

Here was organized a Women's Department of Domestic Economy in affiliation with the Farmer's Institute of South Wentworth. The officers elected were:

Hon. President - - - -Mrs. John Hoodless  
President - - - - - Mrs. E. D. Smith  
Secretary - - - - - Miss Nash  
Treasurer - - - - - Mrs. J.H. McNeilly

The first regular meeting was held the following Thursday, February 25th when the name of the Society was changed to the Women's Institute of Salt Fleet. This name was later changed to the Stoney Creek Women's Institute when another institute was formed in the township.

Six days after the organization of the first Institute a constitution was adopted which reads as follows: "The object of this Institute shall be to promote that knowledge of household science which shall lead to the improvement in household economics, home sanitation, value of foods and fuels and to a more scientific care of children with a view of raising the general standard of the health of our people."

At a meeting two weeks after organization and the adoption of the constitution, it was decided that the meeting should be opened by repeating the Lord's Prayer in unison. It was also decided to have a roll call at each meeting. A paper was given "Proper Food for Children", followed by discussion. These topics and discussions show that the women were working on Health and Child Care. A second paper "The Child in Health and Disease" was also followed by a discussion. This work later extended beyond the home into the schools and community at large.

Very soon after organization, these pioneer members began to realize the value of their society to themselves and to their families, and wishing to spread the gospel of the Women's Institute they began to write papers and articles for four different Agricultural publications.

In 1899, Mrs. Hoodless expressed her wish that the Women's Institute ask the Government to make provision for the scientific education of women by establishing a women's department at the Ontario Agricultural College, where women might take special courses in subjects pertaining to home-making

She approached Sir Wm. MacDonald of Montreal and interested him to the extent that he contributed the sum of \$200,000 toward the erection of