

FWIC

Mrs. Keith Hiepleh, Senior Board Director

CITIZENSHIP PROJECT 1979-1982

Senator Cairine Wilson

Fifteen submissions were received by FWIO for the Poem entitled "A Humorous Pioneer Incident". The two winning entries which have gone on for final judging, are from Mrs. Beatrice M. Dunlop, McDonald's Corners WI, Lanark South District, and Mrs. Doris E. MacPherson, Centennial WI, Lennox District.

TWEEDSMUIR COMPETITION

Cultural Project

Eleven submissions were received by FWIO for the Essay entitled "Adelaide Hoodless - Is the Vision as Bright Today? The two winning entries to be forwarded to FWIC are from Mrs. Mary Jane Pearson, Corunna WI, Lambton Centre District and Mrs. Gwen Kimmett, Grandview WI, Lennox District.

COMMUNITY HISTORY COMPETITION

The Community History winners at FWIO level in the slide-tape competition were Springford WI, Oxford South District and Ramsay WI, Lanark North District. Eight entries were received.

NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Mrs. Hiepleh related the impressions of Mrs. E. Oddie during her visit along with other leaders of women's national voluntary organizations to Europe. Mrs. Oddie was invited by the External Affairs, as part of the continuing program for informing the Canadian public of Canada's foreign policy, including the work done through international organizations. The group was briefed on the work of each of the following headquarters visited:

NATO (The North Atlantic Treaty Organization) - Brussels

For thirty-two years NATO has kept the peace in Europe by providing effective deterrents as a basis for detente. Presently the balance of power is in question because of a steady Soviet build-up of 250-SS20 Missiles, each with 3 warheads, each missile representing 30,000 Hiroshimos. People in Europe are worried. All NATO countries make their own civil emergency plan in consultation with NATO.

SHAPE (Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe)

Officers from several countries briefed the group. From SHAPE, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, directs efforts to unify defense measures, strengthen military forces and plan for their most effective use in an emergency.

OECD (Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development)

This organization attempts to pull together the opinion and experience of the Western industrialized societies to search for answers to the very challenges that endanger man as a result of progress in technological and social fields. Influence of the rapid hike in oil prices has been investigated; many newly independent countries are found to be greatly affected. The World crisis has been conceived as a result of the impact of oil pricing. Solutions to this must be inter-related with global negotiations concerning raw materials, food, energy, finance and trade.

The Director of Environment is concerned with water management, hazardous wastes, urban environment, monitoring of change, etc. Accomplishments to date include pioneer work done on acid rain; radio-active waste management to lay foundation for pretesting of chemicals: of 50,000 - 70,000 chemicals in use probably 1% are in need of testing; recommendations - that in problems of hazardous waste, industry should reflect cost in the cost of product and public participation should be encouraged.

IEA (International Energy Agency) Paris

The function of IEA is to promote the co-ordination of energy policies of the twenty-one member countries. It attempts to promote policies that permit members to reduce dependency on oil. The countries are committed to helping one another if their oil supply falls below 7% or more.

VISIT TO LAHR - Canadian Forces Base in West Germany

Lahr is on the edge of the Black Forest. About 6500 military personnel are in Europe, some in SHAPE, some in England and a few in every NATO country. In Lahr most live in the sixty surrounding villages and few have telephones. Two hundred professionals from Canada serve the 3500 children of military personnel in Europe. Teachers are on loan for two to five years and remain employees of their own boards in Canada. They are of high calibre, being selected from 1500 applicants.

PRESIDENT-ELECT

Mrs. Harvey Noblitt, President-elect FWIC, presented a report on activities of the national organization.

She told about the FWIC Exhibit in Ottawa City Hall last February which was already reported by Mrs. Hiepleh in a previous issue.

Further to the Pensions report, the questionnaire will be completed by Ontario's Ad Hoc Committee. When all provinces report, Mrs. Noblitt will prepare a submission to government based on opinions of members across Canada.

Bill C53 which deals with sexual assault, pornography and child abduction was responded to very poorly by all Provinces. In fact only one Province gave any opinions. Over the years, WI's have frequently sent in resolutions about these subjects, Mrs. Noblitt presumed they would want an input into any legislation dealing with their concerns in these matters. Since we had been one of the few organizations called in by Hon. J. Chretien, Minister of Justice, to discuss the proposals he was presenting to Parliament on the Bill, the door of communications must be kept open. Mrs. Noblitt prepared a short brief based on resolutions sustained over the years.

This Bill has surfaced again and Mrs. Oddie is anxious to prepare a more complete brief dealing point by point with the proposed changes. This was prepared and approved by the President and has now gone to government and Mrs. Noblitt will present it to a governmental committee in the near future.

Mrs. Noblitt went on to urge that every WI member participate, and not leave these important issues to just a few.