

A Message

from the Minister:

Rural Ontario has benefitted greatly from the influence of Mrs. Maryn Pardy, and her passing leaves us saddened. Hers has been a life of service to her family, to the community and to the Women's Institute movement. She has always given unstintingly of her time and her talents to aid and assist others.

I am proud of the fact that Mrs. Pardy was a fellow resident of Middlesex County. It has been my privilege to know her, and to have some knowledge of the esteem in which she was held by the vast throng of people with whom she associated. She has been an able editor of "Home and Country". The publication has mirrored her respect for interest, integrity and accuracy. As a teacher she was always concerned with the moulding of sound character, and the development of a sense of personal responsibility for the rights and the feelings of others.

Floral tributes are like humans, they bloom and then they fade, but our deeds remain as landmarks of our having passed through this world. Mrs. Maryn Pardy's path through life remains clearly marked by her acts of consideration and generosity, by her efforts on behalf of a better society.

William A. Stewart,
Ontario Minister of
Agriculture & Food.

President's Corner *continued*

Janet who had given prime motivation to our organization in its beginning. And it was more than that! We had all worked together to ensure for the future of our members all over the world, the safekeeping of the Home, where our organization had its simple beginnings.

There have been many times when you all have felt proud to be a Women's Institute member. One of those moments for me came last June 26, when my husband and I attended the provincial state dinner for the Queen at the invitation of the Lieutenant Governor. I was proud to be there as an Ontario citizen, but mostly proud because I had the privilege of representing an organization that had been deemed worthy of being invited.

Then in these days, when we hear much of declining morals and religion, of unethical codes, of indifference to our fellowmen, we can be proud that we belong to an organization that has as one of its objectives the concern for moral values which promotes the family unit as still the ideal in today's society.

Good nutrition and its effect on the family continues to provide study material and practical information for W.I. meetings.

Our Women's Institute is a stable element in a rather unstable society and a steward of worthy standards. May we always work to keep it so.

Bernice B. Noblitt.

Maryn Pardy *continued*

dressed a meeting, everyone knew she had prepared well for it.

"Kindness and compassion": Maryn was a most understanding person, her sympathies quick and practical. Chairing a meeting she often saved others from their mistakes. She could make the humblest member feel important.

"Respect for law and democratic rights": She did not hesitate to hew to the line when a wrong had to be set right; but she was most patient and diplomatic, as I learned at first hand when she led the committee compiling **The Ontario Women's Institute Story**. When, two years before she came to **Home and Country**, she took an assignment to acquaint the women's guilds of Newfoundland with the Women's Institute organization, she used no pressure to influence the guilds to become institutes — just told her story and left them to make up their own minds. Now they have quite a flourishing institute movement in Newfoundland.

And what good company she was! Those who knew her best know what a keen sense of fun and humor she had; knew, too, how stimulating her conversation could be. She was one of the very well-read persons of her time, and her family, knowing that no gift could please her more than a good book seemed to see that anything very special found its way into her library.

Past issues of *Home and Country* leave messages from Maryn Pardy that we may refer to again and again in the years ahead. One which happens to be before me at the moment reads:

"The Women's Institute is not an organization to provide its members with constant entertainment. It is an organization to involve you, to stimulate you, to activate you, to provide you with opportunities for service. The friendships developed and the social aspects are an added bonus."

For this and all your guidance, all you gave and all you meant to us, Maryn Pardy we thank you.

Thank You

Our appreciation and gratitude to all Mother's Institute friends for the cards, good wishes and gifts sent during her illness, and the many cards and donations to the Memorial Fund sent to us after her death.

Our sincere thank you,
**The family of the late
Mrs. Maryn Pardy**

Board Directors

We were all saddened by the deaths of two of our Board Directors in 1973, Mrs. N. Sinclair from Fort Frances early in the year and Mrs. Geo. Henderson of Georgetown in July. Both members played an active part in their communities and provided strong leadership in the work of the Women's Institutes. Unfortunately Mrs. Sinclair did not attend a Board meeting. Mrs. Henderson, a Regional Vice President, served half of her term and contributed greatly. As well as serving on the scholarship Committee, she attended special meetings on behalf of the President. She will indeed, be missed.