

Guelph and while there he had heard Mrs. Hoodless deliver a stirring address on the value and need of Domestic Science being taught in Public Schools. He was much impressed and resolved that at the first opportunity, he would invite Mrs. Hoodless to address the women of Saltfleet. The following January when preparing the program for the Farmers' Institute meeting, Mr. Lee suggested that Mrs. Hoodless be invited to address the evening session when the women could be present.

The other members of the committee objected so unknown to them, he extended a personal invitation to Mrs. Hoodless to be the speaker on this occasion. She accepted the invitation and suggested ---- in the course of her address that the women form an organization for women similiar to the Farmers' Institute for men. Time was limited and the hour was late so there wasn't any time for discussion. The chairman asked how many would attend a similiar meeting the next Friday evening if Mrs. Hoodless would come to Stoney Creek. Thirty five promised. Mr. and Mrs. Lee were busy during the week arousing the enthusiasm of the women and when Mrs. Hoodless arrived in Stoney Creek on February 19th 1897, she found one hundred and one women and one man awaiting her in Squires' Hall Needless to say that one man was Mr. Lee and he kindly acted as chairman for the evening. Mrs. Hoodless again pointed out that if the men felt the need of an organization which enables them to grow better crops and to raise better livestock, surely an Institute for women would be equally helpful to them in their work and much more necessary since womens' work, homecraft and mothercraft were much more important in that it dwelt with the home and care of human beings rather than livestock.

The women sensing the importance and responsibility of their duty as homemakers, decided to organize a department of Domestic Science in affiliation with the Farmers' Institute to be called "The Womens' Department of Farmers' Institute of South Wentworth. This name was changed at the next meeting to "Womens' Institute of Saltfleet" and later