

# HOME and COUNTRY

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## THE LADY TWEEDSMUIR BIDS FAREWELL

Every Women's Institute member in Canada must have been proud to hear The Lady Tweedsmuir's farewell message to the Canadian people. While resident in Canada, she honoured us by accepting a life membership in the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and by acting as our Honorary President. In her farewell address she gave us this message of inspiration:

"To my friends and fellow members of the Women's Institutes, I would like to say how much I hope they will press on with their work in education and in all other lines. I have so much enjoyed my association with them here, and, though I have not been able to answer their many kind letters sent to me in the last month, I would like to say how grateful I am to receive them. I hope that the Canadian and British Women's Institutes will always be linked together in the warmest friendship and closest association, and that we shall continue to work as ardently in the future for the welfare of the countryside as we have done in the past."



THE LATE LORD TWEEDSMUIR.

The secretary of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario has sent a letter to the Lady Tweedsmuir expressing our appreciation of her enthusiasm for our ideals and of the active interest which she took in our work. We pledged ourselves to carry on "our educational work and all other activities for the welfare of the countryside", as she has requested, and to strengthen the links which bind the Canadian and British Women's Institutes together. The presence of The Lady Tweedsmuir in England as a life member of the Ontario Women's Institutes will be one of the strongest of these links.

The memory of The Lady Tweedsmuir's residence here will ever be a pleasant and inspiring one. We will recall with gratitude her addresses with their wise counsel, the very pleasant hours which some of us were privileged to spend at Government House, and the friendly chats which we enjoyed there and elsewhere.



(Photo by Karsh, Ottawa).  
THE LADY TWEEDSMUIR.

With these memories of the Lady Tweedsmuir we shall treasure, too, those of the late Lord Tweedsmuir. His understanding and sympathetic interest in the Women's Institutes was ever apparent. To The Lady Tweedsmuir and her family we offer our deep sympathy in their bereavement. Canadian people have lost not only a wise Governor-General but a man who won the true friendship of all.

It was a privilege for the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario to contribute to the gift of furs from the Canadian women to The Lady Tweedsmuir on her departure from Canada.

Let us resolve to keep alive the inspiration which has been given us by ever seeking to advance the work of those Institutes to which we belong.

## WHAT THE SCOTTISH INSTITUTES ARE DOING

The bond of friendship between the Scottish Rural Women's Institutes and the Ontario Institutes was greatly strengthened last summer when the Scottish Institute party visited Ontario. Now the Scottish Home and Country brings news of their many activities in war-time, in which we will all be interested.

Many of their war-time activities sound like those of our Ontario women. They, too, are raising funds, knitting and sewing for the Red Cross. In doing this, some have turned the necessary evil of the blackouts into an asset. On certain nights they visit in friendly groups in the home of a member to knit or to hold blackout parties or musical evenings. Thus they overcome "the fear of boredom" and "the blackout blues" and, at the same time, come to know each other better.

### Much Knitting.

An interesting monthly feature of the magazine is entitled, These Women Are Winning the War. In January they featured "Tackling the Black-Out", in February "Knitting to Victory" and in March "Bringing Up the Vackies". Speaking of knitting they say, "Knitting has seldom received such a fillip as it has during the past few months, and its value as an antidote to jaded war nerves is being more and more realized. There is something soothing and satisfying about the steady click-click of the needles as they evolve some warm and cosy garment from a seemingly un-

ending line of wool. There is, too, a thrill in the knowledge that one's finished article will serve to bring some warmth and comfort to a soldier, sailor, or airman of the Allied cause." This sounds very familiar, doesn't it?

### A Surprised "Vackie".

With reference to the "Vackies" the members say, "It has been an education for both hostesses and guests. The youngsters have been taught cleaner habits and better manners, and we, in our turn, have come to appreciate the city attitude more. There have been lighter moments too—when, for example, three rather stirring youngsters came running to their hostess with nine cabbages freshly picked from her garden and the triumphant news "See whut we've fund growin' wild. We hae tae buy them in Glesga!"

"Then there was little Jeanie from the same city who attended our village Sunday school. "Now, Jeanie," said the teacher, gathering her class around her, "what would you say is the meaning of the word 'peace'?" Whereupon Jeanie thought for some minutes, scratched her head, and replied: "Please, miss, when the woman who we is staying with gets the last of us washed, she marches us upstairs, puts us to bed, and says, 'Now for a bit of peace.'"

"When this war is over, few of us will forget the evacuees. And, judging, by the kindnesses which the youngsters are receiving, few of them will have cause to forget those who looked after them. For these women

will take an honourable place among those who are so valiantly winning the war."

In each copy of the magazine emphasis is placed on good nutrition, and the use of home-grown food. Every member is urged to grow vegetables for her family. A garden competition is open to all members and a copy of the Glasgow Herald sent to us by the kindness of Miss I. Stratton (whom some of you will recall meeting last summer) gives prominence to this work of the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes. The article states, "The idea which takes the fancy most is that of having a trailer caravan go on tour with a dietitian-cookery expert and a trained woman gardener.

### Caravan Lectures.

The caravan will come to rest in village streets all over the country, and there and then the cookery expert will lecture and demonstrate on the most nutritious use of rations and the country produce available in each district.

The gardener will also lecture, but possibly her most influential moments will be when she leans over the garden gate, and chatting with the housewife says tactfully, "Why not plant some so-and-so in that corner there?" and offers a few hints. We are notoriously conservative about vegetables, and there is a much wider range available than one would ever suspect from our daily menu.

The weather bogey has been anticipated and the caravan is equipped with a large awning to offer pro-

tection. The caravan expects to start on its travels in April."

The need for economy is being stressed, too,—economy in money, food purchasing and use, and in every aspect of life.

Lest you should think that all activities of the Scottish Women's Rural Institutes are directed towards war work, you will be interested to hear that travel talks are very popular and the interest in drama still seems keen. While the coloured film of the Canadian tour had just arrived, the editor, Miss Wrench, has secured slides of the tour and these are being used in the various Federations (Federations are the same as districts in Ontario). You will recall that, when the Scottish members were here, they were presented with a scrapbook by the Women's Institutes of Northern Ontario. They, in turn, have very thoughtfully completed a Scottish Scrapbook bound in Stewart tartan and filled with pictures and clippings from the magazine. This book will be sent to our Northern Ontario Institutes.

### Wartime Programmes.

The wartime programmes of the Scottish Institutes still show a variety of interests. Articles on Sweden's Modern Housing Scheme, Women in Finland, Train Your Boys As You Do Your Girls, and Making the Most of Dress Lengths, give some idea of this. In the reports of their programmes you will find everything from Burns Night to demonstrations on soft-toy making or from shortbread to birthday parties.