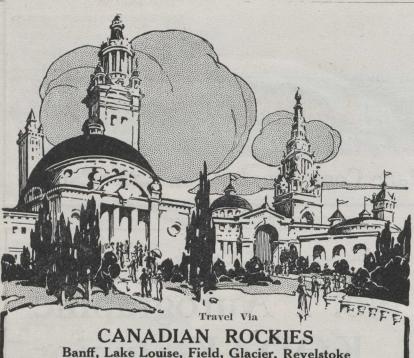
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## SASKATCHEWAN INSTITUTES

The Homemakers' Clubs of Saskatchewan are similar in their aims, objects and methods to the Women's Institutes in Ontario. But their history is quite different, and they meet a different need. Each province has its own problems to solve and its own conditions to meet. And we who work in the Homemaker work in Saskatchewan think that this great movement has proven of wonderful value in lessening the loneliness of the women on widely separated prairie homesteads and has bound together a great sisterhood of pioneer women in links of gold, to work in united effort for the service of home and country. It has grown from eight nameless women's societies, which met in the first convention at Regina, in January, 1911, to over one hundred and forty Homemakers' Clubs, whose delegates met at the fifth annual Convention, held at our beautiful University at Saskatoon, in May, 1915. A number of Clubs have been formed since the Convention. And the help that the work has been to the individuals who make up this great whole, can be told only by the women them-

In so many cases it has transformed lonely, talented women, eating out their own hearts in need of the company of their own kind, into great reservoirs of blessing carried through the channels of the local Homemakers' Club. Our Supervisor, Miss Abbie DeLury, in her address at Brandon Winter Fair, in 1914, said that our Saskatchewan Homemakers' work had revealed for us a gold mine of talented women. And it has distributed the gold of their goodness to the needy of the province, the country and the whole world.

The Department of Agriculture for the Province of Saskatchewan has always looked well after the interests of the farmer. In November, 1910, they determined to do something for the women of the province. A number of talented speakers were being sent to address meetings of the Farmers' Institutes along the main line of the C.P.R. The men were requested to bring their women folks to these meetings and Miss Lillian Beynon, who edited the Women's page of the "Winnipeg Free Press," under the pen name of Lillian Laurie, was asked to go with the speakers and address the women. Grenfell was the first meeting place. A fine banquet had been prepared, to which the Lieutenant-Governor and other notables had been invited as speakers, and Miss Beynon was requested to do her speaking at this banquet. In her own words she was "scared blue," but we cannot imagine our talented Lillian Laurie, B. A., from Manitoba University, fluent, easy, forceful speaker, ever being other than her own charming self.

However the men of Grenfell would not hear of the women forming a separate society. They had worked always with their men folk in the Agricultural Society which had had women directors for years. women's society was organized here. The next place visited was Broadview. The men gathered upstairs in the Hall, while the eight women who came sat around the big stove downstairs and talked over the idea. The Department of Agriculture had promised that they would do for the women what they had been doing so long for the men. Hon. Mr. Motherwell, Minister of Agriculture, W. J. Rutherford, Deputy Minister, and F. Hedley Auld, Director of Agricultural Societies, were all greatly interested in the work for The women of Broadview felt that what other women could do, they could do, so the society was organized with Mrs. Thorburn as president, the first president of the first Homemakers' Club in Saskatchewan.

The name Homemakers' was chosen at the first annual Convention in Regina, in January, 1911, when the Constitution was also adopted of simple rules for our guidance. This was printed, together with the Convention address. in the first annual report, which we all know as "the little grey book,"

Homemakers' Clubs in Saskatchewan. and you may see each Homemaker president going off to her meeting each month with the little grey book under her arm, as it also tells her the order of procedure for the meeting.

Eight societies were organized at this time by Miss Beynon, all of them along the main line of the C. The annual Agricultural Societies' Convention and Provincial Seed Fair were held in Regina, the end of January, 1911. At the same time it was planned to hold a Convention for the women's societies and delegates were sent from each society. We met in the auditorium of the Normal School and many women date the dawning of the home feeling for Saskatchewan from this Convention. Lillian Laurie presided in a tactful, efficient manner and by her own talented, dainty womanliness struck the key note for the Homemakers. The audience was most inspiring for they listened breathlessly and then took advantage of every opportunity to ask timely questions.

Nellie McLung, our own vigorous worker in the cause of Western wo-manhood, gifted writer and witty speaker, told of Western social con-Miss E. Cora Hind, market ditions. and stock editor of the Manitoba Free Press, told of many labor saving devices for our kitchens, to lighten our labors and transform drudgery into pleasant industry. These were all most practical and most of them in-These were all

Miss Mary S. Mantle. who was writing for the Nor' West Farmer, under the pen name of Margaret Freeston, was another speaker. She is still with our work and still lends to it the charm of her womanly, thoughtful, unfailing care for others.

Miss Joan Hamilton, Director of Domestic Science in the schools of Regina, demonstrated for us on cheese dishes. Dr. Mary Crawford, of Winnipeg, told us what to do for our health when many miles from doctor and before the doctor could Mrs. Motherwell gave a reach us. splendid paper on Domestic Book-keeping. This she was requested to keeping. repeat for the benefit of the men at the evening's general session. Mrs. Lorne Elliott, who had worked in Ontario Institute work, also gave a helpful address. In the audience were Isabel C. Armstrong, woman's editor of the Regina Leader, Mrs. Graham, of Winnipeg, and Dame Durden, of the Farmer's Advocate, who has since died. Soon after this Miss Armstrong started the Homemakers' Page in the Leader. This appears in the Saturday Daily Leader, then on the following Wednesday in the weekly Leader, called the Prairie Farm and Home.

The next summer Miss Beynon was sent to address meetings again along the main line of the C. P. R. and with her was sent Miss Abbie DeLury, then Director of Domestic Science in the Moose Jaw schools. Of Miss DeLury it has been said that she possesses the sanest mind of any known woman. Added to this she has a great big warm Irish heart, tender to all need. She is now Supervisor of Homemakers' Clubs and surely is the right woman in the right place. Miss DeLury is building sure and strong the foundation of a helpful sisterhood of women in our great prairie province.

Miss Mary S. Mantle and Miss Joan Hamilton were sent to address meetand organize wherever possible south of the main line. Convention was held at Wolseley, at which twenty-two Clubs were represented, in July, 1911. This was an enjoyable meeting and the parting words of all were, "See you at the next Convention." This next Convention was held at Saskatoon, in February, 1912, the second annual Convention, also in connection with the Agricultural Society's Convention. Tennant, Domestic Science Graduate from Guelph College, and assisting at University residence, took part in this Convention, and in the work of the Short Courses that winter. Miss Tennant is a niece of Mrs. Hoodless, the founder of the Women's Institutes in Ontario, and through whose efforts

(Continued on page 32.)