

Simcoe Area

International Plowing Match

COME SHARE THE FUTURE was the theme of the 1997 International Plowing Match held September 16-20 at Ivy, near Barrie. Simcoe - Property and Landscaping, Chair Area Women's Institute was in charge of the Family Lifestyles Programme housed in three large tents at the Tented City. Various activities were scheduled in the tents during the five days of the Match.

Simcoe Centre District entered a float in the I.P.M. Parade on opening day of the match in the nearly perfect weather conditions, with only Thursday to match it. Of course it was about W.I. with Adelaide Hoodless and Erland Lee. Area members Eileen Kenney, Mary Stone, Mary Downey, Grace Adams, Lorna McGrath and Jim Kenney as Mr. Lee all in period costume celebrating 100 years of the Women's Institute.

Household items of those days were on board - wash tub, stove, scrub board, rocking chair and baby's cradle.

The Area W.I. put a display in the Simcoe County Agriculture tent as part of their activities.

Quilt Block Competition and Quilt Show

Simcoe County residents were invited to take part in a Quilt Competition as part of IPM activities; these blocks formed two quilts and a table runner which were displayed at a Quilt Show held in Cookstown. The Simcoe Quilters Guild were a big part of this effort. We also organized a display in the Simcoe county Museum, which was initiated by the Area Women's Institutes in 1929.

The 1997 programme for the Area Convention included a Fashion Show of period clothing modeled by members.

Leda Archer & Louise Wanless - Centre; May Brown - East; Reta Caldwell, Florence Downing & Loreen Rice-Lucas - Kempenfeldt; Gertie Carruthers - West; and Joy Larkey - South were Centennial Award winners.

The hardest working trio in Simcoe Area for Centennial Activities has been Leda Archer (Chair), Lois Laughlin (Secretary) and Lorna McGrath (Public Relations) who volunteered to compile the Centennial Celebrations of Women's Institute book for the provincial organization. Funds were received from Simcoe County council, the Elmvale and District Maple Syrup Festival, and through a lottery for items pictured here. Mae French was appointed as Treasurer when it became necessary.

