Joe and Flora were mere puppets

Loughborough seniors entertained by puppeteer Mel Tousignant

By REG WHITTY Special correspondent

SYDENHAM — With Ottawa TV newsman Max Keeping as master of ceremonies, Loughborough Township's senior citizens were feted at the annual Christmas party in the Legion Hall here.

The well-known newscaster told the guests

of honor, "You have much to offer us through your accumulated wisdom, and we are everlastingly grateful for the country you have built for us."

Instead of the usual T-shirt gift to Keeping, his visit to Sydenham was marked by a presentation of a miniature wooden replica of himself made by

local carver, Mel Tousignant.

nant received a T-shirt, proclaiming him an honorary member of "Sydenham Women's Instigators." Mrs. Ilen Kemp, president of the Women's Institute in making the presentation said, "This is a representative honor for all of our husbands; they are really great guys, the way they support us in all our endeavors."

The turkey dinner with all the trimmings was prepared and served by Women's Institute members. Central Frontenac Board of Trade and Branch 496 of the Royal Canadian Legion were also sponsors.

Max Keeping joined Mr. Tousignant in presenting a lively puppet dancing show with Mr. Tousignant's miniature purporting to be Prime Minister Joe Clark, External Affairs Minister Flora MacDonald and numerous local celebrities. Musical accompaniment was by Norman Ritchie on piano, Ted Day on violin and Bud Edmunds on guitar.

A senior citizen guest, Mrs. Mabel Curtis, 87,

sang her own compositions, accompanied by Mrs. Carolyn Brown on piano.

Other senior citizen entertainers were vocalist, Mrs. William Beverly, and violinist, Frank Timmerman.

Among the special guests recognized were Mr. and Mrs. Oscar Lindsay, who recently celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary and Mrs. Lindsay's 83rd birthday. William Shales, 93, was the oldest guest.

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Sydenham Women's Institute which meets on the third Monday of each month has announced its new officers for the year 1976-77. Mrs. Willard Henry, past president; Mrs. James Thomas, president; Mrs. Ronald Roberts vice-president; Mrs. Ronald Eaton, secretary; Mrs. Doulgas Ohlman, treasurer; Mrs. Craig Coupland, public relations; Mrs. Willard Henry, and Mrs. Melville Tousignant, district directors. Mrs. David Atherton, Mrs. Barry Thomas, Mrs. Wayne Peters, Mrs. Doulgas Ohlman and Mrs. Warren Gossage, local directors. Mrs. Clarence Kemp, Mrs. Eric Forde, Mrs. Harry Burnett, Mrs. Austin Fox and Mrs. George Tousignant, refreshmen committee. Convenors of standing committees: Mrs. David Atherton, Agriculture and Canadian Industries; Mrs. Grace Kellar, Citizenship and World Affairs; Mrs. George Spafford, Education and Cultural Activities; Mrs. Harold Millar, Family and Consumer Affairs; Mrs. David Thomas, Resolutions; Mrs. Ronald Roberts, Tweedsmuir History Curator; Mrs. Craig Coupland, Flower Convenvor, Mrs. Alwyn Campbell, pianist.