

# There's No Magic About Aptos Bicentennial Quilt

MAR 24 1976

There's no stitchery witchery on the Aptos Bicentennial Quilt.

It's not getting done by magic.

So the stitchers are asking for more help.

"So far, we've only been meeting on Tuesdays," said Jean Davidson, chairman of the Aptos Bicentennial Quilt Committee. "Now we're down to the nitty gritty of quilting. That's a separate step, and we hope to double our time as well as our work force."

So the group has scheduled

two meetings — Monday and Tuesday — each week instead of one. The sessions go on from 9:30 a.m. to noon at Aptos Library.

The committee put the artwork on a quilting frame Tuesday. The frame basically is two long sticks attached to two sawhorses. It is a reproduction of those used by Appalachian Mountain artisans when America was younger.

"We've been working since last August creating, assembling, embroidering and putting

it together," Davidson noted. Altogether, about 30 Aptos women have worked on the project, about a dozen of them steadily.

"We need some expertise," Davidson said. "People to tell us how. None of us has ever done it before."

Davidson thinks the 7x9-foot quilt might be finished by the end of April. It will have a place of honor in the annual Aptos Fourth of July parade, "and we hope it will get as much exposure as possible both in and out of the county."

Some of the recent sections prepared for the quilt have depicted scenes from Aptos' lumbering days. A portrait is in progress of Claus Spreckels, the sugar baron who once lived in Aptos. Another piece shows the long-toed salamander. Books call the slithery little beast which has forgotten to die out the Santa Cruz long-toed salamander. The quiltists have renamed it the Aptos long-toed salamander because Aptos is, after all, where it lives.

Aspiring seamstresses are invited to go to the library at one of the scheduled meeting times with whatever needles they think they will need.