

INTRODUCTION

This concise and pithy story of the Women's Institute movement from the facile pen of its author, Miss M. Viola Powell, will, without doubt be appreciatively received by its many interested readers, in that it portrays so clearly and definitely the many phases of Institute work.

It not only recalls to us the primary aims and objects of the organization and its many accomplishments in home and community life, but it also incidentally suggests a plan of action for future endeavour, and most assuredly it will inspire us to greater and renewed effort.

Institute work from its very early days held a special appeal for Miss Powell, and through it she foresaw a sure and definite betterment of rural conditions. A desire to assist in this work was prompted and fostered by a passionate love of Nature, a cultured and beautiful home in rural surroundings, an inordinate ability to work harmoniously with other women and an inherent love for service.

An excellent education, supplemented by earnest study and special training in recognized schools of music, art, voice culture, and Home Economics, specially qualified Miss Powell for the important Institute positions of lecturer, demonstrator, organizer and assistant superintendent—which positions she so successfully and adequately filled.

As a provincial and national officer, and as a leader