

Adelaide

Hunter Hoodless

Homestead

AS RENOVATIONS are made and furnishings added, the Adelaide Hunter Hoodless homestead becomes more and more truly a replica of Ontario farm homes of the period when Adelaide Hunter lived there — she was born in this house over a hundred years ago, in 1858.

Situated on Highway 24 one-half mile from the junction with Highway 5 and not far from the town of Paris and the village of St. George, the old white house had had many tenants after the Hunter family left it, before the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada took it over as a historical site, in memory of Adelaide Hunter Hoodless, founder of the Women's Institute movement. It was a sturdy little house but in need of considerable repair and refurbishing.

The first work done was to build front and back door stoops, remove old shrubbery that had grown wild and make a start on new planting. The lot of three acres has a grove of trees and recently the Township (South Dumfries) bought the adjoining two-acre lot which will be developed as a park. Altogether this gives the homestead a very fine site indeed. The house has been repainted entirely in white

Lace curtains drape the parlor windows. The eighteenth century grandfather's clock was a gift from the late Mrs. Hugh Summers.



The Hunter Hoodless Homestead in early spring.

—colored trim was not used one hundred years ago. And this year washrooms have been installed at the rear of the house.

Three rooms have been partially furnished. The hall opening from the front door and the stairs to the second floor are carpeted with rag carpet donated by the Women's Institutes of North Waterloo. There is a hat-rack here and the Canadian Home Economics Association is providing a lectern for the Visitors' Book — the book itself is a gift from Home Economics Service.

Points of interest in the parlor are the Axminster carpet, Franklin stove, walnut sofa, and chairs upholstered in black tapestry with a tiny rose design, two walnut and horsehair chairs, a grandfather's clock made in the eighteenth century, donated by the late Mrs. Hugh Summers, an old desk, rocker, lace curtains, some steel engravings—one of them a picture of Queen Victoria around the time of her coronation. Several pieces of furniture came from the home of Mr. and Mrs. Roberts in Paris, contemporaries of Mrs. Hoodless. And a number of articles were donated by the Hunter family, including a framed picture of Mrs. Hoodless's mother, her Dictionary, Bible and pewter candle holders.

The parlor bedroom and the girls' bedroom have beds with rope "springs" and straw mattresses—a maple four-poster in the parlor bedroom, a spool bed in the other; old-time bedroom china and old-fashioned pictures and religious mottoes. There are pieced quilts, a log cabin quilt and a crochet bedspread from the Hunter family. The "drum" in the stove-pipe in the upstairs bedroom—an old-time contrivance to increase the heat from the pipe—attracts a good deal of attention from visitors. Women are interested, too, in the wall papers in the rooms that have been done over. The furnishing committee tried to find papers of the style used on parlors and bedrooms a century ago.