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We loved to hook, you know. And I'll tell you, we used to have hooking sprees, too. Some of my friends would come in and help me hook. If I didn't think they were doing it right, I wouldn't invite them back the second time, let me tell you.... Different people hooking on that mat--you could tell, you know. I can tell. (So when you'd have a hooking spree, that didn't mean everybody did their own mat.) No, no, they would come and do a little bit on my mat. I didn't have them very often, no, I didn't. I preferred to do my own hooking. They used to take pity on me and say, "You'll never finish that mat. It's going to take too long to make." But I did it. (I hooked this one, called the "Century Mat") in 184 hours. I got the burlap--the burlap is the foundation of the mat--! saw it advertised in the Chatelaine magazine. If you notice, there's 1867 on one end and 1967 on the other. And I wrote to them and asked them to send me a stamped copy of the Century Mat, and to send the proper colours that I should put in this mat. Because you see--all these things signify something. There's all the different provinces of Canada, (their) emblems and the flowers. I did the mat. And it was taken away by a friend of mine to an exhibition up in Tatamagouche. And didn't it win first prize. And I was pretty happy about that. But all these others here, I got them--! can't do the stamping. I'm not that smart, to stamp a mat! But anyway, I bought them already stamped, and I put my own colours. Do you like the colours? (Oh, very much.) I think they're pretty. And then the little mat with the basket of flowers, too, all the different little flowers. I used to love so much to hook. I could do it yet if I had my--I have arthritis through me.

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