

# Ontario Women's Institutes



GEORGE A. PUTNAM,  
SUPERINTENDENT



PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS, TORONTO

## A Fitting Memorial

A LETTER to the secretaries of branch institutes has been sent out by Mr. George A. Putnam, to the following effect:

Dear Madam:—You will note from the circular letter enclosed herewith and prepared by the district Women's Institute of South Wentworth, that it was decided by the delegates at the annual Provincial Convention of the Institutes held in Toronto on Nov. 16th and 17th last, that the Institute members throughout the province would be asked to contribute to a fund to be devoted to procuring a memorial in honor of the late Mrs. Hoodless. We heartily approve of the action taken by the delegates in this matter, and trust that the Institutes will respond heartily to the appeal made. It will not, of course, be necessary for the individual to give much in order to make a large total.

It has been suggested that the funds on hand after a suitable portrait has been secured, be devoted to the establishment of a scholarship at the Macdonald Institute and prospects are that there will be a surplus which can be devoted to this worthy object.

Will you please send your contributions, preferably by money order or express order, to Miss Clara M. Walker, Stoney Creek. We would suggest that this matter be placed before the January or February meeting, and members requested to hand their contributions to the secretary or to some other person chosen by the society, not later than the end of February.

The annual report for 1910, as well as a bulletin descriptive of the work being done by the Superintendent of Neglected Children, are now ready for distribution, and will at once be mailed to all members.

It is most gratifying to the department to note the continued interest on the part of the women throughout the whole of the province in the Institute, and the excellence of the work which is being done.

The following quotation from the circular regarding the memorial will be interesting to all who are concerned in the development of Women's Institutes.

At the annual convention of Women's Institutes of Ontario, held in Convocation Hall, Toronto University, on November 16th and 17th, 1910, Mrs. C. E. Horning, District President of South Wentworth, in a short address, spoke of a memorial to the late Mrs. Hoodless, the founder of this vast work, which



SOME MEMBERS AT CHATSWORTH  
Photograph by Mabel Merriam.

stands for home and country. Mrs. Horning presented the subject, as follows:

"We feel that at this convention it is most fitting to bring before this very large body of representatives of Women's Institutes of Ontario the matter of a memorial to the late Mrs. Hoodless. The lesson of patriotism repeats itself in the history of the little village of Stoney Creek, where the battlefield commemorates the heroism of Laura Secord, and to that same village is given the honor of starting the Women's Institute. As we note this vast assembly of women, gathered here to represent the work of uplifting and bettering the conditions that surround our rural life; as we see the faces of so many intelligent women, we think of the words of the poet who said, 'Dying, let us leave behind us footprints on the sands of Time, footprints that perhaps another, seeing, may take heart again.' For surely we have footprints multiplied as we remember that it was Mrs. Hoodless who organized the first Women's Institute at Stoney Creek, February 25th, 1897, and who, to the last hour of her life, was doing something to raise the standard of women. Think of that first organization and compare it with the 600 organizations of 16,000 members reached to-day under the able leadership of our Superintendent, Mr. Putnam, and we feel truly that every woman will join us in voting to place a memorial in Macdonald Institute to the one who first suggested and organized the first Women's Institute."

I submit the following report.

In June, 1910, at the annual meeting of the South Wentworth Women's Institute, a committee was appointed, consisting of Mrs. F. M. Carpenter, Mrs. Erland Lee, Mrs. J. H. McNeilly, Mrs. E. D. Smith, Miss M. Nash, together with the district president and secretary, to formulate a plan whereby a sum of money might be raised to procure a memorial of the late Mrs. John Hoodless, of Hamilton, who at a meeting of the Farmers' Institute on the 9th of February, 1897, suggested and urged that a Women's Institute be formed. On her proposal it

was decided to have a meeting the following week to discuss the matter. At that meeting Mrs. Hoodless so ably showed the benefits likely to be derived from such meetings of women that the first Women's Institute in Canada was formed and officers elected that day, Mrs. Hoodless becoming honorary president. A committee was formed to frame a constitution and by-laws for the Institute, which were presented and adopted at the next meeting, the membership for that year being eighty-six.

Mrs. Hoodless gave her personal attention and greatly aided in making it a success during the intervening years between its formation and affiliation with the Farmers' Institute. Also, until her death, she took a deep interest in the welfare of the same.

The committee consider that the most appropriate thing to do, that is within their power, is to ask the Women's Institutes of Ontario, at the annual meeting in November, 1909, to vote a request that each Women's Institute in Ontario will contribute a sum to make a fund with which to purchase an oil portrait of Mrs. Hoodless to be hung up in the Macdonald Institute, Guelph, recording on it the fact that she was the founder of Women's Institutes in Canada.

- MRS. F. M. CARPENTER.
- MRS. ERLAND LEE.
- MRS. J. H. McNEILLY.
- MISS M. NASH.
- MRS. E. D. SMITH.
- MRS. C. E. HORNING, the District President of Wentworth.
- MISS CLARA M. WALKER, District Secretary.

The resolution was adopted at the convention that each branch should collect from its members whatever sum each one should be willing to give. This matter is to be attended to at the earliest convenience of each branch.

## On Typhoid Fever

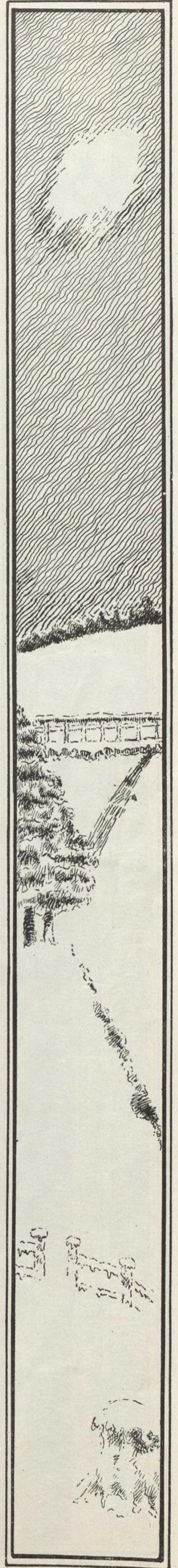
MRS. CHARLES HANCOCK, a graduate of the Ottawa General Hospital, read the following paper at the November meeting of the Starkville branch of the Women's Institute:

At the present time when the subject of typhoid fever is attracting so much attention, it may be helpful to spend a few moments in studying the subject of typhoid under the headings: 1st, What it is; 2nd, How it is contracted; 3rd, How it should be treated. In preparing my subject I have borrowed largely from text-books used in my hospital training; also from lectures on the subject given by one of Ottawa's cleverest physicians, Dr. Robert A. Kennedy.

1. What it is.—Typhoid fever, sometimes called enteric fever or bowel fever, is an acute infectious disease, caused by a certain germ called Eberth's bacillus. In point of seriousness it ranks high in the list of fatal diseases, of which tuberculosis easily comes first, with pneumonia and typhoid making a close race for second place. The disease lasts three or four weeks, and is characterized by diarrhoea, inflammation and ulceration of the small intestines, especially of the Peyers patches; a rose-colored eruption on the abdomen, and enlargement of the spleen. It prevails in the late summer and autumn months, and is more common in youth and early adult life. It very seldom occurs in persons under fifteen years of age, and very few cases are on record of persons over forty contracting it.

2. How it is contracted.—The sources of infection in order of importance are (1) the stools or bowel movements of the one affected; (2) water; (3) milk; (4) soil. Filth, bad sewers, cesspools, etc., are not in themselves sources of infection. Germs must be present, and these favor their growth. It is universally admitted to come under the list of dirt diseases and as such, is largely preventable if proper attention is paid to certain very important details. This germ flourishes wherever filth is found, and only by the strictest care in removing and disinfecting all such can the spread of the disease be prevented, provided it once gains a foothold. It is estimated that at the very lowest figure at least 30 per cent. of the disease germs are carried by flies from sources of contagion, to our dwellings and over the food, it is milk, etc., that we consume. By properly screening our homes and by carefully covering all food from flies much of this could be prevented. It is a safe practice during the fever season to boil all water used for drinking purposes, as by this means any germs that may be present are destroyed. Strawberries, etc., grown on land fertilized with infected night soil sometimes carry the germs, so that it is wise always to carefully wash all such before using. Oysters fattened in streams polluted by sewers and infected water mains sometimes carry the disease, but as the majority of us use our oysters cooked, we need not be afraid to indulge our taste along that line. The invasion of the disease is slow, the incubation period lasting usually from a week to fourteen days. In the epidemic last summer, however, the incubation period seems to have been much longer, as much as six weeks in some cases elapsing between the exposure to infection and the development of the disease. The prodromal symptoms are constant headache day and night, aching of the limbs and back, a dull tired feeling, chilly sensations, loss of appetite and frequent nose-bleed. The face is flushed and the eyes bright. During the first week there is a gradual and progressive rise of temperature, that in the evening being higher on each successive day by a degree or two until the eighth day, when it usually reaches about 104, and there remains with but slight variations during the second week. During this time the face is dull and heavy, the abdomen is covered with a rose-colored eruption, diarrhoea and frequently delirium are present, while the patient is dull and slightly deaf. During the third

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H. ARDNER