

Federated News

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Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

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Rose Named for W.I. Founder

Recently, a new Canadian rose was named in honour of Mrs. Hoodless.

Developed by plant breeder Dr. Henry H. Marshall of Agriculture Canada's Morden, Man., Research Station, the Adelaide Hoodless rose was released to the Canadian Ornamental Plant Foundation in 1972.

The Adelaide Hoodless rose is hardier than other red rose cultivars of the floribunda class. A vigorous, upright, open shrub, it grows about four feet tall, and has only a few spines. Its glossy, normal green foliage is medium sized with seven leaflets per leaf and is moderately resistant to blackspot and mildew.

The rose blooms continuously and profusely from June right through to the autumn frosts. Its flowers are in clusters of up to 25 blooms, semi-double to double with about 25 petals measuring 2.5 inches in diameter when fully open, medium red in color, faintly fragrant and long-lasting as a cut flower.

The rose is still in limited supply but as names of suppliers are released the information will be published.

FWIC Food Prices Questionnaire

Because of the great concern of all consumers over rising prices in Canada, the Federated Women's Institute of Canada conducted a survey in 1973. This was done through a questionnaire, each province being asked to participate. The answers to such questions as the following were sought:

Why do we buy foods? How do we buy them? Where? Which items seem to have increased most in price? How have the increases affected your buying and your menus? To what do you attribute the in-

crease in costs? Do you feel the increased costs are justified? Do you feel sales gimmicks add to the cost of food?

After the replies to the questionnaire were all received, a summary was made and a report issued. A letter with a copy of the report was sent to Mrs. Plumptre and the Food Prices Review Board.

Some interesting observations can be made from the report: People's eating habits have not changed — they choose foods for nutrition and enjoyment; most shop in person and do so weekly. In Ontario, and B.C. many shop in supermarkets, but in the Prairies, provincial co-ops are patronized and the independent grocer is still a favorite. The greatest increase in prices was noted by most to be in cereals and breads, meat, canned goods, poultry and eggs, dairy products and baking supplies. Because of increased prices many make more effort to take advantage of specials, to buy in bulk, buy directly from the producer, do with less, do more baking, buy cheaper brands, cheaper cuts of meat and buy fruits and vegetables only in season.

The people questioned would prefer less advertising, less fancy packaging, fewer sizes in packaging, and fewer gimmicks. Many feel that price increases are due to such things as strikes, too many middlemen, and out of line transportation costs. They feel that increases in food costs are passed on to the consumer, but decreases are not. The increase in the price of sugar was particularly questioned. They reported many cases where prices of old stock of produce in stores had been raised sometimes more than once.

While they recognize the law of supply and demand, most are aware that world food shortages affect our food prices, and that the middlemen are all entitled to a fair wage, they do feel that the farmer must receive a fair return for his products to permit him to cover increased costs, to retain a decent standard of living and to encourage him to remain in business. They favor removing subsidies on food products as they are all paid for by our taxes anyway.

The tabulation of the questionnaire was the result of the combined efforts of the Convener of Agriculture and Canadian Industries, Mrs. Isobel Price and Home Economics and Health, Mrs. Caroline Grierston.

The price of food, the packaging, the nutritional value, all these and many other areas concern the members.



Bear Creek W.I. float in Wyoming Centennial parade. Replica of Adelaide Hoodless Home, members of the branch demonstrated crafts of the pioneer days. The house was made by the husbands of W.I. members.