

with a routine repair of breakdowns in our social machinery. This we can no longer afford. We must stand ready to redesign a society capable of continuous renewal.

If organizations will renew themselves at the grass roots, then assume responsibility for doing their share toward the solutions of the ills that beset our world, we would have a pretty fair chance of getting ahead in the process of guiding change.

Where do we begin — We begin by accepting two facts of life (1) Each of us, as an individual must assume responsibilities for the action, (2) each of us, as an individual, is powerless alone. We must belong to an effective organization.

Renewed individuals make organizations effective. How does one renew an individual?

The first step in the renewal of an individual is the restoration of meaning in his life. Why do we do what we do?"

Enlarging on this subject Sister Thomas More said, "I believe all of us have a vocation. We are called by the spirit and our calling consists of three levels.

(a) On the first level we are called to a state in life. It is not by chance that one individual marries, another chooses to remain single, still another enters a religious life.

(b) On the second level we are called to a way of making a living. It is not by chance that one of us works as a farmer or a housewife, or a teacher, or an executive, or a musician. There is a reason for our being in one occupation rather than another.

(c) On this third level, we are called to specific service to the common good. All of us are called to serve those outside our immediate families or outside our specific occupational group. There are a million possibilities.

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2. That we give serious thought to Control, and become seriously involved in cleaning up the mess that took 100 years to make.
3. That we introduce a Family Life Program for study, and that it be not limited just to sex.

Mrs. Olsen also said —

"One definition of Health, as stated in a report, is as follows: 'Health is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being.' So we need informed opinion and active cooperation on the part of the public, as of the utmost importance in the improvement of the health of the people.

I could go on and on listing the ways in which a person can render specific services to the common good. Some of these ways are spectacular and rate headlines, most of the ways are quiet, known only to those to whom the service was rendered. It makes no difference, service, valuable service can be rendered to human kind by each of us.

We must assess our assets and liabilities and figure out where best we can serve, bringing our assets to society's needs, cheerfully and unselfishly. Society is short changed every time we fail to measure up.

Individual commitment to the task of guiding change is one thing but individual commitment will not accomplish much. One more thing is absolutely necessary — Good organization. In the world today, one is almost powerless alone. One must belong to a group. That is why we must have organizations.

Women's organizations can be effective in dealing with change because for women life can be one long crusade for perfection. She wants things to be, not just half right, but exactly right — in every detail. From now on we must not only be stern over trifles but stern over issues that matter, significant issues."

"Forward, fellow niggers, forward!" With these concluding words Sister Thomas More challenged the members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.

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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S REPORT

In her presidential report Mrs. Clarke remarked that it was fitting that the Fourth National Convention should be taking place in Winnipeg, the place where the Federation of Canadian Women's Institutes had its beginning; and that it also is of added interest for those attending, that Manitoba is celebrating its Centennial in 1970.

Mrs. Clarke expressed her gratitude to Mrs. H. G. Taylor F.W.I.C. Secretary for her devoted service to the Women's Institutes. It was then announced that Mrs. T. L. Jasper of Winnipeg, Manitoba will start her duties as F.W.I.C. Secretary at the end of September when Mrs. Taylor retires.

The president said that she had visited all ten Canadian provinces and the Northwest Territories during her term. She told of visiting the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead and reported that attendance at the Homestead from 1967-1970 was 7,525 and that the total attendance since 1960 has been 25,628.