

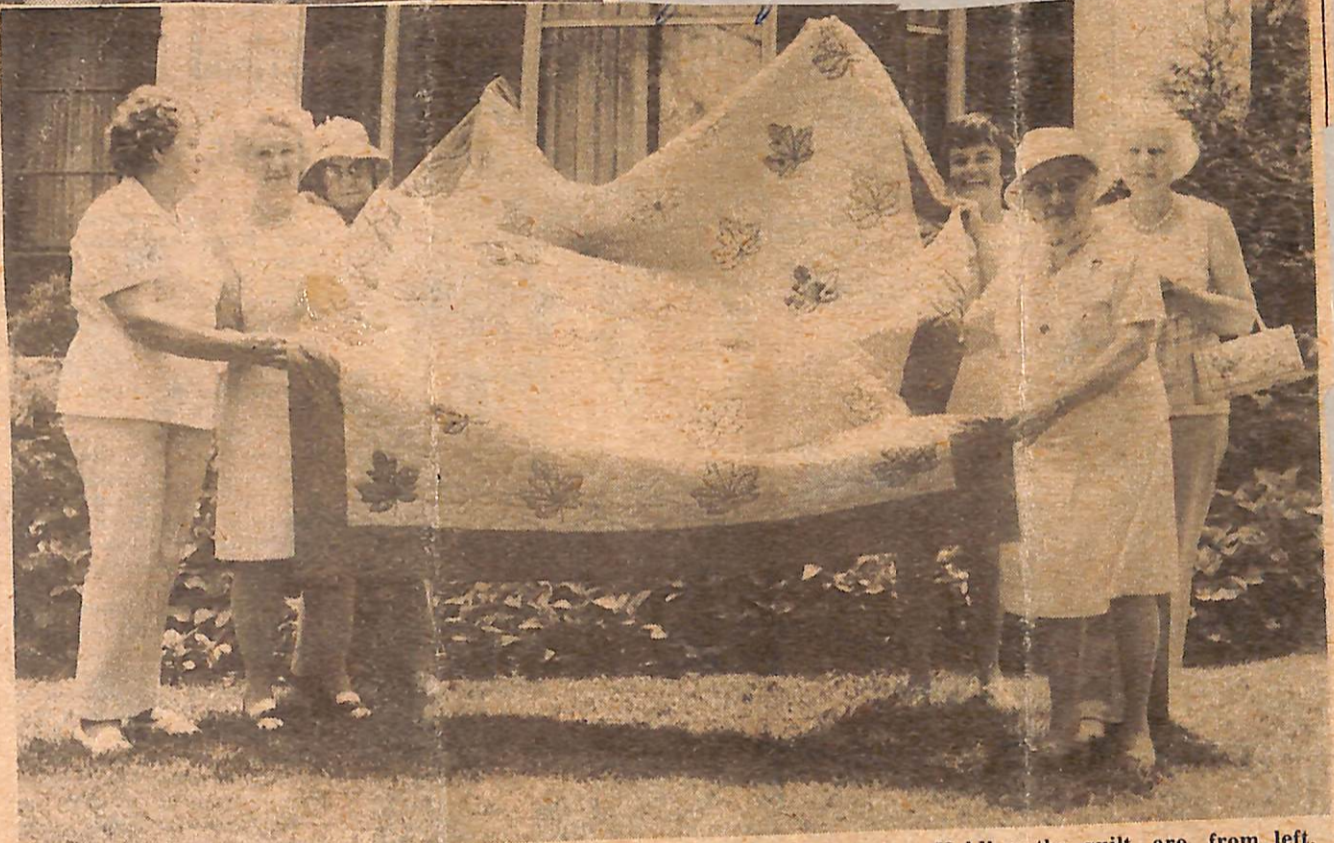


FIRST WOMEN'S INSTITUTE 1897

The world's first Women's Institute was organized at Squires Hall, Honey Creek, in 1897. Erland Lee, a founder of the Farmers Institute, assisted by his wife, arranged the meeting. About 100 women from the Saltfleet Township district attended and were persuaded by Mrs. Adelaide Hoodless to form an organization of their own to improve their skills in the arts of homemaking and child care. Here, in the Lee home, Mr. Lee subsequently helped to draft the constitution of the new society. Mrs. E. D. Smith of Winona became the first president of the "Mother Institute". The Women's Institutes movement has since become a world-wide organization.

Ontario Historical and Archaeological Board

FULFILLING A DREAM — Known as the Erland Lee Home, this small white clap-board house was acquired and officially opened to the public in 1973, seventy-nine years after the formation of the first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek. Since renovations were first started, thousands of Federated Women's Institute of Ontario members have toured the historic site. Women's Institute members provided artifacts and donations for antique furnishings and glassware, so that it might depict a typical farmstead of the period. Perhaps most significant is the antique walnut table on which the constitution of Women's Institutes was penned. Altogether, the Erland Lee Home stands as a living memorial to the co-founder of Women's Institutes, Erland Lee, and to those who pioneered the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario. — (Photo by Ontario Ministry of Agriculture and Food).



The Woodburn Women's Institute held their monthly meeting and quilt draw on the lawn of the Erland Lee Home on Thursday afternoon. The \$300 proceeds from the draw

donated to a community project. The quilt was made by the W.I. members and draw winners was Miss Elfreda Marshall of R.R.1 Caistor Centre.

Holding the quilt, are, from left, Mrs. S. Marshall, Mrs. V. Beacham, Mrs. A. Kirby, Mrs. L. Mitchell, Mrs. J. McEvoy and Mrs. M. Kelly.

SC. News/June/76

by EVANGELINE PHILIP

Woodburn Women's Institute held their June meeting, Thursday afternoon, June 10, at the Lee Homestead. Twenty-five members and eight visitors enjoyed a pot-luck dinner with Mrs. Beacham, hostess of the Lee Home, as our guest. After lunch a short business meeting was conducted by the president Mrs. Lorne Mitchell. The Maple Leaf quilt draw was made with Miss E. Marshall holding the lucky ticket, also the lovely sofa cushion draw was won by Mrs. S. Marshall. Other business included an announcement that the W.I. who are celebrating their 75th anniversary, June 17. The July meeting will be at Mrs. Craig Switzer's home where a pool party will be enjoyed on July 8. of St. George's displayed. Mrs. Hester demonstrated the skill of Owen Sound Wilson of Mrs. Edna Smith crans; Mrs.

