



WOMEN'S INSTITUTE CONFERENCE

Representatives of Women's Institutes in the Oxford District assembled recently at Hickson United Church for a conference. A group assembled for a photo: Lillian White, president of Oxford County Conference; Frances Armstrong, guest speaker; Katherine Ross, first vice-president, Oxford North; Helen Shutt, president of Perth South; Muriel Lewis, president London Area WI; Ilene Chesterman, president of Oxford South and Margaret Fleming, president of Oxford North District.

Salt of the earth

Embro farmer Edgar McKay was one of 22 members of the Soil Conservation Society of America to earn a commendation award for 1987. The awards are given to SCSA members for professional achievement and service to the society. McKay was chairman of the Ontario Chapter Soil Management Committee for two years during the development of an updated chapter position statement on agricultural soil and water conservation.



TOP JUNIOR SHOWPERSON -- Dorothy McKay, right accepts the Doug Kennedy award to the top junior showperson from contributor Doug Kennedy, left during the 4-H Sheep Club award presentations held on November 23.

Dorothy McKay...

4-H'er given chance at sheep farming

By Heather Buchanan
Dorothy McKay a 4-H member from R.R. 5 Embro is looking forward to participating in the inter-provincial exchange program upcoming in July.

This will be Dorothy's first exchange with 15 fellow 4-Hers. She finds the fact she's never been as far north as Swan River, Manitoba intriguing but, not as much as the opportunity to fly.

"The idea of travelling and getting to see a different climate and landscape is very exciting. We've been told the area is much like northern Ontario cottage country," said Dorothy.

Dorothy's exchange partner is a 14-year-old girl named Shelley. Because Shelley's parents operate a riding stable at a provincial park south of the village during the summer and wouldn't be at home they (Dorothy and Shelley) will stay with another exchange couple during the week long event.

She is also interested in seeing the farming techniques practiced in the colder Manitoba climate. Dorothy

said there could also be a considerable difference in the way Swan River operates its 4-H programs as opposed to the Oxford County 4-H program.

Dorothy a cute 14-year-old has lived on a farm all her life. Her parents Edgar and Jane operate a 300 head beef farm northwest of Hickson. Dorothy's jobs on the 100 acre farm include sheep chores as well as handling any necessary field work.

Dorothy cares for about 10 sheep which are the remnant of a past 4-H unit. She doesn't mind looking after the animals and enjoys their antics.

The animals were orphans from a neighbourhood farm. The farmer asked if Dorothy wanted to attempt to raise the sheep for the 4-H project.

A grade 10 student at Woodstock Collegiate Institute Dorothy enjoys English and music. Dorothy hopes to study music at university once she has finished high school. She is an accomplished pianist and violinist.

Her hobbies include reading, down hill skiing, wind surfacing, baby sitting as well as practising her instruments.

Dorothy has an older sister Helen, 16.