

A WI Centennial Celebration & FWIC Convention '97

From June 17-22, 1997, the city of Hamilton, Ontario, will be overflowing with guests from across Canada and around the world for a WI Centennial Celebration & FWIC Convention '97.

Two busloads of visitors from England are already booked to attend. Requests are coming from as far away as Australia to join in the celebration of the formation of the first Women's Institute in Stoney Creek in 1897.

Have you requested your registration forms for Convention '97 yet? The forms are now available from your provincial office. Early birds who register before October 31, 1996, will receive a reduced rate and are eligible for a special draw. The number of registration forms per province is limited by the FWIC quota system, which means that the forms for the full convention may **not** be photocopied.

The Convention '97 Committee has planned an exciting program which will ap-

peal to all. The first two theme speakers (to be announced when confirmed) will speak on "Indebted to the Past;" the last two will take a look into the next century discussing "Committed to the Future." Interspersed with speakers are Tweedsmuir Competition awards, historical displays, entertainment, an interfaith service and a roof top picnic. Also included in the program are information sessions on the work of the Women's Institutes in various provinces, the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada and the Associated Country Women of the World.

For those who are unable to attend the full Convention, special packages are available. Ontario Day will feature tours of the Adelaide Hoodless Homestead, the Erland Lee (Museum) Home and end with a barbecue and a birthday party. Celebration Day includes a fashion show, an historic pageant and an international dinner and program.

Spouses accompanying WI members may

The Women's Institute



For Home and Country

take part in tours of the Hamilton area. Self-guided tours of the Royal Botanical Gardens, Dundurn Castle or the Canadian Football Hall of Fame will be available. Bus tours include Brantford's Alexander Graham Bell Homestead and St. Jacob's Farmers Market and Stockyards, among others.

Registrations will be received on a first come, first served basis, until quotas are filled, or until February 28, 1997. Don't delay; order your registration form from the provincial office today. Be eligible for the early bird draw!

Mary Janes is the Director of Public Relations for the Convention '97 Committee.

Getting Counted!

Women, Unpaid Work and the 1996 Census

On May 14, Canadian women will finally be able to record all their work, paid and unpaid, in the Canadian Census of Population. Questions on household activities and family and elder care will appear in this public document for the first time. Having gained this victory, women now need to ensure that we tell Statistics Canada exactly how much work we do, where we do it, and in the case of caregiving, for whom. How will you answer these questions?

Since Statistics Canada will not be providing any information on these new questions, it will be up to women to inform themselves. Why do questions on unpaid work need to be asked? What are the limitations of the questions? What is the connection between women's unpaid and paid work? And, what will the gathering of these statistics mean to women's lives?

In preparation for Census Day, Mothers Are Women (MAW) has developed a workshop and resource kit on unpaid work, which will be available beginning March 15. The "Getting Counted" Kit is designed to help women become more aware of the



amount of unpaid work they do in the home, the community and for their families and friends. It will also help women place this work into the context of current social and economic policy and to explore the politics of unpaid work. The Kit is intended for use by both organizations and informal groups of women. The 1996 Census Questions will be included!

The cost for the "Getting Counted" Workshop Kit is \$4.50, to cover postage and handling. To order call the MAW line at (613)722-7851, or fax your request to (613)722-2867. Or, write Mothers Are Women at "Getting Counted" Workshop Kit, Box 4101, Station E, Ottawa ON K1S 5B1.

*Remember, work is work is work:
count all the work you do!*

FWIO Conference '96 - "Family and Community in Partnership"

DATES:

July 12-13, 1996

PLACE:

Ridgetown College, Ridgetown,
Ontario

THEME:

"Family and Community in
Partnership"

HOST:

Southwestern Area Women's
Institutes (Essex, Kent and Lambton
Counties)

CONFERENCE AGENDA:

See page 16 of the Winter '96 issue
of the *Home & Country* for details.

REGISTRATION:

The spaces left will be dealt with on a
first come basis. Call Eileen
LaPatourel today at (519)352-7875 to
register. Sign up now for a weekend
of fun, fellowship and information!