

Other Reports Presented At

ONTARIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Mrs. Morris Martin, F.W.I.O. Convener of Historical Research and Current Events reported re the Annual Meeting of the Ontario Historical Society which she attended. Held in June in Electra Hall, University of Windsor, Mrs. Martin reviewed the history of the settlement in 1701 which became the nucleus for the University. She stressed the interesting and informative publication, "The Ontario History" published by the Society.

During the Annual, planned tours were conducted to Hiram Walker Museum, Fort Malden, Amherstburg, which is now part of a National Park, and Christ Anglican Church, which has the oldest brick nave in Ontario. Entertainment included an evening at the new Windsor Board of Education Centre where they viewed a tape of "Pontiac's Conspiracy", a centennial presentation by Grades 7 and 8 pupils. Papers on the Battle of Windsor, and John Baldwin, were heard. The banquet speaker, H. D. Brown, Curator of Detroit Museum, challenged members to use imagination to appreciate history and historic values.

★ ★ ★

THE PRIZE CAT

Pure blood domestic, guaranteed,
Soft-mannered, musical in purr,
The ribbon had declared the breed,
Gentility was in the fur.

Such feline culture in the gads,
No anger ever arched her back—
What distance since those velvet pads
Departed from the leopard's track!

And when I mused how Time had thinned
The jungle strains within the cells,
How human hands had disciplined
Those prowling optic parallels;

I saw the generations pass
Along the reflex of a spring,
A bird had rustled in the grass,
The tab had caught it on the wing:

Behind the leap so furtive-wild
Was such ignition in the gleam,
I thought an Abyssinian child
Had cried out in the whitethroat's scream.

—E. J. Pratt

★ ★ ★

PROVINCIAL TWEEDSMUIR HISTORIES

Mrs. R. C. Walker, Provincial Curator, sent a questionnaire this year to all District Curators in an effort to find out how many Tweedsmuir Histories are actually being compiled in Ontario. Results were disappointing as some District Curators did not bother to return questionnaire; some said they never receive a provincial report; others do not know names of Branch Curators and many Branch Curators are never asked for a report at their Branch Annual Meeting.

Mrs. Walker felt more interest and credit should be given Curators who are trying to compile histories as permanent records for posterity and recommends that a Branch Committee work on a history rather than one person. Thirty-five books were microfilmed this year free of charge by the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food. Any branch having a volume completed and ready for microfilming should contact Mrs. Walker at R.R. 1, St. George, Ontario.

Several District and Area Workshops have been held. Names of century farms are being catalogued. The Provincial Curator defined the community, its people and life as the inner circle being recorded for Canadian History by the Curator, and outside that circle as the sphere of Historical Research Convener.

Mrs. Walker reported that 14 additional pages have been added to the Provincial History this year and several other sections brought up to date. Board Directors were asked to assist in any way, and a request was voiced for pictures that pertain to F.W.I.O. and also any taken from Ontario's A.C.W.W. pre-conference tour in 1968.

CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

"In the busy second century world," said Mrs. A. Teasdale, Secretary of Cultural Activities, "Women's Institute members are participating in a multitude of projects to develop a happier, more abundant life for rural women." These include music in a wide range of format, skits and drama, literature, arts and crafts from oil painting to tailoring, compiling Tweedsmuir Histories, TV and radio programs, travelogues and tours, short courses and other forms of adult education, Fall Fair programs and competitions, scholarship awards, etc.