

### RITA CADIEUX

Deputy Chief Commissioner, Canadian Human Rights Commission, responded to the Research paper, *Credit Where Credit is Due*, which stated "lenders" discriminated against women. Banks, lending institutions, in some cases do not recognize women as legitimate business partners. Despite a woman's expertise, lenders do not treat her as a business associate of her husband's legal partnership. Ms. Cadieux pledged if this is so, the lending institutions would be asked to change their policies. If they refuse, the Commission would initiate a formal inquiry. She noted from 1978-80 only 19 complaints were received, none on farm credit.

### Senator MARTHA BIELISH, ACWW V.P.

Told about the Hamburg Conference, especially telling about the life styles of delegates from developing countries. Constituent Societies in Canada work closely with ACWW through Pennies for Friendship and educational projects.

### COMMUNICATIONS WITH CONSUMERS

Prof. J. C. Gilson, University of Manitoba used a quote from a former CFA President, "if farmers are going to produce here and stay at it, they are going to have to be paid enough to cover their costs, including a reasonable return on their investment" . . . Urban people have a greater stake in the Agricultural community than we realize. When production falters on the farm the impact spreads quickly to Main Street in the urban community. Ten billion dollars yearly is spent as the result of Agriculture, so the urban citizen has a heavy stake on the prosperity of the farmer. We have much more in common than we realize, and it is important that this thought be kept in mind when developing policies. As an example there are strong policy differences between the producer and consumer.

If farmers are to stay at it, they must receive a fair return on interest, organize self and use tough discipline.

The farm women can play a greater role in explaining to consumers why food prices are rising and the importance agriculture plays both in the food it provides and the jobs it creates.

### RUTH JACKSON, CAC

Mrs. Jackson deplored the high cost of quotas which posed a barrier to new producers. The results of

regulations established by Marketing Boards run counter to aims. She threw out the question, "what is an efficient farm size when we see half the farm houses empty," raised a few eyebrows. Consumers are concerned about the marketing boards operating monopolies, they must operate for the public good. Supermarkets are taking too large profits, consumers must exert pressure and make their views known. She cautioned a tighter control on the use of Agricultural chemicals and a greater need to coordinate standards and grades.

### DR. DAWN PALIN

Health Promotion Directorate, Health and Welfare Canada speaking about Nutrition and Health Consciousness said, there should be a greater awareness about the science of food and nutrition and how the body uses them. How you eat has something to do with how you function. A wise balance among nutrients is the balance to good health. Over and under nutrition is an inappropriate practice. It is up to all of us to set a good example of food habits; accept responsibility of sensible eating; be supportive of community health services and be realistic—only accept what you can carry out.

### MARY-JANE LIPKIN

Project leader of the research projects reported on the work of the team of students. The results of their findings formed the basis for discussions during the Conference Workshops which centred around the seven booklets dealing with Women and Farm Credit; The Portrayal of Farm Women in the Canadian Media; Equal Partners or Just A Wife; Land Use Policy; Socio-economic Status of Women; Contributions of a Wife; Government Policy Promoting Young Farmers.

The consensus of the meeting

- Present steering committee to be an ongoing committee.
- Present Committee to work on recommendations and send to proper authorities. The main concerns will be requesting the governments for changes in tax laws to allow farm wives salaries, better credit ratings and fairer settlements in divorce or death benefits.
- To look into the possibility of another Conference within a three year time frame.

It was decided unanimously that the farm women would work within existing agriculture organizations and not establish another national organization.



Members and former Branch members, as well as members from Peel, Halton and Dufferin Counties spent an afternoon together celebrating the 75th anniversary of the **STREETSVILLE WI, PEEL SOUTH DISTRICT**. L-r seated, Mrs. W. Dadd, President Peel South District; Mrs. H. McClure, alternate Board Director; Mrs. L. M. Dixon, FWIO Board Director; Mrs. Ed Welland; Mrs. E. Wilkinson, Past President Peel South District. L-r Back row, Mrs. Geo McKee, Peel South District Secretary; Mrs. C. H. Brocklebank, President, Streetsville Branch; Mrs. R. Reeds, Secretary Central Area; Mrs. P. Junkin, President Central Area.