

Northern Insights

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housekeeping chores include "what are we going to do with nuclear waste?"

On the latter issue, Wilson faces her toughest assignment. She is one of the members of the federal environmental assessment panel set up to look at the proposal by Atomic Energy of Canada Limited to bury high-level radioactive waste somewhere in the Canadian Shield - most likely in northern Ontario. She didn't mention that subject in her talk at Lakehead, but the day after her lecture, she appeared at what the assessment panel calls "scoping" hearings on the issue. The "scoping sessions" are the first round - to hear out people and organizations concerned about AECL's proposal. After the first round, AECL will write a report

explaining how it intends to deal with the concerns raised. That report will then become the focus of the full public hearings.

Wilson thus faces the incredible task of applying her egalitarian, feminist philosophy of "corrective perspectives" to a very high-tech problem - what to do with all the left over fuel bundles and other nuclear garbage from atomic power plants. AECL suggests (as I have reported in previous columns) that it's somehow immoral to look for only a "storage" solution, since we would then be burdening future generations with the responsibility of finding solutions to our messes. An equally strong moral argument can be made, as it is by environmental ethicists, that it is not fair to future generations for us to bury this stuff deep down in

the Canadian Shield, somehow protecting future generations (250,000 years from now) from radioactive leakages to the surface. Is it perhaps more moral, they argue, to keep the problem on the surface for now, where we can keep an eye on it, until we invent better technology?

Wilson argued, quite convincingly, that the world must reject the old assumption that "just because women rock the cradle, they have no right to rock the world". Men who haven't accepted that truth yet had better wake up and smell the coffee. At the same time, we will have to wait and see whether Wilson's feminist theology can deliver practical solutions to the nuclear waste problem. As a fellow northerner, I pray she can.

Chimo Club

by Winnie Campbell

The regular meeting of the Chimo Club held on Friday, Oct. 19, was chaired by President Ken Davis.

The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved as read.

Eva Gordon, card secretary, reported sending several Get Well and Sympathy cards to members. Thank you cards were also read.

The annual Bazaar to be held on Saturday Nov. 3, in the club rooms is convened by Eva Gordon and the committee: Beth Macadam, Eirene Harness, Mavis Slater, Marg Handel, Marg McKenna, Rena Ross, and Alma Hart.

Raffle tickets for a handmade doily, afghan and food hamper are available from members and at the club rooms.

Election of officers will take place at the next meeting and the nominating committee of Alex Gordon, Beth Macadam and Tom Webb expect to have a slate by then.

Club pins are still available.

The shuffleboard tournament is in full progress with 12 teams.

Eirene Harness introduced their guest, Mrs. Eva Alexander from Drumheller, Alta., visiting brother Fred and family.

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A MESSAGE FROM YOUR NEIGHBOURS

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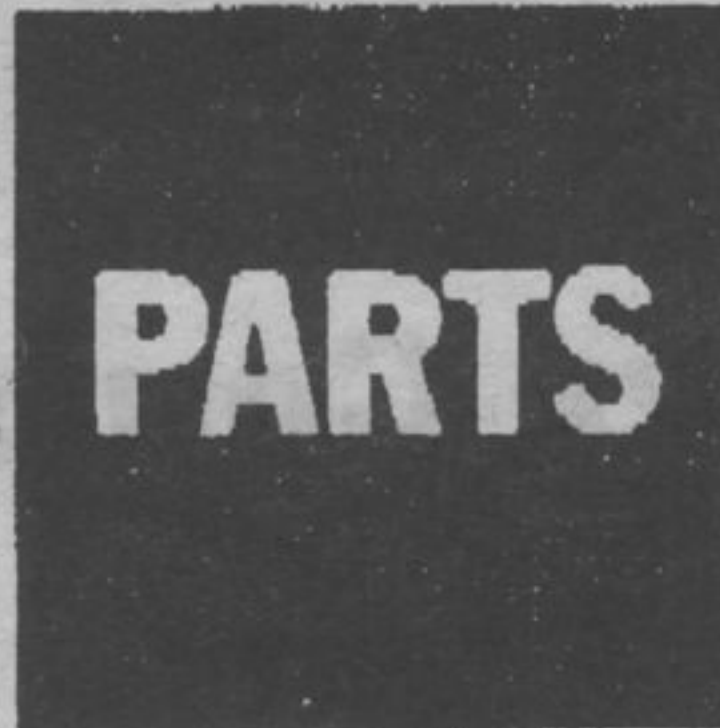
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