

## Mrs. Arofi Dutt

An honoured guest at the National Convention was the president of the 6,500,000 member organization, the Associated Country Women of the World, Mrs. Arofi Dutt.

Mrs. Dutt is from Calcutta in the Bengal province of India. She is a graduate of Calcutta University where she majored in philosophy. After the birth of her son she took charge of the Central Training College in Calcutta. She was a delegate to the Colombo Conference and was a student at the Kandy Conference in 1957. At the Hague she continued her education with a course in Social Studies. She was elected president of A.C.W.W. at the eleventh Triennial Conference held in Dublin in September 1965.

"Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day.

Teach him how to fish and you teach him for a lifetime."

Mrs. Dutt is deeply concerned with home conditions in the developing countries. She is dedicated to her work as president of A.C.W.W. "Through our international organization we can help in the teaching of nutrition, food preservation, child care and home management to women in remote areas because it has been discovered that the best way to help future generations is to educate the mothers," said Mrs. Dutt.

She continued, "Charity alone can never help a problem. Stress must be placed on training people to help themselves. We must work with people, not for people. Ignorance, illiteracy, poverty and disease are the enemies of humanity. They provide the breeding grounds for unrest and rebellion.

"A big step will be taken toward the peaceful solution of the world's problems when the more fortunate countries learn to share their affluence and to understand and try to solve the problems of people in the developing countries. The women I have met looked different, they spoke different languages, they dressed differently but they all want to work for a common goal, to have a better life for themselves and for the future generations."

Mrs. Dutt told of visiting a long house in

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### DUST OF SNOW

The way a crow  
Shook down on me  
The dust of snow  
From a hemlock tree

Has given my heart  
A change of mood  
And saved some part  
Of a day I rued.

Robert Frost



A few of the 3700 women being received by Mrs. Dutt, Mrs. Matheson and Mrs. Small at the reception following the opening session of the F.W.I.C. Convention. Photo courtesy, Ontario Dept. of Agriculture and Food.

the dense jungles of Africa. She found the group all wearing the "topless fashion" but after ten minutes of talking with these women she forgot the peculiarities of their dress.

One of the newest projects for A.C.W.W., Mrs. Dutt explained, is a project to combat malnutrition in Colombia, South America where 90,000 children under the age of five die each year.

In closing her address on the day of the opening sessions of the convention, Mrs. Dutt quoted from the Indian poet Tagore:

"Thou hast made me known to friends  
whom I knew not,  
Thou hast given me shelter in homes not  
my own,  
Thou hast brought the distant near,  
And made brother of a stranger.  
When one knows Thee  
Then alien there is none,  
Then no door is shut."

### Meet the Provinces

A pageant titled "Meet the Provinces" was a part of the Tuesday evening's program. Dressed in long white gowns, a representative from each province and The Territories gave a short history and story of activities peculiar to their own province. Mrs. Matheson represented Canada as a whole country.

To conclude the evening session the winning Tweedsmuir Poem was read by Mrs. James of Manitoba, and the winning Citizenship Story was read by Mrs. Roy Walker, Prince Edward Island.

Mrs. H. G. Taylor of Ottawa, the busy secretary of the F.W.I.C., who is leaving her position this fall. Photo courtesy of Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food.

