

practical demonstration in corn judging, etc., was a most effective way of conveying information. He closed his address by stating that the great problem was to show the people that the farmer's life is not drudgery, and teach the farmer that the farm affords perfect conditions for an ideal home. He urged the importance to the farm home of trained, cultured, capable women, and said that the daughter's education should be thorough, liberal, practical and as definitely related to the future as that of the son.

Mr. F. E. Dawley, of New York State, presided at the evening session.

Wednesday, June 24th, was the big day of the convention and the attendance was large, many Ontario Institute workers being present to hear the discussions. Mr. Geo. McKerron, Wis., occupied the chair at the morning session and introduced the first speaker, Mr. Franklin Dye, from New Jersey, who read an able paper on training for institute work. The institute worker should have a liberal general education, be possessed of a large amount of common sense and have an intimate and practical knowledge of the subject in hand. Special training was advisable. To a common school education should be added, if possible, a course at an agricultural college followed by practical farm work and a study of how successful meetings are conducted. The ideal speaker should be of gentlemanly, dignified appearance, chaste in speech, have something to say and speak to the point, and should not use sarcasm in answering a question. He should in short be a teacher and combine all the qualities that go to make a successful one.

In the discussion on this paper some important information was brought out in reference to training workers. In New York State, the workers at the beginning of the campaign are taken for a week or ten days to Cornell University and the Experiment Station at Geneva, in order to familiarize themselves with the teaching and the work being carried on at these institutions. The training which the Ontario workers receive at the Provincial Winter Fair was also noted as being most beneficial.

Organization for institute work was dealt with by Prof. J. R. Taft, of Mich. He believed in permanent local or county organizations to look after the local arrangements. It greatly simplifies the work in each county and has worked most successfully in Michigan.

The discussion also brought out a variety of views on this subject. Supt. Gregg, of Minn., was strongly in favor of the one or central power which had been successfully in force in that state for 16 years. Wisconsin has a similar system. In New York, owing to the large number of granges and other farmers' clubs, it was difficult to organize local institutes without arousing a large amount of jealousy. In Ontario local organiza-

tion is more complete and effective than in any of the States. Supt. Creelman stated that without this permanent organization he could not hold an institute meeting.

Fred. H. Rankin, of Illinois, read a valuable paper, which closed the forenoon session, on accessories to institute work. The special point brought out was that relating to boys' work in that state. A number of boys' corn growing clubs have been organized through which prizes are given for the best corn crop grown on a small plot of ground, the seed being supplied from the central organization. In Illinois a flourishing circulating library is run in connection with the institute system.

Some valuable papers were read at Wednesday afternoon's session. Mr. F. E. Dawley, Director of Institutes for New York State, read a paper on how far it is practicable to conduct a season's campaign in some agricultural interests.

Those who attended the meetings wanted to hear the practical and not the theoretical side of agriculture. He was not convinced that they should attempt to teach too much agriculture in the lower grades of country schools, but he did urge that the textbooks should be changed so that their school training would fit them more for farm life.

One of the best addresses of the convention was made by Mr. Andrew Elliott, of Galt, Ont., on the institute from the workers' standpoint. The future of the institute depended upon the worker who should spend a considerable portion of his time in active farm work. The worker should have tact; no politics and be enthusiastic. At first, farmers looked with suspicion upon college professors, but now farmers want science and scientific methods. Therefore, workers should study and keep posted. The business is going forward and the institute worker must keep ahead or drop out. He must have a better style and be better prepared.

Mr. Henry Glendinning, Manilla, Ont., speaking to the same subject said that one of the best ways to interest a meeting was to encourage questions. He thought the evening meetings, being of a lighter character, were not doing as much good as they might do. He advocated holding two day meetings.

In the discussion, which followed, Major Shepherd, of Queenston, Ont., thought that in Ontario the workers were driven too hard.

Other instructive addresses were given in the afternoon by Professor John Hamilton, Institute Specialist, Washington; Mr. George Harcourt, Supt. of Institutes for the Northwest Territories; Mr. Sigault, Deputy Minister of Agriculture, for Quebec, and others.

LADIES WORK

The evening session of Wednesday was specially a ladies session. Miss Blanche Maddock, Guelph, dealt

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