

For Home and Country

NOTES FROM THE FORT WILLIAM CONVENTION

The Women's Institutes of North Western Ontario held their Convention at Fort William on October 10th and 11th, with the usual good attendance and the usual abounding enthusiasm. A rare combination of conditions makes the work in this section of the province particularly interesting. The twin cities, Fort William and Fort Arthur, each have their Women's Institutes. In the fertile valleys of the districts back of these cities, are Institutes working with much the same problems as their sister organizations in Southern Ontario. And beyond this again in the newer settlements women are grappling bravely and intelligently with the problems of pioneering. The warm feeling running from the cities to the farthest settlements and back again is one of the forces which makes Institute work in north-west Ontario a particularly vital thing.

The lines of work reported at this Convention were quite as varied and as practical as might be expected. At Fort William the Institute has been helping in a mission in the foreign settlement, thus coming in personal touch with the new-Canadian women. This year they presented this mission with baby scales to be used in their baby clinic. In addition to this, the secretary says, "Then the women gave themselves. In our protected lives we do not understand what some other women have to consider. These foreign women look to the ladies who come among them as something superior and feel quite honored. After a few meetings they begin to find out that we are all very human and have a lot in common." Fort William Institute helped the fire sufferers at Haileybury by buying material and making it into underwear. They also had a tea and cake sale with a shower for needy families in the town, some of the women cutting out and making over the donated clothing. The women of the Fort William and Port Arthur Institutes went to a great deal of trouble to make the Convention hospitable and pleasant for the visiting delegates.

South Neebing is concentrating its efforts on school work this year. On the 24th of May as many of the members as could leave home met some of the school-board at the school and helped to clear up the grounds and put up window boxes. In the afternoon the women cleaned the interior of the school and varnished the wood-work. They have presented the school with paper towels and library books, the funds for their school work being raised by a series of social evenings. They give prizes at the school fair, send flowers to the sick, and take gifts to every mother of a new baby in the neighborhood. They had a sewing course from the Department last spring.

Oadrift is steadily raising money for their community hall. They find box-socials very effective in this connection. They have contributed clothing to the northern fire relief and prizes to the school fair.

Burris is equipping a domestic science room in their new consolidated school. They are planning next year to give the school some playground equipment. They give prizes annually to the girls of the community for cooking and sewing and had a large number of girls attend the domestic science course this summer. They put on a very interesting entertainment this summer in the way of a debate between two men and two Institute members. Last fall they raised \$65 at a fowl supper. Part of this money was spent for a Christmas treat for children and part was given to a family outside the neighborhood who had been burned out.

West Fort William has been active in local relief work, and in making their regular meetings of practical value to homemakers. They have recently bought a piano.

Ignace has made use of a number of outside services during the past year. They had a sewing course from the Institutes Department and an address on "Health Promotion and Disease Prevention" with the film entitled "The Gift of Life," by Miss Moore of the Health Department. This Institute took charge of the poppy sale on Armistice day for the war veterans, and at different times through the year have provided social entertainment for the community. Bazaars and bake sales are popular here as in several other places in this section.

Hornepayne Institute this year gave gold medals to the children taking the highest number of marks during the year in each room of their school. They also gave books of general proficiency prizes. The Institute is responsible for a petition going from the townspeople to the Post Office Department asking to have a daily mail service for Hornepayne. They have also applied to have the old school house taken over by the Institute and used as a community hall. And next year they hope to assist in having the grounds around the new school made into good play grounds. They assisted a family who had been burned out, and when a fireman from Hornepayne was injured in an accident and had to go to Port Arthur Hospital they remembered him regularly with boxes of treats.

Keweenaw Institute last September arranged a very enjoyable reception for the school teachers and parents. They assisted the fire sufferers, the Navy League, the Muskoka Hospital,

for Sick Children and the Horticultural Society. Through the influence of the Institute milk dealers in the vicinity were obliged to have their cows tested for tuberculosis. In a "whist drive" they raised \$375 for the rink. And in June at a silver tea and apron sale they raised \$50 towards furnishing a rest room in Kewatin Park. They also provided clothing for a family of children in the neighborhood.

Murillo Institute, feeling that children who had to go to the city to write on their entrance examination, frequently suffered from nervous strain, secured permission from the authorities to have the children of their school and neighboring rural schools, try their examinations at Murillo, from where they could all be taken home every night. This Institute held a very successful "Old-Timers' Re-union" and have doubled the number of volumes in their library so that they have now about nineteen hundred books. They have also assisted the Institute for the Blind.

Hymers Institute, which is only one and one-half years old, has put a stage in the school; improved the cemetery; filled up holes in the sidewalks with cinders, presented the school with a three-burner oil stove to be used in preparing a hot lunch, and given the athletic club \$100 towards buying lumber for a grand stand. Their money is raised through bazaars, bake sales, and bean suppers. Last year when the news of the Haileybury fire reached them all the flannelette articles intended for the bazaar were sent to the fire sufferers along with other clothing. On Dominion Day the Institute held a field day, spending \$70 in prizes. One prize was given to the school child writing the best essay on "Dominion Day and What It Means." This Institute carries out the rather unique feature of taking a "stork shower" to prospective mothers. Their regular meetings are held in the school, the Institute paying a rental of \$5 per meeting.

Devlin Institute, among its entertaining features this year, had a debate with two gentlemen, "Resolved that a man spends more time and money on his own pleasure than a woman does." This Institute has helped their baseball club, the Haileybury fire sufferers, Russian relief and the Emro fall fair.

Barnhart Institute has been buying lumber for a new kitchen and shed to be added to their town hall. When a new baby is expected in a member's home the Institute members each make a garment for the layette. They have sent donations to the fire sufferers, hospitals, and the Institute for the Blind.

Boz Alder Institute has painted the church and supplied it with an organ. They have also assisted the school fair and fire sufferers.

Big Fork, organized only last year, assisted with the school fair, formed a reading club and provided the community with a travelling library.

Crozier Institute had a domestic science course last year. They are also much interested in the school fair. Fort Frances Institute is particularly interested in child welfare work. They have given prizes to the school fair; provided the school with swings and sand hills and equipped a park for them. They sent out generous Christmas cheer parcels to the sick and shut in people in the community. They have had a domestic science course this year, and a showing of the "Gift of Life" film by Miss Moore of the Department of Health. They have furnished an Institute room in the library, assisted fire sufferers both at home and in Temiskaming, and have \$500 in the bank towards providing a local hospital. Much of their money is raised by sales of home cooking and a sale of plants in the spring.

LaVallee Institute has been generous in relief work and brought a domestic science course to the community this summer.

McIrvine Institute, with a membership of eleven, has this year raised \$300. Part of this goes to finish paying for a piano for the school. The balance is being invested in school fair prizes, relief work and hospital funds. This Institute had a sewing course last spring.

Quibell has assisted with school fairs and fire relief work. Carpenter Institute along with other community work arranged to have church services held in the school house.

Chapple Institute has brought a travelling library to the neighborhood and assisted with the school fair.

Barwick Institute has paid for the inspection of the school children's plots, donated special prizes to the school fair, built a refreshment booth on the fair grounds, and has promised to erect a fence around the soldiers' monument. They are also planning to serve a hot lunch in the new consolidated school this winter. Perhaps their most unique feature of work is to contribute \$100 towards bousing a doctor to stay in the district.

The delegate from Stratton said, "If it were not for the Institute some of us would never see each other all year." Last winter this Institute paid a woman to supply hot soup and cocoa to the school children. This Institute has a good number of girl members, and the programs are planned to keep the girls interested. At the time of the Northern Ontario fire the Insti-



The man to be comfortable. —Cleveland Plain Dealer.

tute was instrumental in having a car load of food and clothing sent to the fire sufferers.

Pinewood Institute has been very active in local and outside relief work.

Rainy River Institute has adopted the name of the "Beaver" Branch, "because this little animal works all the time." One outstanding feature of their work has been to fit up the armories as a play house and a gymnasium for the children. They have had a number of demonstrations from the Public Health Nurse, Miss Carr-Harris. They have assisted the town band and are steadily raising money for a community hall.

Shenstone Institute, recently reorganized, is making active plans for their winter's work.

McIntyre Institute is paying for a community hall which they have built entirely on their own responsibility. Just now the church services are being held in this hall.

Port Arthur is assisting the Red Cross Hospital, and the Navy League. They aim to make their regular work of practical benefit to the members. They have educational meetings and suffer those in trouble or illness.

O'Connor Institute has the distinction of being the one place in Ontario, or in Canada so far as we know, where the women carry on an Agricultural Fair entirely on their own responsibility. This year the women included three of their husbands on the fair committees, as they could not erect tables, etc., themselves. They hope this year to finish paying for their community hall. They are always ready to assist their members in time of poverty or trouble.

Dryden Institute has raised \$1,983 this year, the main outlay from this sum going towards fire relief. One outstanding feature of the programs of this Institute is the work done through its standing committees.

The school committee met the teachers upon their arrival for the fall term and found temporary boarding places for them. They arranged a reception for the teachers and parents. At the opening of the new school this committee arranged the refreshments and the entertainment, taking care of a crowd of about seven hundred people. Perhaps in this feature as much as in any other the Institute won the warm appreciation of the school board. A piano was provided for the school, the money being raised partly through teas given by the Institute and partly through a dance given by the teachers with which the school committee assisted.

The Home Economics Committee has been instrumental in introducing sewing in the public school. The primary teachers volunteered to give an hour a week to teach sewing to the senior girls and the Institute provided the necessary supplies, also gave prizes for the best work done.

The committee on Public Health assisted the Public Health nurse at her baby clinics, sent home-cooked dishes to a tubercular patient, bought linen and other supplies which the nurse required for a patient who had not been in town long enough to be settled. They served tea to the mothers at a baby contest at the fair. They arranged for addresses on dental hygiene and goitre, those addressed being given by a dentist and doctor at the regular meetings. And when the school nurse found a number of girls who were under weight, the Institute, at the recommendation of the health committee, gave prizes to the girl who gained the most from drinking milk. This committee presented the school children with weight charts and persuaded those underweight to take milk to school.

The publicity committee attended to the advertising of meetings and in making the doings of the Institute known throughout the community.

The duty of the committee on immigration was to visit new families, introduce them to neighbors, put them in touch with their church society, as-

sist in time of sickness, and introduce the public health nurse to them. During the year they called on two dozen families and found that their advances were welcomed by the new comers.

Handling Lime Cheaply.

One of the heaviest jobs on the farm is hauling and spreading lime. Lime is often hauled in the winter, stored, and then hauled to the field and spread in the spring. This is wasteful of labor.

If lime is hauled in the winter, spread it on fall-plowed land at once, unless the snow is too deep. If the snow is too deep the lime should not be ordered until later. Lime is heavy and will not wash away with heavy snow with spring rains, and I have repeatedly spread it in the fall and winter with the best results. I must mention, however, that this was the ground rock. I never used quicklime but once, as it is far less convenient to handle than the ground rock and it gave me no better results.

Most of my lime has been spread in the spring just before I started fitting the land for oats. I buy it in paper bags, as the saving in time required to handle it is as much or more than the extra cost. I haul it in dump boxes, and in unloading remove one side of the box and pull out the bags sideways, instead of lifting every bag over. I borrow one extra wagon, or two if necessary, and handle the bags direct from the wagon to the lime sower. I used to pile the bags along the sides of the fields, but I got a lame back one year spreading two carloads and handling most of it three times, and now I cut out one handling.

I usually haul 7,000 pounds at a load, making six loads to a carload. The wagons are left along the field where there will be the least running back and forth with the lime sower. The bags are pulled off the lime sower into the open lime sower and then slit from end to end with a knife. It only takes a few minutes to unload a half-ton to the spreader.

I generally sow from 3,500 pounds to two tons to the acre. By starting to spread the afternoon of the day that unloading is started, I can spread a carload by the time the lime is home; that is, I can spread twenty tons in a day and a half.—A. H. De Graf.

Devouring Sparrows.

A single pair of sparrows and a nest of young ones will consume about 3,000 insects a week.

Cull out the culls or the culls will cull out your profits.

The best source of feed for the cow is the farm upon which she is kept.

Market information is in the air. It can be found in and around the home of every Canadian farmer. All that is required is a receiving set to get it. Like water it is free, but one needs to provide a cup to quench his thirst.

Between dodging the Hessian fly and getting a sufficient fall growth on the wheat crop to better insure its surviving the winter, the farmer has his trouble. His hope lies largely in having plant food in abundance for the rapid development of the crop, once it is in.

Have you named your farm? There is some responsibility connected with such a procedure. People expect one to keep his premises in harmony with a respectable name. A good name, in other words, is just a little additional urge for us to begin, or keep on doing, the proper thing.

The Sunday School Lesson

NOVEMBER 18

Our Lord Jesus a Missionary—Matthew 9: 35-38; Mark 1: 29-39; Luke 8: 1-3; 10: 1; John 3: 16, 17. Golden Text—God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.—John 3: 16.

LESSON GETTING—In our lesson we see Jesus fulfilling the true mission of his coming, going about doing good, carrying the good news, ministering to all who needed his ministry, rather than being ministered unto.

I. CHRIST'S COMPASSION FOR THE MULTITUDE, MATT. 9: 35-38.

Matt. 9: 35, 36. Jesus went about. We have here the keynote to the ministry of Christ. It is an itinerant ministry. He does not wait for the needy to come to him. He goes where need is to be found. All the cities and villages. Galilee was the scene of this mission. Teaching in their synagogues. It was the custom that some one in the gathering in the synagogue was called upon to speak. This gave Jesus his opportunity of reaching the people. Paul the great apostle also used the synagogue as the centre of his preaching, as long as he was permitted so to do. Preaching the gospel of the kingdom; preaching the good news of the coming of the kingdom, with its blessings. Healing sickness and disease. The synagogue could not contain the ministry of Christ. It overflowed that centre, and touched the whole community of need. There was instruction for the mind, good news for the heart, and healing for the body. He was moved with compassion. "Was gripped in his heart concerning them." Because they fainted; were distracted by the burdens they carried and by the difficulties in their way. Were scattered; "were dejected." As sheep having no shepherd. They were without leadership, without defence, without food, Jesus came to bring them all these things. The missionary motive is that it sees a vast need. The missionary conviction is that it can supply that need by the gospel.

Vs. 37, 38. The harvest . . . is plentiful. Jesus sees not only the need of the people, but also the readiness of the people to respond. Laborers . . . few. Jesus sees that he cannot undertake this ministry of the gospel alone. Hence we find him immediately afterwards sending out the twelve disciples on a mission. Lord of the harvest. This harvest of human hearts belongs to God. God alone can inspire the heart with the desire to reap this harvest for God.

II. CHRIST'S BLESSING FOR WOMANKIND, LUKE 8: 1-3.

Luke 8: 1-3. He went throughout every city. Once again we see that Jesus came not only to save, but to seek and to save. This preaching tour of Jesus probably precedes the one recorded in the first part of the lesson. The twelve were with him; as companions, helpers and learners. And certain women. This is the important part of this passage. Last passage shows the compassion for the despised multitude. This one shows the compassion of Jesus for womankind. Wherever Christian missions have gone, they have elevated the status of womankind. Healed of evil spirits. The women had been saved from great evils, and now show their gratitude by helping him in his missionary work. Their time, love and substance are at his command. Later we find Mary following him to his cross. (See Matt. 27: 55, 56.) Mary . . . seven devils. She belonged to a town of Magdala and had been delivered from an extreme case of demoniacal possession as indicated by the phrase "seven devils." It was this Mary who stood near him at the foot of the cross (Mark 15: 40, 41) who watched to see where the body of Jesus was laid (Luke 23: 55); who followed whom Jesus first appeared, John 20: 14, 15. Joanna; the wife of Herod's steward who was with Mary at the sepulchre, Luke 24: 10. Susanna. Nothing more is known of her. Womankind, like the multitude was the harvest ready for love's reaping.

III. CHRIST'S LOVE FOR THE WORLD, JOHN 3: 16, 17.

John 3: 16, 17. For God so loved the world. In this verse the supreme motive of God's dealing with men is asserted with great finality. The supreme motive is love. Then having declared the motive, we have the scope of that motive declared. It is a divine love that embraces the world. The gospel is God's good news for the world. God's love flows down to the universal human need as the river flows downward to the sea. He gave his only begotten Son. Next we have the method of that divine love. It is the method of sacrifice. God's love manifests itself through sacrifice. Should have everlasting life. Next we have the object of that love. It is that mankind should share in the life of God. Belief in Christ makes us possessors of that life in God which is described as eternal. The word eternal describes its quality as well as its duration. It is a present possession of those who believe. Not to condemn . . . be saved. God's glory is not the condemnation of evil, but the creation of good. God is a redeemer not a judge.

APPLICATION.

Let us note the Home Mission enterprise of Jesus, Matt. 9: 35-38. His itinerary took in the villages and cities of his native land. That Foreign Mission ideals were present to his mind and to the mind of the disciples we gather from the sayings, "I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." "Go not into the way of the Gentiles, . . . but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." These remarks would not have been made unless there was an expectation somewhere that the bounds of Israel should be transcended. Such an expectation never took its rise out of the exclusive self-

Judaism. It was born from above, along with the Lord Jesus a missionary. But though the Foreign Mission ideal was already alive, the operations were confined to home mission work, doubtless because the time was not yet ripe.

His special activities,—preaching and healing, the cure of the body, mind and spirit. Jesus himself "increased in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and with man." This full-orbed process was the all-around expression of his abundant life. The Christianity of Jesus is not concerned alone with that aspect of man's nature which lies open toward Jerusalem alone with that aspect of man's need. For that reason we have medical missions established in non-Christian countries, in order to heal the great Physician healed, and to create a hospitality in favor of the gospel message.

His missionary motive. As our Lord went about among men he walked by insight as well as by sight. Deep down below the outward trappings of that festal multitude, he saw that all was not right. Beneath the illusive surface, their lives flowed on in dark disorder and discouragement. To-day the nations, yes even the Christian nations, are too much like sheep without a shepherd. He has compassion today upon the unsheltered multitudes of earth. Do we share in that compassion?

His missionary head-office. The disciples are enjoined to pray to the Lord of the harvest that he send forth more laborers. In another place he says, "As the Father hath sent me, even so send I you." The true missionary is always sent of God, not merely of man. Are we listening to God's call? Who will go for us?

Let us note also his home missionary support, Luke 8: 1-3. As he travels through village and city, the disciples and himself cannot live on air. He had no private means of which we have any knowledge. In these circumstances his daily needs were taken care of by the first Women's Missionary Society of which we have certain information,—Mary and Joanna and Susanna.

Now let us consider the Foreign Missionary ideal which lay behind his operations of whatsoever kind, John 3: 16, 17.

God loved the world,—not the world alone, but also every last Gentile. There is no favored nation clause in the new covenant. The child of the South Africa is just as dear to God as any Canadian child. He is no respecter of persons.

Christ died for all,—not for the elect alone, but for all mankind. We do not believe in a limited atonement. All peoples and times fall within the shadow of his cross.

Whoever will may believe. The grace of God is free to all. We are not helplessly fated nor is the favor of God limited to a class possessing a marked religious genius.

Hauling Loose Straw.

Baled straw is easy to handle, but many times we have a load or more of straw to take some distance and it must be loaded on the wagon a forkful at a time.

I've found that the use of two five-foot hay slings helps a good deal in this case. I tie the end ropes to the standards of the rack and slip the ends of the wooden strips of the rack. That makes side boards two feet high in reality. A lot of straw can be piled in and it doesn't have to be loaded so carefully. It will stand a good deal of jolting too.

Some few farmers have stock racks for their wagon racks. Those are good to use, but the motor-truck is used so often that there are few such racks any more. The slings are on a great many farms.—Earl Rogers.

Disinfectant Whitewash.

Use the following ingredients: Hydrated lime, one and one-half pecks; salt, two pounds; commercial lime sulphur, four gallons; water, forty gallons. Make a paste of the lime by adding hot water. Dissolve the salt in water and add it. Add the lime sulphur, and enough more water to make a total of forty gallons of water.

The Rain on the Roof.

We like to hear rain on a metal roof. Not that we like rain so much nor iron roofs either, but because of the sense of dryness, protection, safety, of triumph over the force of nature, if you understand what we mean. Our prehistoric ancestors, when they first moved from the hinds of those incu caves, must have had the same triumphant feeling, but they missed the satisfying thunder of the down-pour on the roof, and the exhilarating swirl and gush of the water in the spouts.

If you wish to make your boy a better farmer than you are, give him the chance to take up club work.

Every possible encouragement should be placed in the path of a farmer to join hands with his neighbor and co-operate in working out their mutual problems; but to join a co-operative association is a minor step, compared to the development of a true co-operative spirit after having joined.

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