

# Pioneers of Institute History



MRS. ADELAIDE HOODLESS  
Founder of the Women's Institutes



SQUIRES HALL, STONEY CREEK  
Where the First Women's Institute was Organized

## How the Institutes Began

In Squires Hall, at Stoney Creek, Ontario, pictured above, the first Women's Institute was born on February 19th, 1897.

Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless, to the left, was instrumental in organizing this pioneer Institute, from which has grown the great organization that is now celebrating its Fiftieth Anniversary.

Mr. Erland Lee co-operated with Mrs. Hoodless in planning for the first meeting at which the Women's Institute was organized. Senator E. D. Smith, along with Major Carpenter and Mr. Lee, assisted the committee of ladies in formulating the original constitution and by-laws.

Mrs. E. D. Smith was the first President, Miss M. Nash the first Secretary and Mrs. J. H. McNeilly the first Treasurer of the Mother Institute at Stoney Creek.



MR. ERLAND LEE



MAJOR CARPENTER



SENATOR E. D. SMITH



MRS. E. D. SMITH



MISS M. NASH



MRS. J. H. MCNEILLY

# Presidents of The F.W.I.O.



MRS. WILLIAM TODD  
1919-1920



MRS. G. EDWARDS  
1920-1924



MRS. FIELD ROBERTSON  
1924-1927



MRS. J. W. STONE  
1927-1929



MRS. A. E. WALKER  
1929-1932



MRS. R. B. COLLOTON  
1932-1935



MRS. T. J. MCDOWELL  
1935-1939



MRS. ERNEST DUKE  
1939-1942



MRS. CLARENCE HOLMES  
1942-1944



MRS. HUGH SUMMERS  
1944-1947

On this page, tribute is paid to the ten women who have occupied the presidency of the F.W.I.O., and who, since its inception, have given it inspired leadership.

Below are the surviving charter members of the First Institute at Stoney Creek, photographed at the Fiftieth Anniversary Banquet on February 19, 1947. Back row, left to right: Mrs. H. P. Van Wagner, Mrs. McKinley Mordon, Mrs. G. D. Conant, daughter of the first president, Mrs. B. E. Thompson, Mrs. George Miller, Mrs. Murray Neil. Seated, left to right: Mrs. J. B. Smith, Mrs. John Budge, Mrs. J. B. Davis, Mrs. G. A. Glidden, Mrs. Selby Corman and Mrs. Walter Ptolemy.

## CHARTER MEMBERS OF THE FIRST INSTITUTE

