

# Backspace



Canadian Immigration Historical Society  
Societe historique de l'immigration canadienne  
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## END OF YEAR SOCIAL EVENTS



### ANNUAL COCKTAIL

CIHS will hold its annual cocktail reception on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 5-9PM, at the RCAF Officers' Mess, ground floor, 158 Gloucester St., Ottawa - opposite Esplanade Laurier..

There will be no admission charge, bar snacks will be

provided and drinks will go at mess prices.

This year the reception has been planed jointly with current employees of CIC. Current and past members of CIC, M&I, E&I, HRDC , CIC and DFAIT with immigration connections have been invited. Friends and spouses and non-members of CIHS are welcome.

For more information, phone Bernard Brodie at 745-8588.

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### ANNUAL DINNER

CIHS' annual informal dinner will be held June 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 at The Place Next Door on Rideau Street, Ottawa.

As usual, all CIHS members are invited. Each person chooses a meal from the menu and pays for it, as usual.

Reservations should be made through Al Gunn at (613) 256-1033.

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## PAFSO DINNER CO-SPONSOR

CIHS has responded positively to the request that it co-sponsor the annual awards dinner organized by PAFSO, which recognizes, among others, an outstanding immigration employee.

This dinner will be held at the National Arts Centre in July and will be attended in our name by our president, Randy Orr.

The cost will be offset by the publicity CIHS will achieve at the dinner and in the hopes that others will be attracted to become members of CIHS.

For information, phone Randy Orr at (613) 749-7628.



## MEMBERSHIP NOTICE

The new membership year commenced on May 1, 1997. The treasurer would appreciate receiving your membership dues of \$10.00 for 1997/98.

A goodly number have already paid up, so this is only a reminder to those who have not. Check your membership card for the expiry date.

If in doubt, phone Treasurer Al Troy at (613) 830-0737.

11 members are in arrears since April 1996. The treasurer regrettably states that this BACKSPACE will be the last unless they send \$20.00 to cover 1996/97 and 1997/98.

CIHS needs your financial as well as moral support.

The last issue of BACKSPACE generated a good return in memberships, with one new Life Member and about \$200.00 in dues and arrears.

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## PROFESSOR FREDA HAWKINS, DECEASED

by Bernard Brodie

The Society was saddened to read in the obituary column of the OTTAWA CITIZEN of the death last March of Professor Freda Hawkins.

Freda was a Life Member of this Society and keenly interested in our activities.

Although she had a wide background in political science, migration and immigration were always of special interest to Freda. In 1972 her landmark work Canada and Immigration: Public Policy and Public Concern was published by McGill-Queens University Press as part of the press' Canadian Public Administration Series.

This book was the first full-length study of Canadian immigration in fifteen years. Its aim was to tell the story of Canadian Immigration during the twenty-five year period from the end of WW II to the early 1970s. A key goal was to broaden the perspective Canadians took of immigration.

The book made it clear that viewing immigration simply as a complementary contributor to and offshoot of "manpower" policies - a phenomenon probably attributable to the re-assignment of immigration in 1966 to the new Department of Manpower and Immigration -

was a wholly insufficient conception of the true role that immigration and immigrants play in the Canadian scene.

Freda brought to this study not only a wealth of knowledge and research, but also her own personal perspective as one who had immigrated from Britain with her husband and daughter in 1955. She herself was part of the very movement studied in her book.

The book has been a standard work in the field since its publication. There can scarcely be a senior official charged with immigration work, within Canada or overseas, who has not read and been influenced by it.

In 1989, although by the returned to Britain, Freda once again produced a key study of immigration issues. Her book Critical Immigration: Canada and Australia Compared, again published by McGill-Queens, started with the years where her earlier book had ended.

She gave an overview of immigration policy and related issues in both Canada and Australia, focusing on the critical years 1972 to 1984, when both countries made major changes in immigration policy, law and programme management. She linked immigration with the overlapping issues of population, policy and multiculturalism.

This was the first comprehensive comparative study of two of the major traditional immigrant-receiving countries, which shared a good deal in common. It was also one of the few to deal with important issues of immigration management, policy and law.

Many members of our Society will remember being invited to the Ottawa launching of this book, a memorable and enjoyable occasion.

On a personal note, the last time I saw Freda was when she came to Ottawa several years ago. Harry Cunliffe had detailed me to pick her up from her Albert Street bed-and-breakfast, which she always favoured when visiting Ottawa. As she came down the stairs, I noted that both her eyesight and her walking were not what they had been and I gave her my arm to the car.

I remember when we drove through town how positive and youthful her outlook was. She said, more or less in these words, "You know, Bernard, I still feel as young as I ever

did. If I got an offer of interesting teaching work in Australia or New Zealand, I would be off tomorrow." I remember marveling at her zest for life and new experiences when her physical capacities were clearly fading.

Among Freda's other accomplishments, she was - along with the late Pauline Jewett - one of the first women to be appointed to a professorship in political science at a Canadian university. In this way, as in others, she was ahead of her time and functioned as a role model for younger women.

At the time of her death, Freda was an Emeritus Professor at the University of Toronto and Honorary Professor at the Centre for Research in Ethnic Relations of the University of Warwick, England.

The Society has indeed lost a good friend.



## 35 YEARS OF MISSPENT LIFE IN GOVERNMENT SERVICE PART 9a

by Al Troy

After a short visit to the Netherlands from April 28 to May 2, 1980 to look at what accommodation was available in The Hague, we packed up for the 20<sup>th</sup> move in our married life. We left for our final posting abroad on May 19, 1980.

We were due for home leave, but I was asked to defer it as Harry Cunliffe was leaving The Hague for retirement.

It was essential that I be there to replace him or I would probably have lost that posting. I certainly did not want that to happen. I had coveted The Hague as my final posting and I wasn't going to chance losing it.

In The Hague I was allocated a crown-owned property in a very nice neighbourhood. It was also crown-furnished and in the process of being up-graded. Because it was to be decorated from top to bottom, we were temporarily housed in another vacant Embassy property.

Our effects arrived from the UK and in a couple of weeks we were reasonably settled down at #7 Adrien Moonenweg, almost on the border of The Hague and Scheveningen. The notorious Scheveningen Prison was just at the end of our street. The prison had been used by the Gestapo during the German occupation between 1940 and 1945. All the streets in this area of The Hague were named after members of the Dutch Resistance executed by the occupiers.

George Blouin, the Canadian Ambassador to The Netherlands, was a fine gentleman. He made me feel at home from the start and I will always remember his words at our first meeting. He said that immigration was my business and he had no desire to interfere. But I should keep him fully informed of anything controversial that might develop in my work as he "didn't like surprises." We worked together without any problems until he returned to Canada about two years later.

He was replaced by Lawrence Smith. We were again blessed with a most understanding ambassador who was quite happy to continue Mr Blouin's working arrangement with me.

The Immigration Section lay about ten minutes from the Chancery on the 7<sup>th</sup> floor of a building owned by the Dutch insurance governing authority. This authority dealt with insurance policy, rate setting and other technical matters and had no direct dealings with the public. As a result, building security was easy to maintain. We also used their contract cleaners, which solved security difficulties that had arisen in other offices I had worked in.

We had an excellent local staff. Two spring to mind. Pat Brown was an English ex-serviceman who had remained in Holland after WW II and had married a young lady

from The Hague. He had been hired to work in the office dealing with German repatriations and reparations and had come to us in the late 1940s when Canada had opened its immigration office. Pat knew everyone in The Hague who was anyone and was absolutely fluent not only in the Dutch language but also in most of the local dialects.

It was amazing to see how quickly he could solve seemingly impossible problems. He was a most trustworthy and hardworking man, who unfortunately developed cancer and passed away in 1985, the year I returned to Canada. Pat Brown will always remain high on my list of people I have been honoured to work with.

Betty Loeffen was my secretary. She had been employed by the London-based Dutch government-in-exile during WW II. Upon returning home, she came to work for us. Betty tended to be a bit tardy in the mornings, but she was an excellent and trustworthy person capable of turning out large quantities of first-class work.

The other five locals had been with the office from 2 to 7 years. All were good at their jobs and got on well with each other. As a result, office morale was excellent and management was trouble-free.

I was also fortunate in having excellent Canadian officers between 1980 and 1984, namely David Clark, Susan Burrows and Tom DeWolf. David is now in New Delhi and Susan is in New York. Tom smartened up and took off for the big bucks in private industry. He is now in Holland chasing up development guilders for projects to take place after Hong Kong returns to Chinese control next year. Any hot tips, Thomas?

There was also an excellent social life in The Hague. Members of the Commonwealth formed a social group called the Amphictyons, made up mainly of British, Canadians, Australians, New Zealanders and occasionally joined by South Africans and Americans.

They organized various outings mainly involving drinking in one form or another. Our David was one of the leading lights in this outfit; not in the drinking but in the organizing. (Got you out of that nicely, didn't I, David?) It was a great group and we had a lot of fun.

Another excellent social group was the Club Jeudi, which met monthly at the Bel-Air Hotel for luncheons. Anyone below the rank of ambassador accredited to an embassy was free to become a member. Every month a different country provided its native wines and liqueurs to go with a special meal from the country. A guest speaker and free drinks were donated by the various embassies.

Lunch ran from 11:30 to 2:00 or 3:00 PM. I recall that the best wine we had was from Georgia in the former USSR and the absolutely worst was from the Republic of China. The organizers mixed members with strangers. I remember sitting at a table one time with our security man, the KGB resident, his GRU colleague, the British MI5 representative, the FBI agent and CIA station chief plus a couple of Dutch guests, who looked mean enough to be in the same line of business. The funny thing was that everyone knew what the others did for a living. I was actually the only honest worker in the whole bunch.

The Netherlands were an excellent source of immigrants, especially farmers with adequate financial resources to purchase farms in Canada. The Dutch government operated a selection process of its own to ensure that only good types were put forward for potential migration. An applicant would apply to his local emigration office, where he would be assessed. If approved, he would be asked what country he preferred. We had a good relationship with the Dutch authorities and we certainly got our share, in fact even more.

We called the applicants in for interviews and almost 100% were accepted subject to medical and background checks. Holland is a small country and rural families tended to be rather large. The biblical method of inheritance applies; the eldest son got the family farm and the others usually got a fairly substantial sum of cash to move abroad.

[to be continued]

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## JOE FREEMAN DECEASED

We have learnt that one of our former colleagues, Joe Freeman, passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 1997, at Sunnybrook Hospital in Toronto.

Joe joined the Foreign Service, Manpower and Immigration, in 1966. He held positions in Glasgow, Islamabad, Hong Kong, Toronto, Port of Spain, Bridgetown, Cairo, Trinidad, Kuwait, Kingston and Beirut.

Funeral arrangements were handled by Skinner and Middlebrook Ltd of Mississauga and contributions to the Alzheimer Society would be appreciated by the family.



## THE CZECHOSLOVAKS OF 1968/69

BY Bernard Brodie

In the period 1947-52 Canada accepted over 186,000 refugees. This movement was followed in 1957/57 by 38,000 Hungarians and in 1968/69 by 12,000 Czechoslovaks.

As was the case for the Hungarians, there existed in Canada a great deal of sympathy for Czechoslovakia, which had become a victim of invasion by Soviet and other East European forces.

In September 1968 Minister of Manpower and Immigration Allan MacEachen announced that Canada was prepared to consider applications from Czechoslovak refugees under relaxed admission criteria. Many of the refugees were medical doctors, technicians, designers and experienced tradesmen.

Canada sent a team to Vienna as the Austrians had once again offered temporary asylum to the majority of the refugees. The Canadian team included officials from the national Research Council, Canada council and the Canadian Association of Universities and colleges.

The Canadian government developed special programmes for the arriving refugees in the form of grants for transportation, language courses in English and French, employment training courses and accommodation, if not otherwise available.

Immigration officials made all the transport arrangements. By the end of 1968 about 10,000 Czechoslovakians had arrived in Canada. The total cost of the movement has been estimated at \$11 million, part of which was repaid by the refugees themselves. Unlike with the Hungarian movement, advances for airfare to Canada had to be repaid.

As was the case for the Hungarians, the composition of the Czechoslovaks was suitable for the Canadian labour market. Nearly 70% of the heads of household destined for the labour force were under the age of 40 and 19% had more than 12 years of education. Of the latter, one third fell into the professional or highly skilled categories.

The majority of these people were quickly absorbed into the Canadian labour force. A longitudinal study of 2,000 of them undertaken by the Department of Manpower and Immigration showed that only 10% remained unemployed three years after arrival.

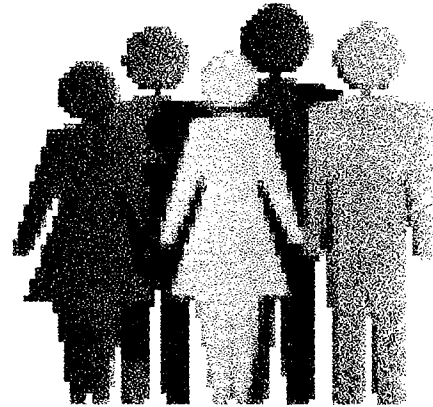
The study provided a good insight into their adaptation in Canada. When the refugees had arrived in Canada, the country was undergoing a slowdown in the economy. As a result, the refugees experienced a higher rate of unemployment in the initial period after arrival than other regular immigrants and a Canadian control group.

However, Czechoslovaks in the age group 25-44, the better educated and those in technical and professional occupations had a lower rate of joblessness. Average duration of unemployment shrunk from seven weeks in the first year to four weeks in the third year.

Czechoslovak refugees proved to be particularly stable in the jobs they obtained.

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**DO YOU HAVE ANY SMALL ARTICLES FOR BACKSPACE? WE'D LOVE TO HAVE THEM.** Bob Keyserlingk, editor



## CIHS ARCHIVES

CIHS now possesses 18 boxes of historical immigration material deposited by members. These boxes are housed at present at Al Troy's home,

J ALAN TROY  
41 WOODHILL CRES  
GLOUCESTER ONT  
K1B 3B7

- Box 1 Bill Clarke, 1960s - 1980s
- Box 2 Ministerial correspondence.
- Box 3 Bill Burton
- Box 4 Fenton Crossman photos, Canada Books 1936-1950s
- Box 5 Ditto 1920s Chinese certificates and misc
- Box 6 McFaul 1950s - 1970s
- Box 7 McFaul photos 1950s - 1960s
- Box 8 Eileen Dew 1970s-1980s
- Box 9 Fenton Crossman 1930s-1990s
- Box 10 Harry Cunliffe, Edna Whinney
- Box 11 Harry Cunliffe 1967-
- Box 12 Harry Cunliffe 1937- 1970s
- Box 13 Viggie Ring, videos, Hungarian/Ugandan seminars, John and Carrie Hunter
- Box 14 misc histories and documents, Ed Ziegler
- Box 15 Whinney, Burton, Troy, videos
- Box 16 Mitchell and Crossman memoirs, misc
- Box 17 Ring and Joe Bissett
- Box 18 Misc

If you have any documents etc, rather than throwing them out, please think of our growing archives.

# MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL/SUBSCRIPTION/ CHANGE OF ADDRESS

(PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR MEMBERSHIP YEAR RUNS FROM MAY 1 TO APRIL 30 !!!)

Please enter/renew my membership in the Canadian Immigration Historical Society or note my new address:

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ [PLEASE PRINT]

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
CHANGE OF ADDRESS ONLY [ ]  
\_\_\_\_\_  
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FEE ENCLOSED:                      Life - 100.00 [ ]                      or                      Annual - 10.00 [ ]  
]

PLEASE SEND THIS FORM WITH YOUR CHEQUE TO :

The Treasurer  
The Canadian Immigration Historical Society  
P.O. Box 9502, Station T  
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