
Give changes a chance

"If you always do what you've always done, you'll always get what you've always got!"

The above words were taken from an article in *The Countrywoman* written by Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW) President, Dr. Ellen McLean. I don't know who originated these words of wisdom and she doesn't say either, but it really doesn't matter. What matters is the blatant truth of the statement.

How many times have we found ourselves reacting in the same way to similar situations and then wondering why we get the same reaction or outcome. The reason is simple and the key to getting a different reaction is

Reflections from ROS Joyce Canning



also simple — that's not to be confused with easy! The answer is — we have to change our behavior.

There are probably going to be lots of occasions in the next few months for long time WI members to say, "But we've never done it that way before", or "That's not the way we used to do it". When those opportunities arise, I hope those ladies will bite their tongues and forge onward. The

new constitution is suggesting some new approaches. Two committees of very dedicated Women's Institute members have devoted a lot of time and thought to this over the past two years. Everyone is not going to agree 100 per cent with all the ideas but let's give them a fair chance.

Let's NOT do what you've always done and see what you get!

Joyce Canning is the rural women's co-ordinator with the Rural Organizations and Services Branch (ROS), Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food (OMAF).

National Farm Women's Conference in November

The National Farm Women's Conference will be held from Nov. 12 to 14, 1987 at the Bessborough Hotel, Saskatoon. There will be 10 voting delegates from each province in attendance, as well as non-voting participants.

The registration fee for each delegate is \$150 and a travel pool is being organized to help cover the costs of travel for the voting delegates.

The program for the third National Farm Women's Conference is still tentative, but here is an overview of what is planned for participants.

Thursday, Nov. 12
pre-conference tours

"Key Issues in Canadian Agriculture" — an address by Andy Schmitz
Banquet — an update on provincial happenings

Friday, Nov. 13

panel discussion on ethical issues
WSA, study on education of rural women

Luncheon speaker, Alberta Agriculture Assistant Minister, Shirley Kripps
"Visions of Canadian Agriculture" — an address by John Wise
Resolutions

Saturday, Nov. 14

panel address "Forming Agricultural Policy" and "Farm Groups Lobbying Practices"

National Farm Women's Network
Luncheon speaker, Ontario Federation of Agriculture President, Brigid Pyke
small group discussions
resolutions

report on the Study on Women in Agriculture by the Canadian Council on the Status of Women
Banquet — speaker, Dr. Ellen McLean, President of Associated Countrywomen of the World

If you would like more information on the conference, or are interested in attending, please contact the Ontario representative Maria Van Bommel at 519 232-4680.

Letter to the editor



Keep Mary Stewart Collect as is

In regards to updating the Mary Stewart Collect (Oct. Nov. Dec. issue), I sincerely hope this never happens. While I am all in favor of change that improves, how could these words possibly be made more relevant to the needs of women in this so-called nuclear age?

The words calm, serene and gentle,

are, I believe, as vital a part of this prayer now, as at any time in history. The more hectic our pace, and the more chaotic our world becomes, the more we need to rely on the ability to remain calm, serene, gentle.

I realize we must be prepared to speak out, and act when necessary to improve society. However, I am con-

vinced it is the person who has an inner peace and serenity that functions most effectively in all walks of life.

We are told it is the meek who shall inherit the earth.

**Florence E. Bremner
Singhampton**