

Photographed at the 65th Anniversary luncheon. Left to right: Mrs. Jas. Haggerty, President F.W.I.C.; Mrs. L. G. Lymburner, President F.W.I.O.; Mrs. Haven Smith, guest speaker, a World Vice-President, A.C.W.W.



Sixty-fifth Anniversary

ON THE morning of February nineteenth, 1962, sixty-fifth anniversary of Women's Institutes, it was snowing in Toronto and the radio was bringing reports of worse weather outside. It seemed unlikely that many of the 1,400 women over the province who had registered for the anniversary luncheon in Toronto would be able to get through; but by eleven o'clock they started arriving—taxis bringing women who had come to the city the night before, and one busload after another that had set out from the east or the west or the north in the early hours of the morning. By noon, on a day when people were advised to keep off the highways, 1,400 women had gathered in the Queen Elizabeth Building on the Canadian National Exhibition grounds.

Referring to the Women's Institute's beginning being celebrated this year by 75,000 members in every province of Canada, Mrs. Lymburner, President F.W.I.O., paid tribute to Mr. and Mrs. Erland Lee and introduced their son Frank Lee and his wife who were guests at the luncheon. Mrs. Lymburner gave an interesting picture of the first few years of the Institute at Stoney Creek by quoting from the early record books; and said: "It is to be noted that many of the subjects studied by the Mother Institute at Stoney Creek were very much like the things we study today: Proper Food for Children — this was discussed by a woman medical doctor; Food for Children in Health and Disease. Like the early Institutes we are still working for a higher standard for homes, not only on farms but in towns, too. Today we honour those who launched into the unknown in a great cause."

The Hon. Charles McNaughton, Minister Without Portfolio in the Ontario Cabinet, brought greetings from the Provincial Government. Living in a rural community, Mr. McNaughton said the work of the Women's Institutes was well known to him; and every weekly paper in the area was full of news of their activities. He predicted continued progress for the organization. "Women who will brave the elements as you have done today," he said "will never take their organization for granted."

Mr. T. R. Hilliard, Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, spoke of the fine "public image" the Women's Institute has created for itself all over the country. He was also impressed with the strict rules of the organization and the high quality of leadership it has produced — he referred particularly to the provincial presidents. "If we were honest, we of the Department would say we are very proud of our association with the Women's Institute," he said.

Mrs. Jas. Haggerty, President F.W.I.C., said she appreciated the compliments to the officers, but the members are the basis of the organization. And she had no anxiety about the future of Women's Institutes as she thought of their growing sense of responsibility for people around the world. Mrs. Haggerty brought special messages from past national presidents, Mrs. Rand and Mrs. Roylance and from Mrs. Graham Spry, Canada's representative on the executive of the Associated Country Women of the World.

A long list of greetings was headed by a message from Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth. Mrs. van Beekhoff, President A.C.W.W., in