



Federated Women's Institutes of Canada

Dear Members:

In my letter to you in the Winter 1984 edition of Home and Country, I mentioned that we had presented a submission on Pensions to the Task Force. Those of you who subscribe to Federated News will have read the submission there. If you heard the budget speech presented to Parliament on Feb. 15, you will have noticed that several of the requests we made, and similar ones from other organizations, were recognized and promised by the budget. This proves once again that our voice is heard and it is important that we continue to make our views known.

Since that time, our submission on pornography and prostitution has been presented to the Fraser Commission and it will appear in full in Federated News.

We sincerely trust that in our submissions we are expressing the views held by at least the majority of all our members across Canada. We solicit input from every province in preparation for our presentations and also welcome the opinions from individual members. Most provinces across Canada either sent in or presented briefs to the Fraser Commission when it met in their areas. This should add emphasis to our very great concerns over the increase in pornography wherever we live in our country.

These, however, are only the initial steps to be taken in order to deal with this menace to society. What will the Fraser committee report to the Department of Justice as a result of the hearings? How will the Department of Justice respond? When new legislative proposals from the department come before Parliament, how will our Members of Parliament vote? Their votes will probably reflect the views expressed to them by those whom they represent. So we all need to write letters to our Members of Parliament expressing our concerns and urging them to do all they can to eradicate pornography in every form.

In our province we can con-

gratulate the government for taking, quote, "tough new rules aimed at controlling violence and sexual exploitation in the burgeoning home videotape industry" (Ottawa Citizen, May 5, 1984). It remains to be seen how "tough" the rules will be. It goes on to say that "videotapes will in future be subject to the same censoring and classifying procedures as films." Has their censoring of films to date met with your approval? I hope you will let the Minister of Consumer Affairs, know how you feel about the government's action.

Several times during the last two months Alice McLaggan has phoned to tell me of more donations arriving to swell the Adelaide Hoodless Fund. We are thrilled at the responses from

the branches and the provinces as slowly, slowly the fund rises. It is nearing the \$50,000 mark. We thank you so much for your generosity to date and look forward to your continued support. I am hoping that by the time of our Convention in London in 1985, we will have realized at least a reasonable objective.

In the next year I think we will be hearing a great deal more about the Constitution and the Charter of Rights and in my future letters I would like to give you the benefit of some of my study on those subjects.

Warmest greetings to all.

Bernice B. Noblitt
(Mrs. H.L.)

International Youth Year

The United Nations has designated 1985 as International Youth Year and has established three themes — participation, development, peace — to provide a focus for activities.

The three themes are broad enough to encompass the many interests of youth around the world and to be applied to the activities of organizations active at local, national and international levels. The theme of participation is aimed at recognizing that youth are able to decide on matters affecting their lives and should have the opportunity in the decision-making process. Development is aimed at the growth (socially, politically and economically) of the individual. Peace is seen as a prerequisite to both development and participation and included in this theme are respect for national sovereignty and human rights.

The Minister of State for Youth is responsible for co-ordinating Canada's observance of the year. An International Youth Year Secretariat has been established to run this pro-

ject. For additional information contact: IYY Secretariat, Room 13-A-5, Secretary of State Dept., Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0M5.

