



## The President's Corner

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

WHAT A WONDERFUL YEAR this has been for the members of the Women's Institutes! We have been able to participate in celebrating the 70th anniversary of the founding of the organization and Canada's 100th birthday. What could be more fitting than that these two great events should be combined in one celebration? The motto of the Women's Institute, "For Home and Country" tells where our interests lie. The themes chosen for the District Annuals and Area Conventions have shown that our members recognize this association. If we are good Institute members we are without a doubt good Canadian citizens.

It was a pleasure for F.W.I.O. to be host to the Fourth National Convention at the University of Guelph. The response of the members in attending the opening session was most gratifying. It showed the interest in Institute work, not only provincially but nationally and internationally. What an honour it was to have our National President, Mrs. Matheson, chairman of the session, tell of the work being done throughout Canada! Mrs. Greene, chairman County Women's Council, U.S.A. brought greetings and told us of preparations being made for the A.C.W.W. Conference which is being held at Michigan State University, Lansing, Michigan, September 1968.

Mrs. Aroti Dutt, President of the Associated Country Women of the World endeared herself to all as she brought greetings and told of the work being done internationally. How it touched the heart of each one of us to see her stand before that vast audience, dressed in her beautiful sari, to receive the gifts of "Pennies for Friendship" from each province and from the members present. We knew that as branch members we were a part of an organization which encircles the globe in 56 countries. Through our contribution to "Pennies for Friendship" we are assisting countries to educate their women in better methods in child care, health and nutrition. We in Canada are fortunate to live in a land of plenty. "To whom

much is given, of him much is expected." In planning your program, why not have one on F.W.I.O. and another on the work of A.C.W.W.? Material is available at the Loan Library, 20 Spadina Road, Toronto 4.

Another event about which I am very pleased to tell you is the Conference of the Junior Institutes which was held at Auburn September 16. The motto of the Junior Institutes is "For Home and Country," and as an affiliate of the Junior Farmers they share the motto, "Self-Help and Community Betterment." By combining these mottoes, "Self-Help and Community Betterment for Home and Country" these girls cannot help but make this country a better place in which to live. It is always a privilege to meet with our young people and learn what is being done. They are training leaders for tomorrow, and because of the young people who attend these meetings we know that Ontario and Canada will be in good hands. Let us put forth every effort to encourage our Junior Institutes.

Attending the Area Convention has been a privilege which I have enjoyed to the utmost. It is a time of the year when Nature chooses to show us a grand array of colours, and the fields show us that harvest time is here; orchards are laden with fruit. It gives us a feeling of thankfulness to live in this land we call Canada.

Conveners' reports have shown that our members have participated in many projects, carrying out the aims and objects of the Women's Institute and assisting in the celebration of Canada's Centennial. How thankful we can be to Lady Tweedsmuir that she encouraged the branches to keep records of their communities. The Tweedsmuir Histories have been in great demand as committees, in preparing for celebrations, sought to learn of early events in their localities. May the branches which do not have a Tweedsmuir History start now in this the beginning of the second century.

As we move forward in this new century, let us treasure the past but work toward the future so that those who take part in the celebration of the next century will be able to say that we, too, contributed to Canada's growth.

Eileen Small

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Friendship is the only cement that will ever hold the world together.—Woodrow Wilson

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