

ST. GEORGE, Where, Out Of A Woman's Grief**The W.I. was BORN****"IDEA THAT TOOK ROOT WORLD OVER"**

St. George - Tonight in hundreds of rural communities around the world, women are gathering to profit from an idea born of a St. George woman's grief.

The woman - Adelaide Hunter Hoodless

The idea - Women's Institutes

Mrs. Hunter-Hoodless was born in this village 57 miles west of Toronto in 1858, and lived to know that her name was on the lips of countrywomen everywhere. Adelaide (known as Addie) was the youngest of thirteen children. She married John Hoodless, a successful Hamilton businessman, and the couple had four children, one of whom, John Harold, died at the age of 18 months from drinking impure milk. Mrs. Hoodless felt responsible and resolved to save other mothers the anguish she had suffered by placing homemaking knowledge within the reach of all women. She decided that the best way to do this would be for the women to meet regularly, listen to speakers, and exchange domestic information helpful to themselves and their families.

In 1897 Erland Lee, a member of the Farmers' Institute of Stoney Creek, invited Mrs. Hoodless to address the wives of his group and the Women's Institutes were launched.

Mrs. Hoodless became a campaigner for the teaching of domestic science in schools. Thanks to her considerable powers of persuasion Sir William MacDonald, the tobacco magnate, established schools of household science at MacDonald Institute, Guelph, and in conjunction with the Agricultural College at St. Anne de Bellevue. To help mothers ~~WIFE~~ who were beyond school attendance she envisioned courses in the domestic arts in their own communities.

This was the Women's Institute,

an organization which grew from its birthplace at Stoney Creek to take root all over Canada, the United States, Great Britain, and eventually to produce the world encompassing ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD.

Mrs. Hoodless was the author of a book on Domestic Science, published in 1898. The book was far ahead of its time, with its caloric charts, chemical analyses, and emphasis on sanitation and nutrition and the importance of meat, fruit and fresh vegetables in the diet.

A stone cairn dedicated to the memory of this remarkable woman, stands at the junction of Highways 5 and 4 just outside the village of St. George. The Institute there is making plans to have Mrs. Hunter-Hoodless home preserved as a Historic Site.



Here was born the woman who's idea to get women living in country districts to meet regularly led to Women's Institutes—an idea that has spread around the earth. The local Institute plans to have Mrs. Hunter-Hoodless' home preserved as a historic site.