

B. C. FRUIT AND FARM

week members met at the Institute and made the jam. Over one thousand pound weight of jam was made in the Institute rooms.

Belgian Relief.

The trouble of the Belgians was next taken up. Quantities of clothes were sent in to the rooms, and every Friday the members met, and cleaned patches and sorted the clothes. Nothing was allowed to go away torn or soiled. Numerous boxes were packed and sent to Victoria during the winter.

Friendly Help.

The war brought trouble financially to the district, and the Women's Institute came forward to help. A Friendly Help Society was formed and did much good locally. Food, clothing and money were given and distributed by a committee.

Christmas Hampers.

In October a most successful concert was organized and netted over \$187, and at Christmas thirty-three well-filled Christmas hampers were sent out and were most deeply appreciated. This good work still continues, each Wednesday food is distributed, also clothing, and daily milk, etc., is supplied to those in need.

Red Cross Work.

The Red Cross work was taken up by the Cowichan Women's Institute from the very start of the war, under the superintendence of Mrs. Hayward, and whenever a box of clothing was ready it was shipped to Vancouver, as that was the nearest Red Cross centre at the time.

The Institute has redoubled its efforts since the need has become so urgent, and every Wednesday school girls meet and on Fridays the older members meet to sew for the Red Cross, and many take home work and much has been done in this way. Box after box, well-filled, leaves the Institute rooms for the Vancouver depot.

Cookery Lessons.

Cookery lessons were much appreciated and well attended during the winter months, and a special tribute should be paid to Miss McKenzie for the very able manner in which she conducted the classes, and for her kindness and attention to her pupils, which made all so pleasant.

First Aid Classes.

First aid classes were held in October under the direction of one of the local doctors, Dr. Dykes, and were splendidly attended, numbers of certificates were gained after a strict examination.

Gardens and Library Work.

Lectures on gardening and library work were much enjoyed. Miss Stewart, of the Carnegie Library, being present at one meeting, and giving a most interesting lecture. Mr. Palmer, of the Department of Agriculture, also gave a most interesting lecture on gardening.

This is just a short review of the work done by the Cowichan Institute in the past twelve months.

CENTRAL PARK.

The regular monthly meeting of the Central Park Women's Institute was held October 21, in the Agricultural Hall with a good attendance of members present and the vice-president, Mrs. Reid, in the chair. It was decided to have a "Pound" day on October 30 when all members and those interested in the work were asked to donate a pound of "anything" for the Local Aid Association for the relief of the poor. These donations can be left at the East Collingwood Red Cross rooms. A shipment of clothes, fruit and provisions from up the

line is expected to arrive shortly and will be very valuable in alleviating the wants of the many poor and needy people in the community. Miss Summers gave a report of the Red Cross work accomplished during the last month. Seventy-six dollars had been raised for this purpose, \$50 of which had been secured in the Institute and about \$9 was the proceeds of the various teas. The balance was made up by numerous donations. The ladies have decided to hold a debate in the near future. The subject chosen is to be "Resolved, that the Central Park Women's Institute fulfils its purpose in this community." Much discussion has been going on regarding the hot lunches for school children of the district. It was decided to appoint two ladies to interview the council regarding this project. Mrs. J. B. Toderick and Mrs. F. W. Somers were accordingly appointed. After the regular business of the meeting the roll was called and each member responded by naming some of "The things we are to be thankful for." Many amusing responses were heard.

COWICHAN.

The usual monthly meeting of the Cowichan Women's Institute took place on Tuesday, October 12. After all routine business had been gone through a most interesting paper on "Gardening in Winter" was given by Mrs. Leather, a very well known horticulturist. A discussion took place and most valuable hints were given to amateur gardeners.

The results of the recent "Alphabetical Sale and Social" were most satisfactory, \$100.50 being obtained. Tea was served and the meeting adjourned.

Continued on next page.

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