

# Farm Women's Clubs

## Public Health Nurses

**I**NFORMATION has just come to me that the first public health nurses, four in number, who have been taking special courses to prepare them for their work, and who understand conditions in our province, will be ready to start their work by the first of June. They will be placed in different parts of the province, and for this year will only be sent to inspect schools which send in requests for medical inspection. The government has still doubts as to the desire of the people generally for medical inspection of rural schools. It has even been whispered that this request which has come before our convention by resolution, been unanimously passed each year, is merely the hobby of a few cranks. Now, if the farm women are really genuine in their desire that their children shall share this benefit with the city children, let them show it by simply knowing the government under with requests for medical inspection of their various schools. Every district cannot, of course, get it this year or even next, but if the demand is sufficiently great, the government will feel encouraged to enlarge the experiment in public health nurses gradually until in time every district will benefit by their care, and we can then start to agitate for the complement to the public health nurse, viz., the public service nurse—to care for our rural sick. Do not wait for our monthly club meeting to discuss this, but call a meeting quickly of school trustees, and the people of your district, and send in a signed petition to Miss Christine Smith, Superintendent of Public Nurses, Edmonton, Alberta. I admit to being one of the cranks to whom the public health nurses is a very genuine hobby, and I do hope the members of our organization will back me up by sending in a request from every one of our clubs. If you are thinking women, you will not fail to do so, for you will realize the enormous benefit to your children, and to your whole district.—Irene Parby.

## Interesting U.F.W.A. Plays

Last year we started Red Cross sewing, and are still continuing it. Our meetings were made very interesting by taking up subjects from Miss Montgomery's list, and we intend taking more this year. In April one of our members gave a short address on The Dawn of a New Patriotism; in May we had a paper on Conservation of Food, by another member, both of which were very interesting.

In December last our members were very active in getting up an auction sale of various articles, such as canned fruit, dressed chicken, boxes of chocolate, home-made candies, children's toys, and a variety of other articles both useful and ornamental. In consequence, we were able to send the sum of \$215 to the Red Cross organization. During the winter months several members of our two locals raise money for the Red Cross by getting up a play and performing in different localities, the proceeds of which are sent by each district to the organization. This year there were two companies—all members of the U.F.A. and U.F.W.A.—who presented a play, and in all raised the sum of \$350. Our meetings in general are well attended and enjoyed by everyone, not only because of the interesting subjects taken up, but because it encourages sociability. It enables us to meet and have a chat with each other at least once a month; otherwise, in all probability, we should not see our neighbors for several months. Our membership has been increasing all the time.—Mrs. Harold Lees, secretary, McCafferty U.F.W.A.

## Helpful Demonstrations

Our club had the pleasure this last week of having Miss Myrtle May, sewing demonstrator, with us. We had classes four afternoons of the week and ladies attended who seldom come to town and have never attended our club meetings. Miss May was most untiring

in her efforts to show us short cuts in our sewing and cutting garments and in the proper adjustments of patterns. We hope later to have a demonstrator in domestic science, as we all feel we need short cuts in our cooking, and in finding substitutes for meats. The menus and recipes in the fashion and other women's magazines are most amusing, as they call for articles of food that homes out here never see, such as different kinds of fish, fresh vegetables, lettuce, asparagus, etc. We wish they would give us fancy and various ways of serving salt pork, potatoes, canned vegetables and fruit or dried fruits. The people of the country are surely doing their share toward conserving food and helping to win the war. We occasionally take up this question for discussion at club and once or twice have exchanged recipes which required neither butter nor eggs. Our demonstrator may be able to teach us a better way of serving these plain dishes. We will be pleased to let you know how we succeed.—Mrs. D. A. Johnson, secretary, Consul Homemakers' Club.

## Women G.G. Convention

The garments packed by the Oakville W.S.G.O.A. as a result of the Army and Navy Drive, include the following: 18 dressing gowns, 60 pyjamas, 60 day shirts, 22 pairs socks, 15 pairs bed socks. Besides this \$4.50 was given as a cash donation by interested helpers.

The concert given by the army is to be held in Oakville on the afternoon of Saturday, June 8th, to which all workers in the drive and interested friends, both men and women, are invited to attend. This program arranged for by the army is to be the afternoon feature of the Grain Growers' convention to be held that day in Oakville, commencing at two p.m. It consists of the following numbers:—

Address of welcome, Mrs. J. S. Wood. Reply, Mrs. T. B. Millar, Portage la Prairie.

Solo, Mrs. Ramsey. Address, Mrs. J. Bennett, Pine Creek. Address, Mrs. Barritt, Beaver.

Reading, "Welcoming the New Minister's Wife," Mrs. H. Robinson.

Address, Miss McCallum, associate editor Grain Growers' Guide.

Duet, Mrs. J. Mudge, Mrs. Smalley. A six-o'clock luncheon is being arranged for by the Army Corp. The evening program will be supplied by talent from Beaver. Mr. B. Richardson and others will address the meeting, while several musical numbers will be rendered.

## Kinuso U.F.W.A. Enthusiastic

Another very fine report has come to hand from Mrs. Field, of Kinuso. Evidently the members here know how to make the best use of their local. Such reports are a great encouragement to the Central office, and will, we feel sure, be a means of helping and encouraging other locals, especially some of the weaker ones. We wish them every success in the good work which they are doing:—

The U.F.W.A. of Kinuso, held their regular meeting on Saturday evening, May 4, at Mrs. Geo. Moore's. Two more new members were enrolled. The meeting opened with "O Canada," played by Mrs. W. L. McKillop. Official communications were read and dispensed with, and arrangements were made to efficiently carry on our Red Cross work. Plans were made for a sale of home cooking to be held at our next afternoon meeting, when the associate members will act as sales-girls, while the ladies pack boxes for our local men who are overseas, sew and knit. Our topic for the evening "The Home Medicine Chest," proved very interesting and almost inexhaustible. As our time for discussion was limited, we decided to again take up this subject at a future date. Our one regret is that the women whom we feel would be the most benefited by these discussions, having the care of young children at home, for that very reason find it impossible to attend our meetings. The meeting adjourned with the singing of the

"National Anthem" followed by "God Save our Splendid Men."

## Girls' Club at Whitla

The other report in regard to a Young People's Organization, has been sent from Whitla, and was written by the president, Miss Esther Greenwalt. It reads:—

On Saturday, April 13, the girls of Whitla, met in the Presbyterian Church, and organized a local Girls in Training, under the direction of Mrs. H. C. McDaniels, who is our senior member. The officers elected were Mrs. H. C. McDaniels, hon. president; Miss Esther Greenwalt, president; Miss Florence Freeman, vice-president; and Miss Myrtle Fleming, secretary-treasurer. We decided to charge a membership fee of 25 cents, and to hold our meetings on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month. We talked of having a concert in the summer, the U.F.W. furnishing half of the evening's entertainment and the girls the other half, and then taking a vote to see which was the best. It was decided that this would be done if the ladies were in favor of it. A committee was appointed to interview the ladies on the subject at their next meeting. Two other committees were appointed; one for the Prisoners of War work and one for Red Cross work. We are to have a Red Cross tag day on the 24th of May. The club members will make the tags. We have at present only ten members but I think that number will be doubled in a very short time. Our members are all very willing and we believe that our local will be a success.

## Red Cross Work at Consort

Consort U.F.W. is very busy with Red Cross work, and during the war this will probably occupy the greater part of their attention. The donations to the Y.M.C.A. canvassers for the military branch of that society have also been very generous throughout the whole district, about \$3,000 having been contributed, which is about \$2,000 in excess of their quota. Meetings of this local are held alternately with those of the W.I., as most of the members belong to both associations. The principal subject discussed at the last meeting of the U.F.W.A. was the giving of a prize at the local fair for the largest collection of gopher tails, and it was decided that the prize should be \$5.00. Two new members were enrolled at this meeting.

## Meet in Spite of Storms

The Latham Homemakers' Club met at the home of Mrs. Pruner on May 2, and despite the terrible duststorm there were fifteen women present. At the annual First of July picnic the club intends having a donation auction sale, the funds to be used for war work. Committees were formed to canvass the country for articles to sell. The blocks for our Red Cross autograph quilt were cut and given out; telephone reports show that the members are having no difficulty in securing names.—Annie L. Lynch, Osage, Homemakers' Club.

## Send Boxes Overseas

The regular monthly meeting of the Homemakers' club was held at the home of Mrs. Thomas Pallister on Thursday, April 25. The meeting was opened by the singing of the first verse and chorus of "The Maple Leaf," after which the secretary read the minutes. The members then elected Mrs. Thomas Pallister as librarian for the club. There was also the election of delegates to go to the Homemakers' Convention. The two ladies elected were: Mrs. William M. Weston and Miss Violet A. Weston. Then it was proposed that Miss Mac should come to our club in June to lecture, also demonstrate dressmaking. Her first demonstration will be at Mrs. Walter Weston's home; the second at the home of Mrs. Enoch Dixon, and the third at Mrs. T. Spooner's home. Each member then received one dollar and a pair of socks. Each was to send a

parcel to some soldier boy in France. This closed the business part of the meeting. Mrs. Thomas Morton gave the club an invitation to hold their next meeting at her home on May 23. The topic for that month will be given by Mrs. Thomas Spooner, her paper being Raising and Caring for Poultry. Thus the meeting closed by the singing of "God Save Our Splendid Men," after which the hostess served a dainty lunch.—Ivy M. Weston, club reporter, Homemakers' Club, Lortie, Sask.

## Progressive Plans

The Webb Homemakers' Club held a very interesting meeting at the home of Mrs. C. Williams, May 2. After the usual opening, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. A discussion was next taken up concerning the erection of a new fence along the front of the cemetery. Mrs. McDonald and Miss Mary Austin were a committee to meet the village council concerning the cemetery. They were favorably impressed with the work, and promised a liberal donation towards it. The rest of the committee are to take up a collection for the balance.

A letter was next read from the Overseas club in England acknowledging the last money sent there by the club for the Easter hampers for the Webb boys in France and England. We have decided to have a refreshment booth on Sports Day, July 12, and also to serve the dance supper, one-third of the proceeds to go to the Webb Red Cross. The resignation of our former secretary-treasurer, Mrs. Beatty, was accepted and Mrs. Ben Johnston elected in her place. Our president, Mrs. H. Thierman and Mrs. G. Nelson were elected as delegates to go to the Homemakers' Convention at Saskatoon, June 25 to 28. The hostesses for the next three months are: Mrs. B. Henderson for June, Mrs. H. Thierman for July and Mrs. B. Johnston for August. A patriotic concert will be given the evening of May 17, by Swift Current talent. Our principal work is field comfort for the Webb boys now in France. We have also decided to give prizes for the best vegetables, to all children exhibiting at the school fair this fall. The meeting was then closed by singing God Save the King, after which a very delicious lunch was served.—Mrs. N. Nelson, reporter, Webb, Sask.

## Mothers' Day at Altorado

At a meeting of the Altorado local held on May 1st the subjects taken up were Y.M.C.A. Aid, Plans for Young People, and Mothers' Day and Fathers' Day. It was decided to make the offering at the special services on Mothers' and Fathers' Day a birthday offering. The local had envelopes specially printed for the occasion which bore the inscription, "Mothers' Day. Please give one cent or more for each of your past birthdays," and an equal number of envelopes bearing the inscription, "Fathers' Day, etc." The money raised in this way will be donated to the Y.M.C.A. military branch. The local decided to support a leader from the Y.W.C.A. if the young people's committee decide to place one in the field. Special arrangements have been made for a boys' leader to work in this district during the month of July. One new member was added to the local at this meeting. A later letter received from Mrs. Carr, the secretary, and also provincial director for the district, stated that she was busy making arrangements to organize a young people's club.

## Director Visits Maple U.F.W.A.

Mrs. Geo. F. Root, provincial director, visited Maple U.F.W.A. and addressed their meeting held on May 2. Fifteen members and 12 visitors were in attendance. The business of the meeting was hurried through as quickly as possible, so that Mrs. Root might have as much time as possible for her address. She spoke on the farm women's war duty in conserving as much food as possible, and to let nothing which could be either canned or dried go to waste.