

## Introducing



**Mrs. John A. King**  
Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries

Agnes Turnbull grew up in rural Ontario near Paris and feels the privileges and pleasures of farm life outweigh the urban scene. Her Mother, Mrs. Roy Turnbull, is a long time member of Burford Women's Institute, and because of her interest, she encouraged her daughter to join the Women's Institute after marriage to John A. King.

Agnes gained Provincial Honours in the 4H Homemaking Club, and after completing secondary school, was one of the first recipients of the Ontario Women's Institute Entrance Award to Macdonald Institute. After graduation, as a clothing major, she worked as a Home Economist for the Home Economics Branch, Department of Agriculture. As a busy mother and wife, she still finds time to assist Home Economists at Achievement Days.

Three of the five King children are in 4H and the family share the enjoyment of singing as a group. The children all take music lessons, and also are involved with music in school.

Back in 1953, John was in the Junior Farmers' choir, and it was this group who sang for the ACWW in Toronto. While John was busy singing, Agnes as Home Economist in Elgin, had taken a carload of 4H Homemaking Club girls to the same meeting to hand out programs.

Both the "Kings" are involved with farm organizations, and Mrs. King feels her interest broadened because of these activities.

They work and play as a family, so each carry their fair share of the work load in the Dairy and Apple farm operation.

Mrs. King is a very intense kind of person, and hopes as convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries to develop a questioning attitude rather than an apathetic acceptance among the membership toward this convenership.

As your new provincial convener for Agriculture and Canadian Industries, I hope that I can continue the same high standard of leadership you have come to expect during the term of the previous conveners.

The F.W.I.O. Board has strongly urged that the emphasis this year be given to stressing essentials of good nutrition as a result of the Food Survey recently conducted by Nutrition Canada. So do try to have at least one meeting relating to a study of the survey and what foods should be stressed in our diets. Perhaps among us, we can find some way to promote the use of fresh Ontario farm products.

Escalating Food Prices should merit some study this year too. A Food Prices questionnaire prepared by Agriculture and Canadian Industries and Home Economics and Health conveners of F.W.I.C. have been distributed by Mrs. Noblitt, our provincial president, to key W.I. women across Ontario. This was to be filled in and returned to the National conveners. It is their hope to have something constructive to pass along to the Food Prices Review Board.

There are many areas of controversy these days in regard to farming and farm marketing. In these areas, we as farm women too often leave official statements to be made by experts and authorities. These areas that come to mind as I write are:

- (1) the statement by the Food Prices Review Board that the price of eggs is too high
- (2) that the statement by the Canadian Association of Consumers that the method of marketing of milk in Ontario constitutes a monopoly and
- (3) that land in Ontario is going out of agricultural production at the rate of 26 acres an hour.

It is time that the voice of all farm women be heard in topics of this nature, because we are the ones most affected.

Does the F.W.I.O. through your reports and resolutions, know what your Institute is thinking about these problems? Do your reports to local newspapers come out strongly in these controversial areas?

The F.W.I.O. is only as good as the sum of its grass roots. The important ideas and the direction which we take must come from its members. The following questions are listed as possible guidelines for discussion and study:

- Can anyone suggest a method for recycling twine? (a request from one member)
- Can't farm women be allowed wages for work at home? Shouldn't the income tax department recognize our contribution to the family farm business? (another request)
- Are W.I. members interested in keeping the "family farm" as a basic unit of production? Why? How do we do it? What is a "family farm?" Are you going to encourage your son to stay on the family farm?
- Does the controversy about foreign ownership of Canadian Industries really affect W.I. members? How? Why?
- Do W.I. members think of themselves primarily as food consumers or food producers? Are we more concerned about the rising cost of food or the greater returns for the food we produce?