

The President's Corner

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



FROM REPORTS which I have received, I know that the past months have found our members very busy as they prepared their programs to honour the 70th anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institute at Stoney Creek and Canada's 100th birthday. Annual meetings of the Branch and District Annuals also received careful planning.

This has been a time when the members have worked together to make a success of each undertaking. The true meaning of the word co-operation has been put into effect. This is as it should be; one person can accomplish much, two people working together can accomplish more, and group participation can achieve great things. "Working Together," the theme of the A.C.W.W. conference held in Dublin in 1965, is important at all times and should never be forgotten if we are to be of value in our work and in the community. Through co-operation we experience the joy of living, of doing for others, and the satisfaction of seeing results from our work. Let us give of our best in whatever we do, no matter how small or how great the task. In giving, we not only help others but also help ourselves. "All that we send into the lives of others comes back into our own."

As I write this letter I think of the co-operation among the members who sent a delegate from their Branch to the Officers' Conference. Through the group chairmen and their leaders I am certain your delegate returned to the Branch with a wider knowledge of the work of the Women's Institute. If the opportunity arises I hope she will share her experience with other branches who did not have a delegate representing that particular standing committee or office.

I think, too, of the co-operation among the members who are sending a delegate to the National Convention. Those coming to the opening session are also to make this event an outstanding success. Truly, co-operation is a great word and should be put into action among our members at all times. It is only through working together that we can carry out the aims and objects of the Women's Institute as we work for home and country.

During Canada's centennial year we will recall events of other years. Will you please consider the following lines as worthwhile thoughts to remember.

Remember the value of time
Remember the success of perseverance
Remember the pleasure of working
Remember the dignity of simplicity
Remember the power of kindness
Remember the worth of character
Remember the influence of example
Remember the obligation of duty
Remember the wisdom of economy
Remember the virtue of patience
Remember the improvement of talent
Remember the joy of originality

Eileen Small

A PRAYER

Eternal God
Who hast been our dwelling place in all generations,
Under Whose guidance
Those who have gone before us have walked
And by whose spirit they have been strengthened
and sustained.
With grateful hearts we acknowledge before Thee
Our gratitude for these sixty years of service
To Home and Country.

In faith we look down the future's broadening way
With steady eyes and confident hearts.

We thank Thee for the pioneers of the Institute
For the vision that inspired them
For the faith that sustained them
For the light that guided them

We give Thee thanks for the achievements of the past:

The enrichment of rural life and rural homes
The strengthening of the ties that bind us
To the women of other nations.

Grant, we pray, to each one of us
A new vision
Of the opportunities that lie before us
An awareness
Of the tasks that are still unfinished
And a determination to do our part
Large or small
Wherever we are
To make the burdens of others lighter
And our Country a better place
In which to live.

With the simplicity of a great purpose
And the power of dedicated lives
May we dedicate ourselves
With eagerness and enthusiasm
To the task that lies at our hand.

As we have entered into the labours of others
Help us so to labour that in their turn
Others may enter into our labours.

We pray in the name of Him
Who glorified our human life
By becoming a part of it:
And who came to earth
To enrich and bless the lives
Of all people everywhere.

Amen.

On the 60th Anniversary of the Women's Institutes
By Rev. W. A. Young
Chaplain, Ontario Agricultural College