

Missionary, WI member dies

One of Oxford's finest citizens — Grace Patterson, loved by many and respected by all, died in March in her 93rd year.

In 1919, a group of girls formed a club called Grace Country Club in honor of Grace Patterson. In 1945 there was a desire to become a Women's Institute group and following organization the branch was named The Grace Patterson Women's Institute. One of the early projects was to support a child in India, and this continued into the institute and until the present time. Grace Patterson was a missionary in India.

During her 38 years in India, Grace Patterson made good use of her knowledge from Oxford County. She did experiments in cotton growing which led to her being awarded the Coronation Medal of George VI in

1937. Although she was a teacher, she reclaimed 17 acres of land, cleaned it up, fenced it and in plots grew wheat, soya beans, chick peas, sugar cane and sorghum.

In 1954 she retired to Thamesford where she was active in Grace Patterson W.I. and community activities. She was a historian for Women's Institute and the community. She compiled current event scrapbooks reporting the highlights at each Women's Institute meeting. These are now in the Thamesford Library. One of her favorite newspaper people was cartoonist "Ting".

Miss Patterson was a woman of inspiration whose work was much honored. Her service with the Red Cross was acknowledged in 1947 when she received the Emperor of India Award. She was made a life member of both the W.M.S. of the

Presbyterian Church and The United Church Women, and Grace Patterson Women's Institute. In 1978 she received the Queen Elizabeth 25th Anniversary Medal for distinguished service.

Grace Patterson Women's Institute was co-hostess for a celebration for her 90th birthday in 1981 at which time she said, "I can hardly find words to express my appreciation for what the Women's Institute is doing for women and girls of the community and the country and the world."

Miss Patterson, with abundant heart, did leave riches behind — memories of acts of faith and goodness.

**Audrey Armour
PRO
Grace Patterson WI**

Hosts for exchangees needed

The International Agricultural Exchange Association is a non-profit voluntary rural youth organization open to all rural young people who have the initiative, ambition, and staying power to see the world. Many Ontario rural youth have lived and worked in Europe, Australia and New Zealand as trainees; and have come home with stories, memories of a lifetime, new ideas, and a better understanding of the ways of life and cultural patterns in other countries.

Ontario has recently been opened to receive trainees from other countries, and now, we need host families.

To qualify, you need only to have a farm, and be able to provide the trainee with adequate living accommodation. In addition, the trainee should become a temporary, accepted member of your family and be given the opportunity to take an active part in the social, cultural and educational life of your community. The trainee is paid, by you, a wage which is decided upon by the Host Family Association of Canada.

Please consider becoming a host family. You are not only giving a foreign youth a wonderful opportuni-

ty; you are also giving yourself the chance to take a look at and to better understand international agriculture.

Women's Institutes organize program at plowing Match

The Ladies' Program for the International Plowing Match — Wellington County — Sept. 25-29, 1984, has been under the supervision of the Women's Institutes of the county — 38 branches plus Junior branches. Also, we have engineered the official catering tent.

Meeting approximately monthly since January 1982 our program consists of sections of food and entertainment, fashions and horticulture, a craft building with about 23 craft people exhibiting and selling their work and they're all Wellington County folk. There are competitions for individuals in painting —

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categories oil, water colour, sketching and for organizations it is quilts — categories pieced, embroidered appliqued, all under the theme Agricultural Heritage in Wellington County.

The official catering tent will be operated by ladies of Wellington County, drawn in by ladies of Institute groups, preparing to feed approximately 1,500 visitors a day.

We Institute members of the county are looking forward to meeting the ladies of Ontario and elsewhere and especially Institute members.

WELCOME TO WELLINGTON