



The President's Corner

Mrs. Austin S. Zoeller, President, the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario.

report. Its contents still remain unknown to the public. Will it be shelved upon presentation? Not if women are concerned with their place in society; but probably the real change must come within the women themselves, our own change in attitude.

Doubtless, with so many changes we do wonder where our place will be and where our niche is. We have greater mobility, more working women, more opportunities for adult learning, easier access to the arts and drama. We know there is more leisure time, so it is no wonder that our thinking has changed in a decade, and perhaps even some of our values.

I think of the small child, the youngest in his family, who had too many brothers and sisters willing to pick up after him, give in to his every whim until all the family seemed to revolve around the three-year-old. The time came for the mother to go back into the labour force. A decade ago this mother would not have considered a nursery school, but her sense of values changed and a nursery school was the next step for this lad. He quickly learned to put his toys away and that screaming got him nowhere. This school had an "unhappy chair" and when a child felt annoyed or out of sorts he sat in this special chair until his frame of mind had changed and he was ready to become one of the group again. The magic words to rejoin, "I'm happy again."

Our way of life seems to change, but never does a mother's and father's love for their children; their deep concern that things go well during their formative years, that they be disciplined, cherished and treated as individuals and not as image-makers. Women can play a dual role in home and community with the wise rationing of time.

More important in this fascinating, exciting, complicated and sometimes cruel world, is time for us to define our identity in this decade.

Margaret Zoeller

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And I said to the man who stood at the gate of the year,
"Give me a light that I may tread softly into the unknown."

And he replied, "Go out into the darkness
And put your hand into the hand of God.
That shall be better than light
And safer than a known way."

Minnie Louise Haskins

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Not only has a year gone, but also a decade — those fabulous sixties which produced many achievements and changed the way of living for the ordinary person.

Every speaker we've heard recently referred to communication, challenge, technology, environment, revolution and pollution — terminology common to the sixties. We can read about the tremendous strides taken in agriculture in India where reference is made to their "green revolution." The Indian farmer himself is the key to continued success, through the development of new grains, proper application of fertilizers and irrigation systems; the industry of agriculture has progressed and will continue to do so only if this program can be sustained.

UNESCO tells us that it is not impossible in the future for a cow to produce 1000 calves in her lifetime through the use of hormones which keep the entire cycle of ovulation and pregnancy under control. Computerized farming and remote control harvesting are listed as things to come.

So many people like you and me would like to be "doing" for pollution; but have we really come to the point where we feel we are part of the problem, or are we still inclined to feel it is industry or agriculture or the motor car, but not us as homemakers? We are told that detergents and soaps do great damage in polluting our waters. Every household uses these. Maybe it is up to us to become better informed regarding the products we use, and begin to ask questions.

By the mid-seventies, experts tell us, only 30% of all eggs marketed will be sold in their shells, the remainder in bulk by weight. Conceivably, our grandchildren will not know what an egg looks like; on the other hand, by the end of the seventies, perhaps poor old bid-die will not be required to lay hard-shelled eggs any more.

By the late spring of this year it is expected Parliament will review the Status of Women