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(Mrs. John) Adelaide Hoodless.

The world's first Women's Institute was organized in 1897 at Stoney Creek, Ontario by Adelaide Hunter Hoodless.

Mrs. Hoodless was one of thirteen children of Mr. and Mrs. David Hunter of Brant County. Her brothers were university men and she grew up in a home of culture and uncompromising Presbyterian ethics.

Loss of her first child, whose death at eighteen months was attributed to lack of knowledge with regard to proper infant feeding, was a dominant factor in Mrs. Hoodless's desire to bring within reach of all, the education necessary to prevent such tragedies. She approached the Department of Education urging that the rudiments of homemaking be taught in the public schools. But she received no encouragement.

Her first step forward came when Erland Lee asked her to address a meeting of the Farmer's Institute at Stoney Creek. There she discussed the value of domestic science and sewing instruction in schools and, finding women interested, suggested the formation of an organization for women along these lines.

The outcome was the organization meeting of the Stoney Creek Women's Institute on February 19, 1897.

Mrs. Hoodless's plans for the Women's