

REMARKS BY PRESIDENT-ELECT - HAROLD WILSONANNUAL MEETING, April 15th, 1961

Ladies and Gentlemen, it is really a sincere obligation I have taken on this morning. It is a privilege to be your new President. This is a duty I will carry out to the best of my ability.

I am not going along with the idea that I will fill Fred Brown's shoes - they would not fit me.

How has our Society existed - and where is it going? In the background we have had Deane Russell, Dr. Larmour, Jean Newton and Fred Brown. Four years ago, when Jean Newton gave up her office, she told us about cogs and wheels. Jean asked, "Are you the cog in the wheel that is going to make it work, or are you the squeak?" Was Jean right? Jean was right that we need the cog. I would like to see the Branches start to squeak. The new executive could stand to hear the squeaking so we can apply the oil. When you go back to your Branches, think and talk over, "What do I want as a member of the Leathercraft Society?" - and in turn squeak it along to the executive and tell them what you want.

As you saw these Associates come forward this morning, they are not just a member of a Branch, nor are they just a member of the Society but are the people who are trying to carry the leathercraft forward and upward. The only way you can do this, is to work as the new Associates have done.

cont'd

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Five years ago, with the exception of Bob Muma's work, the display of work looked nothing like today's display. The improvement is wonderful. When you go home try to plan your aims, and in turn let me know what they are so I may start to put these in force. The old reliables have carried on for the past 11 years, so let us get in and work together so that these people who have done so much for us will feel that we are carrying the flame on for them. Thank you.

C.S.C.L. ANNUAL MEETING

The 11th Annual Meeting of the C.S.C.L. was held Saturday, April 15th, 1961 at WoodGreen Centre, Toronto.

Complete copies of the Programme, Reports and President's Remarks were on hand to keep the business meeting at a minimum and devote more time to the other activities of the day. If you were not at the meeting and have not yet received a copy of these reports through the mail, write to the Secretary, Mrs. Nina Wilson, 400 Charlton Street West, Hamilton, Ontario, for your copy.

Each year shows a decided improvement in design and workmanship and we hope this high quality work foretells an increase in candidates for Associate and Fellow memberships.

The Board of Selection was pleased to announce that 11 of our members successfully met the requirements for Associate membership and were awarded their certificates by Mrs. Nora Huyck, they are --

Mrs. Jean Carroll, London, Ontario.
 Mrs. Helen Caswell, Welland, Ontario.
 Winnifred Comfort, Hamilton, Ontario.
 Mrs. May Corbett, Barrie, Ontario.
 James Courneya, Hannon, Ontario.
 Elizabeth Henstridge, Hamilton, Ontario.
 Mrs. Lillian Neelands, Mono Rd. Station, Ontario.
 Mrs. Aileen Schooley, Hamilton, Ontario.
 Mr. Frank Torry, Hamilton, Ontario.
 Mrs. Jessie Trew, Barrie, Ontario.
 Mrs. Ethel Zimmerman, Hamilton, Ontario.

You will note there is one from each Branch. We have no one trying for Fellowship since 1958. Surely since that time there is someone coming along who could qualify as a Fellow. The Board of Selection would like to see more competitors next year.

BRANCH COMPETITION FOR THE WESTON TROPHY

Four Branches competed and rated higher than 75%. The Trophy was presented by Fred Brown who congratulated all the Branches on the number of very fine pieces that were entered in the competition and said that to raise the standard of leathercraft great emphasis must be placed on design. We must work on our own designs - a lot of the fun is in doing - in making our own designs and decorations.

We should take advantage of the opportunity of visiting art galleries, good craft shops and good home furnishing stores to get the idea of balance and line. If we do so often enough we are bound to learn a lot.

Toronto Branch won the Weston Trophy this year. Members participating were Bob Muma, Jean Newton, Dorothy Proctor, Sadie Roebuck and Mr. J. Zalitis.

Critical appraisal was given by Mrs. Anne Hook and Mrs. Nora Huyck. Mrs. Hook commented that it was a pleasure to judge such fine pieces and hoped they would continue to come each year.

The Question Box was again a popular feature. The panel answering the questions were: Ann Hook, Toronto; Nora Huyck, Newmarket; Bob Muma, Toronto; Clarice Packham, Weston.

The excellent noon dinner was again served by the women of Wood-Green United Church, who are noted for their efficiency and promptness, after which a meeting of the Branch representatives was held.

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Demonstrations went on all afternoon by top craftsmen and were crowded as usual. They were - Moulded Trays by Bea Austin, Hamilton-Flower Jewellery by Clara Cavanagh, Barrie - Mongol Pencil Colouring by Sylvia Gerster, London - Turned Edges by Don MacKinnon, Toronto - Covering a Shoe Horn by Jean Newton, Toronto - Box Making by Frank Torry, Hamilton.

7th INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY

The 7th International Assembly of Leathercraftsmen held May 5, 6th and 7th this year at Vineland, Ontario was encouraging in its exhibition of finer leathercraftsmanship, its display of greater originality and the wide variety of uses to which leather is now being put.

Aside from the usual handbags, belts and billfolds and other leather accessories we have come to take for granted, there were this year, such things as coats, smoking stands, spoon racks and walking canes!

The Salon, including pieces selected by Mrs. de Pedery Hunt and Paul Payne from the general exhibit, is a good representative cross section of it. Following is a list of the pieces so honoured:

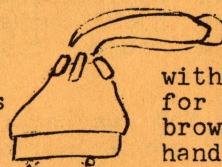
Bea Austin
Hamilton

Tray, golden brown, about 7"
softly moulded scalloped edge.

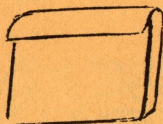


H. Frick
Michigan Leather

1. Tote bag, plain brown
novelty leather straps
supports. Yellow and
straps with leather

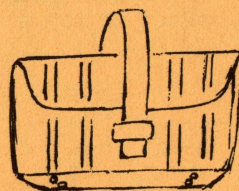


with brown
for handle
brown plastic
hand holds.



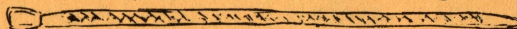
2. Brief case, no stitching. Glued seams,
light golden finish.

3. Heavy utility bag. Carved
line decoration. Leather
studs on base.



D. Fielding
Hamilton

Belt, dark brown with light lacing.



Huldy Gutekunst
Buffalo Guild

Cuff links, heavy leather,
simple, well done
decoration.



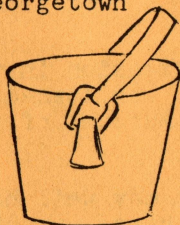
Anne Hook
Toronto

Coasters,
Coloured
border.



design by lino cut.
background and splatter

Lillian Neelands
Georgetown

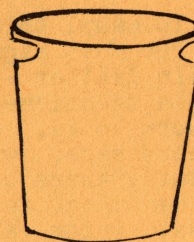


Jean Newton
Toronto

1. Belt, contour,
2 buckles, back
fastening.



2. Tote bag, mahogany finish,
heavy and beautiful. Linen
saddle stitching.

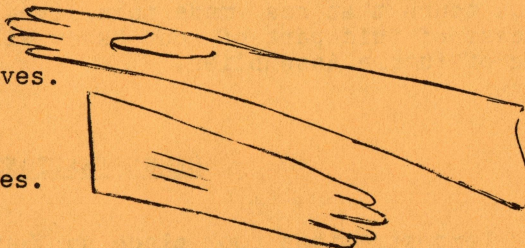


Waste basket. A beautiful
heavy utility piece, solid
and well made with two
opposite cutouts for
handles.

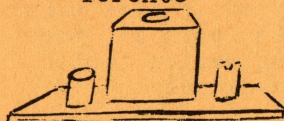
Clarice Packham
Weston

1. Ladies gloves.

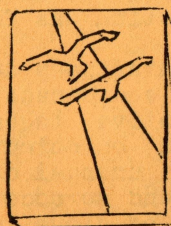
2. Men's gloves.



Sadie Roebuck
Toronto



Smoking stand: base, pipe rack
and match container made from
sole leather. Humidor covered
in calf with hammered
design.



Endel Ruberg
Montreal

Correspondence folder,
3 tones of blue, with
birds inlaid in white.

Carol Ruffin
Rochester

Doll, about 10" long, suede
leather with loosely jointed
soft body.



Jessie Trew
Toronto

Belt, quite plain with
natural finish.



7th INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY

This year's Assembly was also given a new dimension in the unique feature of an Antique Leather Display which was loaned by C.S.C.L. members and the nearby Jordan Historical Museum of the Twenty.

To many, this excellent collection of old pieces may well have been the most significant part of the Assembly; for here was history in leather - leather with its human element worn into its fibres - a technique that only time can accomplish. Here in these old and worn books, cases, handbags, wallets, reticule, stamp case, bracelet case, writing case, boots and shoes etc., one became poignantly aware of the intimacy of leather in our lives, an intimacy that we do not feel so keenly aware of in an exhibition of new pieces, which although hand made, have not yet experienced the human touch that has made them live. It is to be hoped that the success of this part of our show will not be ignored in the planning of future Assemblies.

DEMONSTRATIONS

Demonstrations took place on Saturday morning and afternoon and on Sunday morning. Altogether there were 24 demonstrations, four different demonstrations taking place at a time. They were held in the spacious rooms and although plenty of chairs were available, it seemed that many were so interested to learn all they could, they stood as close as possible to the demonstration tables. Each demonstration was fully attended by an eager audience.

The top craftsmen demonstrators were from various parts of the United States and Canada, demonstrating the following: Bookbinding, showing decorative techniques; Moulded jewellery; four different demonstrations on colouring using various techniques, including spray dyeing, unusual dyeing and use of colour pencils; Wallets, calf leather and morocco; Gloves, individual patterns and advice on various types of glove leather; there was an interesting demonstration on how to make and cover Cardboard Boxes which could be made in a variety of shapes and sizes to custom fit leather items for gifts; Decorative Cutting, making a design freehand with swivel knife; two different kinds of Saddle Stitching; Suede Flowers, among them very realistic poinsettias; Estonian and Finland technique; Bags, designs and techniques for assembly; interesting Tote Bags; unusual coasters; Monograms without initials; Moulded Trays; Stamping; and Braiding and Lacing.

Grateful acknowledgement: to Sherle Bottrill, Anne Hook, Ella Teasdale and Bob Muma for their assistance in covering the 7th International Assembly.

CANADIAN HANDICRAFT GUILD

After serving five years Mr. J. Edgar Stone retired as President of the Guild. During his term of office he served the Guild faithfully and well, always helpful and constructive. His successor is Mr. Harold Burnham, a professional weaver. and an Assistant Curator at the Royal Ontario Museum.

The Guild also have a new General Manager, Mr. E.J. McKell replacing Mr. S.G. Hazell who retired this year after nine years with the Guild. Mr. Hazell worked constantly to achieve the aims of the Guild and was co-operative and helpful to C. S. C. L. at all times. The Society wishes him all happiness in his retirement.

STRATFORD SHAKESPEAREAN FESTIVAL

At this unique Festival the Canadian Handicrafts Guild are invited to exhibit Canadian Crafts and once again some of our members had their work on display at this prestige Exhibition of superior Canadian craftsmanship at Stratford. Members who visited Stratford this year agree that the crafts were exhibited much better than last year but that leather still was not displayed to best advantage. Those whose work was exhibited are as follows:

J.B. Cornyea, Hamilton; Irma Ford, Hamilton; Anne Hook, Toronto
Nora Huyck, Newmarket; Daphne Lingwood, Caledon; Jean Newton, Tor;
Clarice Packham, Weston; Sadie Roebuck, Toronto; Endel Ruberg,
Montreal; Olivia Smith, Toronto; Helen Wheaton, London; J. Zalitis,
Toronto.

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MEMBERSHIP FEES

MEMBERSHIP FEES WERE DUE AND
PAYABLE AT THE ANNUAL MEETING APRIL 15th, 1961.

Members are reminded that only paid-up
members will receive bulletins and
notices of special meetings etc.

**We are pleased to have you come in and choose
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