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gives a perfect complexion. Not by trying to cover up the blemishes, but by removing them. It's good because it's pure.

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clay over and above the roots, pressing it down firmly, but not too roughly as to bruise any of the little threads. Last of all, cover the surface of the ground about the plant completely with fine, perfectly dry earth. This will act as a mulch, and conserve the moisture about the roots, instead of allowing it to pass off into the air.

I think people who find it impossible to have a flower garden should at least try to have a few outside window boxes to attract the butterflies and humming birds, and add a little more of the glory of summer to the long bright days. We cannot have too much of it. In selecting plants for the window box one should always choose one or two for drooping, one or two for climbing, and a few uprights. Do not overcrowd, but give each plant room to develop. Choose your colors carefully, and if possible, have some white flowers to give tone to the assortment.

For southern and western windows, geraniums, heliotrope, petunias, nasturtiums, phlox, verbenas, and ivy geraniums, will be found very satisfactory, as these can stand the sun's hot rays. It would be as well to keep the windows open as much as possible in order to do away with the harsh reflection of the sun, from the glass, which is so injurious to plants on a hot summer day.

#### From Several Branches

THE Meaford Branch of the Women's Institute met in the auditorium of the town hall, January 25th. There were two hundred and seventy-five ladies present at the afternoon session. The president, Mrs. B. Long, presided at this meeting, and greeted the audience in her usual cheerful and cordial manner, giving all a hearty welcome. The president in her opening address stated that a very important feature in our Institute work here was the starting of a special fund to assist in erecting a General Hospital in Meaford at no far distant day. The collections to be taken up at the afternoon and evening meetings are to be put aside for that purpose.

Miss C. Smith read a letter from the head nurse of the Oshawa Hospital, which was full of encouragement and inspiration to the members of this Institute to press on with the noble work. Fifty new members were added to the roll, which now makes Meaford Branch the largest in North Grey district. Mrs. Parsons, the talented and gifted representative of the Provincial Government in the interests of the Ontario Women's Institute, was present, and gave the audience a rich, intellectual treat, which was highly appreciated. The subject of her address was "The Books We Ought to Read." The solo by Mrs. S. A. Gray, accompanied by Mrs. (Dr.) Bennett, was well received. Miss McPhee, a representative from the Ogilvie Milling Company, gave demonstrations at the afternoon and evening sessions on pastry and breadmaking. These practical demonstrations were both interesting and helpful to the members.

Miss Langton of the Melagama Tea and Coffee Company, was also present at both sessions, and gave the audience the opportunity of testing that brand of tea and coffee.

Miss Wright favored the audience with excellent music, while refreshments were being served. The meeting adjourned to meet again in the evening with the Farmers' Institute. The mayor, Dr. Clark, presided at the union meeting in his happy, jovial manner. The first number on the programme was an instrumental by Miss Mary Wright.

Mr. Shearer, the Provincial Government representative for Farmers' Institutes, gave an excellent address on the advantages of agriculture.

Mr. Duff, B.S.A., the provincial representative of agriculture for Grey County, gave an excellent address on the "Problem of Co-operation in Agriculture," showing the advantages to be gained, also stating that it required the producer and the consumer to fully realize their interests were mutual. He said that was most necessary in order to bring to a successful issue the co-operative system. The speaker also recommended the advantages to be gained by adopting the methods which were advised by the Provincial Government in the improvement of orchards. Miss Georgie Sutherland then delighted the audience with a patriotic reading entitled "The Private of the Buffs."

Mrs. Parsons in her closing address set forth fully the aims and high ideals of the Women's Institute which centred in their motto, "For Home and

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