



MISS BESS McDERMAND
1934-1939

Miss Bess McDermand, B.Sc., was well qualified to become the fourth Superintendent of Ontario Women's Institutes. She came from a farm home in Elgin County and was a graduate of Macdonald Institute, Guelph and Teacher's College, Columbia University.

For a short time Miss McDermand had been on the Ontario Women's Institute staff and was assistant Superintendent of the Women's Institutes in Alberta and also on the staff of the extension service of Columbia and Cornell Universities, U.S.A.

Miss McDermand had a keen analytical mind and devoted her energies to raising the standards of homemaking to the highest level. She looked upon homemaking as a science, and the Women's Institutes as a means of furthering adult education in all that would assist women in the noble vocation of homemaking.

In the brief time from 1934 to 1939 in which she served so efficiently, the educational program of the Women's Institute was placed on a co-operative basis offering a definite outline of study in Home Economics in all its phases, and developing the members of the local Institutes by providing Local Leader Training Schools for members appointed to act as leaders with the understanding that they would conduct the local study groups. Many women in every part of the province found a new joy in homemaking and a keen desire for further knowledge.



MISS MARY A. CLARKE
1939-1945

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Miss Mary A. Clarke M.A. joined the staff as Superintendent in January 1939. To this position she brought an unusually fine personality and equally fine academic qualifications. Miss Clarke whose home was in Palmerston, Wellington County, is a graduate in Household Economics from Toronto University and holds an M.A. degree from Columbia University, New York. Up to the time of her appointment as Superintendent she taught on the staff of Macdonald Institute, Guelph.

Miss Clarke admirably guided the destiny of the Institutes through the critical war period. Through these war years which were years of much testing for Women's Institutes, Miss Clarke never wavered in holding us firmly to duty and in keeping us in remembrance of the high ideals and standards of our organization. As well as guiding the destiny of our Institutes, Miss Clarke ably acted as President of the Queen's Park War Service Guild, an organization of the women members of the Civil Service Association of Ontario.

In 1945 Miss Clarke joined the Department of Education staff as Inspector of Home Economics for the Province of Ontario. Our best wishes go with her in her work.



MISS ANNA P. LEWIS
1945-

Miss Anna P. Lewis, B.A., present Director succeeded Miss Mary A. Clarke as Superintendent in July, 1945, and already has won the hearts of all those with whom she has come in contact.

The daughter of a Women's Institute member, Miss Lewis was born on a farm near Newmarket. As a girl she was active in Junior Institute work. The help and encouragement received in this work influenced her to study Home Economics. Following graduation from the University of Toronto Miss Lewis completed her student dietitian internship at the Toronto General Hospital, her teacher training at the Ontario College of Education and has taken post-graduate work at Columbia University. She has had a successful and varied career as dietitian at the Weston Sanatorium and Cornwall General Hospital and as a teacher of Home Economics at the Vocational School, St. Thomas.

Miss Lewis has always had a fine sense of community responsibility. Since assuming office Miss Lewis has expanded the program in Home Economics education, staff salaries have been improved and under her guidance many new Institutes have been formed.

With her sincere and enthusiastic interest in Institute work, her knowledge and appreciation of rural life and her kindly understanding personality we have high hope for the future progress of our organization.

(Contributed by Miss Edith Collins)