



*'Minnie Pearl' delights huge audience*

## Record number of exhibits in floral design division at flower show

SBV3-9

by Clarence Lange

The Chesley Community Centre was ablaze with all the colors of the rainbow on Thursday evening, August 11th when the Chesley and District Horticultural Society held the annual Flower Show.

The theme of the show was "Floral Festival".

A special by Mrs. Irene Leudke for a rosebud was won by Verna Gateman, Alfred Lange and Margaret McDonald.

Florence Long and Verna Gateman won the Muriel Muir special for a white or nearly white rose.

The Ruth Hewitt special for first-time exhibitor winning most points went to Blanche Miskie.

Verna Gateman and Margaret McDonald jointly donated the prizes for the Junior Classes won by Evan, Carissa and Victoria Phillips.

Exhibitors entered 86 exhibits in 15 sections of the Floral Design division. A record number!

Exhibitors winning most prizes were Jean Kerr with 18, Mae Smith had 16, Margaret McDonald 14, Irene Leudke 12, Dorreta Phillips had the best overall average winning ten prizes with six firsts. Clarence Lange had 11 entries and won 10 prizes. Alfred Lange had seven entries and won six prizes.

It was the best attendance ever for the evening program as they were

entertained by Lois Bradfield of Ingersoll, imitating "Minnie Pearl" of the Grand Ole Opry. A most enjoyable performance!

A service diploma was presented to Mrs. Irene Leudke for the service she has rendered to the Society for many years. Fourteen door prizes were drawn during the evening program.

Light refreshments were served by the ladies of the society following the program.



Exhibitors Margaret McDonald (left) and Dorreta Phillips (right) are congratulated by "Minnie Pearl" (Lois Bradfield of Ingersoll) on their award-winning entries at the Chesley Horticultural Society's annual flower show on Thursday evening at the Chesley Community Centre. "Minnie Pearl" delighted the huge audience in attendance for the evening program with her sharp wit.

At the August 11th flower show sponsored by the Chesley and District Horticultural Society, past president of the Society, Irene Leudke, was presented with a certificate recognizing her meritorious service to the Society. Mrs. Leudke has not only served on the Society executive and been a winner with her exhibits at the flower shows, she is also a tireless behind-the-scenes worker, helping the Society to plant, care for and water the town flower beds and bridge boxes. Clarence Lange and current president of the Society, Heler Musehl, made the certificate presentation to Mrs. Leudke.

## Bethia Proud turns 97!

by Mary Golem

For Bethia Proud, not many things are the way they used to be. But that's understandable - Bethia turned 97 years old on Friday, August 19th.

"I've seen a lot of changes - practically everything has changed," she said, as she talked about walking to school on corduroy roads.

Born in Arran Township, she lived most of her life in Arran Township, for a three years in Tara and has been a resident of Elgin Abbey in Chesley since 1988. Blessed with reasonably good health, Mrs. Proud says she has seen lots of "ups and downs" in her lifetime, but adds "I've been pretty fortunate."

A long-time member of the Tara United Church and the UCW, Mrs. Proud has three sons, Dr. Russell in Michigan; Melville Proud in Tara, a retired farmer and now a real estate agent and Arnold, a United Church minister in Kitchener. She also has 13 grandchildren and 13 great grandchildren.

When asked what advice she has in order to have a long, happy life, Mrs. Proud responded "just try to do the best you can in all that you do."

Her many friends in the area join her family in wishing Bethia Proud a very happy 97th birthday!



97-year-old Bethia Proud