

**Maryn Pardy****— An Appreciation**

President's Corner.....	2
An Appreciation.....	3
A Message from the Minister.....	4
Official Opening Erland Lee.....	5-27
Girls' Conference.....	7
Twins Unite.....	13
Conveners' Report.....	14
At the District Annuals.....	15
Federated Women's Institutes of Canada.....	16
Increased Membership.....	22
Lambton County W I's.....	24
What's New from Home Economics.....	25
ACWW Conference (Perth).....	28
With the FWIO Branches.....	29
Ontario Junior Women's Institute Conference.....	30
FWIO Scholarships.....	31
Price List.....	32

**Cover Photo**

Mrs. Maryn Pardy, Editor, Home and Country, The Hon. Wm. A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture and Food, and Mrs. Stewart, and Mrs. H. L. Noblitt, President, F.W.I.O. at the Girls' Conference, July 1973.

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By Ethel Chapman

It is hard to believe that never again will we see the signature of **Maryn Pardy** at the foot of this page. Most of our members will already know that, after a few weeks' illness, Mrs. Pardy died on September seventeenth.

To lose Mrs. Pardy's services to the Women's Institutes is a loss indeed; to lose her strong, warm personality from among us is a more poignant thing for each of us; but to think of what she gave us in her six years as editor of this paper and lecturer in extension work may be of some comfort. Certainly it is a cause for gratitude and a source of inspiration. Some of us were fortunate in knowing her ability as a board director or chairman of a committee. Perhaps her home branch at Mt. Brydges appreciated especially her warmth and wisdom as an institute member — even in her busiest times she got home for a meeting whenever she could.

Why was Maryn Pardy's work of the quality it was? Take Home and Country. When the paper came, I won't say her editorial was the first thing I read, but it was the first I looked at to see what it was about. I read it as soon as I could settle down to it; for often it was a mind-stretcher worth concentration; always it gave me something to think about. It came from a disciplined, down-to-earth, clear-visioned, imaginative woman and I am sure most of her readers enjoyed her editorials as much as I did. The content of the whole paper showed Mrs. Pardy's thorough understanding of institute work — she had held practically every office from branch secretary to provincial board director. Perhaps her teaching experience helped her to know the sort of reading likely to lead to action; and her sense of humor and love of people kept the magazine alive with human interest.

There was an ethical standard in anything Maryn Pardy wrote that must have been a joy to women troubled by the much publicized permissiveness of the times. Do you remember — perhaps you have it in your files — an editorial in the Fall 1972 issue of Home and Country, based on the statement of a professor of political science, that a society is headed for trouble unless it is prepared to indoctrinate its children with certain values: honesty, truthfulness, work well done, kindness and compassion, respect for law and democratic rights. This was typical of Maryn Pardy's editorial leanings. It was also typical of Maryn herself.

"Honesty and truthfulness": How often in a committee or a board meeting we have heard her speak out for a cause that was unpopular but in her opinion right.

"Work well done": In her writing she was a perfectionist. I can't recall one slipshod paragraph and I know she scrapped many a page of copy before she had what she wanted. When she gave a course or ad-

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