

Former FWIO president Hall of Fame inductee

Dorothy E. Futcher, president of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO) from 1947 to 1950, has been accepted into the Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame.

The vision of Mrs. Futcher is very evident in the work of WI today. It was in her term of office that Lady Tweedsmuir, the wife of the then Governor General, approached the Women's Institutes suggesting that they be the group to record the history of rural communities. These books came to be known as the Women's Institutes Tweedsmuir History Books — a valuable source of rural history today.

Leadership training was also important to Mrs. Futcher. She started the first provincial training conference for Women's Institute officers. This legacy of training our leaders is till an important part of WI today.

As a member of the Middlemarch Branch in Elgin West District, from 1923 until her death in 1984, she is remembered as the driving force behind the establishment of the Elgin County Museum. It was through the efforts of the Women's Institutes that the museum was established, and WI members continue to be involved in the museum today.

Mrs. Futcher was a member of the board of directors of the Ontario Agriculture College, and as a result of her contribution to agriculture, she was awarded the Ontario Agri-



Dorothy Futcher

culture Medal. Mrs. Futcher was appointed by the province to the Archeological and Historic Sites Board and she also served as a director of the women's division of the Royal Agricultural Winter Fair Board.

Manitoba will remember Mrs. Futcher, because in 1950, the money raised for the Manitoba Flood Relief by the Ontario Women's Institutes was designated by Mrs. Futcher to be spent in rural relief work.

In 1955, she was on the committee created for the purpose of reviewing the administration and services of Ontario Agriculture College, the Ontario Veterinary College and the Macdonald Institute.

Mrs. Futcher was made a life member of Federated Women's Institutes of Canada for her work as a Women's Institute

member, but especially for her work at the Associated Country Women of the World Conference held in Toronto in 1953.

Provincially her memory will remain with rural youth as one of the four FWIO provincial scholarships has been named the Dorothy E. Futcher Scholarship in her honor.

OTHER INDUCTEES

At the June 5 Ontario Agricultural Hall of Fame unveiling, five other nominees will be inducted, along with Dorothy Futcher.

Duncan O. Bull
— sponsored by the Ontario Jersey Club

Charles A. Drury
— Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food

Joseph Fleury Jr.
— Fleury Family Board

Helen McKercher
— former staff of the Home Economics Branch, University of Guelph

Gerald N. Ruhnke
— Ontario Agricultural College, Class of 1938

The induction ceremony takes place at 2:30 p.m. at the Ontario Agricultural Museum in Milton. If you would like more information, call 416 878-8151.