

What is essential is to see that no obstacles are put in the way of women—simply because they are women.”

FWIC PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Mrs. J. A. McLean, National President, also spoke on the opening night, encouraged all Women's Institute members to face up to the responsibilities as citizens of their community. We must stand up for our convictions always mindful that women still remain the “unchallenged resource” in today's society.

As Women's Institute members we should continue to be the watchdogs on government, inflation and land use. She continued to say that a national land use policy should be left in the hands of Agriculture to ensure there will be no food shortage in Canada.

Mrs. McLean referred to the Convention Theme FOCUS, saying the Women's Institute needs unity and strength to face the many challenges existing today.

BYLAWS AND CONSTITUTION

The voting delegates approved the changes in the FWIC Constitution and bylaws prepared by the bylaws committee, approved by Consumer and Corporate Affairs and the National Board, and ratified by the voting delegates at the Convention.

Some changes are as follows, complete revision changes have been circulated to all Provincial offices.

Officers—Past President, President, President elect, and seven vice presidents, one from each province not already represented. (The selection of a vice president will be the responsibility of each Province. Those persons to be either elected or appointed by the Province.)

Executive Committee—Officers and the Secretary Treasurer, ex officio, without vote.

Election:

President—	Mrs. Joseph Bielish, Warspite, Alberta
President Elect—	Mrs. Emmie Oddie, Regina, Saskatchewan
Vice Presidents—	Mrs. Beryl Burgess, Westfield, N.B.
	Mrs. Clarence Diamond, New Hamburg, Ont.
	Mrs. J. J. Laracy, Conception Bay, Nfld.
	Mrs. W. E. McArthur, Greenwood, B.C.
	Mrs. James Robertson, Hemmingford, Que.
	Mrs. Frank Ross, Charlottetown, P.E.I.
	Mrs. W. H. Warren, Great Falls, Man.

Resignation

Mrs. R. V. Jamieson, Secretary Treasurer submitted her resignation to the Directors effective October 31. The position is to be advertised and a replacement appointed.

Board of Directors—Officers, Senior Board Directors (President of each Province) and Junior Board Directors, the responsibility of each Province. Each Province has an opportunity to elect or appoint an alternate to the office of Junior Board Director.

Note: At the 1979 Convention the President elect will be the only office open for voting. Nominees will be from among the Vice Presidents. The present President elect, will automatically become President.

EDUCATIONAL COMMITTEES

There are no longer Standing Conveners however Educational Committees which include the former Standing Convenerships will now become the responsibility of the Vice Presidents who will be appointed chairman. The committee shall consist of the Chairman and Provincial Counterparts.

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

There are seven committees to be known as Bylaws, Finance, Resolutions, Nominations, Credentials, Elections, and Tweedsmuir.

Bylaws may be changed or amended at a special meeting of the Board and ratified at a duly constituted meeting of the National Convention by a two-thirds majority vote by the voting members, provided notice to amend has been circulated among the Board members and to all Secretary Treasurers of Provincial Units three months prior to the meeting. The amendment shall not be enforced before approval has been granted by the Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs.

The Board of Directors shall be the governing body and the voting delegates at National Convention shall ratify bylaws and amendments and the transactions of the Board of Directors.



Women's Institute members from Ontario welcome Mrs. Martha Bielish as the newly elected president of FWIC.

A teacher by profession, Martha and husband Joseph live on the farm homesteaded by Martha's parents. They have a married son and three grandchildren.