



The Hour Hand.

"What Time is it?"
It's time to move
From out the stolid-bordered frame;
It's time to rustle from the groove;
And beat it back into the game;
It's time to edge in with a start
That's just a trifle more than bluff,
And, whatsoever be the part,
To give the game your keenest stuff.]

"What time is it?"
It's time to fight;
To rally up the hosts of cheer,
And, in the face of bitter night,
To wipe away the useless tear,
It's time to meet the foe called Fate
With valiant heart and head held high,
And whatsoever score may wait,
It's time to can the alibi.

"What Time is it?"
It's time to be
Out there among the battling throng;
It's time to set your honor free
From any taint of shame or wrong;
It's time to be upon the square,
And, when you've cut in with your
best,
You'll find, out in the far Somewhere,
It's time enough to take your rest.
—Collier's.

Central Ontario Women's Institute Convention.

BY JEAN FIDLAR.

ON Wednesday afternoon, November 12th, at 1 o'clock in the auditorium of the Technical School the delegates from the Women's Institutes of Ontario and other Provinces of Canada were graciously welcomed to Toronto by Miss Church, who in her short address extended hospitality to the rural women not only because of the large contributions which they have made to Toronto hospitals, but because they have shown they possess and know how to use "the divine gift of co-operation."

The inspiring motto of the Institutes would be further strengthened by the words "and Empire," for we must learn to think in bigger terms. It is the responsibility of the men and women who remain to carry out the ideals for which our men died, and that ideal was Empire-wide. But our first goal is an united Canada, and for this great purpose it is necessary to develop in our children, sound minds, reverent spirits and intelligence.

"The spirit of neighboring is the spirit of the Institute," said Mrs. Todd, Orillia, in her reply to Miss Church. "The volunteer work that women did during the 'Flu' epidemic is an example of what women can do as neighbors," and

"There is nought that is better to hear than the step of a friend at the door. There is nought that is better to feel than the clasp of a sister's hand. That says, 'What are words between us? I know, and may understand.'"

Already the cities are opening a door of understanding, and are getting away from the idea that they have the best of it; open spaces, birds and living things are real joys, and they are beginning to realize that agriculture is a basic industry because it deals with living creatures.

Democracy is a reality in Institute work; there is no dividing line. Expression according to her talents is desired and expected from every woman, and the tragedy of the woman with one talent folded away will soon disappear.

Reports from branches, greetings from other Provinces, together with the superintendent's report filled the afternoon.



Mrs. Wm. Todd, Orillia.

President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

Mr. Putnam.

"50,000 homes in Ontario are better because of Women's Institute work," said Mr. Putnam. He stated that since the Federation of Women's Institutes which held its first meeting on November 11, he had been busy outlining plans of work and repeated some of the points brought out at that meeting. The Women's Institutes were regarded by all as the great civilian army which could never demobilize. Many among men acknowledged the sincerity and sane purpose, breadth of vision and opportunity of Women's Institute work. An important medium for the dissemination of information and co-operation with the Government, women are to be given full recognition in school matters and he advised that the human element receive their attention. Better equipped and sanitary schools will mean better conditions for child and teacher.

Business methods are to be given more attention. Help on the technique of organization will be given by Mrs. Alfred Watt who is available as a field lecturer on that subject.

The remainder of his report was given in these columns after the London Convention. In conclusion he said that he knew that back of all criticism, the Institute woman was true at heart, and he added that constructive criticism could only work out to the good of all, and the encouragement of the super-intendent.

The messages from sister Institutes in other Provinces were full of enthusiasm and practical idealism. Big community problems are being tackled in a simple but effective manner. British Columbia has embarked on a big health campaign and hopes soon to establish maternity centres.

In Alberta the Women's Institutes are used as relief centres for the district suffering through failure of crops.

Thirty languages are spoken on the streets of Edmonton, Alberta, and in order to overcome this barrier the English-speaking woman has endeavored to learn the language of her neighbor. The foreigner then becomes more anxious to reciprocate in the matter of language learning. In one community, Swedish, Gaelic, English and French are spoken. The Institutes in Saskatchewan find

it not difficult to make progress, because there everything is new. The new buildings can be the best, and the Government and municipalities have been very generous. The hot school lunch has been a success there for a number of years.

In Manitoba the rest rooms are essential, and are used as community centres in the extreme cold weather. A phonograph is the first thing asked for by the foreign woman. English and Canadian songs and lullabys are learned in this way. Thus a start in Canadianization of the foreign child is made by its own mother who sings to it. The subject of community kitchens to solve the help problem is also being studied.

The Institutes of Nova Scotia organized inside of an hour, sending food and

It is as an exile that she returns in the flesh, however, for the person who went away never comes back the same. This is true of all pioneers, said Judge Murphy, whether it be Abraham of Chaldea, Reginald of Oxford, or the Ontario pioneer who went West.

In her opinion the long talked of union of Church and State is as good as accomplished in Ontario. Each are realizing their responsibility toward the child and therein lies the common meeting ground. Conditions that the Church has struggled to obtain for the individual child are being brought about for all children by the State. Service to humanity is more than a one day a week affair, and this is the spirit flaming in Alberta.

Ethics and citizenship must be taught to our children. Children to-day know more about Charlie Chaplin than they do about God. Into Judge Murphy's juvenile court have come children and young women who do not know the meaning of God or Bible, Church or prayer. This condition will change when the State becomes aware that the criminal is a person who is mentally sick. Free hospital service is a great step forward.

Women must not let the issues of life go unheeded. The individual in the past has been touched only by personal interests. Use the ballot; it controls the power of the State, but do not go in somebody's else's motor. That is graft. (laughter).

The success of our country's civilization depends on the balance of the male by the female type of mind. Germany was the male state *In Excelsis*, and failed. In order to disarm the criticism of some people who regard her as a "high-brow," Judge Murphy related many interesting stories and facts concerning her life to show that she was essentially an agricultural woman. In a conversation with



"Janey Canuck."

Her Worship Judge Emily F. Murphy, of Edmonton, Alta.

clothing to sufferers in the Halifax disaster.

Quebec also is feeling the effect of community thought. Home nursing and social welfare work have started.

A picture of the delegates was taken on the school grounds and a delicious dinner given by the city of Toronto to the delegates was served in the King Edward Hotel, Mayor Church and Lady Hearst presiding.

Judge Murphy.

The singing by the audience of the "Little Brown Church in the Vale" stirred Judge Emily F. Murphy to many reminiscences of Ontario to which Province she paid great tribute. She touched the imagination of her hearers by her story of the spirits of the Northland who travel in phantom canoes to the far country to mingle with those they love. In such a spirit of love do the thoughts of "Janey Canuck" travel the silver trail over uncounted leagues of prairie to Old Ontario, where the young people decorate their homes with green at Christmas time.



Mrs. Jean Muldrew.

A speaker identified with Women's Institute work who is known from coast to coast.