

WHAT IS A HOUSE LOG?

HOUSE LOGS Federated Women's Institutes of Ontario

People in Ontario would be wise to make a HOUSE LOG. Still it is found that many of our Women's Institute members, and therefore many outside the organization, have still never heard of the project.

Being a custom in many parts of Europe, it is one which would have helped many of us in the accumulation of data regarding homes, families, and even farms, throughout Ontario.

All that is needed is a simple substantial notebook. Or you might wish to have something much more sophisticated such as a book with wooden covers. However, the contents would be the same:

Location of the house - Lot, concession, township, county

Pictures of the various houses on the property through the years, or "before and after" pictures of same (porches, added or removed, picture-windows installed, etc.)

Name of designer and builder.

When built.

Size of the building or buildings.

Materials used.

Early floor plan with later plans showing changes.

The various families who have owned and lived in the house, with dates of births, marriages and deaths.

Subsequent changes in water systems, lighting, heating, communication, etc.

The HOUSE LOG is chained to something in the house, where it would always remain throughout future times, with any subsequent families filling in the details during their sojourn. (Chain it to a stair bannister)

We find some farm folk who prefer to call these records, HOUSE AND FARM LOGS and in these they inject pertinent bits re the farm-acreages, weather, special crops, purebred herds, equipment, and any other relevant data.

Why not have a contest in the various Districts throughout Ontario to see which Branch could get the most LOGS begun during the year? Do let folk outside the Women's Institute start them also.