

The President's Corner



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

AFTER THE LONG, cold winter, it is good to hear the birds, to see the grass turning green and the trees coming in bud and all the many signs that Spring has emerged into life once more.

There is something nice, too, about Winter and I think we would all miss it if we were transported to another land that knows no thrill of ice and snow, and tingling cold. We need the different seasons to help us appreciate our own country.

In the same way we need different types of people to build a good race, to do the tasks that need doing, to lead or be led, to achieve great things, or to do the homely tasks. Wouldn't it be a queer world if we were all alike?

It takes the brains of Mrs. A., the wisdom of Mrs. B., the loyalty of Mrs. C., the working hands of Miss D., the tact, the courage, adventurous spirit, steady purpose, thrift, and sometimes a little extravagance, of other women to steer a Women's Institute Branch along the channel of success and progress.

Never can we say that we have served our purpose, that we have achieved our ideals, that there is nothing more to be done. Never can we rest on our oars and let our ship drift "whither it

will." Each season presents a new challenge, something to plan and work for, something to learn and put into practice. Each member has a place to fill, a task to accomplish.

The world never seemed so large or so small as it does today, large because we hear and know so much about so many countries, such large numbers of people; because we feel a responsibility for people so far away from us. I say "so small" because distances mean little with present-day means of transportation, because of the "closeness" of our relations with people round the world.

When women from more than twenty-eight countries meet together this Summer in Edinburgh, to discuss and decide problems of common interest, I think each of us will realize the magnitude of our responsibilities to those and other countries and the narrowness which fosters division among nations.

I would like to say a sincere "Thank You" to the women of Ontario and to the Department of Agriculture for their generosity which has made it possible for me and the other delegates to attend the A.C.W.W. Conference. It means one more wonderful experience for me.

This is the last message from me that will appear in the "President's Corner" and I would urge you all to be as kind to the next president as you have been to me, to give her your full support and to make her three years in office as rich an experience as you have made mine.

It is a treasure that no one can take from me; it has been a privilege which comes to few people; it has brought joy to my life and will always be a golden chest of fond memories.

May the best of everything good enrich your lives and the blessing of "Well done, good and faithful servant," be your reward!

Annie C. Haggerty.

Hunt and the incoming secretary-treasurer, with power to add to the committee persons who might be asked for consultation.

Home Economics Service

Miss Helen McKercher, Director of Home Economics Service, Extension Branch, Ontario Department of Agriculture, outlined the Home Economics program, saying the new Leader Training Schools had been doubled. Health Education has added Safety in the Home; Home Furnishings had added Window Treatment; Clothing, Focus on Finishes; Home Crafts, Block Printing; and Food and Nutrition, Dairy Food Facts.

In addition Short Courses are available in Food and Nutrition; Clothing and Textiles; Home Furnishings; Home Crafts; Health Education; Cultural Interest; and Women's Institute Procedures. Branches may take more than one short course each year if they so desire. As an example: If part of the membership would like Home Crafts, and younger members Clothes for Children, both these courses could be available to the one branch in one year, providing there are enough to take each course. It is not necessary that only members of the Institute take these courses, or attend training

schools. Any resident in the community can take advantage of the services.

Miss McKercher said that due to the rapid change everywhere, a Home Economics Program must keep up to date with the new trends in its field. It is the purpose of the Home Economics Service to bring to our people the latest authentic information on nutrition and textiles as well as the most progressive methods in cooking and sewing.

Miss McKercher went on to announce that a Home Survey is to be made, the main object being to find out what rural women want in a Home Economics Program. This survey is to be conducted in sample townships of each county or district and both Institute members and non-members will be interviewed. 650 members answered the A.C.W.W. appeal for pen pals said Miss McKercher. This was greatly in excess of the number of applicants from other countries.

Report of The Handbook Committee

The report of the Handbook Committee by the chairman, Mrs. L. G. Lymburner, was presented by Mrs. G. Gordon Maynard. The chairman reported that many hours of work by the committee had gone into the setting up of the Constitution