

# The President's Corner

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



**A** NEW YEAR is being given to each of us, a Year for us to use, to shape and mould into a fabric which will reflect our ambitions, our ideals, our characters and our love and friendliness for our fellow men and women.

We can hitch our wagon to the stars and aim at lofty peaks of achievement. It is good to set high standards for this year of 1959; but in our zeal to attain greatness, let us not forget and neglect the simple tasks that lie near at hand. The usual needs of our own communities, the children, the aged and lonely folk who long for a friendly word, a hand clasp and the feeling that someone cares.

There are new Canadians who live in our midst, who are homesick for their native lands, for the relatives and friends left behind. We can make them feel a part of the community, that they are among friends.

It is not so glamorous to do the every-day and unnoticed things, as to carry out some big project that calls forth much attention; but the homely

tasks are essential to the well-being of our homes and neighbourhoods and should be a part of our lives, a building of friendly relations, a firm foundation for good citizenship.

It is not enough to plan an interesting and intellectual programme, to set forth rules of procedure and follow them, to administrate business in a capable and effective manner, to attend meetings and take a share of the responsibility. All these are necessary in any organization; but we must also train ourselves in understanding, generosity, self-discipline, kindness and love for others.

Great adventures lie in store for us in the next twelve months—for me, the joy of working with the women of Ontario, of meeting new people, making friends, associations with other organizations, a close contact with the board members and the Home Economics Service. Then, too, it is such a privilege to plan with sound-thinking, friendly women from the other provinces across the Dominion of Canada, for common aims and objectives.

The trip to Edinburgh and sitting in with delegates from around the world in discussion, at the conference of Associated Country Women of the World, will be a thrilling experience for me and it is through your generosity and that of the Department of Agriculture that this event is possible. I thank all of you sincerely.

The New Year is opening its doors to us. Let us join hands in making it "The Best Year, Ever!" Together, we can build a stronger organization, better communities, more stable characters, finer perceptions and a way of life in which each of us may find "Adventures in Living and Serving."

Annie C. Haggerty.

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Marketing practices should be studied. In the past we have been too concerned with production and have neglected marketing. We must establish a stable market before we can have a sound economy. Our greatest need in this field is to have a better understanding and knowledge of the whole economic set-up behind our marketing of agricultural products so that we may be in a position to ask for better policies.

"Conservation is still our theme for agriculture. We can think of conservation as the wise use and preservation of human and natural sources. Under this topic we should consider farm accidents, especially to children, on the farm.

"A basic industry is one that is fundamental and essential. The making of iron and steel is a basic industry. Industries should be studied in relation to their importance to agriculture. Agricultural products have many and interesting uses in industry and these should make a very worthwhile study project."

In all the reports of Standing Committee Conveners, roll calls, mottoes, papers, demonstrations, contests, panel discussions, debates and bus tours were used as part of the programme to make the year's work interesting, entertaining and educational.

## Home Economics Extension Service

Addressing the meeting, Miss Helen McKercher, Director, Home Economics Service, Extension Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, said the philosophy of her Department was to help people to help themselves and to develop leaders.

Miss McKercher stated the Farm Accident Survey which the Ontario Department of Agriculture, together with the Ontario Department of Transport, will undertake in February is one of the most important things ever done. She asked that every member of the Women's Institute pledge her support to the agricultural representative in her county in this survey, to encourage and interest the farmer and his family to give information about accidents on the farm or in the home.

It is the intention of the Home Economics Service, Extension Branch, to develop home economics on a firm basis, and because of the rapid changes in farm homes too, a farm home survey will be made in connection with farm home needs with a view to setting up a home economics programme based on the facts received. Dr. Helen Abel has been retained by the Department to direct the research on this project. Grants to District Annual meetings and area conventions of two or three days will be raised. No grants will be made for one-day rallies. Miss McKercher said