

1,800 eaters buy arena roof

Free Press Huron Bureau

BELMORE — This hamlet of 50 persons was jammed Saturday with more than 1,800 visitors lured by the promise of all the home cooking they could eat for a paltry \$1.25 apiece.

The villagers and their rural neighbors sponsored the day-long eating binge to raise money for a new roof for the Belmore arena. They raised more than enough money — they won't say how much more, but the project was so successful they're thinking about making it an annual event.

The visitors consumed or carried away 690 gallons of maple syrup and nobody knows how many pancakes,

sausages and home-made pies, cookies, cakes and candy.

The eat-in was held in the arena, leaky roof and all, but the skies were fair all day.

Nearly 100 area residents were involved in the cooking, selling and organizing. The idea was started by the arena committee, under Ross Mc-

Kague, and was turned over to a special subcommittee, headed by Walter Renwick.

A display and auction of antiques brought in more money.

Mr. and Mrs. Gerald R. Roane

request the honour of your presence
at the marriage of their daughter

Cheryl Karen

to

Mr. Russell Wayne Press

on Saturday, the second of November
nineteen hundred and sixty-eight

at five o'clock

Knox Presbyterian Church
Teeswater, Ontario

Reception 8 o'clock
Midway Arena

By BRUCE WEST

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One worthy one

As much as I'd like to, I can't devote space to all worthy projects, deserving as they may be. The problem is that there are too many of them. There are, believe it or not, so many good works going on in this supposedly wicked world that a columnist would probably have to write a piece on one of them every day of the year in order to cover them all. Yet, every now and then some information comes along which has special appeal, such as that contained in this letter from Herbert C. Lewis of Willowdale. It strikes a refreshing note in an age when so many expect so much from our various levels of government:

"A few days ago you mentioned in your column the great success which the good people of Elmira had made of their annual Maple Syrup Festival. I wonder if you would be interested in another such festival, newer and much smaller? This one will take place in the small hamlet of Belmore on Saturday, April 5. In case you have never heard of Belmore, it is a crossroads located on the boundary between Huron and Bruce counties, about eight miles north of Wingham. Its business section



Past Elmira Festival

consists of a general store, a service station and an agricultural machinery dealership. I would guess the number of homes in the urban area would be no more than 20. But it is the focal point for the people who live within a radius of about four miles. These people, who are mostly the descendants of the original English, Scottish, Irish and some German settlers, are a bit of a rarity in these days when it seems to be the general habit of people to expect the government to provide everything for them. Since Belmore is not incorporated in any way, it is not eligible for government grants.

"But I doubt if these folk would go asking for anything anyway. When they feel they need something, they provide it for themselves. Shortly after the Second World War, they decided an arena would be a good thing. So they built one. Literally. Most of the construction was volunteer labor. A year ago it was found that the roof of the arena required repairing and they decided to have a maple syrup festival to raise money for materials . . .

"The Belmore Festival was a great success. They raised enough money for the necessary repairs, with a bit left over. Now they have decided it would be a good idea to have an artificial ice machine for their arena. So they are making the festival an annual event to raise enough money in a few years to bring this about . . .

"Anyone who might enjoy getting out on a spring day and driving through the beautiful farmland of Western Ontario would, I am sure, get a great deal of pleasure from a trip to Belmore. I can vouch for the excellence of their pancakes, sausages and maple syrup . . .

"To get to Belmore from Toronto the best route is to follow Highway 9 to Harriston, turn left on Highway 87 to Wroxeter and look carefully for the county road that angles off Highway 87 and leads to Belmore . . ."



Mrs. Otto Hohnstein of Belmore cooks a meal of pancakes for Marion Reinhardt, 13, and Teresa O'Malley, 12, both of Teeswater, during the Belmore maple syrup festival Saturday. Marion and Teresa were taking a few minutes off from their candy booth just down the aisle. (Photo by Strong).

DOUBLE



THE BELMORE ARENA held record crowds of people who enjoyed the sausage and

pancakes smothered in fresh maple syrup last Saturday afternoon.—A-T photo.

BELMORE

A miscellaneous bridal shower for Miss Marlene Inglis was held Saturday evening in the Institute Room of the Belmore Community Centre. Contests were conducted by Mrs. Murray Mulvey, Mrs. Earl Fitch and Mrs. Ralph Dickson. Marlene was aided in the opening of her gifts by her mother, Mrs. Tom Inglis, the groom's mother, Mrs. Henry and the groom's sister, Mrs. Bennett. Marlene then thanked everyone for her gifts. Lunch was served.