

A Gift for Dr. Graham

AS ONTARIO'S Deputy Minister of Agriculture, Dr. C. D. Graham had a host of friends in the Women's Institutes of the province. He understood Institute work and supported it at every opportunity. As a young man on his father's farm in Eastern Ontario, as an agricultural representative and a government administrator, his vocation was agriculture and his heart was in it. He liked people and on the many occasions when he represented the Department at Institute gatherings the women felt his keen regard for the best in family life and country life, his special concern for farm youth. No wonder he made friends.

It is now pretty generally known throughout the province that after a number of heart attacks in the past two years, Dr. Graham's physicians ordered him to give up his work as Deputy Minister of Agriculture, which he did some months ago. And one evening this spring friends in the Department of Agriculture met at the O.A.C. to have dinner with the Grahams and members of their family and to pay a tribute to Dr. Graham and his work. It was a party to be remembered, so cleverly organized by some of Dr. Graham's close associates in the Department, "Dick" Hilliard and "Bill" Watson and "Art" Martin, that there was little of a farewell atmosphere about it. Mr. Watson, a close friend since college days, did a masterly job of saying what should be said without adding to everyone's regret that a man of Dr. Graham's ability and promise should have to retire at the peak of his career.



Dr. Graham and Mrs. Graham look over friends' names in their gift book.

Kitchener Waterloo Record Photo

The choice of a gift for Dr. Graham from his co-workers showed imagination, too. As he had spent several years as agricultural representative in Peel, his friends thought he might like to have a small stake in the county, so they gave him an \$1,100 Peel-Halton Bond. With this went a book, (Miss McKercher's idea) with the names of the 535 contributors, hand-lettered by Paul Buchanan of the O.A.C., the leather covers hand-tooled by Mrs. Charles Agnew, a handicraft instructor with Home Economics Service.

Highlights of the evening were speeches by Dr. and Mrs. Graham, reminiscent and witty and forward-looking. So it didn't seem like a farewell party and it wasn't. We'll still be finding the Grahams in affairs of agricultural interest.



Miss Helen McKercher presents Mrs. Graham with roses.

O.A.C. Photo.