

the Officers' Conference at Guelph, on the evening of May 9th, and the full day of May 10th, to a fitting celebration of the Diamond Jubilee. It has been recommended that those Branches **not** eligible to send their Secretary to the Conference this year, may send their President or an Alternate. In this way every Branch may be represented at the Provincial Celebration. As you know, the accommodation at the College is limited, so Secretaries will receive preference of being billeted at the College. However, outside accommodation will be provided to as many as is possible. If any delegates could look after their own lodging it would assist the Conference Secretary.

Application forms with full information will be sent to each Branch as soon as plans are completed.

On February 17th, at 1.30 p.m., a special programme to commemorate the birth of the Women's Institute will appear on "Country Calendar" over CBC stations, practically everywhere in Ontario, including Windsor, Sudbury and the Lakehead. On February 19th, at 12.30 p.m., George Atkins on the CBC Farm Broadcast for Ontario and Quebec will feature our Anniversary. During the week previous to February 19th the Craig Family will be talking about our Birthday on their programme. So be listening in and looking at these stations and share in this part of the celebration.

The Tweedsmuir Competition rulings will be sent out shortly. We hope that every Institute will enter this competition.

I would draw your attention to the raise in the F.W.I.C. fee from 7 cents to 15 cents

per member. This increase was deemed necessary to help finance F.W.I.C. work.

At the Autumn meeting of the Provincial Board no money-making project was set up. However, I know that some Branches may be contributing to Hungarian Relief through some agency. I should like to know if you have, and the amount given, so that the Women's Institute may be credited with these donations. Will you please let me know if you have helped with this appeal?

A committee has been appointed to consider the possibilities and the administration of a Provincial Office for the Women's Institute. The business increases each year and it is difficult to handle it from the President's and Secretary-Treasurer's homes. We hope to have something to report from this committee at Area Conventions.

In closing, I wish to thank the individual members, the Branches, the Districts and Areas for their messages of congratulations and good wishes, since my election to the office of Provincial President. I appreciate them a great deal and find inspiration and help from the loyalty and confidence expressed in them. I hope I may justify your faith in me and, with the co-operation of each Branch member, may do my task well.

Let us work together for a bright and prosperous year.

Sincerely,  
Annie G. Haggerty  
(Mrs. James Haggerty,  
Provincial President, F.W.I.O.)

## Hats From Hen Feathers

**W**HEN Windermere Institute in Muskoka had a course in Millinery, a past president, Mrs. Longhurst, debated with herself as to whether she was "too old" to take the course, but she decided to come with her married daughters and immediately she was interested.

Mrs. Longhurst is a good needlewoman and first she made a fabric hat, very smart and well done. Then Mrs. Hutchison, the instructor from Home Economics Extension Service, demonstrated making a feather hat—that is a hat covered with feathers laid on smooth and even. Mrs. Hutchison advised the women, the next time they had a hen killed, to keep the feathers, wash and dye them and save them to make a hat.

That night Mrs. Longhurst asked her husband to kill a hen. She washed the feathers, dyed them with navy blue dye and left them overnight to dry. In the morning she brought to the class a pile of fluffy gray-blue feathers, smooth and glossy at the points a lighter blue and downy along the stems. The class raved about them and Mrs. Longhurst carefully laid them one by one over her hat shape, fastening each feather with a touch of glue, as such feather hats are made in Paris and

New York and in Women's Institute Millinery courses. The finished hat, we are told, was a knockout.

These feathers came from a white hen. When dyed they made a hat covering shaded from navy to a soft French blue. For a patterned effect, nothing beats the feathers of a Barred Rock hen, Mrs. Hutchison says.

(Incidentally the class had chicken sandwiches for lunch one day at Windermere.)

At Chisholm many of the Institute women are young mothers and when the Millinery course came to the community some who wanted to take it had no one to leave with the children. Then the grandmothers came to the rescue as baby sitters. The young women felt that the grandmothers deserved a hat apiece for this service so they selected materials, got the instruction they needed from the Millinery teacher and they would make the grandmothers' hats at home after the course was over.

Miss Carolyn Snider, another Millinery instructor on the extension staff, reports that in the class at Tara the women brought buckles and pins and other hat trimmings to exchange or barter. From the pooled collection they "came up with some lovely decorations."