

## PROFILE



President

Ask a busy person to do a job and ten to one the job will be well done!

That defines the character of the newly elected President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario, **Mrs. Clarence Diamond**, New Hamburg.

In her 37 years since joining the Women's Institute she has worked on all levels of the organization, this afforded the opportunity to understand and appreciate the work of the Women's Institute. A past President and Secretary Treasurer, as well as a life member of Haysville WI Branch in the Region of Waterloo, she is also a past President of Waterloo South District.

She served as PRO for the FWIO before becoming Board Director; elected to FWIC as Director-at-large and after the change of FWIC's Constitution "Florence" was appointed a vice president for Ontario.

Mrs. Diamond served on the handbook and by-laws committee for both the provincial and the national boards, and wrote brochures for both FWIC and Haysville Branch. A life member of ACWW, Mrs. Diamond has attended Conferences as a voting delegate in Lansing, Oslo and Perth.

Born in Wellington County she attended Weller Secretarial and Business College. After graduation, she became receptionist and office manager for a medical doctor. She married Clarence Diamond and together they moved to the family farm south of New Hamburg. As a farm wife and mother of two, she still seemed to find time to assist with 4H and help out with the Senior Courses offered to the WI. After her husband's death she moved to New Hamburg.

She represents the Township Council on the Medical Aid Liaison Committee and on the Waterloo Heritage local architectural Conservation Advisory Committee. In 1977 the Council honoured her by proposing her name for a Queen's Jubilee Medal.

Actively involved in the women's organization in the church, she also is clerk of the session, and has contributed to the writing of history books and is a newspaper correspondent. Over the past years Mrs. Diamond has conducted Procedure Workshops on WI Procedure.

Both her children are married, Dr. Douglas Diamond lives at Meaford with his wife and two children and daughter Mrs. Bruce Cavanagh and husband reside in Kingston.



Public  
Relations  
Officer

**May (Cooper) Brown** first heard about the WI while living in the city of Toronto. She and Mrs. Helen Armstrong, FWIO Secretary, both received their introduction to Women's Institute through Mrs. Archibald Empringham and consequently both joined the Mary H Graves Branch in York East District.

Mrs. Brown said too, she didn't know how many other opportunities there were after joining the WI. Her first short course was Hooked Rugs, when the Mary H Graves and Scarborough Junction joined together.

"May" is well suited to assume the duties of Public Relations Officer for FWIO. Dealing with people was her business. She and her husband, a former second world war RCAF officer, owned a retail food outlet in Washago for 23 years. You learn a lot and become a much more tolerant person when dealing constantly with the public.

Mrs. Brown was born in the hamlet of Cooper's Falls and raised on a farm. Having lived in both a small community and large city has broadened her outlook on life. After graduation from Shaw Business School, she worked and later married John Brown in 1945. They have three daughters and one son and one grandchild.

After purchasing the food outlet, it became a family business and for many years the children were involved. As they gradually received their education and left home the Brown's finally sold the business and built a new home in Washago in 1975.

A member of the Washago WI for almost 25 years she has served in most of the offices, including President. Also, District President of Simcoe East and on the Simcoe Area Executive during her three year term as Board Director. Mrs. Brown attended the FWIC Convention in PEI and the ACWW Conference in Lansing.

Active in her community, she serves on the official board of the Church, a Sunday School Superintendent and member of the UCW. A volunteer in the Canadian Cancer Society and Treasurer of the Community Centre, she still finds time for crafts and needlework.

Yes, when we phoned May Brown, she was busy preparing for a needlepoint course she is teaching in her home.