

The President's Corner

Mrs. Everett Small,
President F.W.I.O.



WHAT A PLEASURE it was for me to meet many of you at the area conventions. Thank you for your warm welcome and the numerous acts of kindness which I received. I hope to have the opportunity to meet more of our members as time passes. Nature with her glorious colors of red, brown, green and gold made a perfect setting for the conventions. It was delightful to see the country in its fall colours.

The reports at the area conventions showed that you have been busy this past year. This is a good sign. The work you have done shows that you are carrying out the motto, For Home and Country. Because you are busy, I am certain that you are happy. It has been said many times that if you want to find a happy person, find one who is busy, one who has a concern for others.

The centennial reports told of the many ways in which the branches, districts and areas are working to make Canada's centennial year a success. I was especially interested to learn that a number of the branches are planning their 1967 programs around the study of Canada. Through this study they will learn many important facts concerning Canada. Ontario will be a brighter place for our centennial visitors because of the numerous plantings of the flowering crab by our Institute members. The members throughout Ontario have contributed in many ways to make Canada lovelier.

As we make our plans for 1967, let us remember that February 19th is the 70th anniversary of the organization of the Women's Institute at Stoney Creek. What better way could we celebrate than by studying our Hand Book and living up to the aims and objects of our organization? In planning our programs, let us make certain that our aims and objects are included in each and every meeting. If this is done our members will find that their meetings are well planned and they have received food for thought. Invite your neighbors and friends to attend your meetings, and we hope they will want to become members of the Women's Institute.

Attending the council meeting of the Associated Country Women of the World was a wonderful experience. Here East met West with a mutual concern for the needs of the members and the world in general. More countries and societies asked to be admitted to A.C.W.W. This speaks well for the organization. Last year it was decided that F.W.I.O. should have a representative in England who could assist with the work of A.C.W.W. and you will be as pleased as I to learn that Mrs. Bradbury was elected to the United Nations Committee of this organization. We in Ontario should be very proud to have our representative serving on such an important committee. Mrs. Bradbury was born and raised in Ontario and lived here until her marriage, after which she moved to England. She is indeed well qualified to represent us.

This issue of Home and Country will no doubt find you busy with fall meetings. I do hope that you will take time to read this and every edition and so learn of the many events which are taking place. In reading "Here and There With the Institutes," you will find many useful ideas to be used in your programs.

The meetings of the 4-H Homemaking Clubs will also be under way. I wish to congratulate the members who are giving leadership to these clubs and so contributing greatly to the future leaders of Ontario. It was my pleasure to attend the Girls' Conference in Guelph where I saw and heard these girls taking an active part. I was indeed very proud of them. To the Women's Institute members who are not leaders, I ask you to support the work of the 4-H Clubs. Plan to attend their Achievement Days. Your interest will be appreciated by the girls, their leaders and the Home Economists. In attending Achievement Days you will have the opportunity to learn of the work that is being accomplished by these girls.

While attending an area convention it was my pleasure to be at the home of an Institute member who had the following words neatly typed on her dresser. I believe you would agree with me that it would be well for each of us to do likewise and repeat them with sincerity each morning.

I will follow the upward road today,
I will keep my face to the light,
I will think high thoughts as I go my way,
I will do what I know is right,
I will look for the flowers by the side of the
road,
I will laugh and love and be strong,
I will try to lighten another's load
This day as I fare along.

Eileen Small