

A.C.W.W. Postage Stamp

By Ethel McCandless

On Wednesday, May 13th the Canadian Government honoured the Associated Country Women of the World with the issue of a new Five Cent Commemorative Postage Stamp.

The Federated Women's Institute of Canada arranged for the sale of 10,000 First Day Covers specially designed, featuring the F.W.I.C. badge "For Home and Country" and "LaTerre et le Foyer" at the top, and underneath the badge "Commemorating the Associated Women of the World".

Members of the Women's Institutes all over Canada, philatelists and many others had the opportunity of purchasing these covers from the National Office before May 1st. Before that date the issue was completely sold out and more covers had to be obtained. The covers were all addressed at the National Office to people all over the world.

To the little town of Stoney Creek, Ontario, went the honour of the mailing of the First Covers, it being the place where the first Women's Institute was organized by the late Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless and the late Erland Lee.

After many days and nights addressing these covers they were brought by car from Ottawa by Mrs. H. G. Taylor, National Secretary, to the home of Mrs. C. G. Hopkins, secretary-treasurer of the Stoney Creek W.I. Mrs. Angus B. Jackson, president of the Stoney Creek W.I. and Mrs. C. G. Hopkins were in charge of the tremendous job of seeing to it that the 10,000 First Day Covers and 1,000 more that arrived by other means were stamped and sent to the Stoney Creek Post Office on the day of mailing.



Design used for the postage stamp issued by the Canadian Government on May 13, 1959 in honour of the Women's Institutes, the Cercles des Fermiers and other organizations in the A.C.W.W., also to honour the Canadian women Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless and Mrs. Alfred Watt, founders of the Women's Institutes and the A.C.W.W. The stamp designed by a Toronto woman, Mrs. Helen Bacon — known in art circles by her maiden name, Helen Fitzgerald — symbolizes growth as cultivated by Country Women of individual organizations into the world association as represented by the globe. The woman and the globe are outlined in black and the tree and border are green.