

# Wellington WI prepares for IPM

by Yvonne Pallister

"We can meet the challenge," says Pat Salter, chairman of the Ladies' Program for the 1984 International Plowing Match and Farm Machinery Show.

The 39 branches of the Women's Institutes of Wellington County are banding together to produce a Ladies' Program which has something for everyone. "We thought it would be good public relations for the Women's Institutes of Wellington county and the province," said Mrs. Salter, "a chance to prove that we are an active and well organized group."

Planning began in 1981 when the seven-member ladies' program executive was formed. Since that time hundreds of ladies have got involved in the planning and are looking forward to Sept. 25-29 when their goal will be realized.

"The cooperation is there, you just have to look for it," and cooperation is what Pat Salter and her group have found. "It's brought our 39 W.I. branches together," said Mrs. Salter, president of Wellington South District.

Wellington women are planning a variety of programs and displays to catch the interest of everyone at the Plowing Match. The ladies' exhibit called Ladies' Country Lane has enough to see and do for a couple of hours or a couple of days. There will be craft displays and exhibitions, horticultural displays, cooking demonstrations and fashion shows. To help Ontario celebrate its Bicentennial, there will be a historical fashion show each day. The costumes will be made by Wellington women and some of the attire will be originals borrowed from museums. "It will be an interesting chance to compare today with yesteryear," says Mrs. Salter.

Wellington county Women's Institutes are also holding a quilt and art competition to celebrate Ontario's 200th birthday. "Wellington County Heritage" is the theme for the competition. All of the entries will be on display in the ladies building at the site of the I.P.M., at Teviotdale.

The ladies program first began in 1962 to encourage the men to bring their wives to the plowing match. Now, "the program encourages the wives to bring their husbands," said

Mrs. Salter. There will be entertainment, wood carving and food that will appeal not only to the women but also to the men.

The Women's Institutes of Wellington County are not only responsible for the Ladies' Program but also for the largest food tent on the site. This W.I. catering tent will serve good, home-cooked meals to more

than 1000 people a day.

Lots of help will be needed for both the Ladies' Program and the catering tent. "It will give non-W.I. members a chance to work and rub shoulders with W.I. members and see what we are like," said Mrs. Salter. "Perhaps they'll want to become part of the Women's Institute when they see what we are all about."



Wellington Women's Institute members attended a one-day workshop at the local agricultural office to learn how to sew bicentennial costumes. Part of their program at the International Plowing Match in September is a daily historical fashion show. Pictured above are (from left to right) Dorothy Craig of Arthur, Brenda Kempel of Elmira and Dorelene Anderson, chairman of the fashion show.



The three-cornered hat was an important part of a man's attire in 1784! Here, Beth Burnett of Belwood fits Vi Ballard, secretary of the IPM Ladies' Program with a replica.