

361 delegates attend institute convention *Nov. 1976*

By ANN KELLY

Family Living Editor

Registration totalled 361 delegates at the opening day of a two-day Grey-Bruce area Women's Institute (WI) convention held in Geneva Presbyterian Church Monday. The convention theme was Steps to Progress.

Mrs. Herb Maluske, president of the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario, reported on institute activities.

She told the audience of a \$9,000 grant from the ministry of culture and recreation used for improvements on the Erland Lee Home. During Women's Institute Week there were 795 visitors to the home.

She spoke briefly of the WI hall at Milton and suggested it could be the site of a provincial picnic in 1977, the 80th anniversary of the Women's Institute.

Women's Institute Week in 1977 will be June 6 to 10.

The Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) conference will be held in Nairobi, Kenya Oct. 11-21.

During the opening morning session reports were heard. Mrs. Harvey Davis read a resolution regarding seat belts.

Mrs. Harvey Schmith, Grey South District, gave a humorous reading, My Land, What a Wedding!

The morning session was conducted by president, Mrs. C. O. Sutcliffe. Mrs. Francis Gemmell conducted the afternoon session.

An simulated open line show on radio station FWIO was presented by board directors. Mrs. Graham Chambers was the host of the show, Mrs. Francis Gemmell was the guest and Mrs. Jack Sparling played the roles of the callers. The responsibilities of a board member were discussed.

A panel discussed whether the Federated Women's Institute of

supervisor of clothing and textiles for the Home Economics Branch, Ontario ministry of agriculture and food, brought greetings from Miss Helen McKercher, who was 20 years director of the Home Economics Branch and has only recently retired.

Of the Women's Institute Mrs. Gouge said, "We're in the business of people with 53,000 women and young people involved."

Mrs. Gouge spoke on the subject of leadership, defined the word and said, "No one is born a leader, good leaders develop. Don't underestimate the value of talents you have to offer."

Mrs. Gouge urged the WI delegates to take time to enjoy people, give praise and credit, respect people, watch and listen to others' reactions, be willing to expand their knowledge, make the most of opportunities, learn more about themselves, be willing to accept responsibility, extend themselves in new directions and be willing to get organized.

In conclusion she said, "Act enthusiastic, enthusiasm, like the common cold, is contagious.

"The secret of happiness is something to do. Happiness is nearly always a rebound for hard work."

Mrs. C. O. Sutcliffe of Desboro told delegates.

Mrs. Sutcliffe is completing her term as president this year.

She outlined seven characteristics in an individual which lend to making a happy home—knowledge, self-control, patience, Godliness, love, faith and virtue.

"These are the basic factors and when blended together create desirable members of our society

today," she said. "To make a house liveable, people need love. A house is just a place to live in and it will always be that way unless the people inside transform the four walls into a home where peace and love abide.

"Hardening of the heart ages people more quickly than hardening of the arteries. Fill them with love and let it reflect in their faces with a smile," she advised.

"Fair people can disagree without being disagreeable. Kindness is the oil that takes the friction out of life. Trifling things can create troubles which can hinder the growth of friendship. We need to be on guard against these things by examining our programs and practices very carefully. If each member does her task to the best of her ability, who can draw comparisons?" she queried.

"We are all seeking personal prosperity and happiness, therefore we must realize it requires the right ingredients. Health enough to make work a pleasure. Wealth enough to support your needs. Strength to battle with difficulties and overcome them. Grace enough to confess our mistakes. Patience enough to toil until some good is accomplished. Charity enough to see good in your neighbour. Faith enough to hold on to the promises of God and hope enough to remove all anxious fears."

NAMED APPROPRIATELY

The phrase "crying towel" originated as army slang during the Second World War and was said in derision about a chronic complainer.