

WENTWORTH COUNTY DAY at LEE HOME

August 8, 1973

The warm wishes of the guests was surpassed only by the warmth of the summer heat as Wentworth County officers gathered at the Erland Lee Home for a Pre-opening ceremony on August 8th, 1973.

The Presidents and Secretaries of Wentworth County, along with Municipal officials, were special guests. An added pleasure was seeing Miss Marjorie Lee and Mrs. H. C. Freal, daughters of Erland and Janet Lee, mingling in the crowd.

This day was set aside mainly to show the various Council members of Wentworth how the FWIO had spent the grants so generously given, the progress made since the purchase of the property in 1972, and the proposed future use of the Drive House.

Mr. John M. Southall, Wentworth County Warden, expressed the hope that our Organization would continue with the keen interest in the Erland Lee Home, and was pleased with our progress during our first year of ownership. The Warden presented Mrs. Austin S. Zoeller, Chairman, with a cheque for \$1,000.00 for continuing operating expenses at the Home.

The Mayor of Stoney Creek, Mr. Norman Curry, has been a staunch supporter of the Home, and has worked with members of Wentworth County over the years. Mr. Curry said, "My interest in historic preservation is keen and it pleases me to know this lovely property is being preserved."

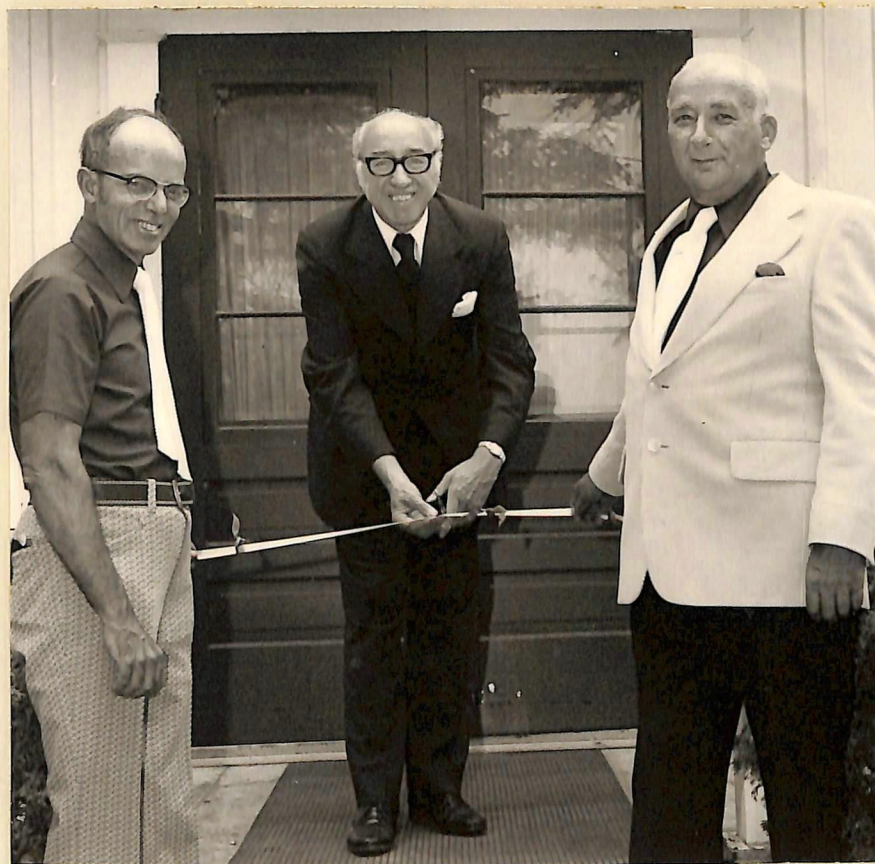
Reeve Gordon Dean, Saltfleet Township, praised the Women's Institutes for being farsighted enough to acquire the property where history was made.

"It is good to know the dining room table is still in the Home and a copy of the original Constitution has been preserved." The three Council representatives officially cut the ribbon, then all present were able to browse through the Home.

Mrs. Thos. McCreadie, President of Wentworth South District, welcomed the group, and members from nearby the Home served lunch and acted as hostesses.

Mr. Gordon Bennett, on behalf of the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food, brought greetings and expressed his thanks for being invited back to his native County, and wished us well not only at the Home but in all our Women's Institute projects.

Committee members, Miss Helen McKercher and Mrs. Wm. G. Miller were introduced and the President, Mrs. H. L. Noblitt, spoke of the strength in leadership given by the Lees since arriving in 1792.



Written by Mrs. H. L. Noblitt,
From Home and Country, Vol. 39, #3