

## Parade Float on Pioneer Life

Mrs. Percy MacMullen, Public Relations Representative of River Valley Institute, in West Hastings, sends this description of the Institute float in the Stirling Centennial Parade.

"The float representing 'Home and Country' featured a home of one hundred years ago. The crowded pioneer kitchen contained iron pots, flat irons for laundry, a reel for homemade yarn, a splint broom, guns, a fall-leaf table, old pictures, candles and oil lamps. Strings of dried apples took the place of today's modern canning and bunches of dried catnip were preserved as a first aid medicine. Members dressed in keeping with the time demonstrated such activities as churning with a dash churn, washing with tubs and washboard and homemade soap, 'working' and 'printing' butter, cooking over a wood stove. Grandma in her rocking chair had her place in the activities of the home, helping with the children — there was a baby in a homemade cradle and another child in a high chair, tied with a diaper.

"Back of the kitchen was the parlor with its quaint organ where members wearing lovely, old-fashioned dresses sang old-time songs.

"The house had a thatched roof and the outside walls were hung with an ox-yoke, guns, wooden hay forks and other tools of the pioneer. By the door was a flower bed filled with marigolds. Crowded? Yes. So were pioneer homes; but love, activity and usefulness were contagious.

"At the rear of the truck the 'Country' part of the Institute motto was depicted. Here there was a Queen on a throne surrounded by representatives of army, air force, navy and Boy Scouts, with a Union Jack flying in the breeze and a Women's Institute member representing Father Time. Over all was the River Valley Women's Institute banner and crest and a Home and Country banner, showing to the hundreds of spectators that the Institute marches on."

## At Millinery Courses

Following are some notes from reports of instructors in Millinery in Home Economics Extension Service:

"A woman who had taken a course in millinery gave a television demonstration on making a hat and did a wonderful job." Following another course several of the women appeared on television, blocking, making, covering and trimming hats.

"One member of the class does sewing for bridal parties and was very grateful for what she learned that would help in making head-dresses."

"The class members plan to buy a block and continue working as a group."

"When the committee found that some women they had counted on were not coming to the class they phoned around to other Institutes and got enough to make up the required number."

"One member of the class was over eighty and had recently had an operation for eye trouble.

In spite of this she made a hat without glasses and is looking forward to making hats for her grandchildren."

"This was a non-Institute class but probably the most enthusiastic I had ever seen and the most determined to make the most of their opportunities."

"This class was held in a home which was comfortable but rather crowded. The hostess was one of the most enthusiastic members, making hats for herself, her daughter and other relatives. Her husband shared her enthusiasm and didn't seem to object to having the home taken over for the class so long as he had a corner in which to eat. He seemed to have quite good taste and expressed his opinion freely."

## National and International Awards

Following are the awards made in the F.W.I.C. Tweedsmuir Competitions:

### Tweedsmuir Histories:

1. Angus Ridge Women's Institute, Alberta
  2. Noel Shore Women's Institute, Nova Scotia
- Honourable Mention: Huntington Women's Institute, Quebec

### Cultural Project:

*(Words and Music for a Song)*

1. Sanford Women's Institute, Manitoba
  2. Glen Bain and Winnabel Homemakers' Clubs, Saskatchewan
- Honourable Mention: Pense Homemakers' Club, Saskatchewan

### Handicraft:

*(A Book of Quilt Blocks)*

1. Coutts Women's Institute, Alberta
  2. West End Women's Institute, Ontario
- Honourable Mention: Pense Homemakers' Club, Saskatchewan

### Citizenship Essay:

*"How Can I Train My Child to be a Citizen of the World?"*

1. Mrs. R. R. Bonsteel, Bethany Women's Institute, Ontario
2. Mrs. Frank Wilson, Cavagnal Women's Institute, Quebec
3. Mrs. Hugo Polak, Millgrove Women's Institute, Ontario

### A.C.W.W. Essay:

*"Things My Grandmother Told Me"*

There was no national competition in this essay. Winning essays from each province were sent to the A.C.W.W. Office in London for final judging. The awards were given as follows:

1. Mrs. G. E. Bolans, England
2. Mrs. E. M. Dorning, South Africa
3. Mrs. Gretta Westerberg, Sweden
4. Mrs. Punchihewa, Ceylon
5. Mrs. Lydia Carlsted, Finland
6. Mrs. B. Pretorius, Transvaal
7. Mrs. K. Matthis, Kentucky
8. Mrs. V. M. Tobe, Australia
9. Mrs. L. Wissink-Bezen, Holland
10. Mrs. F. Shurdle, New Zealand