

Demorestville Women's Institute

Scrapbook

County of Prince Edward Archives



MRS. ADELAIDE HOODLESS

*Founder of the Women's Institutes*

*for Province of Ontario*

*Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 1897*

## 5,000 Women Meeting in Guelph To Mark Institute's 50th Year

Guelph, June 18—More than 5,000 women are meeting here today at the 50th anniversary celebration of the Women's Institutes of Ontario, a rural organization founded in Stoney Creek by a small group of women on the inspiration of Mrs. Adelaide Hunter Hoodless and which has grown into an international organization with hundreds of thousands of members.

Many of the pioneer women leaders are attending and guests include Lieut.-Governor Ray Lawson, Premier Drew and Chancellor George P. Gilmour of McMaster University.

A historical pageant depicting the growth of the institutes was presented.

In a message of congratulations Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth said: "The opening of the Stoney Creek Women's Institute in 1897 is a landmark in the history of rural life and I know of the thankfulness of my fellow members for their institutes. Besides those in Great Britain, I have lately seen members in South Africa and Rhodesia enjoying the opportunities for service, mutual help, education and fun which membership brings and which we owe to the Stoney Creek women."

**World-Wide Jam . . .** A hundred Canadian farmers' wives met in a small Ontario village 52 years ago to swap jam and jelly recipes, little realizing they were starting a world-wide association. But the little meeting at Stoney Creek was the foundation of a vast organization now known as the Associated Country Women of the World, with a membership of 5,500,000.

\*\*\*