

The influence of Adelaide Hoodless did not stop with a movement which spread from "sea to sea" in Canada and the United States. This movement so rich, so vast in its possibilities for good to humanity, could not be confined to one continent. The passing of the years have seen it spread throughout the world, or as we might say "to the ends of the earth". This idea carried to the British Isles, to the Scandinavian Countries, Holland, France, Germany, New Zealand, Australia, India, Ceylon, and other countries in Asia, and Africa. In 1933 the International Organization was formed, the Associated Country Women of the World. Now the ACWW comprises Institutes and similar organizations of country women in 108 countries, states and provinces.

For Advanced Training

Mrs. Hoodless influenced Mrs. Massey-Treble to establish the Lillian Massey School of Domestic Science in Toronto, which later became the Household Science Department of the University of Toronto.

She received international recognition for her work and was picked by a British publication as its "Most Distinguished Woman of the Year".

In 1908 Mrs. Hoodless was commissioned by the Minister of Education of Ontario to visit and report on the Trade Schools recently established in the United States.

In 1909 the Director of the Carnegie Technical Schools asked her to inspect their work in the United States and report on this with recommendations.

Mrs. Hoodless wished to establish a course in Household Science at some University to qualify still further workers. The government was not willing to commit itself to added expenditure, so Mrs. Hoodless set out on her own to get the capital. I quote from another author the happenings of that fateful evening: "On the eve of her 52nd birthday, she was scheduled to speak at a meeting of the Federation of Women's Clubs in Massey Hall, Toronto: 'My head is splitting' she complained to her daughter, Muriel, at dinner, 'I can't drive the car tonight'. 'Bernard will take you', her daughter reassured her.

Despite her bad headache, she gave an inspired speech, which resulted in the subsequent founding of the Lillian Massey School of Household Science in Toronto. Half-way through her talk, while her audience was enthusiastically applauding, Adelaide Hoodless, smiling, sipped some water. Suddenly the crash of a glass was heard, and she fell to the floor, lifeless. She had given her life for her countrywomen". Her plea was not in vain for today we can see the results of her hard struggle for Technical Education for Women.

Records and Tributes

There are a few interesting facts concerning Mrs. Hoodless gleaned from letters received from relatives and friends, and also from newspaper clippings of her day.

Her granddaughter, Miss Muriel Bostwick, of Hamilton, Ontario, tells me this story: "When Mrs. Hoodless became engaged she said to her clergyman . . . 'Here I am, a strong Presbyterian and a Whig, planning to marry a man who is not only an Anglican but a Tory. What shall I do?' He replied, 'My dear, you can be a good Christian in any church, but stick to your politics'. Apparently she did, for the Hoodlesses attended the Anglican church in Hamilton, but they each stuck to his own politics".

We are also told that in her capacity as a lecturer she was one of the first women, if not the first, to be employed by the Ontario Government. She was on an annual salary as a lecturer and instructor toward the end of her life.

A clipping from the Toronto Globe and Mail at the time of her death in 1910, at the age of 52, states: "She was one of the most widely known educationists in Canada and scarcely less known in the United States". As an educationist Mrs. Hoodless was years ahead of her time. Many years ago, in an article on "New Methods of Education", she wrote: "The traditional idea of emphasizing the classics as a basis of all culture is a difficult one to combat. At the present day there is conflict between the idea of personal freedom and the organization of the social life. One writer says: 'The ultimate development of personal freedom leads to anarchy, and the final development of organization is socialism'. What must be done is to develop to the fullest extent the two great social forces, education and organization, so as to secure for each individual the highest degree of advancement".

We have been fortunate in obtaining a portion of an early History of Ontario, printed about 1905, which gives interesting facts about the lives of John and Adelaide Hoodless. I quote: "There is no man who occupies a more enviable position in business and financial circles in Hamilton than John Hoodless, not alone by reasons of the success which he has achieved, but also owing to the straightforward, honourable methods he has ever followed. His life record shows that success is not a matter of genius, as held by many, but is the outcome of clear judgment, experience and close application. Mr. Hoodless is one of Hamilton's native sons, born on the 14th of March, 1854. Reared in the city of his nativity, John Hoodless passed through successive grades in the Hamilton public and high schools prior to entering upon a college course. He left school at the age of twenty years and entered into partnership with his father, who was