



Women make bicentennial quilt

Formal presentation to premier Davis in June

As their Bicentennial project, the Federated Women's Institute of Ontario have made a quilted wall hanging, destined to hang in the main legislative building of Queen's Park in Toronto. The formal presentation to Premier William Davis, will be made Monday, June 11, at 3:30 p.m. Following the presentation members of the FWIO will be honored at a reception.

The centre of the embroidered handicraft features an illustrated map of Ontario, with the province's bicentennial logo and the institute's crest appearing in opposite corners.

Institute members from across the province designed and embroidered 48 other blocks, which depict highlights from the countries and districts — a picture of Ontario's diversity. After the institute's colors of gold and royal blue were used to assemble the finished positions, a number of skilled quilters from Bruce Centre District added the finishing touches.

Women's Institute members from across Canada will be visiting in Ontario, June 16-20, when the institute hosts the 10th national convention of the Federated Women's Institutes of Canada. The expected 800 delegates will be in residence at Saugeen-Maitland Residence, at the University of Western Ontario at London. Wednesday, June 19 will be "Ontario Day," when delegates will visit the homes of the WI co-founders Adelaide Hoodless at St. Georgea and Erland Lee at Stoney Creek. Also included on the tour will be Niagara Falls and the Mennonite area.

Congratulations to Pittsburgh Women's Institute on its 60th anniversary celebrated in late April and to Sunbury Women's Institute, celebrating 60 years on May 15. The latter branch's 60th celebration will be in conjunction with the 63rd annual spring meeting of Frontenac District Women's Institute, headed by a young farm wife from the Sunbury area, Mrs. Thomas Dixon.

Pittsburgh Women's Institute was organized in 1924, at the home of Mrs. James English, mother-in-law of Mrs. Cameron English, recently retired Kingston area institute board



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member, and still an active Pittsburgh WI branch member.

The branch has had the honor on two occasions of having one of its members advance to provincial office. Mrs. R. J. Penney preceded Mrs. English as Kingston-area board member. Mrs. Penney also represented Ontario, when she served on the national level as Federated Women's Institutes of Canada citizenship and world-affairs convenor.

Mrs. Penny had a special pleasure at the 60th anniversary celebration, in being accompanied by her mother, Mrs. Elizabeth McHarg, 97, who had the honor of cutting the anniversary cake. Mrs. McHarg has been a Pittsburgh WI branch member for 53 years and is now an honorary member.

Current branch president is Mrs. Ross McLean, representing the McLean and Clarke families, prominent pioneer settlers in the township. Mrs. McLean contributed an humorous reading "Talking Over The Line-Fence," while Mrs. Gordon Barnes portrayed in pantomime the pitfalls of "Helping My Husband At The Barn."

Mrs. Horace Spearing led a sing-song of well-known country and folk tunes, accompanied at the piano by Mrs. C. Bullock.

Mrs. D. Gammeljord, conducted a trip down "Memory Lane," a pictorial review of the branch's many projects over the years.

Special guests extending greetings

were: Mrs. James Holmes, Kingston Area WI president; Mrs. Clarence Wayte, Kingston Area WI Secretary-treasurer; Mrs. Duane Williams, Federated Women's Institute of Ontario treasurer; Mrs. Hugh Knapp, Kingston Area WI board member. Mrs. Reg. Watson, first vice-president of F.D.W.I.; Jack Ellerbeck, F.D.W.I., secretary-treasurer; Miss Susan Levty, area home economist; E. R. Jennings, Frontenac County agricultural representative, representing the Ontario ministry of agriculture, which has jurisdiction over Women's Institutes.

Most of the county branch presidents or their representatives were in attendance and brought greetings.

Congratulatory messages were read from Mrs. Frank Pepper, a former Frontenac District WI president; Mrs. Cliff Robb, Mrs. Fanny MacClement and Mrs. George Stanley, wife of the Lt. Governor of New Brunswick. Mrs. Stanley is a former WI member of the local branch.

The Women's Institute must surely be able to make undisputed claim to being the most enduring of all rural organizations. After 87 years of continuous operation, it is not only still thriving in most farming areas of the province, but has expanded its reach to embrace 60 countries around the world.

The world-wide organization is known as the Associated Country Women of the World. The ACWW met in Canada last June in Vancouver, B.C., with two local women as delegates — Mrs. Cameron English and Mrs. R. J. Penney.

While the winds of change have been sweeping over the countryside, removing first one-room rural schools, then many of the little country churches, the Women's Institute has remained, providing an anchor for a community to cling to and retain its identification. In fact, some former country churches have been saved from demolition, by the local WI branches taking over the building and maintaining them as attractive halls for their meetings and other community events.