



From left — Mrs. Leonard Trivers who has presented Mrs. Farquharson with a copy of the "Ontario Women Institute Story", The Honourable Wm. A. Stewart, Mrs. Austin Zoeller, Miss Helen McKercher.

## The Celebration

Over 1,600 enthusiastic members, guests and friends from all parts of Ontario gathered at the Royal York Hotel, Toronto, on February 12, 1972 to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the founding of the Women's Institutes at Stoney Creek, Wentworth County on February 19, 1897.

Mrs. H. L. Noblitt, Ottawa, President of Ontario Women's Institutes was chairman and extended a warm welcome to all present. A toast was proposed to Her Majesty the Queen followed by the Women's Institute Grace.

This was an historic occasion with head table guests including Mrs. Olive Lanyon Farquharson of England, President of the Associated Country Women of the World; Mrs. E. V. Fulton of Manitoba, President of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada; Deputy World President for A.C.W.W. Dr. Irene Spry of Ottawa; Area Vice President for Canada Mrs. J. Philip Matheson of Prince Edward Island; as well as Miss Marjorie Lee of Stoney Creek, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Erland Lee. Mrs. Farquharson, Mrs. Fulton and Mrs. D. H. Rogers representing the Stoney Creek Women's Institute, assisted Ontario President Mrs. Noblitt in cutting the birthday cake, a beautiful authentic replica of the Erland Lee Homestead, made by Mrs. Willard Gingerich of Baden, Ontario.

All attending the celebration received booklets illustrating the over one hundred greetings

and letters of congratulation that have been received on this occasion. Among them were messages from Queen Elizabeth, Prime Minister Pierre Elliot Trudeau, Prime Minister of Ontario William G. Davis, The Honourable Wm. A. Stewart, Minister of Agriculture and Food in Ontario, and many from Constituent Societies in A.C.W.W.

"How could the weather do otherwise than favour such a gathering?" said the Honourable William A. Stewart addressing the assembly. "It is impossible," continued Mr. Stewart "to measure the influence the Women's Institutes have had on the history of the people of Canada in elevating standards of homemaking, their contribution to farm organizations, their work with the 4-H Homemaking Club programs, and in so many other activities. So from the people of Ontario we thank you and congratulate you on past achievements and wish you continued success."

Mrs. Fulton, Dr. Spry and Mrs. Matheson all spoke briefly and presented congratulations from the Societies which they represented. Mrs. Austin Zoeller, past F.W.I.O. President introduced guest speaker Mrs. Olive Lanyon Farquharson, O.B.E., President of the Associated Country Women of the World.

The world president brought greetings from the A.C.W.W. Constituent Societies, likening the founding of the Women's Institute to the