

TRIBUTE

QUILT

The Double Wedding Ring Quilt, originally pieced and quilted by the Elora Branch, Guelph Area for the FWIC competition last June was purchased by FWIO. The Quilt won first prize in the FWIO competition and was runnerup at the FWIC level, half a point behind the prize winning Pittsburgh WI entry from Kingston Area.

Mrs. Myrtle Reid, Board Director from Subdivision 12 in whose Subdivision Elora branch is located, had the honour of presenting this magnificent handwork to Miss McKercher.



An autograph book was passed around and all wrote a verse or a final thanks for all the assistance over the last many years. The book was presented to Miss McKercher by Mrs. Phillip Boyko, Board Director representing Subdivision 31.



FUN TIME

A skit depicting the negative side of a meeting was enacted by Board Directors and Conveners. The skit, written by Past President Mrs. H. Noblitt, was about the Lonely Valley Area Convention meeting. Those taking part were Mrs. Harold Blasing, Mrs. Jack Sparling, Mrs. Graham Chambers, Mrs. Geo. Powell, Mrs. Peggy Hampel, Mrs. Chas. Fetterley, Mrs. Keith Hiepleh, Mrs. Orval Jordan, Mrs. Allan Darling, Mrs. Gordon Sherwin, Mrs. D. H. Davidson.



The presentation of a "Tribute Book", something tangible, to accompany the announcement that donations of \$10,000.00 had been invested, and a \$1,000.00 Helen M. McKercher Scholarship would be available in 1977.

The book contained excerpts from letters accompanying donations from individuals, Branches, Districts and Areas. Of course there was not room for all the tributes, so a "cross section" was compiled as a memento. The book was compiled by Mrs. Maluske and Mrs. Morden, presentation made by Mrs. Morden.

Mrs. Herb Maluske presented Miss McKercher with a scroll and announced that a scholarship was to be named in her honour.

"In recognition of your contribution and devoted service to the members of the Women's Institutes of Ontario The Helen M. McKercher Scholarship has been named in your honour. December the first 1976."

MISS MCKERCHER

After all the tributes had been paid and the presentations completed, Miss McKercher thanked all for their kindness and honours. She said, "I looked at the quilt with great interest during the competition but never thought of ever owning it. I will cherish this gift, which will always remind me of the Women's Institute."

The Scholarship "means a great deal to me" but also means much to the Home Economists and to Extension Education. The time has come when it is even more important to encourage girls to do graduate work.

It is a struggle to keep standards high and we must continue to encourage women to take office which provides an opportunity for leadership. The Home Economics Branch through the Home Economists continually try to assist the members of the WI. If you're in it long enough and can see people grow, it is a great satisfaction.

Miss McKercher continued to say how much she has enjoyed working with the members, however nothing is accomplished alone. It takes the specialists producing the manuals, the Home Economists working with 4-H and the women providing the leaders to make a successful programme.

"I will miss the work and the people, however I am happy to leave. I do not need anything to remember you by but this evening is much appreciated."