

WOMEN'S INSTITUTE IN SESSION INSPIRED BY FINE ADDRESSES

Large Attendance at All Three Meetings Held Yesterday—Clever Speeches Delivered by Mrs. Muldrew, Mrs. Godman, Miss Helen Macdougall and Others—Visitors Entertained—Programme for Today.

There was a large attendance of delegates at the opening session of the Women's Institute Convention held in the rooms of the St. John W. I. (Congregational Church), Union St., yesterday morning.

Miss Hazel McCain, provincial supervisor, presided. Addresses of welcome were delivered by Hon. W. E. Foster, Mayor Hayes, Miss McCain and Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor.

The meeting opened with the playing of O Canada by the Misses Lynch. Miss McCain briefly welcomed the delegates and introduced Mayor Hayes.

His Worship, on behalf of the city, extended a cordial welcome to the representatives of the institutes.

Mrs. David Martin, St. Leonard's replied to the civic address. She said the women would give of their best to help solve the problems of the country. The women are here to help the country in the time of turbulence and unrest.

Premier Foster was then introduced. Mr. Foster pointed out that the work of the Institute was closely identified with that of the government, as the Institute operated to a certain extent under the jurisdiction of the department of agriculture.

Premier Foster referred to the help given by the women throughout the war and asked their assistance for problems of peace especially hoping that they would further the Victory Loan in every way.

Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor, president of the St. John Institute, extended the greetings of that body. Mrs. Lawlor then addressed the French delegates in their own language, assuring them of the city's most cordial welcome.

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The Government will give money, but we must have a unified system of caring for these orphans and widows so that they may be hedged about with the love and tender care of other women.

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ing. She reminded her hearers that the French paid the German indemnity after 1870 by the thrift, frugality and industry of the women, and asked where are those virtues today? By Victory Bonds we will have to save all we can.

Mrs. Muldrew praised the Free Kindergartens as she learned of them in St. John, and said that this city is known all over Canada for the loving welcome given to the soldiers and their dependents. She warned the women to be on their guard against those who would exploit and that this must be guarded against.

Mrs. Muldrew ended with a plea not to forget either those permanently disabled men who will not come back home, those disabled men who must be assisted, or any of the soldiers who fought for us.

After a solo charmingly sung by Miss Valde Penton, accompanied by Miss Louise Anderson, Miss Jean Smith, of the S. R. C., explained the hand looms which several men from the West Side Hospital worked. Examples of raffia and beading making were shown, and the very fine articles made by the men greatly admired.

Many were purchased and orders taken for others. Basket, trays, vests, bags and scarves were shown. The non present yesterday were Messrs. Jenson, Young and Jeffrey, Mrs. Smith and Miss Ellen Keefe were in charge of the excellent exhibits.

The following committees were appointed: Credentials—Mrs. Frank Moore, Moore's Mills; Mrs. John Eddy, Telamagouche; Mrs. Geo. George, Upper Sackville; Mrs. Frank Plummer, Hartland; Mrs. David Martin, St. Leonard's; Mrs. H. Lawrence, St. John.

Resolutions—Mrs. Doyle, Jacques River; Mrs. O. J. LeBlanc, Buctouche; Mrs. Robert Thompson, Chance Harbor; Mrs. George Reid, Glasville; Mrs. James Andoyer; Mrs. Lawlor, St. John.

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Mrs. Macdougall, supervisor of the W. I. of Nova Scotia, was the first speaker at last evening's session. Mrs. Charles Comben, Woodstock, presided and pleasing musical selections were rendered by the Misses Hogan and Lynch.

Mrs. Macdougall related the difficulties encountered in formulating a constitution for the Federated Women's Institutes in Canada and at the meeting in Winnipeg related Mrs. McCain of N. B. who stood out for equal representation of all Institutes. She spoke of the value of the Federation, that it was to act as a clearing house for various activities of Women's Institutes, and to take the initiative in world-wide campaigns for child welfare, education and home-making.

Mrs. Macdougall reminded her hearers that the idea of the Institute had originated in the mind of a woman, and that, however broad the idea might become it must never get away from the importance of the home and the value of scientific home-making. She illustrated this by an amusing story of unscientific house-keeping and quoted Lloyd George who said that the strength of a nation depended upon the health and purity of the men, women and children who made up that nation.

The Federation of the Institutes will give an opportunity for all to some extent to express their views and the united strength of all women can be thrown into efforts with great effect.

Mrs. Macdougall ended her clever speech by emphasizing the fact that the future, with the added responsibility of the franchise is largely in the hands of women, and must be faced with a true sense of duty.

Miss Katherine Gallivan favored the audience with two solos beautifully sung.

A. D. C. Wilson then touched all hearts by her reading of Jean Dupuis, and as an encore gave a humorous story in his inimitable way.

Mrs. F. Tyndal Godman, Sussex, was then introduced and gave a very comprehensive account of the founding of the 2000 Women's Institutes in England, Scotland and Wales. She told of the great work of Mrs. Alfred Watt, and spoke of the difficulties encountered and how they were overcome. One meeting, she said, was called by the rattle of a gun which filled the air, but once the women of England got the idea of the organization they went ahead wonderfully.

work taken up was food production, and after the first year's successful work the Women's Board of Agriculture took over the whole movement so that it had government support. During the latter years of the war the industries had been encouraged, and splendid work had been accomplished either in reviving an old industry or starting a new one. Rabbit Clubs which had been started furnished skins for gloves, which are now made in large quantities, and it was found that the Germans had formerly bought all rabbit skins in England and re-sold them at higher prices.

Mrs. Godman had with her a very fine exhibit of articles made by the Women's Institutes. The toys were especially artistic and cleverly made. Everything is useable, solid and pretentious. There were a number of dolls, a carved shepherd and a horse being particularly good. There are dolls, stuffed animals and wooden toys of all kinds. Articles made from tin cans, and children's jerseys made from stocking tops illustrated the economy practised. An embroidered smock was lovely. Many of the institutes got up plays, some reviving the memories of the old mummies. This brought into the work an interest for the younger members and posters designed for these performances were artistic.

Many of the British women had said to the organizers, "We don't know what we did before we had the Institute, it has meant everything to us."

One beautifully worked banner showed the badge of the British Institute the motto, "For Home and Country," above the badge in the centre, and the rose and maple leaf on either side. The women express much gratitude to Canada for teaching them to do these things.

After Mrs. Godman's greatly enjoyed address closed, greetings were read from Lady Tilly who thanked the Women's Institute for the splendid assistance given the Provincial Red Cross, and wished them every success, from the secretary of the Wo-

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The delegates present are: Mrs. W. James, Mrs. W. S. Everett, Andover; Mrs. J. W. Robinson, Beauséjour; Mrs. O. J. LeBlanc, Pictou; Mrs. Robt. Macdonald, Centre; Mrs. Robt. C. Thompson, Chatham; Mrs. Ira Wetmore, Clifton; Mrs. Lucy Calder, Fair Haven; Mrs. A. L. Nutter, Fredericton; Mrs. Geo. B. Reid, Glassville; Mrs. Walter Alexander, Hammond Vale; Mrs. Henry Bradley, Mrs. Frank Plummer, Hartland; Mrs. Darg Taylor, Mrs. A. H. Robinson, Mrs. F. H. Alward, Havelock; Mrs. C. J. O'Neil, Mrs. F. O. Ebb, Hillsboro; Mrs. Jacob Hoyt, St. John; Miss An-

Afternoon Session. The returned men will be a strength against all evil. Remember they were good enough to fight for us against the Hun; they are good enough to stand back of now and to help in every way we can.

This was the keynote of a splendid straightforward address given at the afternoon session by Mrs. Jean Muldrew, Ottawa.

In the absence of Mrs. H. W. Reid, of St. John's, Miss McCain presided and called for reports from several branches. These were given by Mrs. James of Andover, who told of endorsing the prohibition measure; Miss Wetmore, of Clifton; Mrs. Inga of Central Greenwick, and Mrs. Richardson, of Gody's, also told of W. I. activities.

A demonstration of flax, and articles made by New Brunswick women, was given by Mrs. J. W. V. Lawlor. Several fine towels came from Carleton Place.

A delightful solo was sung by Miss Louise Anderson, accompanied by her sister, Miss Agnes Anderson.

Mrs. Jean Muldrew spoke feelingly upon the fitting back of the soldiers into civil life again. She told of the effect upon industry during the war and showed that it is for the women to do everything in their power to help re-establish the men. This, Mrs. Muldrew said, is often spoken of as a government job, but while that is true, it is also an individual task. Every person who stayed home must see that every soldier has a chance to earn his living.

In Canada there are ten thousand widows, seventeen thousand fatherless children, and over seventeen thousand orphans. It should be for the mothers to make homes for these children, and to give them loving training. A wave of child crime has swept over the land. This must be checked unless we want a large number of criminals.

The Government will give money, but we must have a unified system of caring for these orphans and widows so that they may be hedged about with the love and tender care of other women.

The G. W. V. A. is a splendid