



One of the programs for which the WI is well known, "Pennies for Friendship," was launched in the 1930s by Margaret Watt, a Canadian living in England. Pennies collected by members were pooled to assist with the

Mrs R. G. Purcell, FWIO President, presents a cheque for the Cockshutt tractor, destined for Greece, that the WI purchased with the proceeds of branches' "Pennies for Friendship" collections.

University of Guelph FWIO Collection

works by catering agricultural society dinners and operating food concessions at events such as ploughing matches and fall fairs. Despite their rather stereotypic tone, these efforts have proved immensely successful. As anyone who has attended an agricultural fair will attest, the local WI's tent is the best source for delicious, nutritious food.



A WI member hands over the keys for the ambulance the Institute purchased for the community of Port Dover, Ontario.

University of Guelph FWIO Collection

purchase of items of benefit to the local or world community. In the 1950s, after civil strife had rocked Greece, the WI's Pennies for Friendship drive financed the purchase of a Cockshutt tractor that was sent to assist Greek farmers to produce food for their nation. Often WI members raise funds to support their good

WI members knew that the health and well-being of young mothers and babies were not only of immediate benefit but also would have long term payoffs in terms of health care costs. Hence "Well Baby" programs in rural communities across Canada often benefited from WI support. This figured in the purchase of equipment such as baby scales as well as volunteer

The operation of portable "Well Baby" clinics was supported by many WI branches.

University of Guelph FWIO Collection

