

W.I. Celebrates 100 Years



The Wellington, Consecon and Hillier branches of the Women's Institute gathered at the Hillier Township Hall last Wednesday, February 19, 1997 to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Women's Institute. The

organization began February 19, 1897. Pictured here is several members of the organization from Wellington, Consecon, Bloomfield and Hillier. Some of the members from the P.E.C. Women's Institute are shown in the photo during their Anniversary event. Front Row L to R: Ruth Crawford, Flossy Tripp, Grace Clements, Audrey Darling, Reta Gage, Doris Wright, Peggy Burris. Back Row: Marion Walt, Rena Cunningham, Violet Coghlan, Mabel Wright, Phillis Wight, Ethel Broadbridge and Lorena Best.

County W.I.s Celebrate one hundred years of dedication

All of the Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario lit a candle on Wednesday as they celebrated the 100th Anniversary of Women's Institutes.

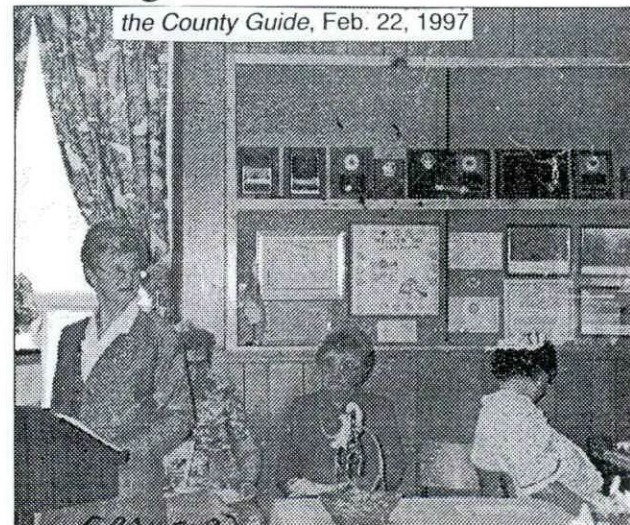
For almost a century the FWIO has been dedicated to the idea that women working together can improve living conditions for their families, their communities and the world. Initially formed under the auspices of the Farmers' Institute in 1897, the Women's Institute soon lobbied to take control of their own organization.

Over the years, they have worked for things like pasteurization of milk, painting of white lines on provincial highways, and clear markings on poison containers as well as formation of Brock University and Macdonald Institute at the University of Guelph.

Celebrations in the County included those at Cherry Valley, in Ameliasburgh, in Demorestville and in Hillier.

The Hillier meeting included the W.I.'s of Wellington, Consecon and Bloomfield.

Ruth Cooper led the



Ruth Cooper led the Women's Institute Anniversary meeting at Hillier Township Hall on Wednesday. Consecon, Wellington and Bloomfield W.I.s joined in.

meeting, with representatives of the various groups handling different aspects of the celebration.

Dr. Margaret Cahoon recalled that after World War II, there was approximately \$10,000 that had been donated to the Red Cross that the County was entitled too.

"Women's Institute members packed County Council to ensure that this money was used to set up the Prince Edward County Health Unit", she said. "A few years later, Council

discussed closing the Health Unit, and again W.I. members packed the chambers."

Dr. Cahoon went on to express concern at the recent provincial government downloading of responsibility for health units to the municipalities

"We may have to challenge them again", she says. "And we may need to mobilize to save our rural hospitals. The challenges are greater than the ones we've already met."



Oops, we goofed big-time. The person identified as Ruth Cooper in last week's article about Women's Institute anniversary celebration's was, of course, Ruth Crawford. Mrs. Crawford says she received a very nice phone call from Wayne Cooper, however, welcoming her to THE CLAN