



The Northlight Studio

Photo  
of Mrs Hoodless

### *The Hoodless Homestead in summertime.*

The Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead was purchased by the FWIC in 1959 and restored as a memorial to Adelaide Hoodless, the founder of the Women's Institute movement in Ontario and Canada.

In early February 1897 Mrs Hoodless gave an address on "Mutual Helpfulness Gained by Women Meeting Together" to Farmers' Institute members and their wives at the Agricultural College in Guelph. Mr and Mrs Erland were so impressed that they, along with Adelaide Hoodless worked out a constitution and laid out such a fine foundation that very little has changed.

One week later February 19, 1897 Mrs Hoodless was the guest speaker at a meeting in Stoney Creek where the first Women's Institute in the world, was organized. The Motto, For Home and Country was chosen by Mrs Hoodless and is now a world-girdling motto.

The Adelaide Hunter Hoodless Homestead is located near the Village of St. George on Blue Lake Road (South Dumfries Concession 3) one kilometer west of the junction of Highways 24 and 5 East. The Homestead is surrounded by three acres of beautifully landscaped parkland and picnic sites. It is open to the public at appointed times and group tours are welcome.

**I**t is nice to see WI members taking care of their own organization.

Donations have started coming in for the utility building and redecorating projects. A separate bank account has been opened, so your cheques should be made payable to the *FWIC Utility Building Fund*. (A record is kept of every donation received and whether it is designated for the utility building or paint and wallpaper.)

The local committee can now begin redecorating in readiness for centennial celebrations in 1997. And let's hope we will have enough money to build the shelter and washrooms in 1996 without going into debt.

\$ 500.00

Prince Edward District WI, Ontario \*

Federated News  
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### **Happenings at the Home**

Last July, approximately 70 guests enjoyed an Old Fashioned Seniors' Picnic organized by summer student Marsha Dawdy under the supervision of Curator-Hostess Sue Doiron.

Activities included an antique fire engine display as well as ceramic, woodworking and needlework exhibits. Gay Nineties entertainment was enjoyed by all. The men made use of horseshoe pits installed by the St. George Lion's Club, and Mr. George Barker of St. George donated a scoreboard which he made for the occasion.

Volunteers of the St. John's Ambulance Brigade kept an eye on all participants. A door prize was donated by local potter Vaughn Stuart, and Mr. Short from the local food market provided watermelon for everyone.

A special tree dedication ceremony was held on October 21 to commemorate the original WI committee members who were responsible for purchasing the Homestead property in 1959. A locust was planted to honour Mrs. Nellie Charleton; a sugar maple for Mrs. Gertrude Hunt, and a white pine for Mrs. Alice Nixon.

Mrs. Nellie Charleton, the only living member of the original committee, was in attendance to hear addresses by Joyce Nelles, local committee chairman, and Peggy Knapp, FWIO president, who represented FWIC at this important ceremony.

Each year Sue Doiron does a superb job of decorating the Home for Christmas in keeping with the period that Adelaide lived there. Branches that are close enough hold their Christmas parties there.

In February Sue organizes a Birthday Tea which is always well attended.

M. Calnan.