

DEVON FEDERATION OF
WOMEN'S INSTITUTES
1921-1946



Presentation to Miss Fulford.

Calligraphy by Frances Nuttall,
Bookbinding by Katharine Drummond.

Exhibitor -

Miss Fulford,
Woodbury.



THE DEVON FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S INSTITUTES



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AND DID THOSE FEET IN ANCIENT TIME
Walk upon England's mountains green?
And was the holy Lamb of God
On England's pleasant pastures seen?

And did the Countenance Divine
Shine forth upon our clouded hills?
And was Jerusalem builded here
Among these dark Satanic mills?

Bring me my bow of burning gold!
Bring me my arrows of desire!
Bring me my spear! O clouds, unfold!
Bring me my chariot of fire!

I will not cease from mental fight,
Nor shall my sword sleep in my hand,
Till we have built Jerusalem
In England's green and pleasant land.

"Jerusalem" by William Blake

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I GIVES ME THE GREATEST PLEASURE
to write a foreword for the presentation to
our beloved Miss Fulford.

I think I have known and appreciated
her, and her work, longer than almost anyone in
the Women's Institutes in Devon, and during
the many years we worked together it was in
perfect harmony.

I am not exaggerating when I say that I believe
there is not one Devon Women's Institute that she
has not visited & that has not received the most
wonderful help & encouragement, and better still,
that to each one of them she is a personal friend.
We wish to express to her our deep gratitude for her
unselfish and untiring devotion which has won
all our hearts.

"Her ways are ways of pleasantness and all
her paths are peace."

Exeter: 26 February 1940.

Laure Guy Linton

MISS BLANCHE FULFORD

has been connected with the Women's Institute Movement in Devon from its very earliest days.

When the County Federation came into being in 1920 she was appointed on the Committee, and in November 1921 she was elected County Secretary in which capacity she has served ever since.

When she took on the County Secretaryship among the Institutes already in existence were Cullompton, Cornwood and Alphington, and in February 1920 when an Institute was formed at Woodbury Miss Fulford was elected its first Honorary Secretary.

By the summer of 1920 there were twenty Women's Institutes in Devon, among which were Exmouth Centre, Holcombe Burnell, Sidford, Bridestowe, East Budleigh and

Lympstone, and later, Princetown, Hawkchurch, Littleham and Tipton St. John formed their Institutes, to be followed by Lydford, North Petherwin and Walkhampton, the latter being dissolved in 1922.

Miss Fulford has seen the Movement grow from this small beginning until the present day when there are two hundred and thirty-three Institutes in Devon.

She has worked as a County Organiser as well as Secretary to the Devon Federation, and in addition she has undertaken the work in connection with the Secretaryship of the Women's Institutes' Organisation Sub-Committee, dealing with the organisation of new Institutes in the County, arranging for Voluntary County Organisers to attend meetings of the older Institutes, and arranging speakers' tours in Devon, all of which has entailed a

very great deal of work.
She has been a staunch and unfailing friend
of the Movement in this County, and the
Women's Institutes of Devon acknowledge
with sincere gratitude her valuable services
throughout the past twenty-five years and
unite in wishing her many years of happiness
in her retirement from her official duties.

Devon Federation of Women's Institutes
 Executive Committee
 1945-1946

Chairman: - E. M. Phillips

Vice-Chairmen: - { Lenora N. Gvine
 Eileen M. Gosney.

Acting Secretary: - Doris C. B. Earle

Hon. Treasurer: - Gaira J. Seed.

Press Correspondent: - Phyllis Walsby.

B. Smyth-Richards

J. Violet Harris

W. M. Pratt.

Catherine Bover.

Rose M. Hepburn.

E. Gladys Leonard

Co-opted: -

Toye Taverner.

Francesa Kilby

Ex-officio: -

Margaret Slessor

1. Fred M. Turner Dows.

Chairmen of Sub-Committees

Organisation and Post-War Planning	}	B. Smyth - Richards
Agriculture :-		Francesca Hiley.
Produce Guild :-		Francesca Hiley.
Handicrafts :-		Catherine Bowes.
International :-		Leonora N. Irvine
Music & Drama :-		
Preservation :-		E. Gray Bowden

Voluntary County Organisers

E. Gladys Brown
D. G. B. Earle.
Eileen M. Gosney.

Violet Harris

Grace Hope Gill

Eve L. Mattinson

Winifred M. Pratt.

B. Smyth - Richards.

G. A. Pettes

Winifred M. Turner Downs.

The Women's Institutes for which I have been so proud to write are not only splendidly useful and friendly things in themselves, but they point the way, I think and hope, to other developments which will in time help to keep the world in repair. There is much for the Institutes . . . to do while we are turning this difficult corner in history."

From "Home and Country Arts" by Professor W.R. Lethaby



This Book
was written out by
Frances Nuttall,
member of Budleigh Salterton W.I.
in the County of Devon,
and was bound by
K.R. Drummond,
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