

a building at Guelph, for the training of the rural girls in home-making and household science, which is known as MacDonald Institute. Many hundreds of rural women and girls have taken advantage of the training thus made available at moderate cost. MacDonald Hall at Guelph O.A. C. was completed in 1904.

Laura Rose Stephen was the first government speaker and she adopted the motto "For Home and Country". The second institute was organized at Whitby, just four months after the one at Stoney Creek. Thus Stoney Creek is the Mother of all institutes and is still functioning after fifty-five years.

Here then is the origin of birth, the customary opening and closing of monthly meetings including roll calls, mottos, also the authority of an annual fee of 25¢, to be used in the continuance of the work.

Any rural homemaker regardless of class, creed or politics, who evidenced a desire and interest to increase her knowledge and efficiency as a homemaker and citizen, was welcomed to membership in her local institute, which is known as the Branch Institute. Soon there were so many Branch Institutes formed that they thought it advisable to form the District groups and establish an educational program and develop leaders within the District. Each Branch has a representative known as a District Director. These District Directors are of great importance as they link the local branches with the District body. The branches within the District contribute to the financial well-being of the District. The first institute convention was held in Guelph in 1903.

The membership had grown to number 4,500. This led in 1916 to the election of a Provincial Board. This Board consists of a President and a Provincial Director from each convention area.

At the time of organization the women asked for three things. 1st - Government Supervision; 2nd - Monetary aid in the form of grants; 3rd - Educational material in free literature and by means of lectures. These requests were granted and have been continued throughout the fifty-five years. Free instruction courses in cookery and food values were conducted. Nursing and first aid classes were given. From these