

The Director Writes:—

Mr. Ken Lantz was appointed Deputy Minister of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food on June 1st, 1978, succeeding R. Gordon Bennett who retired after 35 years with the ministry. Mr. Lantz, well known to many members of the Women's Institutes, joined the ministry in 1945. He has served as an Assistant Agricultural Representative in Middlesex County, as Agricultural Representative in Stormont and Kent Counties, and as Associate Director and Director of Extension in Toronto. He was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of Agriculture, in charge of the Production and Rural Development Division, in 1963.

Dr. George H. Collin, the former Chairman of the Farm Products Marketing Board, was appointed the new head of the Production and Rural Development Division. Dr. Collin is a graduate in agriculture of the University of British Columbia and received his doctorate in horticulture from Cornell University. Before joining the Farm Products Marketing Board, Dr. Collin was director of the Alberta Horticultural Research Centre at Brooks, Alberta. For six years prior to going to Alberta, he directed the Ontario Horticultural Research Station at Simcoe.

Mr. R. Gordon Bennett, the former Deputy Minister, has been asked to conduct a study of rural families, by the Minister of Agriculture and Food, the Hon. Bill Newman.

By the time you receive this edition of *Home and Country*, our fall programs will have started. The Home Economics Branch hopes that you are enjoying them. Already, the specialists are planning some new ones for next year. These will be publicized at a later date.



The year 1979 has been declared the International Year of the Child by the United Nations. The U.N. urges the world to strengthen its concern for the present condition of its children. The focusing of universal attention on the child emphasizes the need for people everywhere to recognize that the peace and prosperity of tomorrow's world depends on the well-being of today's child. Through A.C.W.W.'s Pennies for Friendship campaign, your organization does contribute to ensure a safe water supply and improved nutrition for the less fortunate of the world.

Although children in Canada do have ready access to clean water, good food, health and education, research findings indicate that some of our children still experience a lack of parental care. In order to ensure that future generations receive better care, there appears to be a need for parenting education for teenagers, both boys and girls, through programs developed and sponsored at the local level by both educational and non-educational agencies, under the leadership of properly trained personnel. I hope each branch sometime in 1979 will hold one meeting on children and/or parents, and support any programs held by other organizations in your local area.

On another page of this issue, you will read about the characteristics of a typical 4-H leader. The Home Economics Branch again takes this opportunity to thank all of the volunteer leaders for the tremendous contribution to the 4-H Homemaking Club program and the Women's Institutes who help find the leaders and offer financial support. The help given is invaluable and shows that members of the Women's Institutes are vitally interested in the well-being of children.

An analysis of the data gathered from the senior programs in the spring is being studied by the statisticians at Central Statistical Services. The results should be ready for publication in the next issue of *Home and Country*.

The area conventions are over for another year. It was good to travel across the province with Mrs. Diamond, going to places I had never visited before and meeting new people. As I travel through Ontario, I never cease to be amazed at the size of our province and at the great variety of agriculture and industry that takes place within our boundaries.

The Christmas season is fast approaching and I hope that each member of FWIO has a very happy time with family and friends, and a very successful new year at branch level.

Molly McGehee

Home Economics Branch