

Farm Women's Clubs

NOTE—Any woman in Saskatchewan who feels that she would like to have a Women's Section of the Grain Growers' Association in her district, should communicate with the provincial secretary, Miss Ann Albrecht, Winnipeg, who would like a Women's Section of the United Farmers in her district should write to Mrs. H. M. Bennett, Morris, Alta., who is the women's provincial secretary for Alberta.

STUDYING THE TARIFF

The general meeting of the Writia Branch of the U.F.W.A. was held on May 20 at Writia school house, with President Mrs. Lyon in the chair.

There being no committees to report and no unfinished business, the president called for new members. Mrs. Freeman joined us, making a total of six new members in the past three meetings. We are growing. Have in all twenty members.

Next was a suggestion by Mrs. Lyon that we take up the study of some subject which concerns every day of our lives, in the home and out of it, and gave the tariff as an example. After discussion it was moved, seconded and carried that we take the above subject as our first study, also that the secretary obtain books and all literature possible to help us in getting all needed information.

The subject of a U.F.W.A. picnic was next under discussion. The Seven Persons U.F.W.A. wishing to join with us in this it was decided that we hold a picnic with the U.F.W.A. of Seven Persons, and that a committee of four meet with a committee of the above organization to discuss plans.

President appointed Mrs. Maury, Mrs. Martin, Mrs. McDonald and Mrs. Pifer as a committee to confer with Seven Persons committee at the house of Mrs. Maury, May 31 at 2 p.m.

We next had a paper from Mrs. Martin, "The Girl of the Land," which was enjoyed by all.

Mrs. Maury then gave her paper, "People We Can Depend Upon," which was very good and gave us all something to think about.

President Lyon then read "An Address to Calgary Women," by Rev. W. W. Irvine.

A vote of thanks was extended those ladies for their helpful entertainment, after which we adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

(MRS.) ETHEL PIERRE

APPEAL TO DISTRICT 4 WOMEN

At the last convention I was transferred from district 15 over to the newly arranged district 4, and as I now have an almost entirely new field to work in, I wish to get in touch with anyone interested in our work or wishing to form women's sections in their locality. There are seventy-two branches in our district with but few women's sections. Let us make this the banner year for district 4. Let our watchword be, "A Women's Section to Every Local" and let each one put forth a little effort to bring it to pass. Since the farm women have consented to organize a great deal has been accomplished and much good done, yet we must not stop as there is a great field to work in and more to be done in the future than has been brought about in the past. I would be pleased to hear from any branch who do or do not see the need of organizing telling me exact conditions. In case you do not wish to form a women's section, I may be able to help show the need of such an organization. Feeling sure you will give me your support and help during the coming year, I am yours fraternally.

MRS. McNEAL

Director District 4

LABOR SAVING IN THE HOME

The kitchen has been called the pivot of the home and it would seem a good simile, for when things go wrong in the kitchen the trouble is apt to extend all there else house.

The very key-note of up-to-date homemaking is saving of steps, the elimination of unnecessary labor and the lightening in every possible way of work that is necessary. The day of the large kitchen, in which the housekeeper walked miles during the week, is going by, and those old time rooms have given place to what seems, in comparison, a more back or cabinet.

Yet these modern kitchens are no more places, being planned with an eye to convenience and saving of steps, that it is often possible to stand in the middle of the room and reach every part of it. I saw in a magazine some months ago

a picture of the kitchen one may expect some time in the future. The house-keeper sat by a window wherein were blossoming plants, reading a book. On the wall, near at hand, were several push buttons marked "Dinner," "Breakfast," "Luncheon," "House-cleaning," "Laundry," the supposition being that in the happy days to come it would only be necessary to push a button and everything else would be done by electricity. Until the electric kitchen comes much may be gained by properly arranging the kitchen.

The first step is to get rid of all furniture except that which is really useful. Make sure that the stove, table and sink are of suitable height for one's kitchen, so that there will be little stooping over while at work. Have a high stool, for nothing which can be done sitting should be done standing. Have also a comfortable rocker and a clock that keeps perfect time. Have the floor covered with linoleum if in soft wood; if not, oiled or polished, so no scrubbing need be done.

Have the pantry very near the sink and table and have bins of light and ventilation. All cooking utensils should hang in-air and sunlight and not be shut away in dark closets. Have a separate book for each article and if always kept on this book it becomes a sort of "extra sense" to seek it in the place.

Have in all rooms plain smooth furniture which can be easily dusted. Do away with tacked down carpets and a superfluity of lace-trim which are only dust traps. Furniture should be such length, not trailing on the floor, and should be of some pretty washable material that can be easily laundered. Never allow an accumulation of cast off clothing, old furniture, papers, magazines in any of your rooms, but even in the attic; they only prove harbors of dirt, moth and other pests.

A vacuum cleaner, dishpan soap and duster, a good washing machine and wringer and can of patented cleanser in the simply furnished home should make the work of keeping clean comparatively easy.

Let us have our meals appetizing and well-planned, but not elaborate. Do away with useless frills that mean tedious waiting, and for many things use material that does not need mending.

Machinery for women means more than egg-beaters and bread-mixers, light-mixers, washers, especially may the use of women on the farm. The things that promise a complete revolution in farm work for women are gasoline engines and dynamos and water wheels supplying power for machinery in the house.

This sounds extravagant and European until you begin to think about it. The problem is worth thinking about, the streamlining of the adoption of machinery for women has been responsible for a lot of unfortunate conditions, among others a large measure of our rural depopulation. The women are looking forward to the time when they can move to town and have an instant sink in the kitchen instead of a pump in the back-yard, and a bathroom and electric lights and how of what we call heavy farm work, work which is necessary and just as dignified as any other, but which no ordinary might be doing for us just as well as not.

I think sometimes women are a little to blame themselves for these conditions, for in some districts where the "hydro-electric" is doing almost all the mechanical work at the farm from mowing wood and milking the cows to hatching the chickens, we find electric washing machines coming gradually.

They would come a bit faster if women had not so much faith in their little appliances. In fact, I am beginning to wonder whether this proverbial faithfulness in women isn't sometimes a big mistake. There having gone on our knees to worship a floor and our mothers and grandmothers having gone on their knees to scrub, it would be unparaphrased berry to slide back to a long-handled mop, with a wringer attached to the post.

Part of a paper read by Mrs. McDonald of Thompson, Ont., before a convocation of the Women's Institute and War Relief Society.

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