



ADELAIDE HOODLESS
by Ethel Chapman

When the Associated Country Women met in Copenhagen this September, 1950, tribute was paid-as it is at all assemblies of this international body-to the name of Adelaide Hoodless, the Canadian woman who founded the first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, Ontario, and so started a movement that has spread pretty well around the world. There are now women's institutes in every province of Canada, in Great Britain, Belgium, France, New Zealand, South Africa and India; and no doubt the institute idea has propted the formation of some other groups that go to make up the world's organized country women.

It must have taken the courage of a pioneer, fifty years ago, to launch an educational movement for women who were right in the thick of their heaviest family responsibilities, most of them farm women with all that implies in the way of limited leisure time. And certainly it took a pioneer's vision to lay plans so sound that the objectives are still adaptable to changing conditions, the program still attracting women after half a century.