



## HOME & COUNTRY

*HOME & COUNTRY* is published quarterly by the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario (FWIO). *HOME & COUNTRY* has two objectives:

1. To provide educational material which cultivates more knowledgeable and responsible citizens and promotes good family life skills, leadership development and community action.
2. To provide a "communications link" among all members of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario and other related organizations.

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## Letters to the Editor:

January 16, 1995

Dear Janine:

Finally found time to read the Fall 1994 *Home & Country*. What a pleasant surprise! Packed with information re: all levels of the WI from front page to back page. Through family circumstances I could not attend the FWIC Convention in Truro, Nova Scotia, or the FWIO hosted ACWW Area Conference in Orillia. But reading the reports made me feel like being there.

We met Dr. Linda Ambrose here in Emo and your profile about her and her work was enlightening.

The highlight for me was Peggy Knapp's address at Conference '94 - Challenges in a Changing World. Having attended [my first] ACWW Triennial, first in Vancouver in 1983 as a voting delegate for FWIO, triggered my desire to attend more. So Killarney, Ireland, in 1986, Kansas City, USA, in 1989, and The Hague, Holland, in 1992, followed.

Again, through family circumstances, I regret not being able to attend the 1995 Triennial Conference in New Zealand. But expect to read reports in my treasured *Home & Country*.

Congratulations with a job well done.

Best Wishes to all for 1995.

Mrs. Tina Visser  
Emo, Ontario

December 9, 1994

Dear Janine,

On behalf of our members, I would like to express our appreciation of the super Special Fall issue. It covered so many 1994 happenings - the Grand Opening of the new office, conferences and profiles. Our President was so enthused that she made a review of this edition part of our November meeting.

We have enjoyed the new format of the *Home & Country* and look forward to many more informative issues.

Sincerely,

Irene Parliament  
Secretary-Treasurer, Castlemore WI

## A Lifetime of Women's Institute

By Ruth Kennedy

Jennie C. Hodgins attended the first meeting of the North Gower Women's Institute in 1907, as a nine-year old with her mother. Last October, she attended the final meeting at a poignant disbanding of the Branch.

Jennie's mother, Esther Seabrook, was an early President of a very active North Gower Branch of ninety members. They came from several miles around by cutter or buggy to the meetings.

After graduating from Kemptville Agricultural School, Jennie taught many short courses in cooking, sewing and crafts for the Ontario Department of Agriculture. She was generous with her talents in many organizations, foremost of which was her own WI Branch where she is a Life Member.

Jennie values the Mary Stewart Collect and feels the world would be a better place if we could all live by these precepts. Still an active, alert ninety-seven year old, she resides with her daughter and son-in-law, Lois and Orla Presley, in Ottawa.

Ruth Kennedy is a niece of Mrs. Hodgins' and the Secretary-Treasurer of the Carleton West District.