

The President's Corner

Mrs. James Haggerty,
President, F.W.I.O.



SPRING days are here again! The earth has cast off her winter mantle and donned her spring wardrobe. The pastures have new carpets of lush green, the trees burst forth in rich foliage and white and coloured bloom. The streams babble and dance as they rush along their way. The newly sprouted grain is showing through the rich, brown soil — the air has a tang of new wine.

The trilling of the birds furnishes a happy note; the humming of tractors in the fields, the noises of the barnyard denote awakening of new life. Even the cat basks in the sunshine on the door sill. Mother Nature is awake after her long winter's sleep.

Spring in Ontario is a glorious experience.

For the women it means a hustle-bustle of gardening and spring cleaning. The home

not be repeated in a branch until all branches have received them once.

543 short courses were given last year with 11,212 women attending. 140 Millinery classes were held.

Among the plans for next year, said Miss McKercher, is that the Home Economist will be the liaison officer between the Institute and the Extension Service.

In our transfer from the past through the present to the future, not only in the Women's Institutes but in educational and social customs, one of the hardest things we have to do is to save the best in the old and blend it into the best in the new, and no place is this more important than in the home. The Ontario Department of Agriculture is only too happy to assist the Women's Institutes as much as possible, said Miss McKercher.

F.W.I.C. Sub-Executive Report

In giving the report of the Sub-Executive meeting of the F.W.I.C., Mrs. Haggerty said it gave her a great feeling of responsibility to be on this Board.

Mrs. Haggerty represented Mrs. Keith Rand, National President, at a dinner for the Hon. Lester B. Pearson in honour of his receiving the award of the Nobel Peace Prize. It was

which has become drab over the past months is scrubbed and refurbished with fresh paint and paper, new curtains and rugs until it shines with beauty. Drawers and closets are emptied, the things we can use are dusted and aired, the useless items thrown away.

As we renew our homes, let us thoroughly house-clean our own lives and in so doing bring freshness and new beauty into our Institutes. Let us keep the good things: traditions—there is always a place for them; love and truth and neighbourliness—we need them every day; unselfishness, forbearance, forgiving and understanding, kind thoughts and deeds—they are necessary for our living; tolerance, the friendly handclasp, the kind word—let us brush and polish them and keep them handy.

But there are many things we should throw away: hate and self-seeking — we should never have kept them at all; selfishness and intolerance and unkindness—they clutter a good way of life; pettiness and grievances—there is no place for them; fault-finding and pretence take up too much room.

Let's build a big bonfire and burn up this trash and give special care to the things we have kept, always keeping them shining brightly so that their reflection may brighten and freshen our individual and Institute lives for the whole year!

May Spring awaken in our minds and souls, new Beauty!

Annie G. Haggerty

reported at this meeting that a new stamp honouring the founder of the W.I., Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, will be issued in a few months.

Mrs. Haggerty announced that Mrs. George Wilson, St. Mary's, Ontario, a former Provincial Board member, had been appointed F.W.I.C. public relations convener to replace Mrs. Nancy Adams who is to chair the committee on Constitution and Revision of By-laws of the F.W.I.C. She also reported that the integration of first and new Canadians has been suggested as a special study for the biennial term of the F.W.I.C. Mrs. Haggerty said she had sent a set of hand-made jewellery, made from the clay in Northern Ontario, for Ontario's exhibit of handicraft at the request of the North Taranke District Federation of Country Women's Institutes of New Zealand. The request received by the F.W.I.C. asked for exhibits from each province for display at a Court to be held there early in June.

In her report Mrs. Haggerty stated Mrs. Rand gave splendid leadership at this meeting and gave promise of being an outstanding national president.

Tweedsmuir Competitions

Mrs. Haggerty reported the rules for the Tweedsmuir Competitions held biennially for the three cups given by Lady Tweedsmuir,