

it necessary to offer any training. If, on the other hand, the chance of becoming efficient is offered to the girls, they will realize how quickly those girls who avail themselves of this training rise, and they will be attracted into a calling which offers an attractive and useful career for those who can do it well.

It may be thought that the present day instruction in cooking, etc., in the primary and technical schools is enough. It is a beginning, but the training is very one-sided; it is divorced from the natural routine of home life and is very seldom translated into action outside of the school.

Schools such as have been described teach the girl not only to cook and to launder and to do isolated duties for separate hours with certain materials set down in front of her, but they teach her to organize and co-ordinate all her different sorts of work and knowledge into one harmonious whole. A girl with this power, who works with her head, as well as her hands, and who does her work well because she understands it and takes a pride in it, such a girl would be worth good wages; she would be worth consideration, and she would be a credit to the system of education that produced her.

## The Eighteen "Lady Lecturers"

*Who Distribute Themselves Professionally Among the Ontario Women's Institutes*

By MABEL BURKHOLDER

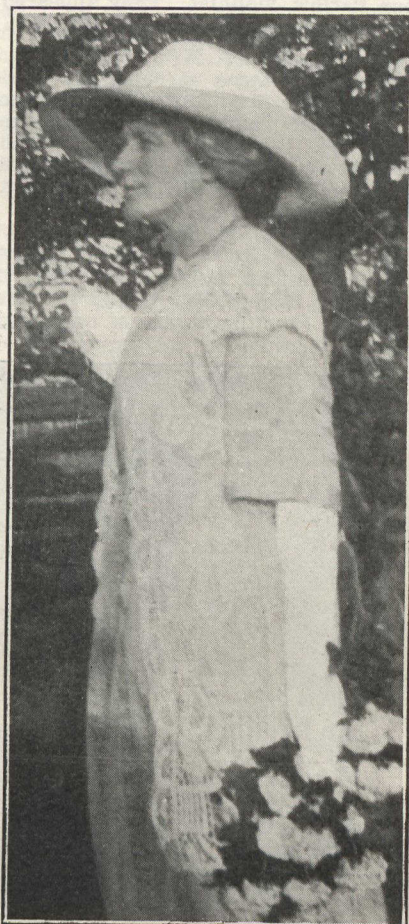
I BELIEVE there was a time, though not in my experience, when men said to their sisters, daughters, and wives: "Your place is in the home"; and when they looked askance at anything like a woman's club, especially in the rural districts. It must have been to overcome some such little prejudice on the part that the members of the Women's Institute chose their beautiful motto: "For Home and Country."

Mr. George A. Putnam, Superintendent of Institutes in Ontario, states in his 1913 report that the total number of Women's Societies in the Province is seven hundred and fifty, and the membership over twenty-two thousand. To keep every member in touch with the most up-to-date information on all vital subjects affecting the home and rural life, eighteen lecturers are sent out at two different seasons of the year to address the various meetings where the ladies foregather. Each is a specialist in her line of work, and their earnest, practical talks on all subjects in which women are interested cannot fail to have a tremendous influence on our provincial life.

DURING the past year instruction was given to 1,667 persons in cooking and food values, home nursing, or sewing. These subjects indicate the very practical nature of the addresses. The list of lecturers includes one medical doctor, several graduate nurses, two or three graduates of Guelph Macdonald Institute, one full-fledged optician, one graduate of the American College of Mechanotherapy, besides many who have undergone that most efficient of trainings, a long and successful life on the farm. Surely the executive has spared no pains to give the women of Ontario the best brains the country affords.

One is pleased to note how the child comes into his own at the hands of

these women who are working in the interest of home and country. More than half the lecturers have subjects dealing with children, while three or



MRS. M. N. NORMAN, OF TORONTO.

Who urges the training of women's minds and the development of such qualities as graciousness and fineness of nature. She also hopes to show parents the necessity of teaching fundamental truths to their boys and girls.

four more speak a special word for the growing girl and young woman on the farm. Miss A. M. Hotson makes the child a special study. Mrs. E. B. McTurk, of Lucan, is an inspector of Barnardo girls in Ontario, and has had great success in dealing with difficult cases; while Dr. Annie Backus, along with Mrs. McTurk and many others, is particularly interested in the Medical Inspection of Children in Rural Schools.

ELEVEN of the speakers give talks on Health and Home Nursing. One wonders how a malignant germ continues to live in the homes of the women who have heard Miss Mary Murdock on "Bacteriology in the Home," or Mrs. Parsons on "Home Nursing," or Miss E. E. Smillie on "Disease Germs." Mrs. F. W. Watts, of Toronto, explains to each of us how to be beautiful, while Miss Ethel Robson, a practical farmer's daughter, gives demonstrations in physical culture.

But if one kind of subject furnishes more practical information to the woman on the farm than all the others, it is that supplied by the ten lecturers



MISS JEAN CAMERON-SMITH, POWASSAN.

Who has done some of her finest work in a Nurses' Training School in Japan, and is here pictured with one of her Japanese charges. Miss Cameron-Smith is literary, having written many descriptive articles, as well as poems, on patriotic subjects.

who deal with practical farm problems. Miss Gilholm's "Will the Dairy Cow Pay Off the Mortgage?" is a delight to every woman who owns such an animal. Mrs. Hunter, of Pleasant, as mother of five children and mistress of a fine up-to-date country home, always has an audience hanging on her every word in "Common Sense in Housekeeping"; while Mrs. G. H. Greer, of Hamilton, always has something new to tell about "The Canning and Preserving of Fruits."

SEVEN at least of these influential ladies are distinctly literary in taste. Who that has heard it can forget Miss Jean Cameron-Smith's recital of her own poems, "Canada" or "The Nightingale's Song"? A glance through the subjects to which our Ontario women are treated from time to time reveals many such topics as "Canadian Writers," "Literature for the Home," and "Literature and Life." Surely these many-sided lecturers leave no question vital to the Canadian home untouched.

Space prevents my dealing with the work of any one of these noted women who are working so indefatigably for the upbuilding of our country. For instance, I have a strong desire to deal at length with the career of Mrs. M. C. Dawson, at one time the noted president of the Parkhill branch. She is beloved by all for her zeal in making her home institute one of the most noted in the Province. I take it she represents well the entire group of Institute women, whose influence makes for broad culture, home refinement, and public morality. The Ontario Women's Institutes are fortunate in securing the services of such devoted, sincere, and practical speakers.

### Women and Standardized Pay

THERE will never be a minimum wage for women and minors in Canada until the women of Canada demand it. Unfortunately, there are not many women in this country who understand what a minimum wage is, nor what it means to the health and happiness of the working woman. There must, therefore, be a considerable amount of education among women of all classes before this reform will get into the realm of man politics.

In Canada there would seem to be an inclination to gyrate about the point of a minimum wage for women and minors rather than to go straight to the heart of the matter.

The heart of the matter is a plain wages question—the standardizing of payment for work, in any industry, for the district in which it is located. The gyration has been hitherto manifested by acts which, while they affect the conditions under which these workers labour, dealing with, for instance, factories' sanitation, the age limit, and the fixing of working hours, still have neglected the all-important matter of a fair living wage, by which one means a wage sufficient to maintain the worker in health and in a reasonable degree of comfort.

Men need no protection in this regard, as their bargaining power is already represented by trade unions—the various labour organizations—by



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THE next examination for the entry of Naval Cadets will be held at the examination centres of the Civil Service Commission in May, 1914, successful candidates joining the College on or about 1st August. Applications for entry will be received up to 15th April by the Secretary, Civil Service Commission, Ottawa, from whom blank entry forms can now be obtained.

Candidates for the examination in May next must be between the ages of fourteen and sixteen on the 1st July, 1914.

Further details can be obtained on application to the Undersigned.

G. J. DESBARATS,  
Deputy Minister.

Department of the Naval Service, Ottawa.

Department of the Naval Service,  
—53690.

Ottawa, Jan. 8th, 1914.

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MISS M. V. POWELL, OF WHITBY.

A born organizer who has a special talent for punctuality, orderliness, and detail. During a recent trip through New Brunswick she organized 18 new branches of the Women's Institutes.