

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES COLOURS

Royal blue and gold were chosen as Women's Institute colours because the first convention was held in 1904 in Guelph, the "Royal City", named for Queen Victoria, the reigning monarch.

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE ODE

A goodly thing it is to meet
In Friendship's circle bright,
Where nothing stains the pleasure sweet
Nor dims the radiant light.
No unkind word our lips shall pass,
No envy sour the mind,
But each shall seek the common weal,
The good of all mankind.

The first official reports of the Ode occurred between 1910-15. It is sung to the tune of "Auld Lang Syne".

THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTE GRACE

We thank Thee, Father for Thy care,
Food, friends and kindness we share;
May we forever mindful be
Of "Home and Country" and of Thee.

In 1950 the Women's Institute Grace, composed by Mrs. Clara Lintell Deakin of Ottawa Area, was accepted by the Provincial Board. It is sung to the tune of "Old Hundred".

THE MARY STEWART COLLECT

Keep us O Lord from pettiness; let us be
large in thought, in word and deed.
Let us be done with fault finding and leave
off self seeking.
May we put away all pretence and meet
each other face to face, without self pity and
without prejudice.
May we never be hasty in judgement and
always generous.
Let us take time for all things; make us grow
calm, serene, gentle.
Teach us to put into action our better impulses
straight forward and unafraid.
Grant that we may realize that it is the little
things that create differences; that in the
big things of life we are one.
And may we strive to touch and know the
great human heart common to us all, and
O Lord God let us not forget to be kind.

Miss Mary Stewart wrote the Collect as a prayer for the day. It was adopted as a "Collect for Club Women".