

# Mrs Hicken Honored

*Members of the CWA of Victoria paid Mrs O. A. Hicken, of Shepparton, their highest possible honor when they elected her to honorary membership of the association at the annual meeting this week.*

Only six women have had this distinction conferred upon them previously. It is given for outstanding service to the Association, and a 95 per cent. secret vote is necessary to elect the member nominated.

Mrs Hicken is a foundation member of the Association, having been one of the three women invited by Sir Charles Merrett to a meeting at the Showgrounds in 1927 to consider the formation of a Country Women's Association. At a subsequent public meeting, she was elected to the provisional committee appointed to draw up constitution, rules and objectives.

Twice Mrs Hicken has been State president — in 1938 and 1939, and from 1945 to 1947, and she has held other executive offices. She has also been a branch president, secretary and treasurer, and was a Group president for three years. She formed 27 of the 34 branches in the Goulburn Valley area.

Mrs Hicken is to lead the Victorian CWA delegation to the ACWW conference in Copenhagen later in the year, and while in Denmark she intends to inspect highly specialised dairying areas. She has lived nearly all her life in Shepparton, and recently negotiated purchase of Mr Eric Fairley's 50-acre property, which is considered to be one of the most improved district orchards.

In the 1914-18 War Mrs Hicken served as a VAD, and went to Salonika, and during the last war she helped with patriotic work of all kinds. She is a JP, a Children's Court Magistrate, and a Probation Officer. She organised the Shepparton Baby

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