

About 1940 she addressed the Ontario Association of Agricultural Societies' convention in Toronto on "Flowers-- Their Arrangement and Judging." Since her death, her daughter has offered a special prize in the flower section of Tavistock Fair in memory of Laura Hansuld.

She organized a Marigold Club in the community, sponsored by Anna P. Lewis WI, for young girls to develop a love and knowledge of gardening. She also sponsored a junior stamp club for a short period.

Her sincere interest in young people--especially girls entering nursing or teachers' training and young men entering the ministry-- kept her with a youthful outlook on life.

In spite of her many activities which took her away from home, particularly in the last four years, she found time to be with her two young grandchildren and fostered in them a love of birds, flowers, music and reading.

As a young girl she sang in Bethel Methodist Church choir and her love of music continued all her life. When she was a nursing sister, she played for singsongs for the servicemen and after her marriage she accompanied many singers and played for singsongs. She introduced the Hymn of All Nations to the Women's Institutes in Ontario, having first heard it when she led a WI delegation on a trip to Wayne County, Michigan in 1949; at that meeting she spoke on the WI in Canada.

During the Second World War she served on the Old Age Pensions and Mother's Allowance Board. She was bookkeeper for her husband when he served as East Zorra road superintendent (1946-1959). She was a member of the Oxford Historical Society, the Oxford Federation of Agriculture and the Children's Aid Society.

Her birthday cards, cards of good wishes or sympathy and Christmas letters were typical of her marvellous memory and outstanding thoughtfulness and kindness. Whatever she undertook, she carried through and always with a cheerful tone. She never became too big to forget her neighbours and their's was one of the sweetest tributes-- " She was a friend indeed. She always knew what to do and did it."

She became ill on the train while enroute to Sault Ste. Marie where she was to address a meeting of Algoma Presbyterial WMS. She died in hospital there on March 27, 1961 and was buried on Good Friday. The service was held at Knox United Church, Tavistock, and was conducted by Rev. A.L. Sisco, assisted by Dr. George Birtch of Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, and Rev. Ernest Long, DD, Toronto, secretary of the General Council, United Church of Canada. Dr. Birtch's tribute follows:

" Some wise person has said ' The pain of parting is the price we pay for the joy of loving.' When we love we leave ourselves exposed to the possibility of being hurt. When death comes, it is the shattering blow to love. The deeper the love, the deeper the hurt.

" There is something poignant about the fact that this memorial service is taking place on Good Friday afternoon. On this day long ago death was seen in all its stark reality. This is not the time to dwell on the meaning of the death of Jesus except to note this-- that those who loved Him regarded it with horror. They saw it as a signal of defeat, the end of hope, the frustration of glorious plans, the victory of the crassly material over the beauty and goodness of spirit. Those who loved Him wept, and they were tears of despair.



With Mrs. Ethel A. Childs at
Leaders School, Alma College