

"This home is located on the brow of the Niagara escarpment overlooking Stoney Creek," Mrs. Wise said, "and is approximately two miles up a rustic mountain drive from Squire's Hall where the first meeting of the Women's Institute was held. In addition to this being the home of the co-founder of the Women's Institute, Mr. Erland Lee, the Women's Institute interest lies in the fact that the Constitution was drawn up and signed in this home in 1897."

The committee appointed by the Provincial Board, Mrs. Wise, Mrs. Lymburner, Mrs. Trivers with Mrs. Allan Dickenson added later to represent South Wentworth, have discussed the matter with county and provincial government officials and recently with the Niagara Regional Development Association; and arrangements have been made for a meeting with the Minister of Agriculture and the Minister of Tourism and Information to explore the possibilities of Assistance from these Departments.

"This is the first and only time this property has been available to us," Mrs. Wise added. "After a period of time the Department of Highways will take a large portion of it and the balance will go to private interests. Then it will no longer be available to us."

The Board asked the Committee to continue its investigation.

Tribute to Mrs. Trivers

On behalf of the Board, the Past President, Mrs. Lilah Lymburner and the Secretary-Treasurer, Mrs. John Charlton, presented the retiring President, Mrs. Trivers with a silver tea and coffee service. In making the presentation Mrs. Lymburner expressed the Board Members' appreciation of Mrs. Trivers "for her leadership and guidance; for her never-failing courtesy; for the innate kindness and integrity which has shone forth in all her comings and goings; for the gift of friendship which has been given generously to those with whom she has been associated; and for a never-failing forbearance for the common failings of human nature."

The Minister of Agriculture Speaks

The Ontario Department of Agriculture entertained the Provincial Board Members at a dinner. The host, the Hon. W. A. Stewart, complimented the Institutes on the work they are doing "for home and country." When women are dedicated to strengthening these two great units of our society, the Minister said, what they can accomplish is beyond our imagination. He spoke of the opportunities for young people in our communities and suggested that women in the Institutes might see fit to stress the possibilities in careers in Agriculture



Mrs. Everett Small (left), President F.W.I.O., receives the president's badge from the retiring President, Mrs. Leonard Trivers.

and Home Economics. "There are not nearly enough graduates in these fields—particularly in Agricultural Engineering, Farm Management and Veterinary Science," the Minister said. "The two year courses in Agriculture open a field in technology related to agriculture."

Mr. Stewart mentioned an effort made five years ago by the Government to get farmers to invest in crop insurance. At that time farmers showed little interest. He felt that perhaps the bad weather of 1965 may have created an interest in this type of insurance. On the question of farm safety; legislation may soon make it obligatory to have Workmen's Compensation for farm workers. If we can cut down the number of accidents, the rate of premiums will go down. These are matters of concern to farm women as well as to men. The minister's final word was the hope that with the approach of Christmas we might all capture the warmth of feeling and the fellowship of family life and friends.

Mrs. Trivers thanked the Minister and said her own final word as retiring president. It had been a privilege, she said, to work with Mr. Stewart for the good of country life and that the work of the Women's Institute is closely involved with the work of the Department of Agriculture. She felt that in her three years as president she had only begun to learn the opportunities of the work but others would carry on. It was one of the enterprises where "Paul plants, Apollo waters but God giveth the increase." Mrs. Trivers then presented the President's badge to the newly elected President, Mrs. Everett Small, R.R. 1 Essex, with the assurance that the office had fallen into good hands.

We have a message from Mrs. Small in the President's Corner in this issue.