

To-day I have this not lovely weather has lasted "for ever," but we will for it."

Why do we so often find it is more happiness to be with him who will have to suffer than the one who will not?

I do not think we of the purest sweet kind of happiness lives.

There are many of the year than dark skies than cloudy slopes than barren Father has crones in the material may expect to find.

Think of the joy of every-day life and birds, playful little ones may say, "It little ones do not fashion." No, then you watch their fun and merriment, although quieter than the birds, they have also depicted the things the very experience gladness.

Many think child piest time; many

EVERY home should be a lighthouse to help strangers outside, but the lamps should not wear shields reflecting the light away from the family.

Women's Institute Convention a Record Breaker

WHAT a gathering it was when the delegates from the various branches of our Women's Institutes all over Canada came together at our twelfth annual convention held at the Canadian Foresters' Hall, Toronto, on Thursday and Friday of last week. The hall, which has seating capacity for 750 people, was taxed to its utmost capacity at every session on Thursday, and splendid attendance marked the Friday sessions as well. Mr. George A. Putnam, our superintendent, called it the largest and most representative gathering of our Women's Institute yet seen in convention. Surely an incentive for us to do even better next year!

Just how well the branches were represented was indicated when, after opening exercises, Mr. Putnam asked all delegates who were to give reports at the different branches to take from the platform. It was necessary for him to send out the warning "Enough!" before all could secure seats.

Mrs. Wm. Bacon, Orillia, was presiding officer at the morning session. The greater part of the morning, as well as considerable time in the afternoon and evening, was devoted to the hearing of reports. Lack of space does not permit of my dealing with these splendid reports save in a very curtailed manner. In every instance reported and successful work were enumerated. A great many ideas were thrown out as to ways of raising Picnics. Here are a few of them: Picnics, socials, bazaars, taking up subscriptions, having tag day at the time of the county fair (and this seemed to have been most successful where it had been tried out), autograph clubs, raised \$651.74, with members and fowl supplied, to which members were admitted and asked to bring a friend, thus securing new members.

It was an easily appreciated fact that funds were a very necessary part of the organization, when we heard of the good that was being accomplished by the competent use of the finances. Some Institutes have built rest rooms in their town or village. Others have improved the cemetery grounds, planted trees and made flower beds in school grounds, bought land to be used as a park, and built sidewalks. Still others are helping to support a hospital. Much more commendable work is being done.

Mrs. (Dr.) Wilson, Parkhill, and Dr. W. E. Struthers, Toronto, dealt with "Medical Inspection of Rural Schools." This inspection has been tried in North Middlesex, and it is surprising and alarming to learn that 50 per cent. of the children in our schools require medical and dental attention of some sort. Dr. Struthers' intention of the advance being made in education. We realize, said he, that in the changed conditions of the world a child needs to know something more

than the three R's. The highest aim of education should be to teach parents how to bring up their children. Education should also teach children how to live. Dr. Struthers also showed a few lantern slides to illustrate his remarks.

A resolution was then drawn to the effect that medical and dental inspection of rural schools be established at once, which was signed by the delegates present.

A feature of the Women's Institute



A Farm Home Recently Remodelled and Made Thoroughly Up-to-Date

When the farm of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Logan, Chateaugay Co., Que., was visited by an editor of Farm and Dairy in 1912, the farm home was a single story brick by an editor of Farm and Dairy last spring the same editor called on Mr. Logan and found the thoroughly up-to-date home illustrated herewith. Notice the flat roof, a type much favored in the district.

—Photo by an editor of Farm and Dairy.

Convention that is looked forward to from year to year is the Superintendent's report. Mr. Putnam has been superintendent for 10 years. "On the first occasion," he said in his report, "we were just a small group. The Women's Institute was then on its first occasion. What we have here to-day is sufficient evidence of the relative importance of the Women's Institute."

"An outstanding characteristic of the Institute," said he, "is that in nearly all the lines of work undertaken, sooner or later the consideration of the child in relation thereto becomes an important factor; and, rightly so, for the child is after all our greatest asset."

Mr. Putnam gave a brief summary of the work of some Women's Institutes that has recently come to his notice, and which goes to show that the workers in the Institutes are doing what they can for the best interests of their several communities.

Miss Watson of Macdonald College, Que., conducted a question and answer session.

Miss Smith, Powassan, gave an inspiring address on "Our Canadian Women." She pointed out that while Canada may be justly proud of her wonderful resources, her best asset and empire builders are her good mothers. Mrs. Inch of Hamilton, presided at this session.

The presiding officer at the evening meeting, Mrs. M. N. Norman, Toronto,

to, told us that while she had been warned not to talk as time had permitted, she expressed the hope that on every programme of the Institute's for the ensuing year would be something to help the boys and girls. The sentiment running through the whole convention was the great responsibility that is ours in caring for the boys and girls. Dr. Helen McMurchy welcomed the Institute in a warm and appreciative manner, Miss McGhee of Chesherville, replying in a bright and pleasing manner.

"Children's Rights" was the subject of Archdeacon Cody's message to the delegates. The first right to the child is to be born, then to be well born, to be right to live, the right to protection, the right to play, and the right to be well educated. Remember that the true measure of greatness is the growth and power of the soul.

Hon. Martin Burrell, Minister of Agriculture, Ottawa, spoke a few congratulatory words to the delegates on the tremendous influences that the Women's Institute are exercising for good.

Mrs. L. A. Hamilton, Lorne Park, gave a lantern talk on "Fruit Farming for Women." Many women are giving for their own resources and have to make a living, probably not only for themselves but for their family, and Mrs. Hamilton believes fruit

at least, which has been taken up, that of Supervised Play Grounds, was explained by Mr. Armstrong, Toronto. This is something, he said, which country schools would do well to consider carefully.

Miss E. J. Guest, Belleville, was warmly welcomed, and in a capable manner discussed a very broad subject, "The Greatest Movement of the Age." We are busy nation building, and are focusing on the child. She spoke of the change that is taking place in church work, temperance, place in medical attention to children, and in many other different ways. In all of these our attention is being centered on the child, instead of the adult.

Greetings were read from several of the provinces and all wished the Institute future success. Mrs. W. F. Stephen (Laura Rose) was among those sending greetings.

Sympathy was expressed for those who had suffered from the recent Great Lakes disasters. A collection amounting to almost \$70, was taken up to swell the fund for their benefit.

Why House Plants Don't Thrive

Henry Gibson, Woodbury

Plants intended for winter blooming indoors, which have been summered out in the garden or on a shady corner of the verandah, will now go indoors. Give them all the air possible on fine days, but the change from outdoors by the trying one, no matter how vigorous the plants may be. With proper attention and atmosphere they should thrive, but how can we do all that? Perhaps you have tried to grow well, and had your disappointments, despite your best efforts and attention. Perhaps you put the blame on the furnace, assuming that the gas killed them. Really the gas, but lack of humidity in the atmosphere of the room, which was the cause of your failure. The most active root hairs of a plant are almost aquatic and must always be in contact with an adequate supply of water.

DETERMINED BY HUMIDITY. The stem and leaves are aerial, but their behavior and form are largely determined by the water in the air; this is the humidity. The water supply is used by the root hairs, and the water loss is the result of evaporation from the leaves. The humidity of the air exerts a direct control upon the amount of water evaporated from the leaves, and it is evident that the evaporation will be greater when the air is dry. If this evaporation of water loss is greater than the supply, curling, drooping and wilting of the leaves ensues.

Even when you water your plants faithfully, the excessively dry atmosphere of the house is apt to overwork them, by drawing up moisture through the stem and leaves, and for dry heated air will take up more moisture than air will take up. If you consider that the humidity outdoors on a summer day is about 60 per cent. you will appreciate what an unnatural dry atmosphere obtains in our homes in winter, where if air in the house is evaporated it will be the most but a few quarts with a resultant humidity of about 18 to 20 per cent.

By all means evaporate water freely both for your own good as well as that of your plants, by keeping a pan or kettle of water steaming on the heater or by pans on the radiators.

Another way to accomplish the same result is to elevate your pots on saucers and fill the saucers with water. Elevate the pots in this way the water will seep through the hole in the bottom of the pot, which would not be the case if the pot were stood in a saucer when it was filled with water.

Water sprinkled over pie crusts before baking will make it light and flaky.

A practically new work in Ontario