, plan of work, prizes offered and results.

**CEMETERY WORK:** Buying site, its cost, location and plans for beautifying.

**HOT LUNCH STORY:** Number of children served, menu, equipment, cost and benefit.

**DEBATES:** Name of subject, names of those who took part and the winners.

**BAZAARS AND SALES:** Above all, mention the amount raised and how it is to be expended.

**ANNIVERSARIES:** Programmes and the number of the anniversary.

**SWIMMING POOLS AND RINKS:** Cost, how money was raised, how they are enjoyed, and pictures.

**GIRLS' CLUB CAMPS:** Description of camps, preparations, location, division of work and pictures.

**BABY CLINICS:** Number of babies examined, names of doctors and nurses, general description, any concrete cases of benefit. Pictures of any special prize winning babies or clinic in operation.

**RESOLUTIONS:** Report discussion concerning these.

**SCHOOL FAIRS:** Where held, cost, special prizes, general description, and pictures.

**PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT:** Descriptions of it, cost, and pictures of the children enjoying same.

**RELIEF WORK:** Story and picture of any child helped, cost of same, how money was raised.

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### REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 1.

**Mrs. W. R. Roberts, Sexsmith, Director.**

In District No. 1 there are three Constituencies.

Grouard, with Mrs. F. Gedye, Enilda, Convener, has four branches, Big Meadow, Enilda, High Prairie and McLennan, with a total membership of 60. During the year they have raised \$1,270.60 by dances, concerts, raffles, teas, etc. The conference held in McLennan was well attended and all but one branch was represented. High Prairie branch is working hard in the support of their hospital; the other branches have community halls as their main objective.

The Peace River Constituency, Mrs. Upton, Berwyn, Convener, comprises eight branches, namely, Peace River, Berwyn, Griffin Creek, Kerndale, White-law, Fairview, Erin Lodge and a newly organized branch at Hines Creek. The total membership is 154. During the past year, Peace River, Berwyn and Fairview have been active in supporting their local hospitals. Programs of branches show a study of W.I. work along the lines suggested by the Conveners of Standing Committees and all branches have done a great deal of relief work among needy families. The conference was held in July at Berwyn with an attendance of 35 and all branches represented.

Grande Prairie Constituency, Mrs. Gillespie, Valhalla, Convener, has twelve branches, Grande Prairie, Wembley, Sexsmith, Rio Grande, Hualien, Valhalla, Hermit Lake, Beaverlodge, McHendry, Millarston, East Glen and Belloy. Flying Shot and Equity have disbanded but East Glen has been organized in the district east of Grande Prairie with an enrolment of 17 members at their opening meeting. This district also plans a Girls' Club. Belloy has reorganized after being dormant for some time. At the conference held in Sexsmith, 100 were in attendance. All branches were represented and gave most encouraging reports of activities in hospital, welfare work, school and community activities.

Baby Clinics and Home Nursing lectures were held throughout the entire district.

In July, the first district conference was held at Fairview. The weather was more kind this year than last and Mrs. Montgomery was able to get a more favorable impression of the north. Unfortunately for us, we clashed in date with the Chataqua and the New Outlook special train so that the attendance was very small. But we were not discouraged and planned a second conference this year. However, with the existing economic conditions, it has been decided to cancel this until finances are better.

Much better reports have been received this year from the branches and I must thank the Conveners and officers who, undaunted by the stress of the present depression, have upheld the highest ideals of the W.I. and contributed so much to the success of the work in the district.

While Mrs. Montgomery and myself were on a little trip to Fort St. John, B.C., we detoured to make an informal call on some of the members of the Institutes in the B. C. block and invited them to our conference. We regret they were unable to attend but, since that time, the B. C. Government has sent an organizer into that country and they held a conference of their own. I am sure we wish them all success for the future.

## REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 2.

**Mrs. W. C. Short, Edmonton, Director.**

As Director of District No. 2, I beg to submit the following report. There are 50 Institutes located in nine Constituency groups, with a membership of approximately 1010. During the year some have disbanded, but others have been organized to take their place, so that the number of Institutes is one less than last year.

Each Constituency held a Conference last fall; at each good reports were given, showing that the Institutes are doing good work, but one cannot help feeling that the general depression is having its effect on the branches, and necessitating a good deal of relief work.

In looking over the Conveners' reports I find in some a good deal of information which rightly belongs to the Conveners of Standing Committees, and I trust that they too have received an account of this work.

I was delighted to have with me at six of my Conferences, our Provincial President, Mrs. Montgomery. At each one she was warmly welcomed, gave an educational and inspiring address, and delighted everyone with her message of song.

The women are to be congratulated on the class of entertainment given at these Conferences, and the delicious meals served.

The boundaries of the Lac Ste. Anne Constituency have been changed—all west of and including Evansburg are now in Edson Constituency, and all east of Evansburg in Stony Plain Constituency.

The Conveners have been very faithful and energetic and have visited most of the branches. I would like to suggest that they report every three months to the District Director.

For the fourth year we are donating the \$50.00 scholarship for general proficiency to a first year girl at the Vermilion School of Agriculture. This year the lucky girl is Miss Edith M. Hutchinson of Duhamel. This is one of the most sought after prizes at the school, and I trust we will be able to continue it.

You will remember last year it was decided that District No. 2 be responsible for the Wild Roses made by the Junior Red Cross for our Canadian National exhibit in Toronto. We had fifty sprays made at a cost of 15 cents each, or a total of \$7.50. At each Conference a collection was taken, and a total of \$21.95 received. The postage on the roses was 25 cents, and the balance of \$21.70 was given to the Junior Red Cross.

The following are the nine Constituency groups with the names of the branches in each, also the name of Convenir:



Alexandra, Vermilion and Vegreville—Mrs. W. A. Brown, Paradise Valley, Convener, has seven branches—Vegreville, Minburn, Vermilion, Kitscoty, Marwayne, Streamstown and Paradise Valley.

Camrose Constituency—Mrs. A. L. Walker, Round Hill, Convener, has eight branches—Bashaw, Donalda, Ohaton, Albury, Daysland, Round Hill, Ryley and Camrose.

Edmonton, Victoria and Sturgeon—Mrs. E. A. Vesey, Glendon P.O., Convener, has nine branches—Beaver River, Boyle, Bon Accord, Edmonton, Flat Lake, Fort Saskatchewan, Pine Creek, Warspite and a new one, Elk Point.

Edson Constituency—Mrs. R. E. Thurber, Edson, Convener, has six branches—Jasper, Edson, Mountain Park, Peers, Mahaska and Carrot Creek.

Las Ste. Anne—Mrs. W. J. Stromquist, Cherhill, Convener, has three branches—Mayerthorpe, Cherhill and Onoway.

Leduc Constituency—Mrs. H. A. Fulcher, Millet, Convener, has four branches—Conjuring Creek, Rainier, Wiesenford, and a new one, Spruce Corner. Wizard Lake disbanded during the year.

Pembina Constituency—Mrs. W. R. Fulton, Alcondale, Convener, has five branches—Westlock, Independence, Manola, Busby and Picardville. Barrhead disbanded, but before doing so used their money to buy cots for the Barrhead Hospital; each cot bears "W.I." initials.

Stony Plain Constituency—Mrs. R. E. Wood, Stony Plain, Convener, has five branches—Stony Plain, Winterburn, Tomahawk, Duffield and Wabamun, a new branch just organized.

Wainwright Constituency—Mrs. A. O. Lavell, Convener, has three branches—Irma, Wainwright and Rose Willow. Edgerton, I regret to say, has disbanded for the time being, and become a Community Club.

The branches in the Camrose Constituency have as their slogan this year:

"What kind of an Institute would our Institute be  
If all the members were just like me?"

Each member can very well ask herself this question, but let us trust that her attitude towards her Institute will be one of helpfulness and sympathy.

Let us think of the Institutes in Alberta as one large family and realize that each branch has an important place to fill and must work for the good of the whole.

### REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 3

Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu, Director.

It is with pleasure that I present to you my second report as Director of District No. 3. Though 1930 was not very kind to our district in material things our spirit has not been broken, but rather has been uplifted to endeavor to do even better in time of depression than we did when prosperity favored us.

Before going into my report I desire to thank all the Constituency Conveners who have so ably carried on the work and who engendered such fine ideals in the minds of the members in our branches. I particularly desire to express my appreciation of the splendid manner in which these Conveners replied to the questionnaire I sent out early in the year. I know that securing the desired information must have caused you no little inconvenience and I appreciate very deeply the care and trouble you spent on securing it for me.

In District No. 3 there are 14 constituencies with a total of 101 Institutes having an aggregate membership of 2016. During 1930 these Institutes raised \$16,300.00 which was used for various purposes, chief of which seems to have been in relieving cases of want and distress, caring for cemeteries, assisting hospitals, maintaining community halls, advancing educational facilities in the local district.

I shall not go into the details of the programs undertaken by the Institutes in the district but from the reports I note an increasing number of informative and educative topics being studied and discussed. In this way our women are becoming well informed on the outstanding questions which are confronting us at the present time.

During the early fall each Constituency held a conference presided over by the Constituency Convener. I desire to congratulate these Conveners on the splendid manner in which these Conferences were conducted. In many Constituencies there was a hundred per cent representation from the branches. This I think is very fine and is indicative of the keen interest in Institute work which has been awakened in the women of the province. At these Conferences very excellent reports were given of the fine work being done by the individual Institutes. In addition to the reports many noteworthy addresses by specialists in their line were given which I am sure must have been inspiration to those who heard them.

Not a small part of the enjoyment of these Conferences has been the sumptuous banquets provided by the home Institute during the lunch hour. Now we all enjoy a good dinner served in the fine manner in which only Institute women can serve it but it has always seemed to me to be somewhat unfair that the members of one Institute should be deprived of the benefit of the Conference on account of having to provide for the comfort of the others. It has often occurred to me it would lighten the load of the hostess Institute at our Conferences if the lunch could be arranged somehow after the manner of a picnic. I would like to throw this out as a suggestion for the 1931 Conferences.

I am not in a position to report the names of winners of the Scholarships offered by our District at the Olds Agriculture School but I do desire to thank the Institutes for the response they have made in providing the amount required to give these prizes. The full \$100.00 has now been received for this year. I might just at this point remind you that we offered these scholarships for two years so you will kindly keep this in mind in planning your budget for 1932.

Before closing my report I wish to express my gratitude to all those Institute women who have made my term of office so pleasant and enjoyable. When visiting the Constituency Conferences I grew to know many of you very well and have formed friendships which I know shall last for many years to come. I hope that even if 1931 is no richer in material gifts than 1930 you will still maintain that spirit of optimism you have displayed in the past, and that your achievements may be even greater in the future.

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#### REPORT OF DISTRICT NO. 4

Mrs. F. C. Alcock, Champion, Director

In giving my report of the Southern District, I cannot speak too highly of the women in the south of Alberta. They have most thoroughly grasped

the many phases of the Women's Institute work, and have accomplished very much indeed, brightening the lives of others in their homes, in their communities, and in religious outlook on life. They have helped the educational as well as the social side by trying to Canadianize the foreign elements in the rural districts (and they seem to predominate in the south) to a great extent, and it is wonderful what has been done in brightening and caring for cemeteries, planting trees and caring for them after they are planted, which is a great item. It is certainly becoming a Sunshine trail in earnest.

We have some very good earnest, energetic workers in our Girls' Clubs, and they are doing good work, and all W.I. members should help them all they can, as we hope they will be our future W.I. workers.

I am very proud of the Constituency Conveners in Southern Alberta, and only those attending the Southern District Conference can realize the work that has been done, by hearing the reports from the Constituencies. You will, I know, understand how I regret that my term of office is ended, but hope my successor will carry on and get as much happiness and pleasure out of the work as I have done. In 1921 I went to my first Provincial Convention as official delegate, in 1922 I was elected Constituency Convenir, which office I held until I was elected District Director in 1927, re-elected in 1929, and have attended 69 conferences and conventions without having to miss one through ill health, which is, I think, a great deal to be thankful for.

In my District I have 11 Constituencies, viz.:

Warner—Constituency Convenir, Mrs. J. A. Campbell, Milk River; has six branches, 179 members and have raised \$1902.99.

Cardston—Convenir, Mrs. Stuty, Cardston; four branches, 72 members; have raised \$602.15.

Bow Valley—Convenir, Mrs. Bell, Hussar; six branches, 147 members; have raised \$2216.65.

Macleod—Convenir, Mrs. Greenwood, Macleod; four branches, 107 members; have raised \$950.60.

Pincher Creek and Rocky Mountain—Convenir, Mrs. Blanchard, Burmis; four branches, 51 members; have raised \$729.75.

Gleichen—Convenir, Mrs. D. Clark, Cluny; nine branches, 210 members; have raised \$1775.28.

Redcliff—Convenir, Mrs. Brassard, Atlee; four branches, 49 members; have raised \$387.95.

Medicine Hat—Convenir, Mrs. Taylor, Bow Island; six branches, 74 members; have raised \$1675.87.

Calgary and Okotoks—Convenir, Mrs. F. G. Grevett, Calgary; eight branches, 177 members; have raised \$2024.20.

Taber—Convenir, Mrs. M. L. Thompson, Coaldale; twelve branches, 300 members; have raised \$3000.00.

Little Bow—Convenir, Mrs. A. T. Martin, Vulcan; 18 branches, 350 members; have raised \$4000.00.

Making a total of 81 branches with 1694 members, raising \$18,693.44.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all those who have been so kind to me, and some friendships I have made I hope will be life-long. The time I have given gladly, and as God has helped me in my work, so I trust He will help my successor. Though we are not sectarian, we cannot expect our efforts to prosper without asking His help and support.

"A loving thought, a deed of kindness done,  
A burden lifted, or a song begun,  
Such trifles that we give, not praise or blame,  
But 'Fragments' that make an everlasting name."

## REPORT ON EDUCATION AND BETTER SCHOOLS

**Mrs. G. M. Gibson, Drumheller, Convener.**

A brief survey of Education in Alberta reveals the fact that much progress has been made in this department during the last few years; this is particularly true in the rural schools. Our young people, especially in the rural district, are showing a much greater desire to stay longer at school and so obtain some form of higher education; this is shown by the fact that last year the Grade VIII. examination was written at 1804 rural centres as compared with only 886 nine years ago. Rural schools are now operating a much greater period of time during the year than formerly—ninety-three per cent of them operated one hundred and sixty more days during last year as against only sixty-nine, nine years ago.

This much to be desired improvement is attributed largely to the equalization of government grants to school districts which came in force in 1926. The Minister of Education considers this the most important piece of educational legislation passed during his administration of the department, as it enables many poverty-stricken school districts to take a new lease of life. Another development of rural education has been the establishment of public school correspondence courses for children in outlying districts. This was organized primarily for children in unorganized territory, but now the courses are used by physically disabled children, pupils of schools only able to operate a few months in the year, and for some adults whose early education has been neglected. Fifteen hundred have already received instruction this way, and last year sixteen wrote Grade VIII., all of whom were successful. This service deserves the appreciation it receives from parents and children. There is no charge for the lessons.

Thirteen rural high schools have been established, comprising pupils from sixty-two districts. This is a new departure and an attempt to solve the problem of secondary education in the rural districts. Though only in the experimental stage, it has proved satisfactory so far.

Unfortunately present conditions in the educational world, seen from the teachers point of view, are not very satisfactory, with some two hundred or more of them out of employment. At a recent meeting of the teachers held in Edmonton, resolutions were drafted asking that legislation be passed to help remedy this condition. Some of the resolutions were as follows:

That Grade XII. standing be required from all teachers;

That government grants to Normal students be discontinued;

That the Normal term should be increased to two years;

That teachers out of the profession for more than five years should be compelled to take a "refresher" course before they would be able to teach again.

This last request, I feel we as mothers and Institute women should be ready to endorse, because methods of teaching and ideas and ideals of education are changing so rapidly to meet changing conditions that our children are going to be very much the losers if their teacher is not up-to-date in her training. No doubt conditions will gradually right themselves in this sphere as in others, whatever action may be taken.

A new conception of education seems to be gradually emerging in the minds of teachers and parents alike, namely that education is not learning so much of this subject and so much of that, but should be a real preparation for life and should furnish the child with what is necessary to enable him to make the most out of life, and that in the final analysis success depends on character. No matter how intelligent or skilled a person may be, he will not be successful if he has not developed habits which will make him a useful and respected citizen in the community in which he lives. Someone has said, "The school is filling its rightful place if it develops in its pupils an attitude which makes them desire to choose the right way, which will not harm themselves or others." If it promotes in them that co-operation and team-work which is so vital to modern living. If it instills into them a responsibility to themselves and others. If it holds up to them the ideals of justice, fair play and sportsmanship, and if it furnishes to them the desire and the tools by which they can tap that great storehouse of human knowledge which is to be found in books.

Now a word as to our year's work in this department of education and better schools. I was much pleased with the reports which came to me from the different Institutes this year. They showed that our members were thinking seriously and progressively on this subject as well as doing everything possible to further its interests in their community.

From one convener a plea for more music in our schools. "We have too much of the practical but not enough of the other side that helps us to lift ourselves out and above such depressions as we are going through," she states. Another feels the need of more technical training in our schools, and many Institutes are protesting against too much homework, especially the endless copying of notes which is making, in the words of one of the Conveners, "atrocious writers"—getting worse from Grade III. up. A round table discussion on magazines and periodicals was reported, noting the trashy ones and their injurious effect on children when brought into the home. What pleased and encouraged me most, however, was the growing spirit of co-operation between home and school. It breathed in almost every report. One Institute reports, "we have tried, and in a large measure secured, co-operation between home, school and Institute." Another reports entertaining a teacher and discussing with her such problems as homework, grouping of Grades VII. and VIII., the late pupil, etc. Another reports a paper being read on co-operation between parents and teacher, deploring the effect on the child of thoughtless criticism of the teacher by the parents in his hearing, and suggesting that when your child comes home reporting trouble at school that you go and talk to the teacher about it, instead of to everyone else in the district. It very likely was a misunderstanding on the part of your child and can quite easily be cleared up. Another naively remarks, "Instead of always asking 'do you like the teacher?' why don't you sometimes ask, 'I wonder if the teacher likes us and is she happy with us?'" Still another speaks of the responsibility of the community to secure a suitable boarding place for the teacher. Another stresses the importance of training your child in manners and morals, as a preparation for schools, and advocates that parents take a greater interest in their children's progress at school, and



if it is not satisfactory, advocates having a quiet talk with the teacher over it instead of proclaiming to the district that she is no good because your children are not making progress.

Now for the other side of the picture. Many Institutes report their teachers being so helpful in the Institute and community and one particularly speaks of their principal's wife giving them a fine paper, and adds the little note, "Her home is always open to the senior pupils for advice and help as well as for glee club practise." Doesn't that foreshadow ideal conditions when we make such co-operation universal.

Now a word as to our activities. We made glad the hearts of the children again with the usual number of Christmas entertainments, valentine parties, picnics, etc., accompanied by tons of ice cream. Who can estimate the value of these good times we give the children, providing sweet memories of childhood, happy pictures to hang on memory's wall. We did our part again in making the schools attractive, both inside and out, providing pictures, books, pianos, good magazines, new desks, gas lamps, dishes, planting trees and window boxes and arranging for cinder walks and sport equipment. This must mean much especially to the child who comes from the poorer type of home, thus to come in contact with beauty and culture. It will unconsciously raise his standard and he in turn will endeavor to raise the standard of his home as he has the opportunity. We paid much attention to the health of the children during the year—making the schools sanitary, providing good drinking water, hot lunches, first-aid kits, thermometers, soap, towels, toilet paper, saw that the out-buildings were kept in a sanitary condition, had medical clinics by local doctors, had children immunized against contagious diseases, encouraged the making of health posters and writing of health essays. The Junior Red Cross was organized in some schools.

It seems to me that we gave more prizes than ever before this year. I don't know where the money came from, and for everything from obtaining the highest marks on the departmental examinations to gopher tails. Some of these prizes intrigued me. One was a watermelon, given to a school as a prize, and my, how they enjoyed it, the convener said. Then there were thermos flasks, snap albums and books.

We continued our support to the school fairs by offering many prizes and furnishing workers to get the exhibits ready. One school had an outstanding exhibit of school work at one of the fairs, and another a fine exhibit of health posters and books. A good suggestion comes from some source, that public speaking, singing and athletic contests should be held in connection with the school fairs. Oratorical contests have been sponsored, and where the effects of the depression has been felt worst, children have been supplied with shoes, stockings and clothing, as well as books, so that they might be able to attend school. In some cases the examination fees of children were paid. I was glad that among so many unselfish and varied activities our women had a little time left to develop their own souls. We find them enjoying good papers on worth while subjects. One Institute had a unique and pleasant way of studying geography which I recommend to you. They had a world cruise, visiting a country a month, a paper being given on the country, its people, customs and industries, the hostess serving refreshments typical of the country and dressing in the costume if possible.

I desire to express my gratitude to the Conveners and all from whom I received information to assist in preparing this report.



## OUTLINE

**Standing Committee on Education and Better Schools, 1931-32.**

- A. For the mothers of pre-school age children, I would suggest:
- I. That they endeavor to get more joy out of their association with their children by teaching them habits of obedience, promptness, honesty, bravery, unselfishness, fair-play, honorable dealings with others, consideration, etc., by:
- (1) Reading to them from Bible Stories, Mother Goose Rhymes, Fables, Animal Stories, Old Greek Heroes, etc. Children respond so readily to the story method of discipline.
  - (2) Playing games with them—even if there is only one child, make believe that you are a child, too. Use old fashioned games, such as our mothers used to play; no better games have been produced. "Hide the thimble," "Jolly is the miller," etc. In these games, check tactfully any tendency to cheat or to take unfair advantage. The principles of right living taught throughout the first six years of a child's life, are the foundation rock upon which the child's character is built, and the responsibility rests mostly with us mothers.
- II. That children be taught to memorize beautiful bits of poetry and to re-tell stories that they have heard. Plan little afternoon programmes in which they may do the entertaining; several mothers who are interested in this kind of child developing can get together with these programmes. The children can be helped to dramatize some of their stories; they love to "dress up" and "act."
- III. That every child be taught to help in the marketing for the home; to run errands and to deliver messages accurately. From an early age, children can be taught to do simple purchasing for you—thread, matches, yeast cakes; such things as do not require too much judgment in the selection; and they can be taught to handle money and get correct change. As a rule, children develop much independence of character through being trusted to help in this way. The errands may be to bring a hoe or rake from the barn, hunting the eggs and keeping careful count of the numbers found—errands simple yet fostering a sturdy capability for assuming responsibility. Delivering messages is very important as the power to listen to a message and to repeat it accurately is invaluable; and a child thus taught is a wonderful help to its parents, and is laying a foundation of attentiveness and reliability that will be most useful in actual school work.
- B. For the mothers of older children. I herewith suggest that more careful attention be given to the reading material which falls into their hands. Our Federal Government has seen fit to tax many magazines—and if mothers would put the stamp of their disapproval upon the questionable ones (The True Story or Cosmopolitan, for example) they would be helping to safeguard the minds of their children that they might the better absorb the studies set before them by our curriculum. If we are to preserve the purity of the English language, we should pay more attention to the so-called "Funnies," the most popular section of the papers—the English as well as the moral teachings of many are atrocious.
- C. For the Institutes, I respectfully suggest:
- (1) That we study the New School Act carefully. The changes may or may not prove to be beneficial. Let us compare and study the results of the change.

- (2) That we take particular note of the effect of the new system of marking the examination papers. Let us get the actual number of passes in our own districts, and note whether the number of passes obtained is larger and the percentages are much higher than usual under the former system. Let us watch these for several years, and also let us watch the attitude of students in those grades compared with that of students in the grades marked by the Department of Education. This is a tremendous innovation; let us give our most careful attention to its effect, and let us decide whether we can endorse economy such as this in our schools, as being for their betterment.
- (3) That we continue health study through Red Cross Societies, through posters, health rhymes, etc., and let us make careful study of the effect of cigarette smoking upon our young girls; (1) in the increase of tuberculosis among them; (2) and as prospective mothers.

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If the outlines of previous years have been kept, much good can be derived by consulting these as to former subjects taken up.

I shall be very glad to give any help possible to those desiring information along these lines. I shall appreciate your co-operation in sending to me copies of especially good papers along these lines, for use in other Institutes.

(MRS. E. J.) MARGARET C. BELL,

Convener of Education and Better Schools, Hussar, Alberta.

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## REPORT ON CHILD WELFARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

**Mrs. Wellington Huyck, Strome, Convener.**

It is my privilege and pleasure to again report the activities of our A.W.I. along lines of Public Health and Child Welfare. While compiling this report I was thoroughly convinced of the fact that our women fully "believe in" and "act upon" the maxim "life is not a cup to be drained, but a measure to be filled."

Of necessity (as our work does not materially change from year to year) my report this year must be similar to the one presented at last year's Convention.

### Maternal Work

In 1929, in Alberta 1310 babies died; 34% of them in the first week of life. The greatest cause of death in the early weeks of life is pre-maturity, the baby had not the growth and vitality a strong mother would have afforded. Pre-natal instruction and care is a dire necessity. Twenty-six branches report having sent out pre-natal letters and mother's books. One reports keeping on hand a maternity bag fully equipped including layette, and it is used when and where necessary throughout the township. Six other branches report furnishing layettes and one branch gives \$15.00 per month to help maternal cases.

Two branches own and operate hospitals where maternal cases receive special attention. One branch which worked hard for a cottage hospital in a district where maternal cases were suffering from want of proper care have the satisfaction of seeing the hospital an accomplished fact, where 22 maternal cases were cared for last year with 20 living babies.

Lectures and papers were given at many branch meetings on different phases of maternal welfare. One branch reports having given a \$1.00 bank account to each of eight new babies.

### **Schools**

Medical examinations were held in four schools. Drinking fountains and paper towels were supplied in several schools and in many places drinking water was analyzed. One branch reports having a committee that visits the school each month and any unsanitary or unhealthy condition found is reported to the school board. Several branches supply and maintain first aid kits in the school. Hot lunch was served in several schools and in one urban centre milk was supplied to undernourished children as well. One branch is helping to build a school kitchen. Prizes were given at school fairs for physical drill and a \$15.00 cup was given at Reid Hill fair as a health trophy; this was won by Thigh Hill school.

### **Clinics**

In one report which I received a mother of ten children has this to say: "I should like to commend the government on the Travelling Clinic; I think this is the most forward step in public health that has been taken, as it brings the service to many who otherwise could not, for financial reasons, have their children attended to. In the case of my own family, we had three children operated on at a clinic two years ago and the cost of the three was not much more than half the cost for one child undergoing the same treatment in a hospital in 1922."

Twelve branches report having sponsored the Travelling Clinics during the year and arrangements for four others had to be cancelled on account of Infantile Paralysis.

### **Baby Clinics**

Fifty-two baby clinics were held and one branch adds, "The clinic grows bigger each year, 83 babies being examined this year." In many places lunch was served to the mothers and milk supplied to the children. The largest number reported examined at a clinic was 112.

### **Other Clinics**

Four branches report having dental clinics. In one school 46% of the children had defective teeth. Three report having children inoculated against scarlet fever and three against diphtheria. Three pairs of glasses were given to children following examination at clinics.

### **Nursing Courses**

Thirty branches report having nursing courses given by a nurse from the Department and many branches report having had Dr. Owen's lecture, while others had illustrated lectures by Mr. Cook. One reports having had the illustrated lecture, "Mr. and Mrs. Microbe and all the little Microbes," a very "alive" picture I would think.

### **Addresses and Papers**

Addresses and papers have been an outstanding feature in educational work among the branches. Some of the subjects covered were, Infantile Paralysis, Value of Sunlight, Games in Relation to Mental, Moral and Physical Developments, Food, Rest and Sleep and their Relation to Mental and Physical Development of the Child, Vitamines and Their Uses.

In the outline sent last year it was asked to give special study to Tuberculosis and Sanitation, also How to Relax. The response has been splendid. Many branches report lectures, papers and round table discussions on these subjects and in many places the matter of sanitation has taken a more definite form. Some branches co-operated with their Board of Trade in a "Clean Up" campaign and others turned their attention to school sanitation.

One Convener, who is also a nurse, reports that she does a great deal of bedside nursing in her own district and never passes an opportunity to give instructions in sanitation and the value of relaxation and recreation.

One branch asks the somewhat pointed question, "What can be done about a practical nurse who charges \$3.00 per day and knows nothing of sanitation or how to care for a mother and new born infant?" I think the simplest way to deal with that is, do not employ her, but in some districts that is more easily said than done, as that same woman may be the only available help. It is a serious problem and one that affects many homes not only in Alberta but throughout Canada, and while efforts have been made in the past the problem is still unsolved.

#### **Other Work Done**

The usual donations to Red Cross, Salvation Army and Wood's Christian Home have been given. Much local relief work has been done by numerous branches. Clothing has been donated, also hampers of food where needed. One branch paid \$75.00 doctor's bill for a needy case; another branch sent an Infantile Paralysis case to the hospital in Edmonton.

#### **Conveners' Activities**

Early in the Institute year I secured a quantity of health pamphlets and literature from the Department of Health, Red Cross and other reliable sources, and when requests came for something to assist in preparing papers, lectures or demonstrations a parcel of this literature was at once mailed to person requesting same. I found this more satisfactory than the plan used last year and many parcels have been sent.

Besides taking charge of the A.W.I. Health Exhibit at the Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto, I have sent a full report of our activities to our National Convener.

#### **Conclusion**

Outstanding in Public Health interests in Canada was the convention of the British Medical Association held in Winnipeg last September which was attended by two thousand doctors, men and women. The effect of this convention upon the future of Canadian medicine cannot fail to be far-reaching and deep.

There the frank admission of the medicos left no doubt that there is as yet no certain cure for cancer, but that there is every hope in early treatment.

"Food Fads" came in for a full share of discussion and Dr. Morris Fish-bien pointed out that the trade of preying upon the food superstitions of the people is worth millions of dollars a year. He also threw in a stern warning against too drastic reducing. Dr. Robert Hutchison, a London specialist in dietetics, took part in this discussion; this is what he said: "To take no thought of what you eat or drink is wiser than to be always fussing over it. Likes and dislikes should be listened to as they are probably nature's indications of what agrees or disagrees. As to calories, our appetites were given us to tell us how much food we need and in health it is usually a trustworthy guide. Leave raw vegetables, except salads, to the herbivorous animals."

If some of our potential mothers whose breakfast consists of a cup of coffee and a cigarette would realize the importance of the advice these men gave there would be fewer babies die in the first week of life and fewer nervous breakdowns.

Lord Dawson of Penn, Physician Extraordinary to King George and to the Prince of Wales, and probably the most spectacular figure at the great convention, had this to say: "Just go quietly and surely and be moderate in all things."

Sage advice which any of us would do well to follow.

### OUTLINE

#### Standing Committee on Child Welfare and Public Health, 1931-1932.

For the years 1931-1932 let us make a special effort to have every child in Alberta, under the age of sixteen years, receive a medical health examination. By co-operating with your local doctor and school board this can be accomplished with minimum expense. At the same time assist in having every child vaccinated against smallpox, diphtheria and scarlet fever. There are so many homes, especially in the outlying districts and in districts most seriously affected by the economic depression, where the children have not been receiving sufficient nourishing food for the past two years and as a result have become fit subjects for disease.

1. When a family is found suffering for want of milk, butter, eggs and vegetables, try to have a neighbor with a surplus, "adopt" them until such time as they have plenty of their own.

2. Encourage the serving of a hot lunch in the schools.

3. I would suggest that each Institute procure a copy of Dr. Helen MacMurchy's blue book "Lowering the Maternal Death Rate," and follow the suggestions she has made.

4. Let us watch with interest the work accomplished by the health units recently established in Red Deer and High Prairie.

5. I would suggest that we continue to take advantage of the excellent services offered to us by the Department of Public Health by holding a baby clinic or procuring the services of a public health nurse to give lectures and demonstrations on home nursing, first aid, etc., and if possible have Dr. Margaret Owens address your Institute on "Hygiene."

I shall be very glad to give any help possible in organizing for medical health examinations and follow up medical and dental clinics. By taking advantage of services placed at our disposal in our own communities a great deal of good work can be accomplished.

(MRS. S. F.) ELLEN S. O'BRIEN,  
Berwyn, Alberta.

### REPORT ON LEGISLATION

Mrs. J. P. Ferguson, Trochu, Convener.

Another year of study by this Committee has rolled by and it is with much appreciation of the work done in this line by the members of the Alberta Women's Institutes that I now present this, my fourth, report to you.



In my outline last July I suggested that our women make a careful study of the problems arising out of the return of the Natural Resources of Alberta to the province. If enquiries may be used as a measure I am sure our women have taken a keen interest in the legislation on this subject at the last session of our Legislature.

Many statutes passed at this session are of special interest to women; a few of which I shall now mention.

The Provincial Lands Act contains provisions for the management and disposition of the public lands of the province. Every person who has resided in the province for a period of not less than three years, has attained the age of seventeen years and who is a British subject or declares intention of becoming a British subject is entitled to obtain entry for a homestead. Women may now obtain entry for a homestead on the same terms as men. I wonder how many women will take advantage of this privilege?

An amendment to the Child Welfare Act provides for the appointment in every city or town of five thousand population or over of an officer whose duty it shall be to enforce the Act. Such officer is given authority to enter factories, workshops, stores, homes and all other places where children may be employed in order to carry out his duties under the Act. The original Child Welfare Act was to come into force on Proclamation by the Lieutenant-Governor-in-Council but no proclamation has yet been issued.

The Domestic Relations Act has been amended by providing for the payment by the husband of necessary disbursements by the wife on an application in an action under the Act for alimony, dissolution of marriage and kindred actions.

An amendment to the Dower Act provides for dispensing with the wife's consent to any proposed disposition of the husband's property under certain circumstances upon order of a judge of the Supreme Court, as for instance in cases where the husband and wife are living apart, or where the wife has not since her marriage lived in the province, or where her whereabouts are unknown, or where she is of unsound mind.

The Public Libraries Act has now made provision for granting library facilities in areas where there have not hitherto been such facilities.

By an amendment to the Solemnization of Marriage Act the consent required for a marriage of minors is deemed to be a condition precedent to a valid marriage and where a form of marriage is gone through between persons either of whom is under the age of eighteen years, without the consent of the father, mother or guardian, when such consent is required such form of marriage shall be void and under certain circumstances the Supreme Court may declare and adjudge a valid marriage was not entered into.

The former School Act has been repealed and a new Act will come into force on the first of July this year.

Now turning our attention to the Federal field.

The War Veterans Allowances Act provides for the grant of allowances to War Veterans of sixty years of age, who have been domiciled for one year in Canada, and who are permanently unemployed by reason of physical or mental disabilities. This allowance has also been extended for one year after such a veteran's death to his widow or for the benefit of a child.



A year ago our Institutes made a special study of the subject of Naturalization of Married Women and became quite familiar with many of the inconsistencies in Canada's naturalization laws.

In 1930 the question was discussed at the Conference for the Codification of International Law at the Hague. The conference drew up a convention which States-members of the League of Nations were asked to sign. This convention was approved by the Imperial Conference in 1930 and formed the basis of the amendment now before the House of Commons, by which it is sought to clear up many of the inconsistencies which now exist.

As our naturalization law now stands the wife of a British subject is deemed to be a British subject, and the wife of an alien is deemed to be an alien.

The laws of some foreign countries conflict with this and peculiar situations often arise. For example, by the naturalization regulations of the United States a woman marrying a United States citizen does not by such marriage become a citizen of that country, so that a Canadian woman who marries an American citizen does not become a citizen of the United States, but does lose her Canadian status. For this reason hundreds of women in Canada have become women "without a country." A Canadian woman who marries a United States citizen is unable to enter that country because she is not a citizen and is not able to secure a passport from Canada because she likewise is not a citizen of this country. The proposed amendment to the Naturalization Act would deem the wife of a British subject to be a British subject, and the wife of an alien to be an alien. But a woman having been a British subject would not be deemed to have lost that citizenship by her marriage to an alien except when she automatically adopted the nationality of her husband. At the time of writing this report this proposed amendment has not yet been passed by the House of Commons.

In closing my report I desire to thank all those chairmen of this committee in the various Constituencies and local Institutes who have taken so much interest in this work and who have given of their time and talent to extend the work of this committee. It is with no little pride that I remark that each year during my four years of work with you there seems to have been a growing interest in the subject of legislation. It is my earnest hope that my successor in office may find the same eager desire to carry on the work that I have found and that she may receive the same unfailing support that I have received.

Let me once again thank everyone for her co-operation in this task of educating our women to the responsibilities which fall upon them as their privileges as citizens are being extended.

### OUTLINE

#### Standing Committee on Legislation, 1931-1932.

The Naturalization Act: The British North America Act, in other words, a study of how Canada is governed.

The problems to be worked out by reason of the return of the Natural Resources to our Province.

Mother's Allowance, Widow's Relief, Minimum Wage, Sex-equalization and such other acts as relate to rights and privileges of women.

The making of wills and a study of the statutes with respect to probate and administration of estates, succession duties, etc.

(MRS. J. W. G.) MARGARET MORRISON,  
Vermilion, Alberta.

**REPORT ON HOUSEHOLD ECONOMICS****Mrs. Maurice Gossip, Calgary, Convener.**

During the past year the Household Economics Committee has been endeavoring to interest members in the subject of Sanitation, that science which teaches the mode of living which promotes health and helps in securing for the individual, family and community the greatest capacity for work and play.

In reviewing the reports that have come to hand, I find the number falls far below the number of active Institutes given in the Secretary-Treasurer's report of last year. Nevertheless, much valuable work has been accomplished.

Papers bearing directly on the outline have been reported and copies of some excellent ones forwarded to me. The subjects treated in these papers were: General Sanitation, House Cleaning and Housekeeping, Home Management, Treatment of Walls and Floors, Milk and other Dairy Products, Curing of Meats and Meat Cuts, Vitamines.

The following is a list of demonstrations held: Dressmaking, Raffia, Basketry, Making Over and Repairing Clothing, Refooting bought Stockings, Rug Making, House Decoration, Waterless Cooking, Angel Cake, Meal Service.

From Stony Plain comes the report of the publication of a cook book—"The Cook's Friend." A number of Institutes report successful undertakings in school lunch work, also improvements in school and community hall.

A number of contests were noted, also suggestions for raising funds, e.g., operating a booth on Sports Day, sale of canned fruit, serving refreshments for special functions.

In closing this report, I wish to thank those members who have carried on so valiantly during the year. I would urge all Institutes to spend part of the time allotted to Household Economics in the discussion of some phases of the outline provided.

**OUTLINE****Standing Committee on Household Economics, 1931-32.**

I am asking the Women's Institutes to continue the study of Sanitation as outlined for last year. In conjunction with this would suggest that if possible the Institutes subscribe for one of the Canadian Magazines for the Home. In these will be found articles on almost every phase of home making with suggestions for seasonal and holiday activities.

Extracts of articles of special interest might be given occasionally and the magazine loaned to members for further reading.

**SANITATION**

Control of disease is the central idea in all sanitation.

Health depends in part on freedom from infection.

Learn and teach Sanitary Habits.

1. Sanitation in relation to food deals first with wholesome and clean materials, then with careful handling, storing and preparation.

1. Meat:

- (1) Animals must be free from disease.
- (2) Handling and distribution must be through sanitary markets, etc.
2. Milk and all Dairy Products:
  - (1) Milk from healthy cows in clean surroundings.
  - (2) Products kept free from contamination.
3. Fruits and Vegetables:
  - (1) Danger in surface dust and over-ripe products.

Suggestions for papers, discussion and reading on the subject of "Sanitation in relation to Foods":

  1. Study of legislation, local and Dominion, governing the marketing of foods. Observe conditions existing in community stores, markets and restaurants. Work towards improvement.
  2. Milk:
    - (1) Sources of contamination on farms.
    - (2) Suggest methods of handling to keep milk in safe food.
    - (3) Care of utensils, clothes, etc., used in care of milk.
    - (4) Food value of milk.
  3. Making and storing Butter for home use:
    - (1) Care of milk and cream.
    - (2) Churning.
    - (3) Working, salting, coloring, etc.
    - (4) Care of equipment used.
  4. The curing of Meats on the farm:
    - (1) Selection, care and cooking meats, treatment of tougher cuts.
  5. Methods of safeguarding foods against bacteria:
    - (1) Drying.
    - (2) Cold Storage.
    - (3) Preservatives (harmful and harmless).
    - (4) Canning.
    - (5) Packing.
  6. Fruit and Vegetables:
    - (1) Danger in surface dust and over-ripe fruits, etc.
    - (2) Ways of preventing or remedying loss of nutrients in cooking.
    - (3) Methods of preparing and serving raw fruits.
    - (4) Value of uncooked vegetables and fruits.
  2. Sanitation of the home consists essentially in pure air, sunlight and dryness. Suggestions for papers and discussions on the subject of "Sanitation in Relation to the House":
    1. Care of different rooms, ex.: cellar, bed rooms, kitchen, sheds, etc.:
      - (a) Ventilation.

- (b) Effect of sunshine.
  - (c) Disinfecting.
  - (d) Suitable furnishings.
  - (e) Removal of matter causing disagreeable odors.
2. Disposal of waste on the farm—solid and liquid.
  3. Control and extermination of household pests, ex.: flies, cockroaches, vermin, bed bugs. These sometimes serve to transmit disease and their presence is an indication of some unsanitary condition.

I trust that members will continue to help one another in the discussion of these topics.

(MRS. M.) CATHERINE GOSSIP,  
Convener, 433 13th St. N.W., Calgary.

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### REPORT ON IMMIGRATION

**Mrs. C. Lynch-Staunton, Lundbreck, Convener.**

There has been a material change in the attitude of the Canadian people towards immigration during the last ten years, and especially so during the last year. This change has, of course, come about from the general financial depression that has swept over the entire world as well as Canada, and from the serious amount of unemployment following in the wake of the depression.

During the period of readjustment after the war, Canada enjoyed a rapid and extensive agricultural expansion, which led to the expectation and hope that an increasing movement of immigration would insure still greater agricultural development and prosperity.

As the years passed, however, the anticipated increase was not realized, in spite of the fact that various forms of assisted immigration from the British Isles were offered. On the contrary, while immigration from Great Britain has declined, that from Continental Europe entirely without assistance from the Canadian Government, has increased.

During 1930, out of a total immigration of 163,288, there were 64,962 from the British Isles, 30,727 from the United States, and 67,599 from other countries.

Statistics show that our greatest immigration has occurred during periods of greatest general prosperity. A comparatively long spell of prosperity brought us in the first fourteen years of the new century 1,141,547 immigrants, and had this rate continued Canada would now have had a population of over ten million people. The Great War brought immigration practically to a standstill, until about 1920 when it started to pick up again. But only by 1929 had it reached its highest point of the decade by 167,722, whereas in 1913 we received 402,432 immigrants into the country.

During the last year, a survey was made by the provincial governments as to the number of immigrants each province could absorb, and the estimates received immediately resulted in considerable slackening of immigration activity.

All immigration from the continent of Europe is shut off, except that of farmers possessing ample means to establish and maintain themselves on the land, and the immediate relatives of heads of families already established in this country.

The solicitation, encouragement and assistance of immigration from Great Britain are abandoned for the present, and the same applies to immigration from the United States. In explaining the action taken, the Department of Immigration makes it clear that this is a temporary measure impelled by the unemployment situation, and that it is the future intention of the government to control immigration so that it may not in any way be a contributing factor to unemployment conditions.

Therefore it may be seen that the immigration situation in Canada has changed from that of a country anticipating and encouraging a large influx of newcomers, to that of a country which declines to accept immigrants unless they have the means to establish themselves and can so establish themselves without in any way contributing to unemployment in this country.

In considering our Immigration for the future, there are some fundamentals we should strive to keep in mind. As long as we have our great open spaces and our tremendous undeveloped resources, we shall require immigrants. With a small population development comes too costly. We need more contributory settlements to lower our freight rates, our cities need a greater citizenship to support their development. No matter which way we people of Canada turn, except for the present aggravated conditions of unemployment, we need more people.

The basis of successful immigration is that the people who come shall be able to make a living. Here in Canada we have our tremendous natural wealth awaiting successful development. Our natural resources form the basis of our industries, as the development of our industries will be the foundation of our resumed prosperity. And I beseech you, let us one and all, consider seriously how best we can assist in the development and building up of our own Canadian industries.

We have our tremendous resources awaiting development, we have abundant raw materials, we have fuel and power; our universities are every year turning out scholars with degrees and so supplying the necessary brain power; we have everything right here in our country for the development of our industries. Let us pledge ourselves to the support of our industries that so we may hasten the return of prosperity.

Let us remember that in supporting Canadian industries, we are helping ourselves. That every time we insist upon receiving a Canadian-made or an Alberta-made article we are helping ourselves by keeping our money in the country, by assisting in the development of our resources, by giving our Canadians work, and by assuring those who are coming to Canada that they shall be able to make a living when they come here.

And I ask you, has not the time come when we Canadians must make an aggressive campaign in support of our own Canadian interests? Have we not been letting things just drift along as best they might? The governments, federal and provincial, have been holding up to view alluring pictures of "what-is-to-be," hoping to attract people to Canada. We Canadians know absolutely that those prophesies will be fulfilled, but there remains something for us to do besides, and that is our loyal and devoted support to our own Canadian industries.

I am glad to hear from Institutes on all sides, of the great pleasure and profitable entertainment they are receiving through their correspondence with the Links of Empire. What a sense of warmth and fellowship these letters bring us! Many of the Constituency Conveners report that all the Institutes in their Constituencies have become "links" in this great Empire Club. They

receive letters from correspondents in Australia, New Zealand, Africa, India, Scotland, Ireland, Wales, England, from London and the counties, from Glasgow, Edinburgh, Dublin, from unpronounceable places in Wales, from Calcutta, Melbourne, Ladysmith. You never know where your return letter may come from.

These letters are often accompanied by picture-postcards and snapshots, by papers or the "Home and Country Magazine," or other interesting tokens of the work and aims of Women's Institutes. One correspondent received seeds of some native wild flower in Australia. What an interesting experiment it will be to try growing that plant here.

And how often when one of these letters is being read in your Institute, you will see the eyes of some member shining with joy as she tells you "that was my home!"

Has your Institute become a Link of Empire? If not, I beg of you do not delay to send in your letter to the Hon. Secretary "Links of Empire," British Empire Union, 180 Piccadilly, London.

And I am confident that eventually our wide-flung "Links of Empire" will bring us in satisfactory numbers just the kind of people we desire to make up the citizenship of our beloved Canada.

Let our Immigration Agents henceforth be: An honorable and undefiled reputation that Canada is a land where the pictured prosperity will be fulfilled, or in other words, where every citizen may feel that he shall be able to make a living.

Where newcomers are welcomed with kindly interest and assistance.

Where there are no lonely women's hearts, friendless and unvisited, in some out of the way place away from everybody, because wherever there is an Institute there will be kindly greetings.

Where our numberless "Links of Empire" may work their silent magic in drawing together more closely all British people (whether they are British by birth or by adoption), in cementing the bonds of union within our wide Empire, and, by their letters of greeting and good will, in securing to all nations the strongest assurance possible of the preservation of world peace, because the heart and spirit of womanhood the world over are behind them.

Mrs. Faulkner of Sylvan Lake reports Program outlines were sent to all 16 Institutes in her Constituency. All branches have Visiting Committees appointed. Splendid papers have been given. Roll Call answered by name of some noteworthy immigrant.

Mrs. Burkholder, Bowden, reports: Interesting papers on Immigration. Discussion from the three points as suggested in Outline.

Mrs. Hirst, Aldersyde, reports: All newcomers are invited to Institute meetings. Held weekly entertainments as a means of entertaining a number of men employed in a gravel pit in the district. A miscellaneous shower was given for a member whose husband was taking up a homestead.

Through Links of Empire, helping to make arrangements and getting advice for a new settler coming from England. And although, as Mrs. Hirst says, "This is a very settled part and there are few new settlers coming," yet I think they have managed to do quite a lot.



Mrs. McQuarrie of Grande Prairie reports: Outline sent out. Visiting Committees appointed. At Wembley a special meeting was called and the subject of Immigration discussed. They wish all laws regarding immigration enforced, and consider Orientals undesirable. They would like a resolution requesting that all foreigners be compelled to speak the English language before being allowed to secure naturalization papers and title to land.

Miss F. Clark, Coutts, sends in an interesting report: All the Institutes in the Warner Constituency have Visiting Committees appointed, and have formed strong Links in their correspondence with the Links of Empire. Sunshine Institute at Coutts is the International Institute and is really doing more good immigration work than they report. They receive letters through the Links of Empire from England and Scotland, and were also very proud to receive one from Spirit River, Alberta. They had a barrister speak on the immigration laws of Canada. In this International Institute they held a unique membership drive. There were two teams of 11 women each, the winners to be entertained by a supper. The men were allowed to join as associate members, their fees to pay for the supper and the losing side to do the work: 39 men joined and 24 new women.

Mrs. E. A. McDougall, Penhold, asks for kindly consideration for newcomers, and especially the fostering of talent, and reports good papers given.

Mrs. Atkinson, Didsbury, reports a very thorough discussion of the immigration program with the following conclusions: That the money spent in encouraging immigration could be used to better purpose in helping our own Canadian boys in settling on the land; that they favor people coming of their own accord rather than assisted immigration; that oriental immigration should be curtailed and more strictly controlled, especially in British Columbia where it has become such a serious problem.

Mrs. Scott, Kinsella, says their most important work in immigration has been encouraging and cheering those who have come during the last few years and are feeling the stress of the present hard times, and she speaks of the wonderfully courageous spirit shown by all. Most of the Institutes have become Links of Empire.

Sedgewick had a member of the Legislature address them on immigration. All newcomers have been befriended by Institute members or neighbors. Mrs. Scott finishes with the wish that we may all endorse, "that 'ere long conditions shall change and that Canada shall once more be able with open arms to receive newcomers to her great domain."

## REPORT OF CANADIANIZATION AND NATIONAL EVENTS

**Mrs. F. G. Grevett, Calgary, Convener.**

The work of this department has greatly increased this year, and a marked interest has been shown by the branches throughout the province. Requests have come from 143 Institutes for papers or material for same on Canadianization. This is very encouraging, but unfortunately your Convener is greatly handicapped for suitable material to send out; then often when a good paper is sent out, for some reason or other it is not returned. Many Institutes report splendid papers given, and I have wondered if it would not be possible to have these sent on to the Convener for use in her department. Two or three Institutes have already done this, and their co-operation in this matter has helped greatly to solve the problem, "what shall I send."

I would be glad if our Institutes made greater use of the "Playlets and Pageants," as I believe there are tremendous possibilities in this field for reaching the parent through the child. More and more our people are realizing the value of the folk dances, drama, music and literature as a means of bringing together the various racial groups in our communities, as evidenced by the Handicraft Festivals staged last year by the C.P.R., and which have proved invaluable in bringing to the fore some of the rich folk-lore of the countries from which these people came, as well as discovering much latent talent among our new Canadians, thereby creating interest in reviving many old time customs, and helping to create a better understanding between old and new Canadians alike.

The five year community progress contests, inaugurated by Dr. J. W. Black, and put into effect during the past year, are confined to the European communities in the three Prairie Provinces. Some forty communities were in the contests, thirteen of them being in Alberta. Dr. Wallace, President of the University, Mrs. Gunn and Dr. Fairfield, toured the districts which they selected from the thirteen to visit. This committee investigated every possible feature of the community life, going into the farm homes, seeing the home conditions, visited schools, etc. Gatherings were held for them in every community, where folk songs were given, displays put on and characteristic entertainments provided, together with some remarkable displays of art and handicraft. In no single case did they find any school in which English was not spoken excellently. Where Canadianizing influences have been at work for some time past, excellent results are being obtained.

Mr. Harold Riley of Calgary is making a great contribution to the preservation of the early history of our province and pioneers, and his illustrated lecture is being given to the school children of Calgary through the courtesy of the Calgary Herald and School Board. I wish this lecture could be given in every school in our province, so that the names of these early pioneers could be graven on the heart of every boy and girl in Alberta, and their memory kept green.

The Ukrainian Canadian Club in Calgary is doing splendid work to assist new Canadians in becoming part of the life of the Dominion and to encourage them to become acquainted with Canadian institutions, and to contribute to the country their particular racial culture. This Club is meeting with the men's and women's Canadian Clubs to hear a lecture on British Columbia.

Many other organizations are doing splendid work among our new Canadians, especially the foreign-born; English speaking classes are conducted by volunteer business and professional women to help teach girls and women of all nationalities who find it difficult to acquire a knowledge of the English language. The Provincial W.C.T.U. has a full time paid native worker among the peoples. The I.O.D.E. are offering scholarships and yet I feel like exclaiming with the late Cecil Rhodes, "So much to do, so little done." A book recently published, entitled "Ukrainian Canadians," by Young, reveals the need for a change of attitude to these people, if we would assist them to a better understanding of ourselves.

As a point of contact with the foreign-born, particularly in a country such as ours, the work of the W.I. is invaluable. Children make one of the few common meeting grounds with these people, and if through the W.I. activities they are made to feel one of us, and less lonely in their new land, there is a big step forward taken in their Canadianization. Canadianism is a new world and its deepest content is yet to be attained.

It is well that citizens of Canadian, British and American birth should realize in how large a measure the civilizations of Britain and North America have been enriched by the infusion of qualities derived from peoples of different races. If Canadians have much to give to those who have come to our country, they have also much to gain from contacts. Co-operation and team work will play a big part in bringing to pass the desired results.

Many Institutes have featured the compiling of local histories, giving much time to this study.

Ten Institutes have entertained in honor of newly naturalized citizens, when special speakers have been present. I would urge that more Institutes stress this. A ceremony, simple but sufficiently impressive, at which the new Canadians could be addressed in English, shorn of legal formalities, flags flying, bands playing national airs, would do much to impress the newly made citizen that he is a citizen of no mean country. Many Institutes have given new flags and some have erected flagpoles and flags have been flown for the first time on National Days. Many schools are still without flags. Could we not have a slogan, "A flag for every school," and have a flag raising salute to teach children to respect the flag.

Prizes for highest marks in history continue to be popular, some thirty Institutes reporting prizes ranging from \$10.00 to \$3.00.

Already a number of Institutes are planning celebrations for Empire, Goodwill and Dominion Days, and splendid programmes have been prepared.

Many Institutes report every member taking at least one Canadian magazine or periodical. Canadian Book Week has been featured in guessing Canadian authors and book titles, and books purchased and given to schools in their communities.

The deplorable amount of salacious literature which finds its way into our country is a matter of deep regret, and should receive our careful consideration. With the splendid Canadian magazines, periodicals and newspapers at our command, and the great service these render in not only giving us the best in current matters, but fostering literary talent among our own, there should be no place either in our stores or homes for such damaging reading matter.

Among the National events during the year is the gift of the women of Canada to Lady Willingdon on leaving for India; welcome to Lord and Lady Beishborough; the opening of Parliament by a Canadian, Mr. Justice Duff, the first time in the history of Canada; the appointing of a woman Senator, Mrs. Wilson; appointing of Hon. Irene Parlyby as delegate to the Geneva Conference; the marriage of the Prime Minister's sister to the Canadian Ambassador at Washington. For the first time in its history, Canada was recently visited by a reigning monarch and his consort, the King and Queen of Siam.

Another matter that should receive our consideration is the motion pictures. A film of very questionable moral is often shown with a child's fairy story film or comedy. Encouragement should be given to the making of Canadian films, as there is no greater factor for educational purposes, or more forceful way of fostering ideals of patriotism among our young.

In closing this report, may I thank the Constituency Chairmen, and all who have helped in any way to make this work a pleasure, and to wish the fulfilment of the ideals of this committee, Canada a land we love, "United."

### OUTLINE

#### Standing Committee on Canadianization and Immigration, 1930-31.

The following activities have been suggested to the Women's Institutes of Canada, along the line of "Canadianization and National Events":

1. Historical research of their neighbors, stories of the pioneers, preservation of old landmarks, etc.
2. The study of books with an authentic historical content (fact or fiction) as part of their monthly program.
3. Arrange an exhibit of your Community History, photographs of first settlers, school house and teacher, etc.; display them at your Institute meeting and, if possible, later at your 'Constituency' Conference.
4. Have public speaking contests or debates on the subject of Canadian Art, Music or Literature.
5. Strive to develop the spirit of friendliness, not only among our own membership, but especially among the new settlers and foreign born women outside our circle. Welcome them to the W. I. meeting.

A list of books which will guide your Committee in selecting suitable material may be obtained from the Provincial Convener on application.

6. Encourage reading of more Canadian magazines and periodicals.
7. Encourage Canadianization in the schools:
  - (a) By adding suitable books to the school library.
  - (b) Helping to produce patriotic plays and pageants on National Days.
  - (c) Offering prizes for patriotic essaying, presenting flags, etc., and taking an active part in the community celebration of national events, e.g., Empire Day, Dominion Day, Armistice Day.

#### SUGGESTIONS ALONG THE LINE OF "IMMIGRATION"

1. That our slogan be: A kindly welcome to all newcomers.
2. That every Institute have a Visiting Committee appointed to receive and welcome newcomers.
3. That a program on Immigration such as the following, be given:
  - (1) Roll Call of noteworthy Immigrants.
  - (2) A study of the History of Immigration to Alberta.
  - (3) Standpoints from which to study Immigration:
    - (a) That affecting the Mother Country;
    - (b) That affecting Canada;
    - (c) That affecting the individual.
  - (4) A discussion of Assisted Immigration vs Voluntary Immigration.
  - (5) Oriental Immigration.
  - (6) A study of the various nationalities entering Canada and their effect upon our own Canadian nationality.
4. That every Institute, as well as individual members, become a "Link of Empire."

Address: Honorary Secretary, "Links of Empire," British Empire Union, 180 Piccadilly, London.

5. That reports be sent in to your Provincial Convener on Immigration.  
Please forward good papers to me for future use.

(MRS. F. G.) ALICE L. GREVETT, Convener,  
240 13th Ave. W., Calgary, Alberta.

### REPORT ON AGRICULTURE

Mrs. D. H. Galbraith, Vulcan, Convener.

In Alberta the year 1930 was on the whole a good growing year; a large percentage of our wheat graded No. 1 and the majority of homes had splendid gardens. The yield of honey was good and, in the sugar beet area, there were more people wanting to sign contracts than the factory could handle.

The drop in prices of all farm products has made it difficult for the farmer to finance, but the home products have given him and his family a good living. At present the outlook is not bright for a speedy recovery but the average farmer is doing his best to cut the cost of production and to stick to it. Denton Massey, the teacher of the world's largest Bible Class has said, "Financial loss is not failure, but to give up is." This thought should be encouraging to us in the present economic depression when financial gain is almost impossible, but success lies in overcoming difficulties.

The Dominion-wide campaign recently set in motion by the Canadian Horticultural Council at Ottawa to "Beautify Canada" should receive the practical support of every right thinking Canadian. No more suitable time than the present could have been chosen for such an enterprise. When many are feeling the effects of depressed business, it affords a relief to cultivate some of the ideals and engage in such work as will bring other than purely material gain.

Mr. F. C. Nunnick of the Department of Publicity, Ottawa, expressed himself as follows on the subject: "Every unplanted home in Canada can be improved by the planting of trees, shrubs and flowers and a well kept lawn. Many districts have lagged behind in this matter of home beautification but there is abundant evidence in many places that, when intelligent attention is given to making the home more attractive, very satisfactory results may be expected. There is a very great opportunity for the improvement of the home grounds in rural sections of the country. A Canadian farm should be more than just a farm. It should be a home in the country and a home is not a home in the truest sense until it is planted. The cost need only be trifling. In many instances there are beautiful trees, shrubs and flowers to be obtained from the native woodland and the only cost is the time necessary to secure them and plant them around the home. The little time or money spent in this connection will be a dividend paying investment, since the attractive, well planted place will command a higher price at any time the owner may wish to sell. A more beautiful Canada is greatly to be desired. Beautify your home grounds and help make Canada more beautiful."

The majority of reports received are quite optimistic and show considerable work done in planting trees and gardens and speak hopefully of continuing, while a few who are pessimistic seem to feel that, while these things are very nice, we might better turn our thoughts to studying the financial system in order to readjust it. I would remind these of the saying of one



of the old adages, "If I had but two loaves of bread I would sell one and buy sweet hyacinths to feed my soul." Let us not forget that the home surroundings have much to do with the happiness and health of our families. Who ever saw a happier picture than the mother with her family in the garden, the delight of each little one as he sees a new flower or vegetable peeping above the ground. This happy home environment is what will give our boys and girls strength to go on and do their best. Many of our farm families are finding it very hard to pull through and may be short of seeds for flowers, etc. Let us all do our bit through our Institutes to pass on any extra seed we may have.

Our thanks are due to Mr. Seymour and his department for the able assistance given to all asking for it. Through his efforts "Peony Day" was quite generally observed throughout the province. Many Institutes have reported buying the plants for some public grounds and others have bought collectively for distributing among their members.

Last year I made a request to the effect that in asking for assistance along agricultural lines, you would state what phase of agriculture you wished to study or at least give me some idea of what you had taken up before so as to let me know what might be of interest to you. I would like to draw your attention to this again, for while I received numerous requests for information, only three or four gave me any suggestion as to what was wanted.

It is very gratifying to hear of the activities of the Institutes through the reports of Constituency Conveners. There is no doubt that with the women of the A.W.I. showing such enthusiasm, agriculture in Alberta must succeed. Men prominent in agriculture have given talks to the Institutes; these usually resulted in many questions and discussions. In this list of work done by different Institutes you may find a suggestion suitable for your branch. One wrote a nursery and requested them to send seed catalogues to 50 women in the district, hoping in this way to stimulate interest; another had members try out new varieties of vegetables; much work was done by co-operating with school fairs. Along the line of noxious weeds and preservation of wild flowers, one branch sent a resolution to the weed inspector asking for a more rigid inspection and that the law be enforced; others have offered prizes to school children for essays on noxious weeds, also for contests in wild flower collections. Other contests for which prizes were given school children were a knot tying contest for boys, a house dress for girls and essays on "The family planted a tree and a home grew up around it." Poultry raising and turkey raising have flourished, some districts having government inspection for T.B.

Some suggestions for roll call that are a little out of the ordinary I will pass along. "How to keep the boys and girls on the farm," "Why I prefer town or country life," "Storing winter vegetables," "What hard times has taught us," "Something new worth planting." Another suggestion along this line is to have the Chairman of Standing Committees answer the roll call at each meeting with something on her subject.

Two community efforts worthy of special mention are the Flower Show held at Coutts Constituency Conference and the community contest for "Products of the Soil" held at the Carmangay Fair. This contest is open to just three communities, to Carmangay, to Champion, the community to the north, and Barons, the one to the south. The women of the Institutes do the collecting and arrange the display but exhibits may be grown by anyone living in the community. The post office the exhibitor gets his mail from determines the community which displays his articles.



Before closing, I would like to pass on the thought expressed by one woman in her report. She says: "I live on a farm and enjoy my garden for it's economic value and for it's mental and spiritual value, and from the viewpoint of it's beauty. The disappointing years have only made the urge greater and stimulated us to put forth greater efforts rather than be discouraged." This is the spirit we want to go forth into the new year with. Elbert Hubbard once said, "The line between success and failure is so narrow that one is often standing on one side when he thinks he is on the other." Let us then be determined to go on and succeed.

Present conditions have made people realize that agriculture truly is our basic industry and when this industry suffers, it is not long until the whole social and economic structure is affected. Many city dwellers have not realized this before. It is fortunate we have such an organization as the Women's Institutes with it's membership composed of both urban and rural women working together to solve each other's problems and thus creating a more kindly fellowship and a higher type of citizenship.

Were it possible to write a full history of the Province of Alberta, I am convinced that there would be no other organization that would have to it's credit such wonderful achievements in the building up of better homes and in improved social conditions.

### OUTLINE

#### **Standing Committee on Agriculture, 1931-32.**

Agriculture at its best is a home making proposition and those who enter it for other purposes meet with little success; our program must necessarily for this year, deal with rural home making. In this connection we would continue in our aim to make Alberta Beautiful.

Early spring meetings given over to round table discussions on gardening methods, varieties of seeds, etc., are helpful. It is often profitable to have an exchange of plants, seeds, etc., the same day.

The local Agricultural Schools and Dominion Experimental Stations are willing to co-operate with the different organizations and will give you what assistance they can. I would therefore suggest that at least one meeting be arranged with help from these schools or with a speaker from one of them.

Constituency Conveners can do much to assist those localities where there is a failure in garden produce by putting them in touch with other Institutes where there may be an over supply. We must endeavor to do all in our power to help those who are less fortunate than we may be.

Any information I can give you will be gladly done if you write me.

(MRS. D. H.) ANNA P. GALBRAITH,

Convener, Drawer 39, Vulcan.

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### REPORT ON CANADIAN INDUSTRIES

**Mrs. J. W. Johnston, Edmonton, Convener.**

It is a very great pleasure to be able to report on the grand success of the past year in my department of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

Sixty-five branches sent in reports and they are all glowing with enthusiasm. A great many of them have their Roll Call answered with the name of

a commodity used in the house and produced in Alberta. Some name Canadian articles, and some British. One had a menu of Alberta grown or manufactured eatables for a winter supper. Several locals had either a fair or bazaar, showing samples of goods produced in Canada. Some had essays by the school children, the prizes being donated by the manufacturers. In a few of the towns the local merchants assisted in the work by displaying Alberta made goods in their windows and allowing the ladies to serve tea in the stores. At one of the fairs the Medalta Potteries sent a display and the ladies acted as demonstrators.

The directory arranged by the Edmonton Industrial Association, and sent to all the northern and central Institutes of Alberta, has been hung in prominent places for reference for the community at large.

Mr. Stutchbury spoke at one meeting and led a discussion on Alberta wool, exhibiting a pair of socks that had the wool, grown, cleaned, carded and knit in Alberta and they were second to none.

The beet sugar industry seemed to be very popular, as quite a number of Institutes had papers and discussions on it. It must have put quite a dint in the pockets of the sugar trust as they have now purchased the Raymond factory. We hope they will still continue to operate it as the sugar surpassed the cane sugar in a great many ways. A report on the imports of Canada, sent out by the C.M.A.'s Edmonton office, was read and discussed at a few meetings. The Secretary sent out a copy to the secretary of every Institute in Alberta to be passed on to the Convener on Canadian Industries, so each local will have plenty of material to work on. Only one Institute took an outside industry; they discussed the Clark Canning Co. of Ontario. It is a purely Canadian industry.

The card called "My Creed," sent out by the Hon. H. H. Stevens, Minister of Trade and Commerce, was sent for by many of the Institutes and some of them have taken it as their 1931 pledge. They can be had for the asking and I think it well worth having in the home.

An industry we know very little about is the spruce wood silk; we are buying many things made from it and the wearing qualities recommend it to our economical ideas.

A very creditable action was recorded by one branch. It pledged its members to buy only Canadian magazines. If we would all buy more of the Canadian variety it would not be long till we would be able to have as good authors as any magazine in the world. The magazines now being published have some very fine literature and should be patronized.

Last year as in 1929, the Edmonton Women's Institute assisted in "The Produced in Alberta" Exhibition. It was such a success that the Committee had requests for space for the next one.

All these different activities help to keep the work before the public and show us the need to buy Canadian made goods. Wherever and whenever possible, we should talk Canadian and Empire Shopping. For our Christmas shopping we can obtain small cards, stickers and string for parcels made in Canada, and this year Edmonton turned out some very handsome Christmas cards with reproductions of the Parliament Buildings and some of the beauty spots around Edmonton in their winter dress. They are very appropriate for out of town friends.

In a copy of the "Agricultural and Industrial Progress of Canada," a magazine published by the C. P. R., it says: "The last six years have been the most successful in Canada's Industrial history. The tremendous strides made

in the export trade has been remarkable, and only gives a further demonstration of the character of the leaders who are behind the industrial life of Canada. These men saw the opportunity, grasped it with characteristic courage, and the whole of Canada reaped the benefit. The recent depression cannot be termed anything more than a corrective readjustment. Everything has only a certain capacity, when the rate of production exceeds the rate of consumption there must be a cessation of production. These are age old economic principles which the world seemed to have lost sight of in the last five years under the impression that age old rules had become obsolete. Soon Canada will be embarked upon a greater period of prosperity. The country is young, it has a hardy people, and it has courageous, forceful and farseeing industrial leaders."

A notable feature of the present process of adjustment is that it will be regarded in the future days as a period of great importance, in the laying of foundations, the beginnings of many new lines of prosperity in Canada.

The significance of the present trends, apart from world conditions that Canada cannot control, is seen in a number of ways, and one of the important indications is that of the recently multiplied enquiries from American and British manufacturing firms for factory sites in Canada. During the last few months this has been very marked, and the last few weeks have been especially lively, showing that Canada with her untold natural resources, is at last coming to the front and promises to be the leading country before many years have past. Let us one and all put our shoulders to the wheel and endeavor with each push to help in the onward march. This we can do by asking for Canadian made products and insisting that we get what we ask for.

In closing I would like to thank all the Conveners for their excellent work. I have sent out 530 letters or pamphlets besides answering the requests for information, and would ask those who had to wait for answers to be lenient. Thanks are also due to Mr. Ashenhurst for his ever ready help, to Mr. Stutchbury for his kindness in mailing some of the letters, and to Mr. McKee for his unceasing help at all times. All these have been a great help and I appreciate it.

It would be a great help not only to me in my work but to each new Convener, if the retiring Convener would keep all her literature and information and pass it on to her successor.

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## OUTLINE

### **Standing Committee on Canadian Industries, 1931-32.**

Never lose sight of the fact that price and quality must equal.

Visit retail stores in your district making notes of goods "Produced in Canada."

Ask retailer what are his best sellers; if imported, try and discover why, whether it is demand or quality of the goods.

Arrange one night for Canadian Industries and give a paper or talk. Work through the Home Economics Committee and try and plan an Alberta or Canadian menu.

Talk up "Home Buying" whenever possible.

Write a paper on Canadian Industry and send me a copy with your ideas on the subject.

Make a survey of local industries, if any, getting information regarding products and output.

Please send any idea that you might feel is particularly adapted to your locality, for the farther one can spread the idea of "Home Buying" the greater will be the results. You will have a good opportunity to educate the newcomer in home buying.

I will be pleased to furnish you with any literature or assistance that I can.

Where it is possible you could have a "Made-in-Alberta" exhibition and as in the small places have several Institutes go in together.

There is a lot of work to be done in this line and I am sure that it is not only a pleasure to learn of all the things that are being made in Alberta but it also is good for trade. Always remember where your pay check comes from and patronize home industry.

Please keep in touch with me and I can assure you that I will appreciate any ideas you may have for furthering the work.

MRS. J. W. JOHNSTON, Convener,  
11007 84th Avenue, Edmonton.

### REPORT ON LEAGUE OF NATIONS

*Mrs. J. N. Beaubier, Champion, Convener.*

With a considerable degree of satisfaction we note the increasing interest of our Women's Institutes in the League of Nations and World Peace. When the convener was appointed two years ago, it was with the understanding that no special effort should be made to create an active division in the organization; the duty of the convener to consist mainly of the distribution of literature and information on application; in fact, to serve as a connecting link between the Women's Institutes and the League of Nations.

The first year the demands were not heavy, but immediately following convention, interest took a new impetus and enquiries for assistance became numerous.

Several parcels of literature have been kept in constant circulation, and the demand has exceeded the supply. In every outgoing letter I have called attention to the convener's report printed in the last Annual Report, and have been surprised to learn that in some instances the member writing for assistance did not know that such a book had ever been issued. I have also gleaned from correspondence that some of our branches were deeply interested and active in this work prior to the appointment of a Provincial convener; just another proof of the aliveness of our women to the great issues of the day.

A number of branch chairmen and a few constituency chairmen have sent most interesting reports to me. Most of these communications have been acknowledged; if some have been neglected the last few weeks, it was due to physical indisposition, and I trust the delinquency will be excused.

It is quite safe to state that public interest is gradually awakening and to keep abreast of this world wide movement, our Alberta Women's Institutes should have a Convener who can devote more time to this department than I have been able to do. I trust such an one will be found before this session closes.

Through "Interdependence," the official organ of the League of Nations Society in Canada, comes a suggestion that the 18th of May, the anniversary of the first Hague Peace Conference in 1899, be chosen and celebrated as "World Peace Day," with a simultaneous world-wide movement to commemorate the day as originally fixed, in the belief that the objective should act as a stimulus to the various peace societies all over the world and enforce great enthusiasm into their preparations; and that special arrangements be made in each country for the observation of the day. It is thought that such a programme carried out all over the world on the one day must impress those who have not given the subject serious thought. (I believe a resolution arising from this suggestion will come before the convention later.)

I must take it for granted that you followed the reports emanating from the Eleventh Assembly of the League of Nations which met in Geneva last September, as the time allowed for this report permits only general comments. The attendance was the largest in its history, including several Dominion Prime Ministers (our own among the number) who were present for the first time. I am sure we were all very proud of the appointment of the Hon. Irene Parlbay as a representative.

It is impossible to outline, ever so briefly, the enormous amount of work attempted during this session. That results were not altogether up to expectations can not be wondered at; when "many men of many minds" meet in debate it is difficult to reconcile varying opinions quickly. As Phillip Snowden said, "if nobody has had his own way the result is generally satisfactory."

The opinion of one unofficial observer is "that the present international situation is very serious, more serious perhaps than at any time since the signing of the Versailles Treaty. In consequence the League of Nations has reached a critical stage in its development." This, the writer claims, is not the fault of officials in the departments of peace endeavor, who are most efficient, active and enthusiastic; but it is largely due to the attitude of a number of state members on whose good will depends the strength of the League, and their reluctance to make concessions or compromises.

Students of international relations give several reasons for viewing with some concern the present state of international society; a few of these are the increasing tendency of tariff rivalry; the comparatively fruitless results of the conference dealing with the treatment of foreigners; the failure of the conference on a customs truce; the lack of progress made in the limitations of armaments and the unsuccessful attempt at codification of International Law on three subjects.

On the other hand there are reasons for sounding a more optimistic note. Large bodies move slowly and we must learn to "possess our souls with patience" if all our hopes and desires are not realized in a decade, which Sir Robert Borden likens to a "moment in the life of a nation." Certainly the conclusion of the Pact of Paris and the proposal that the League Covenant be brought into harmony with it, was a great advance. The growing power and influence of the Permanent Court of Justice in settling international disputes is most encouraging. Submitting to their findings and decisions means the nearest approach that is possible and the elimination of recourse to arms for settlement of national disputes.

Progress has certainly been made in international arbitration, international security, the protection of minorities and the means by which disarmament may be brought about, and yet there is still far to go before governments have been brought to that state of mind where their national policies in all things shall be founded upon the principle that war has been definitely renounced.



We must recognize that the mere creation of the League of Nations, with all its wonderful machinery, did not rid the world of all the difficulties of international co-operation.

Possibly one of the keenest disappointments of the Assembly was the slow progress made in formulating a programme of general reduction and limitation of land armaments; however, one important move forward encourages our expectations; arrangements were made for a special Disarmament Conference, the date of which has been fixed for February, 1932. From this gathering of wise men of high purpose and firm heart, devoted to the abolition of war, we may reasonably and confidently expect a formidable programme of disarmament. The naval treaty is a great and essential preliminary to the work of permanent peace, but until a limit has been placed on the land and air forces of the world, we can not hope to put an end to the recurring threat of war. This will be no easy task; in fact it may require a period of years before the necessary re-adjustments can be made, but eventually it will come. Our faith is great in the final victory of justice.

The head of our Canadian delegation, the Rt. Hon. Robert L. Borden, made a great impression when he spoke before the assembly. In spite of the supposition that the majority of you have read his speech in full I venture to quote a paragraph:

"Today, in the clean and wholesome atmosphere of good-will, understanding and co-operation, I am inspired to see this Assembly of the nations in full and intimate conference, consecrated to the cause of peaceful arbitration and the enthronement of public right between the nations. I should be the last to minimize the wonderful concrete results that have been accomplished during the first ten years of the League. To abate the threat of war on more than one occasion, to induce whole-hearted co-operation, to create great organizations for curing the ills of mankind, to aid the helpless, to strengthen the weak, to raise the fallen; all these and many other achievements are indeed memorable and the world owes its beatitude. But in my conception the highest service of the League to humanity lies in the constant association and co-operation, in the resultant education and training of the nations. They are here in the kindergarten of peace and already they have learned many a useful lesson.

"Yet, while there has been this splendid moral renunciation, armaments continue to oppress the nations. It would be monstrous to believe that they are a preparation for war that has been renounced. I realize the difficulties and complexities of the problem of practical disarmament and the earnestness of the effort for its solution. Let us not forget that vast armaments are not only oppressive, but dangerous. Today the world is expectant. War has been renounced. Why has there not been a like renunciation of armaments? This is the hardest lesson of all.

"Let our faith have vision to look beyond, to behold the day when war shall be outside the pale of thought or imagination, when it shall be cast forth forever into the outer darkness of things accursed, its prow seared with the brand of eternal infamy."

Now, what of the practical side, the part which requires, even demands, the support and the assistance of every woman in this organization, in Canada, in the world. Years ago Carrie Chapman Catt declared: "If women all over the world would stand shoulder to shoulder, no power on earth could make war possible." Naturally, we can not all be great leaders, as Carrie Chapman Catt or Jane Addams of Hull House fame, but we can be spreaders of the gospel of world peace in our own little circle, "you in your small corner and I in mine."



The League of Nations is fairly well established, but nothing is more obvious than the statement that governmental adhesion is not enough. The League needs and must have the support of public opinion in order to achieve its objectives. What more effective agency could be found for setting the waves of public opinion in motion than our Women's Institutes. Every branch should have at least one Peace Day programme; if possible arrange for a Peace Service on the Sunday nearest to May 18th; above all else, educate the youth of this land to think in terms of peace rather than of war; nothing is more important than training a citizenship for the future that shall be imbued with the spirit of peace, and this ideal can be reached only through education.

Are we thoroughly awake to this great responsibility and privilege? Are we ready and willing to make the sacrifice which may be required, even to the elimination of other interests? It appears to me that this is "Our Task" for the present.

"By the Peace among the Nations  
Shall men know we serve the Lord."

### OUTLINE

#### Standing Committee on League of Nations, 1931-32.

I. Appoint a League of Nations convener and a strong committee in each Institute branch.

II. Devote at least one meeting a year to the study of some phase of the Peace movement. Particularly study the problem of Disarmament, striving to educate public opinion to the importance of the World Disarmament Conference in February 1932.

III. Co-operate with your school teachers to have Peace Day, May 18th, suitably observed in all schools.

IV. Offer a prize for the best essay on Disarmament, or some other subject dealing with World Peace, to High School pupils. The winners should be invited to read their essays at an Institute or public meeting.

Poster contests for which prizes are awarded may be held in the Junior grades.

V. Have a copy of the Kellogg Peace Pact displayed on the wall of every school room and see that it is explained to the pupils.

VI. Stage on or about May 18th, or November 11th, a public peace program featuring a play or pageant in which children or young people of all the nationalities in the district participate.

VII. Advocate a yearly Peace service on the Sunday nearest to May 18th or November 11th.

VIII. Ask all members of your Institute and community to sign the International Peace Petition as soon as possible, and send to the proper authorities.

#### HELPS TO LEAGUE OF NATIONS CONVENERS

"Canada and the League of Nations," L. of N. Society, 381 Wilbrod St., Ottawa.

"Interdependence," a monthly review, 381 Wilbrod St., Ottawa.

"Teachers and World Peace," 15 Grosvenor Crescent, London S.W.I. England.

"A Conference on Disarmament," playette, 10c, L. of N. Association, 24 McPherson Ave., Toronto.

Department of Extension, University of Alberta.

The Daily Press, file clippings from newspapers and magazines for use in preparing papers and speeches. Peace Petition.

Women's International League, Box 432, Edmonton.

(MRS. E. A.) IRENE L. OATWAY,  
Convener, Donalda.

### WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUB WORK

Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith, Supervisor, Edmonton, Alberta.

It gives me pleasure to present to you my fourth annual report as Supervisor of Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Clubs. We have made some forward strides during this period. We have lived through the reconstruction period which in itself was a problem. We too have learned to stand on our own feet, although still a little wobbly we have youth and faith, two priceless assets.

Our first big venture was the contest from which was picked the winning team to represent us at the Canadian National Exhibition in Toronto. The team from Wetaskiwin brought great credit to themselves and to the Province of Alberta. These girls give much credit, to the success they are making in life, to the experience they gained through this demonstration. One is teaching, one has finished her library course and has a position as librarian, the third has served the required time as apprentice in a drug store and will come to the University of Alberta to get her degree in Pharmacy.

The publication of the A.W.I.G.C. magazine after the 1929 and 1930 conventions has been one of our major undertakings. Only those who have been responsible for the editing and publication of such reports can realize the work that is involved. However, I am glad to report that we have succeeded in each case without going into debt.

The Women's Institute Girls' Clubs in District No. 4 have held three reunions in connection with the Women's Institute District Conference held in the south annually in March. This year the Provincial Executive of Girl Guides sent Miss Jessie Church of Calgary to explain guiding. This courtesy was greatly appreciated. We have found these informal gatherings of great benefit. The W. I. District Supervisors have been very helpful to me, in some cases clearing up misunderstandings, getting information where letters are not answered, being instrumental in forming new clubs or reviewing old ones. Mrs. Norton, Supervisor District No. 4, attended our District and Provincial Convention, showing her interest in the work.

This year we have undertaken to raise a scholarship of \$100.00 to be awarded in Household Science. This is our first attempt to amalgamate the large sums donated by individual clubs to worthy causes. Only two dollars from each club will make it possible to award a scholarship large enough to pay the year's tuition of some outstanding student to continue their studies at the University of Alberta.

At this time last year I was telling you of our planned Convention to be held at Mt. Royal College in Calgary. You have read the report of that convention in the Women's Institute annual report and you know it was a success. We will hold the 11th annual convention this year in Edmonton at St. Joseph's College, University Campus, July 23rd, 24th, 25th. An interesting

program has been prepared including study groups for seniors and supervisors, public speaking contest for the Nellie McClung trophy, sports meet to see where the Magistrate Murphy cup will find a home. The social side will include the banquet, a picnic and tea at Government House.

It was decided at the Women's Institute Girls' Clubs' Convention to send letters and notices of any kind only to those clubs which send in monthly reports, paid their provincial dues, thereby keeping themselves in good standing.

I have enjoyed the work with the girls, which has had its joys as well as its sorrows, the co-operation of the Provincial Council and the Women's Institute District Supervisors has been splendid and of invaluable assistance. I bespeak on behalf of my successor your best efforts in promoting the work among the girls.

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### REPLY TO ADDRESS OF WELCOME

**Mrs. Carl Brunner, Ogden.**

[Mrs. Brunner, a native of Switzerland, is one of our very new Canadians and a splendid example of what may be accomplished in a brief period if one applies oneself earnestly and faithfully to the task of mastering the language and customs of the adopted country. We refrain from editing and present the address exactly as written by Mrs. Brunner]

It is in times like these that I would like to be an eloquent speaker and very beautiful to look at! Unfortunately neither is the case. Therefore I beg you to be prepared for the shortcomings of the first—I am resigned to the facts of the second. It does not matter how one looks when pulling weeds and feeding chickens, but here in the presence of such a fine audience I truly wish I were both.

It is a very great pleasure to me and an honor to the Shepard Institute that I am privileged to reply to the friendly words of welcome that have been offered to us. I know there would have been many among this distinguished audience who would have been far more capable and more worthy of standing on this platform tonight. But nevertheless I thank you that you granted me this privilege. Be indulgent in your criticism, I beg of you—it is not so easy if one does not completely master the language.

When we organized our Institute two years ago I was elected President, not because I was more efficient than anybody else, no, but simply because there was nobody there who cared for the office. I knew nothing of Institute life and work at the time, and took the office very reluctantly. Had anyone told me then that I would ever have to face an assembly such as this, I would have packed my trunks and gone back to Switzerland to be sure to be safely away from all such claims. Today I consider it a great pleasure. And I am very proud of being accounted worthy to represent our own Institute, and to reply to the hearty welcome which has been extended to us. This seems to make my acceptance as a Canadian very real and is this day the culminating point of my naturalization. I feel that I am now ranked and fully accepted among Alberta's best.

I present to Mrs. Nye, the gracious president of the Edmonton Institute, and to the leading men of our country, who honor us with their presence, our most heartfelt thanks for opening these spacious buildings to us and for giving

us the city. I am persuaded that all of us who were here before, immensely enjoyed the privilege of coming again. When I first entered these halls and corridors I was astonished how the very atmosphere of this place was filled with the spirit of youth. It just seems to saturate our own beings and makes us feel glad and carefree. We want to thank His Honor, Lieutenant-Governor Walsh, Honorable Premier Brownlee and Mayor Douglas for their presence at our assembly. We greatly appreciate it. The very fact that they gave us some of their valuable time is a compliment to us. The representatives of the Women's Institutes fully value the honor of their presence. The problems that were facing the "statesmen of old" were child's play to the tasks that are coming before the political leaders of today—here in our dear homeland as well as in the greater nations. Immense must be the claims upon their time and good will, and yet have they found time to greet us and welcome us to their fine city. By their presence we feel too that they recognize the great and wonderful purpose of our organization.

And really the results of our united efforts are inestimable. We are standing for Home and Country. Out of a good home we send good citizens; we give to our country the men and women it needs. In the home we lay the foundation of all that is good and true. Whatever is accomplished in any sphere of life, we in the home prepare the ground. The home is the starting point of all new issues of life. Out of our homes comes young Canada, the future generation, our boys and girls; they who fill the schools, the workshop, the factories, the offices, this fine auditorium; they, who are going out to fill every day life with the spirit of the home-atmosphere. Unlimited are the fruits of the home influence, and the task of the Women's Institutes to form and shape the coming generations is of the utmost importance. Therefore, let us give our very best to Home and Country! I thank you.

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### GREETINGS TO THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

**Miss Storey, Acting Director, Alberta Women's Bureau.**

It gives me very much pleasure to bring greetings and good wishes from the Alberta Women's Bureau to the members of this Convention, and to congratulate your President and Executive on the very excellent convention which you are having. I feel sure that every delegate will go home to her own branch feeling that it was good to have been here.

In the first place I wish to give you a short and concise outline of the work that was accomplished by the Bureau in 1930. I am pleased to be able to say that it was one of the most successful years the Bureau has ever enjoyed. We had a total of 268 short courses and demonstrations, some of these one, two, three, four days in length. Total attendance at these courses numbered 15,000, and the average daily attendance was approximately 14; this we consider was very good. These courses were held all over the province, and I am pleased to be able to tell you that we were able to arrange courses for practically every organization making application. The exceptions to these were in a few isolated cases where request was not made until too late for it to be included in one itinerary.

Discussing these courses in detail: Our sewing and our basketry courses headed the list with a big majority. In all we had a total of 78 sewing courses and 76 basketry. These were all either three or four day courses. The average daily attendance was well over 14, which is proof of the popularity of the courses.

The aim of the Bureau has always been to make their courses as worth while and as practical as possible. This aim has been carried out in our sewing course. Miss Tillie teaches those things which will help the ladies in sewing for themselves and for their families. This year a four day course was included in tailoring. This was added because suits have now come back into vogue, and little tailored coats are worn with so many dresses. So far this year this is proving to be a very popular addition to the sewing course.

With reference to basketry: It too has enjoyed a long season of popularity. I sometimes think that this has been due in part to the fact that it gives the women something apart from the routine household duties to do and to be interested in. The first year work in basketry consists in making a tea tray, a work basket, a small jardinier or a flower pot. Sandwich trays are also made during the first year course. The reed and necessary supplies for this work costs approximately \$1.50 per student. Advanced courses in basketry include the making of large articles such as ferniers, standard work baskets, standard lamps, etc. The prices vary with whatever article is made.

The sewing and basketry as I have stated have been most popular and together total more than half our requests.

Next in popularity comes Interior Decoration. Last year we held 44 courses in this subject. The outline was carefully revised last fall to include talks on harmonizing colors for rooms, finishings for floors, walls, etc., in addition to making small inexpensive articles that are useful for the home. Many women like this course very much and it has grown in popularity during the last year or two.

Fourth stands Foods and Cookery. This subject will always be of vital importance to the homemakers of this province, as well as elsewhere in the world, because so much of the health and happiness of the family depends upon the meals "mother provides." In these courses, emphasis is placed on food values, food combinations and part of each period is taken up in demonstrating cooking, emphasis being placed on easily prepared wholesome foods and the use of home grown products. During the past two years these courses have increased in popularity and in number.

The balance of our courses include three day courses in millinery, twelve such being conducted in the province last year. A few courses in what we term household administration, chiefly for the want of a better name. This talk includes kitchen equipment, labor saving devices and similar topics. Fifteen of these courses were also conducted last year and proved to be very popular.

The balance were glove making and leather tooling courses. These are very interesting and very instructive. The disadvantage as I see it is that they are not always practical and are expensive—a pair of leather gloves cost each individual member approximately \$2.50. If they are made of chamiosette they are cheaper naturally.

That in brief is what was accomplished by the Bureau last year.

Last fall we carefully prepared a new questionnaire for this year's work. Made some additions to our courses in handicrafts and revised and altered our old stencils. Our applications came in very well and I was hopeful of having a very full year's work. However, owing to financial conditions, the Women's Bureau grant, in accordance with a good many others, was very materially reduced and as a result it was necessary to curtail our work considerably.



I should like to take a minute or two to tell you how we arranged this curtailment. This was done very carefully and with a view to making every dollar we had to spend go as far as it possibly could. We went over all our applications, selected those that could be worked in together without long train and car trips. For instance, we might have had one request for a sewing demonstration in an area where there were five or six others for basketry, but would have to cancel the sewing.

We also discarded some of our new courses entirely, such as the rug making, leather work, paintex and gesso. These we decided would be best to hold over in a body for another season.

We are very sorry to have had to disappoint any organization, and I can sincerely say that we hope to be able to give special concession to those organizations we had to refuse this year. We are keeping up the standard of our courses, our demonstrators have been selected with the usual care, and I am pleased to say that I feel sure we shall give entire satisfaction to the organizations we are able to grant courses to.

We are asking all organizations having a course to make a special effort not to cancel unless it is absolutely impossible to carry on. Cancellations upset our itineraries; they are expensive and disappointing to the demonstrator and to the Bureau. Therefore, I ask the co-operation of your organizations in avoiding cancellations when at all possible.

There is one other phase of the work of the Alberta Women's Bureau which I must not overlook. We have a District Worker amongst the new Canadians in the Vegreville area. Her duties are to assist the women in adopting up-to-date methods of carrying on their household duties and in bringing up their families. This worker is a new Canadian herself, so that she has that point of contact with the people she works with. She carries out her work by personal contact, meetings, etc. She gives instruction in sewing, foods and cookery, canning, pickling, care of the children, diets for children, etc. She is meeting with a very great measure of success in this work, and the Government feels that it is money and time well spent.

Farm Women's short courses are being held at the Schools of Agriculture again this year—Olds, July 13-17, and Vermilion, August 3-7. The Department was very much pleased with the result of these courses last year and we hope we shall have your co-operation in putting them over as successfully this season.

In closing my remarks on the work of the Women's Bureau, I wish to leave this message with every delegate to take home to her own local organization. The Women's Bureau of this province is maintained by government funds to serve the women of this province in any way possible. So long as I am at the head of the branch no effort will be spared to serve you to the very best of my ability. If you have any suggestions to make I shall always be glad to hear them and to give them my attention even though I should be unable to put them into effect. I hope and trust the good fellowship and co-operation between the organizations you represent and the one I represent will continue to grow. My best wishes go with you for continued success and prosperity.



**REPORT OF A. W. I. EXHIBIT AT C. N. E.**

**Mrs. Wellington Huyck, Strome.**

The 1930 Canadian National Exhibition at Toronto saw a very creditable exhibit placed in the east wing of the women's building by the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. Six of the nine provinces were represented, Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, British Columbia and Alberta each had a booth in which was placed their particular exhibit with a representative W.I. woman in charge. Nova Scotia sent their good ship W.I.N.S., which occupied a space in the centre of the wing.

The Alberta booth, which depicted some of our public health work, was colorful and attractive. A large painting of the Beaver mountain range framed by evergreens made an artistic background, while a foreground of earth and rocks at the mountain base sloped gently away into grassy range and prairie grain field.

On one side, near the mountains, stood a miniature, quaint log cabin—the nurse's home at Mahaska. In front of it was a man with his horse and dog, evidently just arrived to seek assistance from the uniformed nurse who was drawing water from an adjacent well.

On the other side and beside a ripened grain field stood a model of the Fairview Hospital.

[The nurse's home at Mahaska was built by five Women's Institutes of the Macleod Valley, and the Fairview hospital in the Peace River country has been owned and operated by the Fairview Women's Institute for the last six years.]

At the front of the booth stood four models telling the story of Alberta's travelling clinic. The first model showed the trucks and cars carrying doctors, nurses and equipment just arrived at the country school. The equipment was being unloaded and set up in the schoolhouse. The second model showed the interior of the school on examination day; the third showed operations and the fourth was the happy scene of recovery. All these models were very realistic and with several large clinic photographs and a couple of easily understood charts made the story of the clinic very plain to one and all.

On a table at the side were pictures of some beautiful babies. "Alberta's fairest products," with samples of food that go to make the healthy child's diet.

This booth was made possible by the co-operation of the A.W.I. with our Provincial Department of Health. The department sent the models, pictures and charts telling the story of the travelling clinic, and the Alberta Women's Institutes sent the models of the nurse's home and hospital.

All these models were the work of Miss Clementine Poitras of Edmonton, and they were so cunningly designed that those in charge had to be ever alert in order to keep the hands of not only the children but also of many grown ups off them. The Provincial W. I. Convener of Public Health and Miss Kate Brighty, Supt. of Public Health Nurses, were in charge of the booth. Miss Brighty was sent down to Toronto by the Department of Health.

On Alberta Day a luncheon was served on the balcony of the Women's Building. Favors were place bouquets of wild roses, Alberta's provincial flower, and the place cards were of the same design, these being made by the children of the Red Cross hospital. The menu included wild strawberry tarts made from strawberries picked and canned by some Women's Institute members of the Peace River district.

Following the luncheon, a short program of speeches was presided over by Mrs. Huyck. Dr. Edna Guest of Toronto was the principal luncheon speaker, while short talks were also given by Mrs. W. F. Cameron, President of the F.W.I.C., Mrs. H. McGregor, second vice-president, Mrs. T. A. Cohoe, treasurer, Miss Kate Brighty, Mrs. L. C. McKinney of Claresholm, Mr. George Putnam, supt. Women's Institutes of Ontario, Miss B. Oxner, director Saskatchewan Homemaker's Clubs, Mrs. Chas. Constantine of Kingston, a former pioneer of Alberta, and Mrs. Donald McDonald, also a former Albertan but now reeve of Cobourg, Ontario.

The afternoon's program from the F.W.I.C. platform was given over to Alberta speakers, chief of whom was Hon. J. E. Brownlee, Premier of Alberta. Mr. Brownlee spoke of Alberta as still being a pioneer country and the pioneer spirit that still pervades is shown in many of her activities. Mrs. J. F. Price of Calgary said that Alberta had led the way in the advancement of women, having many firsts to her credit, among these being: First woman judge of juvenile court, first woman police magistrate, and first woman member of provincial legislature in the British Empire.

Miss Brighty spoke of the work of the district nurse and the travelling clinic, and Mrs. Huyck gave a brief outline of the development of Public Health and Child Welfare work as carried on by the W.I. branches throughout the province.

Among the hundreds who visited the booth were many Albertans and ex-Albertans, and to friend and stranger alike the booth and those in charge told the story of the steady advance of Public Health and Child Welfare work in this province.

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### A PLEA FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

**Rev. Brother Rogation, S.S.C., Rector of St. Joseph's College, Edmonton.**

Never yet has a fond mother bent over the cradle of her new-born, gazed with almost infinite love into his innocent face, and dreamed a dream of greatness which it was impossible for him to realize. This is self-evident if we consider the marvellous powers with which God has endowed His creatures. Man is the masterpiece of the creation. Not only is his body a marvel, endowed as it is with movement and the five senses, but the mind of man is able to embrace all knowledge and wrest from nature its secrets and its laws. His memory recalls with every detail men and places he has visited and in the twinkling of an eye carries him to the furthestmost bounds of earth. His imagination creates for him a world of his own fancy in which he can enjoy himself at leisure. By his will he is master of his own destiny and need depend on no one. His "yes," and his "no" are final, and not all the powers of an earthly king or an army ranged in battle array can force him to change his opinion or oblige him to accept what he is determined to reject. Wonderful as all this may seem, it is exceeded by man's power of loving. His heart can devote itself to any noble cause or to any noble person with a devotedness which carries him to heroic sacrifice. In thus loving he finds an earthly heaven and is perfectly satisfied in the possession of what or whom he loves. To know, to will and to love are the privileges of every human being, be he king or serf, rich or poor, educated or illiterate, weak or strong. It means little what his condition or status in life may be. The essentials are the same for all men; differences of conditions are only minor considerations; a little more or a little less.

To the Christian mind the new-born babe is a being created to the image and likeness of the Eternal God. Within it is a spark of the Creator himself from whose hands it has just come. The child is destined to live forever in an eternity of infinite happiness and love or separated from its God in a place of punishment. No need for wonder then that the fond mother builds airy castles of what her boy is going to be and what he will achieve when grown to manhood he mixes with his fellowmen on the great stage of life. He may become anything a man has become. He may do anything a man has ever done. It is idle to pretext lack of talent, lack of opportunity, or any other so-called obstacle that may stand in the way of success. The annals of history are replete with the names of men who have done noble deeds in the face of what to others appeared to be insurmountable obstacles. Permit me to quote just a few examples:

We all know of that little Shepherd Lad who tended his flocks on the hillsides at Beth'lehem and who was too young and too inexperienced to accompany his brothers to battle with the Philistines. However, he was sent with supplies and found the Hebrew army in terror before the giant Goliath. Little David was equal to the occasion and when in answer to his entreaties he was allowed to match himself with the giant he slew him and so delivered his people. This was the same youth who became the greatest King of Israel and who with no other teacher than the starry heavens above and the book of nature spread out around him as he tended his flock, composed those beautiful psalms in honor of the Creator which have remained even to our day as the most sublime expression of man's supplication and adoration of God. These psalms for well-nigh forty centuries have ascended day and night to the Almighty in the worship of the Jewish people, and ever since the advent of Christ have been chanted the world over by Jew and Gentile alike. Then there was that little Grecian tongue-tied lad who for long months was unable to lisp even the simplest monosyllable in response to his patient mother's efforts to make him speak. The neighbors pitied the poor mother and lamented the fate that had befallen her son. But the child did speak after many superhuman efforts and history boasts of him as the most wonderful orator the world has ever known. This was the great Demosthenes whose ability to sway an audience has never been excelled even to our day and whose eloquence was more feared than the whole Grecian army. Julius Caesar the greatest conqueror of ancient times; the legal mind that gave to the world the Roman law; the general who extended the Roman Empire to the limits of the then known world; was in youth an epileptic whose life seemed hardly worth the living and whom his pitying friends thought it a waste of time to educate for any fit purpose. Napoleon Bonaparte, who saved the French people from the suicidal orgy of blood which history calls the French Revolution, and who conquered nearly every nation of Continental Europe, came as a little peasant lad to St. Cyr to begin his military studies. The French students looked on him with scorn for his language was imperfect and his clothes and manners that of a rustic, but it is doubtful if any man was ever loved and with a love bordering on worship by the French nation and his conquering regiments as this same Napoleon. We have the testimony of Sir Walter Scott himself that in his school days he was the despair of his teachers and the pity of his classmates who considered him a dunce and dubbed him such. In our own day Thomas Edison, who has made more valuable discoveries than perhaps any other living American, was only tolerated at school. Not one of his teachers was able to discover in him any spark of even ordinary intelligence and hardly thought it worth their while to bother with him, but allowed him to spend his time as best he could in the back row of the little country school. These are but a few examples which I have culled from history to prove that obstacles are not insurmountable; rather

that they are challenges thrown in the face of generous youth to test their worth. It is by surmounting them that strength is gained and that the ability to achieve great things is acquired.

Who will then dare set a limit to the excellence to which any young man may aspire? If it is his ambition "to be," there is nothing that can prevent him from becoming a greater man than has ever yet existed. With the wealth of human intelligence and the thought of master minds for well-nigh sixty centuries laid open for his instruction, and all the modern means of acquiring and of attaining perfection at his disposal, the boy of today may reasonably aspire to an excellence surpassing that achieved by any of the great men whose names are recorded on the pages of history. Elementary education is provided for him by the State and is placed at his very door. Seats of learning where the greatest minds of the nation congregate to devote their energy and time to the imparting of knowledge, dot the land with their inspiring structures.

A few hundred dollars will provide him with a library where the masters of all ages will speak to him of the best they have thought and stand ever ready to be consulted and enjoyed.

Inspired by the ambition to excel, the youth may grow to manhood with a well developed, healthy, vigorous body, fit abode for a noble mind and a loving heart. By assiduous study he may store his mind with useful knowledge and train his intellectual faculties to almost incredible perfection. More than all else, he may fill his heart with a love of his Creator and of his fellowmen to the extent of becoming, if that be possible, like unto the All-loving God, whose fatherly heart knows no distinction of race, creed, color, social position, or any of the many distinctions which little minds create as boundaries to their interest and their love. Was not this the program set by Christ our Saviour when He told His Apostles, poor illiterate fishermen of Galilee, that they should aspire to the perfection of the Heavenly Father, the all-knowing, the all-wise, the all-loving God. There is then no excellence to which a young man of today may not aspire. There is no young man of whom his parents have any right to feel despondent when they picture to themselves his future career. There is no young man who may not make himself worthy of the admiration of his fellowmen and fit himself by patient toil for some divinely appointed task.

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## CHILD WELFARE AND MATERNAL WELFARE IN 1931

Doctor Helen MacMurchy, Chief Child Welfare Division, Department of Pensions and National Health, Ottawa.

Sunny Alberta is a dear and pleasant place and it has had a proud history before and since it was established on September 1st, 1905, as one of the Provinces of Canada. Your noble rivers and sublime mountains, your magnificent open spaces and splendid ranches—above all, your brave and kind people have always had a great place in the heart of every Canadian.

**Public Health**—Alberta was one of the first Provinces in Canada to realize the importance of Public Health. Your first Provincial Health Officer was appointed in 1906. Your first Public Health Act was passed in 1907. This Province was almost the first to establish a Department of Health in the Government and to appoint a Minister of Health. The Act establishing the Provincial Department of Public Health was assented to by His Honour the

Lieutenant-Governor on April 17, 1919, and the Honourable A. G. Mackay was appointed the first Minister of Health for this Province about the same date.

**Sixty Years Since**—It is only sixty years since the coming of Public Health. It was some time in the 70's that people's thoughts turned to Public Health. There had been prophets of Public Health like Edwin Chadwick who said in 1828 that sickness ought to be prevented and that health ought to be preserved, but his voice was "as the voice of one crying in the wilderness." It was forty or fifty years before that voice began to be listened to.

**The House of Public Health**—At first our ideas about Public Health were only half-right and our plans for Public Health were makeshifts. Not till the twentieth century did we really begin at the foundation to build the house of Public Health. We used to think we could legislate and dragoon and compel and police people into Public Health.

**The Only Way**—Now we know that the only way to keep people well is to get everybody to help us. That means Health Education, Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine. Little or nothing is ever done by compulsion. Lasting Leagues and Empires are founded on co-operation, which is far better. Look at the League of Nations—look at the British Empire, if you want examples of this truth. As Ranjit Singh said last year in London, "The British Empire is the greatest cricket-team the world has ever seen."

**What is Public Health Work?**—Public Health work is a general organized effort to secure and maintain for all general health and mental efficiency, to lengthen life and to abolish disease by learning and practising the principles of Preventive Medicine.

**Departments of Health**—Alberta and Edmonton and all other modern Provincial and Municipal Governments have set up Departments of Health. We know that we need a well-organized Department of Health in every Government, small and great.

**Organized Medicine**—Then we have Medical Associations, such as the Canadian Medical Association, an association which has become a great power for the health of Canada, and the Alberta Medical Association, which does so much for the health of this Province, and the Edmonton Academy of Medicine which we should all know about and support. These three Medical Associations could and would do more for Public Health.

These Associations of Doctors are a great help in the community and should have far greater support from the doctors and far greater interest from the public than they have now.

Then we have Unofficial or Voluntary Health Associations such as the Canadian Red Cross, Child Welfare Council of Calgary and the Canadian Public Health Association, and the Victorian Order of Nurses and many others. They have no direct official connection with governments. They do a great deal of good. They help people to understand Preventive Medicine and to keep well.

**Educational Authorities**—Finally, we have educational authorities—Universities, Colleges and Schools, especially the schools. They can do more for Health Education than any other organization whatsoever.

When we come to look at these four—Official, Medical, Unofficial, Educational—we see how indispensable every one of them is and how almost equally important they all are. They and we are only beginning to see the glory of Preventive Medicine.



The Sun of Public Health is rising—but the sun has a long way to go in the sky of Public Service. We still dwell in the darkness of ignorance. Think for one moment of the idea that most people have that the health of little children, too young to go to school, needs no attention! We think they are all right. That is not true. It is in these years, between the cradle and the school-room door, that we lose our chance of having a healthy nation.

It is too late, when children come to school, to look after their health. Better late than never, of course, but we shall never succeed in preventing disease and securing good health until we take care of the little children and help their mothers and fathers to care for them from their earliest days.

**They Help Us**—Here, the Unofficial Health Organizations have done a great deal to help us. Visiting Nurses, School and Home Clubs and Child Welfare Associations **have** tried to do something for the pre-school child. How little we have been able to do! We shall never succeed until the family doctor takes the matter in hand and until the fathers and mothers understand that the family doctor should see the children from time to time and should give them a periodical examination so that no defect will pass unnoticed, and that his advice should be followed in regard to the prevention of the so-called Children's Diseases and the methods of protecting children against these diseases. He knows. This subject is realized by the Department of Pensions and National Health to be so important that the first number of the "Little Blue Books" Leaflet Series, No. 41, "Keep the Family Well" has been devoted to it. This publication is now on the press and we hope to send it to you if you ask for it, at an early date.

**New Methods**—New ways of helping to keep well are developing day by day. Hospitals are improving their out-patient departments for the benefit of those who cannot afford to pay a family physician. Convalescent Hospitals are being established to safeguard health and save money. In your own Province and other Provinces there are Municipal Doctors, Municipal Hospitals, Maternity Grants, Travelling Clinics, District Health Units, Public Health Nurses and many other excellent things. A few patients have been carried to hospital by airplanes. The first Baby Clinic was held in Taber, Alberta, in 1921, at the request of the Women's Institute, led by Mrs. F. C. Porter. In these as in everything else, the personnel is the most important thing. If we can get the right people to manage these plans, if we can get a Municipal Doctor, for example, who is the trusted friend and adviser of everybody in the community, and a Public Health Nurse, who can make herself a friend and fellow-worker in every home, and a Municipal Hospital which is the centre of light and health in the community because of the character and skill and training of its doctors and nurses, we can do anything.

**Thirteen Years—1918-1931**—How are we getting on in Canada these last thirteen years? How is the pulse of public opinion beating about Child and Maternal Welfare? We know something about it for there is still in existence a more or less confidential document dated October 25th, 1918, which gives some clue to public opinion in Canada before the close of the Great War, in regard to Maternal and Child Welfare. It is entitled, "Report to the Vice-Chairman of the War Committee of the Cabinet on the Establishment of a Federal Department of Public Health."

**Public Health Work in Fifteen Departments**—It shows that the work of Public Health was being carried on at that time by fifteen departments at Ottawa, as follows,—

## Department of Agriculture.

"	"	Inland Revenue.
"	"	Interior.
"	"	Immigration.
"	"	Marine.
"	"	Trade and Commerce.
"	"	Militia and Overseas Military Forces.
"	"	Public Works.
"	"	Finance.
"	"	Justice.
"	"	Naval Service.
"	"	Customs.
"	"	Soldiers Civil Re-Establishment.

## Post-Office Department.

## Commission of Conservation.

**Appropriations**—It also shows that the appropriations by the Federal Government for Public Health Services, as given in the Auditor-General's Report for the year ended March 31st, 1915, amounted to \$511,338.92.

It is a comfort to be able to remind you in passing that our present organization, appropriations, and achievements bear a favourable comparison with this former state of affairs.

**Infant Mortality**—It is further pointed out that the average Annual Infant Mortality in Great Britain from 1911 to 1914 was 110 per 1,000 living births and that notwithstanding war conditions, it was reduced to 91 in 1916. In Australia the Infant Mortality rate in 1915 was 67 and in New Zealand the Infant Mortality rate for 1917 was 50, which rate had been reduced from 80 per 1,000 living births in about ten years by the education of the public and the institution of a Public Nursing Service.

Infant Mortality rates are also given for four of the Provinces of Canada, as follows,—

Manitoba, 1915 .....	105
Ontario, 1916 .....	107
Nova Scotia, 1915 .....	127
Quebec, 1915 .....	147

These are all the rates the Report gives. I miss Alberta.

**Women's War Conference**—On the first page of the report appears a Resolution passed by the Women's War Conference of February, 1918, setting forth that—"in view of the excessively high death-rate among infants in Canada . . . it is essential . . . that immediate steps be taken by the Government to conserve infant life."

**The Present Situation**—Eleven years after, the Preliminary Official Vital Statistics of Canada for 1929, issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, of the Department of Trade and Commerce, give the Infant Mortality rate of the Dominion of Canada as 92.2 per 1,000 living births.

The Infant Mortality rate for each Province is,—

Prince Edward Island .....	89.9	per	1000	living	births
Nova Scotia .....	90.0	"	"	"	"
New Brunswick .....	106.0	"	"	"	"
Quebec .....	120.5	"	"	"	"
Ontario .....	76.0	"	"	"	"
Manitoba .....	70.6	"	"	"	"
Saskatchewan .....	73.5	"	"	"	"
Alberta .....	78.2	"	"	"	"
British Columbia .....	55.6	"	"	"	"

Infant Mortality in New Zealand in 1929 was 34.

**A Great Advance**—Comparison of these figures with these already given for 1915 and 1916 shows a great advance,—

Manitoba	Infant Mortality Rate for 1915.....	105
Manitoba	" " " " 1929.....	71
Nova Scotia	" " " " 1915.....	127
Nova Scotia	" " " " 1929.....	90
Quebec	" " " " 1915.....	147
Quebec	" " " " 1929.....	121
Ontario	" " " " 1916.....	107
Ontario	" " " " 1929.....	76

**National Vital Statistics**—Previous to 1926 we had no National Vital Statistics.

The Statistics Act, passed in 1918, provided the necessary legislation for the establishment of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This was a great matter and was destined to have a far-reaching influence, not only on the agricultural, industrial, financial and commercial interests of Canada but on our Vital Statistics, which are incomparably the most important of all National statistics. What is the use of great resources, unbounded mineral wealth, magnificent railway systems, bountiful harvests, radio, air travel, millions of money, if the children who are to inherit these and use them, and the fathers and mothers who make the homes that build the nation, die before their time and leave their inheritance to strangers?

**The Dominion Bureau of Statistics**—Statistics take a long time to collect, a long time to arrange, a long time to calculate and compare, and the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, under the direction of Mr. R. H. Coats, one of the most distinguished statisticians of the British Empire, and his colleagues, did well, in co-operation with all the nine Provinces, to issue the first National Vital Statistics for the year 1921.

**The Registration Area**—For all this important work, without which progress in Child Welfare work and in the reduction of Infant Mortality and Maternal Mortality would have been more difficult and less satisfactory than it is today, too much credit cannot be given to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics and to those who founded and directed its work.

**Education**—The greatest need is education. When people understand, they will act accordingly. We all want to do our best. It is necessary that we should all be fully persuaded in our own minds that the care of the Canadian mother and her child is a supreme national duty and that if we do not succeed in saving them alive all our other national work loses most of its meaning and object.

**A Long Way to Go**—Let us take one more look at our Infant Mortality. In the Sixth Annual Report of the Vital Statistics of Canada, published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in 1929, we find on page XXI that 47 per cent of all our infant deaths under one year took place before the children were one month old.

Aged one month or less 47 per cent of our babies died.

Aged from 2 to 12 months 53 per cent of our babies died.

Nearly half our loss in the lives of Canadian babies takes place before they have lived a month. What does it mean? It can mean only one thing. We did not take good care of the mothers. We have a long way to go yet.

How are we to save these little ones dying under one month? They died—not likely because of anything that happened in their month of life after birth, but because of what happened in pre-natal life—life before birth. Take care of the mother and save half of our Infant Mortality.

Pre-natal care is the first and best key to the situation.

**Material Care**—Let us take a last look at the "Report to the War Committee of the Canadian Cabinet in 1918." You will search in vain for any direct reference to Maternal Care. There is no reference to the care of the mother even in the report of the Women's War Conference. Do you think there would be any Women's Conference in 1931 who would forget about Maternal Welfare? At the end of the report there is an indirect reference. The report mentions two "new activities . . . might be added to the duty of a Department of Public Health." What are these two "new activities?" One is "National Health and Sickness Insurance." The other is "The maintenance of maternity nurses for service in sparsely settled portions of the country."

**Maternal Mortality**—The Dominion Bureau of Statistics does not forget about the mother. In their preliminary report of Vital Statistics for 1929, Maternal Mortality appears on page 3.

In 1927, Maternal Mortality for Canada was ..... 5.6

In 1929, Maternal Mortality for Canada was ..... 5.7

Dr. F. W. Jackson, Deputy Minister of Health for Manitoba, reports that "for the past three years all causes of death in women of child bearing age, which by any possibility might be classified as puerperal, have been investigated. The response from the medical profession to this investigation has been very gratifying indeed and the information we are gathering is, I think, going to be of distinct value to us in formulating plans for reducing the number of maternal deaths. As this enquiry proceeds, naturally the number of maternal deaths, classified as such, will increase. This does not mean that the actual maternal deaths are on the increase, but rather that our classification is better. In fact, we think that maternal deaths are on the decrease."

In Canada we have lost, since 1927, three thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight of our mothers in childbirth or from causes connected therewith.

1927..... 1,300 or 5.6 per 1,000 living births.

1928..... 1,331 or 5.6 per 1,000 living births.

1929..... 1,337 or 5.7 per 1,000 living births.

Total..... 3,968

This is an average of 1,323 a year or nearly 4 every day.

The rates in each Province for the year 1929 are,—

Prince Edward Island .....	7.8	per	1,000	living	births
Nova Scotia .....	4.2	"	"	"	"
New Brunswick .....	7.1	"	"	"	"
Quebec .....	5.3	"	"	"	"
Ontario .....	5.4	"	"	"	"
Manitoba .....	6.8	"	"	"	"
Saskatchewan .....	6.2	"	"	"	"
Alberta .....	7.3	"	"	"	"
British Columbia .....	5.6	"	"	"	"

**Motherless Children**—Maternal Mortality in Canada from Dominion Day, 1925 to Dominion Day, 1926, was 1,532. These Mothers left 5,073 motherless children.

At the same rate the total number of children left motherless in Canada from this cause alone, in the four years 1926-1929 would be 17,440 or 4,359 in each year. What a loss to the homes and to the country! That must be one explanation of our social burdens. Many of these children in the end are maintained at the public expense. They find their way to Orphanages and Industrial Schools and Juvenile Courts. It would have been different if Mother had not died.

**The National Hero**—We have spoken only of the loss to the home and the children, caused by the Mother's death. So many children are left motherless. So many homes are ruined. So many new-born babies die under one month of age. But what of our loss in the Mother herself. She is the National Hero of Canada. When we lose her we lose our home. When we lose our home, we lose our all.

**Better Care**—Better care would save every year more than half of these Mothers for their homes and their children.

The Victorian Order of Nurses, who work under the direction of the doctor, have cared for 41,745 Canadian Mothers and their babies in the last three years, from 1927 to 1929. Of these Mothers, only 84 died or two per 1,000 living births.

If, in the Dominion of Canada, from 1927-1929, we had saved as many mothers in child-bearing as the Victorian Order of Nurses saved, 2551 more Canadian mothers would be alive.

**Why Not?**—Why did we not save all these 2551 mothers in the last three years? Because we had not enough help. Because Canadians did not understand. We could do it, if they understood and if everybody helped.

We can do it if Canadians put their minds to it and work for it. Unless we want good maternal care and work for it, we won't get it.

### **What Is Good Maternal Care?**

1. Provide for every mother the care of a doctor, a nurse and a home-help at the time of motherhood. That is what the Victorian Order does. Those who can afford it can make their own arrangements. We must think of those who cannot afford it.

2. Educate doctors better, both before and after graduation, about maternal care. Are all our doctors ready and willing to give good maternal care?

3. Educate nurses, both before and after graduation, about good maternal care. Are all our nurses ready and willing to give good maternal care?

4. Educate the husband and father and the wife and mother about good maternal care. Are all fathers and mothers ready and willing to co-operate with the doctor? Do they believe in good maternal care? Do they know what it is? Do they want it? Have they read "The Canadian Mother's Book?"

5. Educate the Canadian people, the average Canadian man and woman, about good maternal care.

These things cannot be done without help. You will help? Won't you?



**MODERN LIBRARY SERVICE FOR ALBERTA**

**Mr. D. E. Cameron, Librarian, University of Alberta.**

It is a very great pleasure to me to be permitted to address you this morning on the subject of modern library service for the Province of Alberta, and it is a pleasure to realize that the members of the Women's Institutes are already alive to the importance of this problem and anxious to know what can be done in the way of securing for the people of our province a steady supply of the best reading. We may all, I think, put our energy into a discussion of this sort with complete confidence, for the effort to bring more good reading to the hands of everyone rests on a very sound philosophy, whose main tenets, I think, might be expressed thus:

Among all the satisfactions that life may bring to us, there is none more important than the satisfaction of the mind; and in the satisfaction of the mind there is no substitute for good books. People may allow the reading of good books to lapse into a place of lesser importance for a short time, but it will always come back to its own again, and will never be seriously threatened by any of the things that sometimes look like being substitutes, such as radio, theatres and so on. I hope there is no one here who doubts that what I have said about reading as one of the greatest satisfactions in life is true. I am perfectly sure that everyone who knows the satisfaction of losing himself in a first-class book would hesitate very long before he would consent to trade the happiness that brings for many of the other satisfactions that are often, it may be, more eagerly sought after by men and women.

In our day, the question of good reading is very largely tied up with the question of libraries, for the reason that our interests are, or at least ought to be, very wide, and the demands we make on books are, therefore, very numerous, so that it would be really impossible for anyone to gather around him as his private property the books that he ought to have within reach; and that is all the more true when we remember that for every book that we want to read thoroughly, there ought to be within reach a dozen or two at least from which we can pick just the thing we want, getting in the meantime a very happy impression of the wealth of our resources and of the unlimited treasure that waits for those who will seek it. Even the wealthiest reader nowadays does not find his own resources enough, but wants to be near the much greater resources of a good library.

Within the last generation there has been a very great awakening of feeling that libraries are of very great importance to us. A good deal of credit for this must go to Andrew Carnegie, who, remembering perhaps the poverty of his own youth, resolved that if he could help it no boy would go without access to good books. He devoted a very generous share of his vast fortune to the task of stimulating the provision of library service, and as a result of his munificence a host of municipal libraries sprang into existence. To countless thousands of people the creation of these libraries was an unspeakable boon, and it was generally felt that if only it could be possible to erect libraries of this sort everywhere, the problem of providing a steady flow of good reading would be satisfactorily solved.

The trouble, however, is that the more books people have and the more they learn to use them, the more they find that they need, so that the provision of many libraries a generation ago has rather taught us how vast our needs are, than settled the question of how to supply them. I have no doubt at all that Carnegie felt that he was helping us to a final solution of our troubles, and I fancy he would be agreeably surprised and delighted to know that the main result of his great benefactions has been to show us that the library needs of a really good, well-educated community are very much wider

than he ever thought they would be. You see, the trouble really is, that when people once begin to find out what they can get in books they keep on coming back for other things, and it is the experience of every library that the better it does its work, the less is it able to meet all the demands that come on it. The total result of the experience of the last generation has been, that every librarian knows now that he will never be really happy till he gets all the books that there are in the world within call of his readers.

To put the matter in another way, we find out that we do not solve the reading problems of a community by gathering together even a big collection of books and then saying: "Now there you are. You have got your books," for the better that collection is the sooner it will make its readers find out other things that lie beyond it that they simply must get hold of and read.

The main outcome then of a generation's experience has been that Andrew Carnegie's gifts have greatly stimulated the provision of library service, and at the same time have awakened a demand that stretches far beyond the limits of our present resources.

Experience has thus done two things for us. It has shown us how very much we need good library service, and it has made a complete change in our ideals of what library service should be. The best illustration of the changed ideal will be found in what has been undertaken in the United Kingdom. By the aid of the munificent benefaction of the Carnegie United Kingdom Trust, the whole system of library units which were separately administered and self-contained, and which sought to meet the library needs of a community from a fairly limited collection of books, has been remodelled into a national library system. The new "tactical unit" of library service is no longer the self-contained public library serving a limited community, but the centrally administered group of libraries covering the county. Within each county under the new system there is a central library, usually at the county seat, of which the public libraries in the other towns and villages are branches. These branches are supplemented by numerous book deposit stations in the smaller centres of population, and under the ideal system a motor book van brings books to the very doors of the people in the more isolated parts of the country. This means that all the books within the county library system are held on call for the use of any reader in the county. The county libraries are again supplemented by a large central depository of books, the New National Library as it is called, in London, and the proud claim is now made that any citizen within the whole county can now get any book he requires, for if it is not to be found in any of the county collections of books, the central or National Library undertakes to buy it and have it sent down for the reader's use. You will see, then, that the older system of libraries might be compared to a series of water tanks holding a strictly limited quantity of water into which readers could dip their buckets. The new system is like the irrigation system which leads the water from central reservoirs direct to the thirsty fields.

That, I hope you will understand at once, is a very bold conception of what a library system ought to be, and it is very heartening to know that this is no longer a paper scheme. It is now working, and it is almost possible today to say that any reader in the United Kingdom has access to any book whatsoever that he finds himself in urgent need of, or which for some reason he is curious to read. It is in the light of such an overwhelmingly glorious ideal that we in Alberta have to consider how we stand at present in the matter of library service, and to take such steps as we can to build up a library service to meet our needs as they are now and as they shall be when our communities have awakened thoroughly to the appreciation of what modern book service can do for them.

Before turning to speak of our present situation and our prospects, however, I would like to take a moment to remark that a good library service is as important as any of the public services which our modern communities have learned to provide for themselves. In proportion to the outlay, it is possible that more satisfaction comes out of libraries than out of any other public service, and we may hope that our authorities will understand better as the days go on, that nothing makes for a peaceful and contented community more surely than the fact that the minds of its citizens are pleasantly occupied with good reading, and find there at once a relief from the everyday cares of life and the stimulus to face life with new courage. This is more true in modern democracies like our own than it has ever been. The very idea of a democracy is, that the citizens of a community have the right kind of knowledge and the right ideals so that they are fit to govern themselves wisely, and the strength of our social order depends at once on the good intention of all our citizens and on their information and their ability to weigh a question and decide what is right without fear and without prejudice. Those of us who are interested in library service may very properly feel that we are doing a little service to our democratic society, and helping to lay more firmly the foundations at once of social justice and of social peace.

For the past few years some of us who have been pretty closely connected with library service in the province, have felt that the day was near when we should try to make a forward step, and a good deal of thought was given from time to time during the past few years to our present standing in the matter of library service and to possible projects for the extension of that work in our communities. As it seemed that the first thing to do was to call a conference of librarians and others interested so that we might size up the situation and talk over our prospects, arrangement was made to call a conference in December, 1930, and with the very much valued assistance of the Provincial Government, we were able to bring to the University nearly fifty delegates representing not only the libraries but other organizations like Women's Institutes, Local Councils of Women, Women's University Club, Catholic Women's League, Teachers' Alliance and so on. The welcome given to the idea of the conference was exceedingly encouraging, and the sessions were both interesting and valuable.

Before I tell you of the outcome of the Conference, let me take a minute or two to remind you how we stand in the matter of existing library service. It is not necessary to enumerate our libraries, or to mention in detail what equipment we have in books and buildings. Although we have by no means covered the province, we have a very fair sprinkling of municipal libraries in our cities and towns. Our greatest trouble has been that, though the people in our cities and towns may have reasonable access to books, our rural municipalities have not been very well off in this matter, and that is a very serious defect in our present arrangements, as lack of access to a generous supply of good books is one of the handicaps of living out of towns, and some of us feel that if we succeed in developing better library facilities for rural communities, we shall have done not a little towards equalizing conditions and equalizing opportunity:

We need not repine greatly because up to the present we have not got very many libraries. Many of the older communities are having a good deal of difficulty in manoeuvring into position for modern library service because the flexibility, centralization and mobility of library resources, according to the modern ideal, are heavily mortgaged to the support and maintenance of numerous independent library units. In the old country for example, it is taking millions of pounds to adapt the older Carnegie ideal to modern needs. We have a clear field for building as we feel we ought to do.

Further, during their years of life, our public libraries have become focal points for districts that are much greater than the definite constituencies that they were destined to serve. We have learned a good deal from their experience as to the need felt by country districts, and the exploratory work done by our existing libraries is no small part of the total service they have rendered to us. A great deal of credit is coming to some of the agricultural schools, particularly that of Olds, whose alumni have been pioneers in this matter, and also to little groups of people here and there who have been trying by voluntary effort to inaugurate book service in their communities.

There is one other point of interest. I have mentioned the great central libraries which have been coming into existence in the last few years to supplement the local collections of books, and we should not be discouraged at all when we learn how many thousands of dollars are being put into these. We have, ourselves, in the province, the nucleus at least, of such a central library in the Department of Extension of the University, and we may hope to see that grow in such a way as to fill for us the function of the large libraries elsewhere.

Now, as to the outcome of the Library Conference, it was very delightful to everyone to meet and discuss matters of such great interest, and, apart from any definite results, everyone, I think, felt that the conference was well worth while. But we have some definite results to report. In the first place a Library Association for the Province of Alberta has been formed, and its professed aims are, the improvement of library standards, the promotion of a province-wide library service, and the encouragement of the co-operative effort of all library and educational agencies in the attainment of these ends. This Association, it is hoped, will be a clearing house for opinion on library matters, and will do its best to help the cause of library service in the province. Membership in this association is open to libraries and librarians and to other organizations or individuals interested in furthering the cause of library service.

More interesting, perhaps, is the fact that at the Conference, certain desirable changes in the existing Public Libraries Act were considered, and recommendations were laid before the Provincial Government. As a result very largely of the personal interest taken in this matter by the Hon. Perren Baker, an Act was passed at the recent session of the legislature to amend the Public Libraries Act. The amendments of special interest to us are three-fold:

(a) The old Act only authorized the establishment of municipal libraries in cities and towns, but made no provision for other municipalities. That has been changed so that now any organized district can undertake library work if it so desires.

(b) Co-operation between libraries or between groups of people seeking to provide library service is now authorized under such regulation as the Minister of Education may make, so that it will be possible for a rural municipality, or even for a group of people in a rural community, to make arrangements with an adjoining library for the provision of library service.

(c) Voluntary organizations which undertake the provision of book service in communities not served by municipal libraries may be recognized as libraries within the meaning of the Act, and will qualify for the government grant to libraries, provided that such instructions as the Minister of Education may lay down are complied with.



These appear to us to be very important changes in our Act as they open up the way for the development of library service in districts that may not for a good many years be ready to establish a municipal library under the regular conditions. We have already several places in the province which should be able immediately to profit by these changes, and we hope that other voluntary organizations may appear in fairly rapid succession to occupy the field. The Library Association is doing what it can to make the provisions of the new Act known, and will be glad to have correspondence from any individual or organization interested.

There is another provision of the new Act which we also think is very important. Until now no minister was directly responsible for the administration of the Library Act, or for the general supervision of library service, but now the care of libraries has been definitely placed in the hands of the Minister of Education, so that we have now a court of appeal. In this connection, it is gratifying to be able to say that Mr. Baker has throughout shown very genuine interest in the matter of library service.

As our situation stands today, then, the Provincial Government says that it will help any public library service to the maximum amount of \$350.00, dollar for dollar up to \$300.00 for the money spent locally on the purchase of books, and \$50.00 for periodicals. The recent concession, by which voluntary organizations as well as organized municipal libraries, may qualify for this grant, is of extreme value to us, and is, perhaps, the greatest help that library service in the province could be given at this time.

The next movement rests with the districts that want book service. Already there are signs that the next movement in library service in the province will be an increase in the number of smaller libraries, most of which may, for some years at least, be run by voluntary organizations under such regulations as the Minister of Education lays down. It is very cheering to know that there is a library service of this sort already inaugurated, or in contemplation, in Lloydminster, Raymond, Cardston, Blairmore, Canmore, and I hear, Macleod. In Raymond the town council has given a room in the new town hall and provides the services of a library attendant. In Cardston the church is giving library room in one of its buildings, and a board has been appointed. So that for the first time in a good many years, there is a "sound of moving in the tree-tops."

Perhaps the best thing I could do in the closing minute or two of my address, is to point out what I think are the main things that should be attempted in a newly organized library effort. As the government grant is dollar for dollar, some money is needed, and after a good many years in library service, I have been unable to find out any way of avoiding that need of money. I would suggest that in any new effort, a subscription list be opened, and a strong attempt made to enlist wide interest on the basis of a small membership fee per annum. Then, that the local council be approached for a grant. Under our present law municipal councils are permitted to make direct donations for library service. Then the government should be approached for its grant. It makes a very strong talking point with possible subscribers if you are in a position to say to them that the council will give a grant for each dollar subscribed, and that the government will do its part, so that each dollar membership may be worth possibly \$4.00 in cash income to the library. As to quarters, no special advice can be given here, as each local situation will vary, but even if no more accommodation can be obtained than a place to house the books and make exchange of them possible by readers, a start should be made with that until better facilities open up.



It must be noted that the government grant does not cover money expended on maintenance or salaries, but is concerned only with money spent on books, so that if it is possible in the beginning to have voluntary service in the care of the books, that is a very direct gain, and I must say that I think highly enough of the various women's organizations in the province to believe that they will see in such service a noble opportunity for valuable community work.

One other thing may be said. That is that a library may look for a certain number of donations of books, especially when it is starting up, and a very strong drive should be made for donations in kind. Here a warning has to be given, that a very high percentage of the books donated may have no very great value for the library, and many of them should be eliminated quietly as the days go on, but it gives people a good feeling to donate books, and that should be encouraged. In the case of Cardston, the Rotary Club is undertaking to put in a stock of boys' books, and the Board of Trade is putting in books on economics, and I think that that kind of thing could be very easily encouraged, especially in the initial year of a library's operation.

As funds are likely to be quite short in the first year or two of the new effort, I have been thinking that I would work a little more on the sympathy of the Minister of Education, and ask him whether donations of books would be considered as equivalent to cash donations, provided that the books were reasonably valued, and I think if he could find it in his heart to make this concession, say for the first year of a library's existence, it would help a great many of the smaller efforts away to a flying start.

There are a thousand other things that might be said about the kind of books to get, the kind of journals to subscribe to; about what proportion of the money available should be spent on children's books, on fiction, on serious books for grown up readers, and so on, but I will have to leave that, and I can do it with an easy conscience as the Alberta Library Association, whose secretary is Mrs. C. E. Race, of the University of Alberta Library, will be more than delighted to enter into correspondence with any of you when the proper time comes about these points. I would like to say, also, that there is not a librarian in any library of the province who will not be more than delighted to help out any effort by all means possible.

No matter how many libraries we establish, there will always be, as I have said earlier, need for access to a wider circle of books, so that a serious reader will always be borrowing from far away libraries, I hope. The Library Association is taking up the question of postal rates on books, and we hope before very long to have some concession made on this point, as the present postal charges of double carriage on a book is a very serious handicap to rural readers. What I personally hope is that the registered libraries will have the right of mailing books out free of postage to rural points within the area served by it, the reader to pay return postage only. May I say in concluding that there is one social ambition which I think moves all of us, and that is the desire to see equality of opportunity in all the good things of life between people in cities and people in the remoter rural places, and this library effort of which I have been speaking is one of the steps toward attaining that ideal. We hope to live to see the day when any rural reader who desires to see any good book whatsoever, will have the chance of having it brought to his hand at the smallest possible cost, and with the greatest possible speed.

I have refrained from speaking about the school libraries of the province, which form a distinct and very pressing problem and have confined myself rather to public library service in the ordinary sense of the word, but I trust

that none of our efforts to establish library service will overlook the urgency of the school library problem, and I would ask for the Minister of Education the whole-hearted support of the community in any step that he desires to take when the proper time comes in the matter of libraries in our schools.

## REPORT OF THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GIRLS' CLUBS

**Miss Minnie Tyler, Alliance, Secretary.**

The Eleventh Annual Convention of the Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Clubs was held at St. Joseph's College, Edmonton, July 23, 24, 25 and 26. under the supervision of Mrs. J. Macgregor Smith.

Registration took place at two o'clock Thursday, July 26th, in the office of St. Joseph's College, Miss Minnie Tyler and Miss Margaret Hudson being in charge. Sixty delegates and visitors were present. Following registration the girls assembled in general meeting, the president, Miss Margaret Hudson, presiding. Greetings from the Edmonton branch of the W. I. were extended by letter. Mrs. Wood, the new supervisor of the A.W.I.G.C., was introduced. She was very enthusiastic over her new position and hoped to lend a helping hand wherever possible.

The girls were divided into companies and patrols. The committees on Resolutions and Nominations were chosen. The former was headed by Miss Evelyn Connier, assisted by Miss Jean Kidney and Miss Elsie Gerwin. Miss Connie Clemments, Miss Mary Seright and Miss Maude McKenzie were chosen members of the latter committee. Following the meeting the girls were entertained to tea at Government House, His Honor Lieut.-Governor Walsh and Mrs. Walsh being present.

### THURSDAY EVENING, JULY 23rd

Thursday evening the girls held their annual masquerade ball and a very enjoyable time was had. The prizes were awarded as follows: First prize, prettiest, Florence Biersta, Rainbow; first prize, humorous, Connie Clemments, Gentleman. The girls concluded the evening by a sing-song and staging of many clever stunts.

### FRIDAY MORNING SESSION, JULY 24th

The session opened in the usual way by singing O Canada followed by the Club Code. The Secretary read the report of the 1930 Convention which was adopted as read. The president reported that the A.W.I.G.C. membership was steadily increasing. After much discussion it was decided to publish a magazine containing the convention report, the staff being: Editor, Jean Blewett Anderson, Lethbridge; advertising manager, Maude McKenzie, Sedge-wick; circulation manager, Mabel Morgan, Three Hills; sports editor, Dorothy Chappel, Wetaskiwin; humorous editor, Mildred Ross, Warner; social editor, Marie Rogers, Loughheed. Each club is responsible for at least one article for the magazine. Miss Gertrude Flood, Director of District No. 2, read her report which was adopted. Miss Mary Morrison read a report for District No. 3, which was adopted as read. Miss Mildred Ross read the report of District No. 4 in the absence of the director, Miss Della Kosek. This report was also adopted. These reports brought up much discussion regarding the work the clubs were doing in the province.

### AFTERNOON SESSION, JULY 24th

From 1 to 1.30 Districts 2, 3 and 4 met and appointed District Directors as follows: District No. 2, Evelyn Connier, Jasper; District No. 3, Vera McLellan, Merna; District No. 4, Lily Sahlen, Granum.

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At 2 o'clock the girls were entertained by the management of the Rialto Theatre to a talkie, "The Two Gunmen." After this they assembled in patrols and went on a shopping tour with their leaders.

## EVENING SESSION, JULY 24th

Brother Rogation of St. Joseph's College, spoke to the girls of Advancement in Life and that we should profit by heroes of bygone days. Mrs. Haynes, who is interested in amateur dramatics, gave a very interesting lecture on the above and presented a play, "How He Lied to Her Husband." The evening was ended by the Public Speaking Contest, won by Miss Lenora Trace of Sedgewick. She spoke on "Resolved, that the Government should set a minimum wage for men and women." Other contenders were, Lily Sahlen, Garden Prairie; Julia Malloy, Loughheed; Elsie Gerwin, Hardisty, and Elsie Bright, Hardisty.

## MORNING SESSION, JULY 25th

Mrs. Rodell of Wetaskiwin announced that she was offering a cup for short story writing that will be open for competition each year. The winner receives a club pin for herself. The story is to be not more than 5000 words and must be sent to the judges not later than May 1st, 1932. There must be at least five contenders. Four songs were chosen to be sung at club meetings as suggested by Mrs. Wood:

1, O Canada; 2, Maple Leaf Forever; 3, God Save the King; 4, Auld Lang Sync.

## SATURDAY AFTERNOON, JULY 25th

Discussion re Scholarship: Jean Anderson reports failure of clubs support. It was decided we give this scholarship for 1932, all dues to be sent in before January 1st, 1932.

Miss Evelyn Connier reported for Resolutions Committee. The following resolution was adopted:

We, the Alberta Women's Institute Girls' Clubs, met in convention at Edmonton, resolve that letters of thanks be sent to those who made our convention such a success. A motion was brought before the house that we hold conventions and district camps alternating yearly; tabled.

It was decided to adopt programme Mrs. Wood compiled, also the badge system. The nominating committee then reported and the election of officers took place. The personnel is as follows:

President, Margaret Hudson; vice-president, Maude McKenzie; secretary-treasurer, Mary Morrison; district directors, Lily Sahlen, Vera McLellan and Evelyn Connier.

## NOTICES OF MOTION

1. Moved by Elna Gibb, seconded by Dorothy Chappel, that the A.W.I.G.C. hold annual meetings in the month of September. Carried.

2. That club reports be sent to District Directors, W. I. Constituency Convener of Girls' Clubs, Provincial Supervisor and W.I.G.C. Publicity Convener.

3. That the constitution be changed to provide for junior clubs from the ages of 6 to 14 years.

4. That the constitution be changed to provide for senior clubs from the ages over 14 years.

5. That no member can retain an office for a period of more than three years.

6. That a definite uniform be adopted.

#### EVENING SESSION, JULY 25th

At seven o'clock the delegates and guests assembled in the dining room for their annual banquet. Mrs. Smith acted as chairman. The guests of honor were: Mrs. Perren Baker, Mrs. McClung Jr., Mrs. Douglas, Brother Rogation and Mrs. Rogers. Baby McClung presented the Public Speaking Trophy to Miss Lenora Trace. Mrs. Baker presented the Emily Murphy cup to Dorothy Chappel. The retiring Supervisor, Mrs. Smith, was presented with a picture from the members of the A.W.I.G.C. with a suitable inscription. The retiring members of the executive were presented with beautiful bouquets. A book was presented to the Jasper Club for having sold the greatest number of club magazines, also a purse of \$3.00 donated by director of District No. 2, Miss Gertrude Flood. The remainder of the evening was spent in dancing.

#### SUNDAY, JULY 26th

From 9.30 to 10.30 Sunday morning Mrs. Backman conducted a short service. The girls divided into several groups and attended the various churches. A picnic supper and a motor drive completed the day.

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### CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

#### ARTICLE I.—NAME

The name of this organization shall be The Alberta Women's Institutes.

#### ARTICLE II.—MOTTO

The motto of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be "For Home and Country."

#### ARTICLE III.—POLICY

(a) The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be the central Provincial organization of all Institutes which have been or may hereafter be formed under the Women's Institute Act.

(b) The organization shall be non-partizan and non-sectarian, and no Institute shall be operated in the interest of any party, sect or society, but only for the general good and welfare.

(c) No society or organization for a special purpose shall bring its discussions or its subjects into any meeting of The Alberta Women's Institutes, except by the unanimous consent of the delegates present.

#### ARTICLE IV.—OBJECTS

The objects of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be the improvement of social conditions in rural and other communities by means of:

(a) The study of home economics (including home nursing, household science, sanitation, food values, sickroom cookery, house furnishing, sewing and other matters), child welfare, prevention of disease, local neighborhood needs, industrial and social conditions.

(b) The establishment of Institutes as social and educational community centres and the provision for a welcome to new settlers in the community.

## ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

(c) The encouragement of agriculture and the improvement of agricultural conditions.

(d) The holding, establishment and maintenance of demonstrations, lectures, short course schools, traveling and other libraries, exhibitions, competitions, meetings, conventions and such other utilities and attractions as may from time to time be declared useful for the promotion of the foregoing or any of them.

(e) To voice the sentiments of the Institutes on all matters of importance within the scope of Women's Institute work.

## ARTICLE V.—MEMBERSHIP

(a) An Institute which had a membership of at least eight when organized and has held at least four meetings during the preceding year, shall be considered a member of the Provincial organization.

(b) Failure of an Institute to pay annual dues for one year, as prescribed by the Provincial organization, shall constitute forfeiture of membership, except in special cases when satisfactory explanations are stated to the Council.

(c) A forfeited membership may be restored upon the payment of back dues to the Business Secretary-Treasurer.

(d) An Institute, wishing to disband, shall surrender to the office of the Council of The Alberta Women's Institutes its Certificate of Incorporation together with a statement of the disposition of property or funds in their possession at the time of dissolution.

## ARTICLE VI.—OFFICERS

(a) The elective officers of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be a President, Vice-President, Recording Secretary and one Director from each district (who, by virtue of office, shall be a Vice-President of the Provincial organization.)

(b) These officers shall constitute the Council, which shall have the general management and control of the affairs of The Alberta Women's Institutes.

(c) Two members, one of whom shall be the Provincial President, shall be chosen at the biennial election to serve as Directors on the Board of Directors of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

(d) The Provincial President, the Vice-President and the Recording Secretary shall constitute an Executive Committee, with power to transact routine business and to take such action as may be necessary on matters arising between annual sessions; they shall meet at the call of the President or Recording Secretary as circumstances require; shall have power to fill any vacancy on the Council or Conveners of Standing Committees for the unexpired term, and to appoint special committees when deemed necessary.

(e) The Council shall have power to engage such officers and servants as it may from time to time deem proper, to prescribe their duties, fix their salaries, and to dispense with the services of such officers or servants.

## ARTICLE VII.—ELECTION

(a) All elections for officers of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be by ballot for a term of two years.

(b) A majority of the votes cast shall be necessary to elect.



(c) No officer shall be eligible to the same office for more than two consecutive terms.

(d) Newly elected officers shall enter upon their respective duties at the adjournment of the Convention at which they were elected.

#### ARTICLE VIII.—AMENDMENTS

(a) This Constitution may be amended at any Provincial Convention by a two-thirds vote of voting delegates present, provided that the proposed amendments have been submitted in writing at the previous Provincial Convention or by the unanimous vote of all present.

(b) By-laws and standing rules may be adopted, amended or repealed at any Provincial Convention by a two-thirds vote.

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#### BY-LAWS

##### ARTICLE I—DUTIES OF OFFICERS

(a) The President of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall preside at all meetings of the Provincial organization and at the Council and Executive Committee meetings. She shall appoint all Conveners of Standing Committees and the Supervisor of Girls' Clubs, subject to the approval of the Council, and shall have general supervision of the work throughout the Province.

(b) In the absence of the President, the Vice-President shall perform the duties of the President. She shall assist her in devising and executing plans of work.

(c) It shall be the duty of the District Director to attend meetings of the Council, to have a general supervision of the work in her District, and to arrange for District Conference, after consulting with the Provincial President. She shall as far as possible assist the Constituency Conveners in her District in organizing new Institutes and endeavor to foster and stimulate the Women's Institute spirit.

(d) The Recording Secretary shall:

1. Record the minutes of the Provincial Convention, the regular and special meetings of the Council and the proceedings of the Executive Committee.
2. Conduct all correspondence relative to the Programme for the Provincial Convention.
3. Have charge of compiling and printing of Annual Report.
4. Within three weeks after the election of her successor turn over to such successor all books and files of The Alberta Women's Institutes under her control.

(e) The Business Secretary-Treasurer, who shall be a salaried employee of the organization, shall:

1. Receive and hold all monies belonging to the Alberta Women's Institutes.
2. Keep an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements.
3. Pay all accounts authorized by the Council and signed by the President.

## ALBERTA WOMEN'S INSTITUTES

4. Give an itemized account of all financial transactions at the Provincial Convention, or whenever required by two or more members of the Council.
5. Furnish a bond from a regular bonding house, for an amount named by the Council.
6. Close her books in sufficient time for an official audit prior to the date set for the Provincial Convention.
7. Keep a correct list of all Provincial officers, Constituency Conveners, Conveners of Standing Committees, and all Institutes belonging to The Alberta Women's Institutes.
8. Conduct all business correspondence, and perform clerical work required by the Council, also cause to be printed and properly distributed all necessary stationery for the use of officers and conveners.
9. Within six weeks after the appointment of her successor, she shall deliver to such successor all monies, vouchers, books and property of The Alberta Women's Institutes under her control, covering all transactions to the time at which she ceased to hold office.

(f) The Publicity Secretary shall receive monthly reports from all Institutes belonging to the Provincial organization, edit same and cause to be published any Institute news of general interest in various newspapers and magazines throughout the Province. Her term of office shall be optional with the Council.

(g) The Business Secretary-Treasurer and the Publicity Secretary shall attend meetings of the Council when requested to do so by the President.

(h) The duties of the Supervisor of Women's Institute Girls' Clubs shall be as directed by the Council.

(i) Necessary expenses incurred by officers and conveners in the service of the organization may be refunded from the treasury by order of the Council.

## ARTICLE II.—STANDING COMMITTEES

(a) The Standing Committees of The Alberta Women's Institutes shall be: Child Welfare and Public Health, Education and Better Schools, Legislation, Household Economics, Agriculture, Canadian Industries, Immigration, Canadianization and League of Nations.

(b) The duties of the Conveners of the Standing Committees shall be to outline the work to be undertaken for the year and to assist in the carrying out of such work; send copies of outline to the Provincial President for her approval, after which they will be sent to the District Directors and to Constituency Chairmen; to obtain reports from her Constituency Chairmen, summarize these, and make a report at the convention.

(c) The Council shall have power to increase or reduce the number of Standing Committees as seems necessary to the best interests of the organization.

## ARTICLE III.—DUES

(a) The yearly dues from each Institute to the Provincial Fund shall be one dollar (\$1.00) per capita. This shall be reckoned on the number of members who have paid their fees during the year just closing. The minimum fee shall be \$8.00.

(b) Dues shall be payable to the Business Secretary-Treasurer of the Alberta Women's Institutes on January 1st of each year.

#### ARTICLE IV.—VOTING MEMBERSHIP

(a) The voting membership shall consist of the Provincial President, Vice-President, District Directors, Recording Secretary, Past Provincial Presidents, Constituency Conveners, Conveners of Standing Committees, Publicity Secretary, Supervisor of Girls' Clubs and one official delegate from each Institute.

(b) Each officer and delegate at the Annual Convention shall have one vote. Voting by proxy, either verbal or written, shall not be admissible.

(c) Any member may attend the Provincial Convention and take part in the discussion, but the voting membership shall be as provided for in Section "a," Article IV.

#### ARTICLE V.—RESOLUTIONS

(a) The Resolutions Committee shall consist of the Executive Committee, Provincial Convener of Legislation, and one other member, appointed by the President. Resolutions, so far as possible, should be sent to the Business Secretary-Treasurer at least one month before Provincial Conventions.

(b) All resolutions must be endorsed by the delegates of at least two Institutes, or a Constituency Conference, a District Conference, the Provincial Council, or the Provincial Executive Committee.

#### ARTICLE VI.—PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

All meetings of the Alberta Women's Institutes shall be governed by Mrs. Parson's Rules of Order and the Handbook of the Alberta Women's Institutes.

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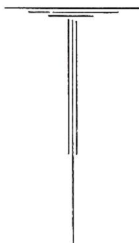
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