

# The President's Corner

Mrs. Gordon McPhatter,  
President F.W.I.O.



## A Tribute

**M**Y MESSAGE on this occasion will take the form of a tribute to Miss Anna P. Lewis, who has served as Director of the Women's Institute Branch of the Department of Agriculture for almost ten years.

I am sure that every member of our organization learned of Miss Lewis' marriage with mixed feelings. We were all most happy to know that she would be entering upon this new phase in her life, and, at the same time, we were very sorry that she would no longer be affiliated with our organization as Director.

We are cheered somewhat, however, by the

knowledge that she will undoubtedly identify herself with our work in her new community. She has, all her life, been very much interested in the work of the Women's Institutes. So that, we are certain her marriage will not take her from our midst.

One cannot give ten years of one's life to the pursuance of any labour without leaving upon that cause deep and lasting impressions. Miss Lewis' deep interest in her work resulted in progress in our organization of which we are justly proud. She gave, I am sure, her all to the work, and must feel a deep sense of satisfaction in the achievements which have resulted.

And so, I am sure that every member of our organization in Ontario would wish me to say, on their behalf, at this time, a most hearty "Thank You" to Miss Lewis. She has done a fine job; and a knowledge of success must repay her in some measure for the hours that she has laboured to further the work of the Women's Institutes of Ontario.

She has done a good job for the Women's Institutes; a fine work for the Department of Agriculture; and has set an exceptionally exemplary example to all of us who are interested in our organization, and the work that we are doing for Home and Country.

Mrs. Gordon MacPhatter,  
Prov. Pres. F.W.I.O.

he hoped would be carried out in the near future.

Upon invitation of the President Mr. C. W. Caskey, Solicitor for the Ontario Department of Agriculture, gave an enlightening talk on the Corporation Act, the Agricultural Association Act and gave advice as to the policy the Women's Institutes should adopt when they purchase property.

## Report on Auxiliary Classes

Mrs. W. A. Davidson

The word "auxiliary" means helping so an Auxiliary Class is a helping class.

Classes known as special advancement classes have been established for the gifted child who has an exceptionally high intelligence quotient. There is the child who needs help in speech defects, the child who has a hearing defect, the child with a physical handicap and the child whose I.Q. is below average but above 50%. Each of these conditions has retarded the child in regular classes. Today classes for these children are called Opportunity or Remedial Classes. Another group needing special help is the child whose mental ability is below 50%. This group is being looked after by the Ontario Association for Retarded Children and is not under Departmental jurisdiction.

The Auxiliary Classes Act of 1914 provides that special classes should be made available for retarded children. They were first de-

signed for the child who was recognized as needing individual attention and special treatment in school. If and when the defect is corrected and the children are given special help, they can return to their grade. Often the handicap is mental and failure is a repeated experience. This may lead to frustration and emotional and social disorders may develop. Then there is the child whose home environment produces a feeling of tension and inferiority.

In many cities and towns Auxiliary Classes have been in operation for years and have helped to develop a well integrated personality within the child's mental limitations. As high as 15,000 urban children have received help from the Department. Only South Wellington County has made an effort to extend auxiliary training in rural schools. This year a trained Auxiliary teacher travels from school to school working with handicapped children. He visits the schools every two weeks and gives them special training in whatever their needs require. Then he leaves work for the regular teacher to carry on. There the class is called the Remedial Class and the teacher is affectionately called "The Remedy Man".

It must be emphasized that the demand for special training in rural schools must come from the rural people. Here an obstacle presents itself. Some parents feel that a stigma is attached to having their child put into a