

# Distributing Home and Country

SOMETIMES an Institute Secretary writes to tell us that she did not receive enough copies of Home and Country to supply all the members. And occasionally a member writes to say that there were not enough copies to go around so she did not get one.

This situation is annoying to everyone concerned and the Department would much rather send a few extra copies than have anyone go without one. But the only guide the Department has as to the number of copies to send to each branch is the number of paid-up members reported on the Form E sent in by the Institute. If more members have been added since the report was sent, and if the Secretary will let us know, extra copies will be sent at once and with pleasure.

Recently a secretary wrote asking us not to send so many copies. She wrote: "We seem to have only thirty-five active members. The others just send their fees every year and never attend one meeting, so I find we get too many copies each month."

This puts the Department in a quandary because it is our responsibility to supply a copy for each member. There is nothing for us to do but send enough copies to supply the paid-up membership reported to us. But we do sympathize with the secretary in her problem of getting copies to members not at the meeting when the papers are distributed. Some secretaries mail them. Has anyone a better suggestion?

About what to do with extra copies: Perhaps some shut-in woman in the community who was once an Institute member (or even one who knows the Institute only through hearsay) would enjoy reading our Home and Country.

And by way of publicity and building good public relations for the Women's Institute among non-members in the community, what could be better than giving a copy of our paper here and there as the opportunity offers? Once in a great while this might even influence a non-member to want to join our organization.—Editor.

## Ontario Conference on Aging

FROM May 31, to June 3, the first Ontario Conference on Aging will be held in Toronto. A great many Women's Institutes have shown an interest in the older people of the community in various ways of friendliness. Institutes are also interested in their County Homes—providing television sets or other special equipment; holding an occasional meeting at the Home so the residents can attend. So we believe some of our members might like to attend a Conference dealing with all sorts of aspects of aging—age of retirement, part time employment, housing, health services, institutional care, nursing

homes, how old people can help themselves for their own and society's good. In addition to work shops on these questions there will be outstanding speakers probably from Britain and the United States as well as Canada. And the "senior citizens" will have an opportunity to express their own ideas on what can be most helpful to the aged or aging person.

As the conference will be held before the next issue of Home and Country is published, please watch the press and radio for further announcements about the programme. The conference is being organized by Toronto University Extension Department.

## Programme Aids

WITH group discussions becoming more and more popular at Women's Institute meetings, in fact at the meetings of almost all organizations, members are naturally taking a growing interest not only in how to lead a discussion group but also how to take part in a discussion. For our guidance in this the Canadian Association for Adult Education has issued a booklet "Putting Words to Work." The book deals with the purposes of discussion, how to encourage everyone to take

part, the responsibilities of both members and officers, advance planning and how to lead a discussion to make it more effective. Topics and questions are suggested but the main use of these suggestions may be to help us choose topics of most vital concern to our particular group. Copies of the bulletin may be had from the Canadian Association for Adult Education, 113 St. George Street, Toronto, at the price of 50 cents each or orders of ten or more copies at 35 cents each.