

HISTORY OF THE RENFREW SOUTH DISTRICT BANNER

At a District Executive meeting in April 1996, plans were made to make a banner as a District Centennial Project. Karen Pender was appointed to head the committee with Eileen Brydges and Flora Campbell assisting.

One September 4, 1996 a letter was sent to the Branches with the directions: 'Enclosed with this letter, each Branch will receive a 12" block of gold broadcloth on which you will put your design of something pertaining to your W.I. community. You may use embroidery and/or appliqué in you choice of colours and quilting may be used. On your block you will embroider the name of your Branch and the year your Branch was organized, using the blue floss enclosed.'

Members used their talents and imaginations with the following results.

ARNPRIOR: Small pieces of various colours of print were used to represent the trees, water and land and they called it "Where Two Rivers Meet" (the Madawaska and the Ottawa). The Gilles Grove is there too.

BALSAM HILL: A picture of the W.I. Hall was imprinted on the block to represent the former No.2 Admaston School, which was built in 1876. The features of the building were accented with embroidery.

BONNECHERE VALLEY: Their block shows the old stone mill on the banks of the Bonnechere River and the swinging footbridge which crosses the river near the mill, which is now a museum.

BURNSTOWN: members made two blocks, one represents the old Forrest home where the first W.I. meeting in the District was held in 1911. The other block shows the Temperance Hall where the first District Annual was held.

CALABOGIE: chose to show the old Town Hall. They have always used it for their meetings. The W.I. equipped the kitchen with stove, refrigerator, dishes and utensils.

CASTLEFORD: put a small maple leaf flag on their block and a small replica of the plaque at the Bell Bridge, which commemorates the founder of Horton Township, Lieut. C. J. Bell.

DEWARS: W.I. members chose to commemorate the former Dewars Presbyterian Church. It is now used as a residence.

GLASGOW: On their block is a replica of the cairn which commemorates the founding of the first school at SS#13 McNab. The original old iron bell was placed on top of the stone and cement cairn.

HORTON NORTH: chose to commemorate the Horton Township Community Hall, which was the centre of community activity for many years.