

FWIC

Reflections on the Seminar.

What could it be? What should it be?

The Executive, Board Members, Conveners and Councillors gathered for a two day Seminar on an in-depth look at FWIC, the relevance and the future of the organization.

The Seminar on a whole had merit. Miss Brenda Gorman, Supervisor, Home Economics, Department of Agriculture and Marketing for the Province of Nova Scotia acted as co-ordinator. (Many will remember Brenda as the Home Economist in Waterloo County some years ago.)

A Closer Look at You — Your Organization and Your Country. This session proved to be an excellent exercise in public relations. The group thought nationally about themselves and FWIC and concluded the two most important things were visibility and unity. We must be able to see ahead without clouding issues and determine what is best for all the members.

Keynote speakers such as Mrs. Beryl Plumtre spoke on her work with the Anti Inflation Board, commending the Women's Institutes for their work on Nutrition and urged that this be continued. She pledged objectivity and fairness in the Board's decisions.

Dr. Gordon MacEachern, President Agricultural Economics Research Council of Canada, spoke on rural development and the quality of life. The Canadian Society is in a state of reassessment, trends must be reversed and a new appreciation in the role of "food", must be realized and steps taken to determine desired effects. We need a general upgrading of farm family life, rural society must lead not lag.

Members of Parliament from British Columbia, Simma Holt and from Nova Scotia Coline Campbell, spoke on the influence of a voluntary organization in society. Rev. David MacDonald, P.E.I., and Gerald Steele representing DREE, stressed the need for rural urban balance, urging people involvement as well as smaller scale, closer to people activities. As our life styles are altered because of changes in environment etc., it is FWIC's responsibility to respond through awareness and action to produce constructive change.

Reflections of Relevance

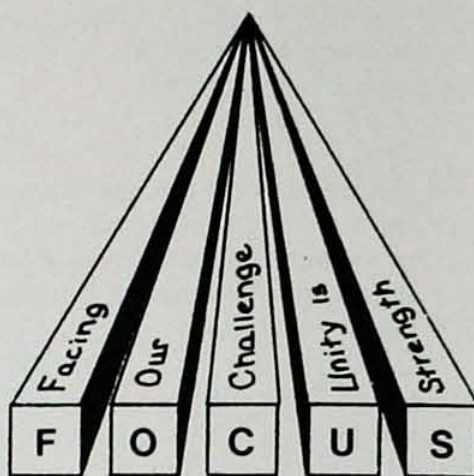
The contributions of the delegates were concrete and with some degree of objectivity. Emphasis was placed on the need for revision which will definitely come through the change in Bylaws.

No definite decisions were made as far as FWIC's future was concerned, however, there was a consensus that we needed to be more aware of current issues and involve the membership in studies and programmes, such as: • disparity of income level • land use • foreign ownership • human rights • international relationship • general unrest • inflation and strikes • strengthening of family life • immigration • family law • child abuse • battered wives.

Major By-Law Changes

The new by-laws will be ratified at the National Convention, upon acceptance of the Consumer and Corporate Affairs. The National Executive will include Past President, President, President elect and seven Vice Presidents, (Vice Presidents the choice of the Province). Every province will now have a representa-

tive, at Executive level. Each province will continue to have a Junior and Senior Board Director, but Standing Conveners and Directors at Large, will be eliminated. However each vice president will be responsible for promoting a current issue decided on by FWIC. There are other changes as well, however these are the main ones.



7th National Convention Charlottetown Prince Edward Island University of Prince Edward Island

June 20	Registration
7:30	Opening Ceremony Confederation Theatre
June 21	
AM-PM Evening	Plenary Sessions ACWW
June 22	
AM PM Evening	Plenary Workshops Focus on the Provinces
June 23	P.E.I. Day — tour lunch Anne of Green Gables
June 24	Plenary
Evening	Department of Agriculture Banquet

Conclusion of Convention

Note: Ontario is allowed 227 persons. All must have pre-registered at the FWIO office and paid \$30.00 fee. If you wish to be included in the P.E.I. Day \$12.00 extra is the cost for everyone.

Mrs. O. L. Farquharson O.B.E., ACWW President will be at the Convention.