



The Canadian Immigration Historical Society
La Société Historique De L'Immigration Canadienne
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C.I.H.S. BULLETIN S.H.I.C.

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HELP WANTED

With real regret we have to announce the departure of Bernard Brodie from the Bulletin. Bernard has had to reduce his very devoted work commitment to C.I.H.S. because of the demands of his present assignment. Members who may be interested in helping to develop the Bulletin as an integral part of the Society's program might phone our new number (613) 733-1074 or write to the President for further information. An arrangement could, we think, be developed for members here and outside the Ottawa area to participate as Contributing Editors. This could help us to relate more closely to the Society's program objectives and membership than has been possible previously.

THE SUPPLEMENTS

SUPPLEMENT 'A' "In the Bookshops" is the result of monitoring the new books that have appeared locally since Bulletin #4 of March, '88. Some may not be specific to the broad picture of immigration history but each provides a scene from which the complete frame can be developed. If the number of titles is a criterion it would seem that Canadian publishers are displaying an increased interest in the "public policy and concern" in immigration. The quotes are used to indicate plagiarism from the sub-title of Freda Hawkin's "Canada and Immigration". This has been brought up to date by addendum and revision of appendices. The second edition was published, together with her new study, "Critical Years in Immigration - Canada and Australia Compared", in April, '89.

The work and insights Dr Hawkins, an honorary life member of the Society, has given to the analysis of post World War II immigration to Canada and Australia requires no review by this publication (even if one of our members had the temerity to attempt it) since she has established a standard for academic reference on immigration.

A personal note which may be of interest: Dr Hawkins came to Canada as an immigrant in 1955, a housewife, and her scholarly qualifications were all acquired at the University of Toronto. Her interest in immigration developed from a suggestion by a faculty adviser that immigration might be of more interest and significance than the more mundane topic she had proposed to him for her Ph.D. work.

Regarding the other titles reviewed, it is a pleasure to report that in each case either the writer or the reviewer is a member of the Society.

There is another and significant title we can now bring to the attention of members, Refugee Movements and Policy in Canada, by our own Ed Ziegler. This paper is one of two Dr Ziegler was commissioned to prepare for the Demographic Review by National Health and Welfare, authorized by the government on April 29, 1986, "to study the possible changes in the size, structure and distribution of the population of Canada to 2025, and to report on how these changes might affect Canada's social and economic life".

Fenton Crosman notes for us that the study gives an overview of the refugee movements to Canada from the

late 18th century to the present. It covers the complex and controversial issue of refugee determination, together with a statistical and narrative review of the operation of the appeal system. He recommends it be read not only by those immediately concerned with refugee matters but anyone interested in the history of immigration to Canada.

The Ziegler study, as are all of the many other scholarly submissions (167) to the Demographic Review Secretariat in its three years of consultation and research, is available to the public from the University of Alberta's Population Research Laboratory, 1 - 62 H. M. Tory Building, Edmonton, T6G 2H4, and the University of Montreal's Department of Demography, C.P./P.O. Box 6128, Station A, Montreal, H3C 3J7. There are charges by the Universities; details in our next issue.

The report itself, Charting Canada's Future, released last December (without too much attention given by the media, at least in Ottawa), is available, free, from the Demographic Review Secretariat, National Health and Welfare, Ottawa, K1A 0K9. In ye humble editor's opinion this is a jewel in the array of government documentation - succinct text and understandable graphics which fully cover the wide scope of the study, including immigration, both past and future.

A synopsis paper on the highlights of the report gives the following under a heading Population and Immigration:

"Canada will continue to see new Canadians coming from a wider range of countries. In general, these immigrants will be the same as new Canadians of the past - educated, energetic and skilled contributors to a modern and prosperous society.

"* In the last four decades, immigration has been a focussed phenomenon. The majority of new Canadians go to Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver. Other major urban centres include Calgary, Edmonton, and Winnipeg. Immigrants rarely settle in the east, the north or in rural areas.

"* The range of source countries for new Canadians has broadened, and will continue to do so in the 1990s and 21st century. The top ten sources of immigrants to Canada in 1986, starting with the greatest source, were: the United States, India, Vietnam, Hong Kong, Poland, the United Kingdom, Jamaica, the Phillipines, Guyana, El Salvador. In 1956, the list included only European nations and the United States.

"* Immigrants are making a positive economic impact on Canada. The majority of immigrants are highly educated. Their income is, on average, comparable to their fellow Canadians.

"* Immigrants of the future will continue their historical role of reinforcing the trends in Canadian society, in particular the trend towards a better educated, culturally diverse, cosmopolitan society."

There is a paragraph in the report which may be helpful to those among us who like to take a position on immigration with irate friends or acquaintances:

"Without immigration, continuation of Canada's below replacement fertility rates would eventually lead to Canada's disappearance. The large proportion of the population currently in the childbearing ages would again maintain growth in the short term. The population would grow to a peak of 28 million in 2011, but the subsequent decline would never cease. This decline, however, would be relatively

slow; the population would still be above 19 million one hundred years hence in 2086. The graph's depiction of the last Canadian disappearing in 2786 emphasizes the most important aspect of these "what if" explorations; they help understand the meaning of today's rates; they say nothing meaningful about tomorrow's populations."

Looked at carefully, this seems to apply to both sides of any immigration argument.

SUPPLEMENT 'B'

The economics and logistics of the Society to date have made it necessary to use the Bulletin as a means of transmission for announcements and an annual report to members, and this issue is no exception. The procedure does, however, impair a regular publication schedule for the Bulletin and we hope to be able to make other arrangements with the Board. There is a healthy amount of material for Bulletin Supplements which is now or will soon be available. Just as importantly, the affairs and financial position of the Society have progressed to the point that preparation and timely circulation of the Annual Report to members for their review should be done on its own cycle.

The minutes of the last Annual General Meeting held on Saturday, May 13th, 1989, are part of this supplement. It was a good meeting ... excellent participation from the floor ... a lively discussion of some of the main issues on the horizon then current and some interesting proposals for initiatives the Society might take for the future.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The slate of candidates presented by the outgoing board was accepted at the A.G.M. and at that and subsequent Board meetings the following were appointed or elected as the officers of the corporate body:

Hon. President - Jack Manion
 Hon. Vice-President -
 Fenton Crosman
 Past President - Bud Clark

President - Hedevig (Viggi) Ring
 Vice President - Bob Keyserlingk,
 (Chair, Research and Publications)
 Secretary - Bob Shalka
 Treasurer - Al Troy
 Membership Secretary -
 Carrie Hunter

Directors: - Bill Clark (Edmonton), Harry Cunliffe (Editor, C.I.H.S. Bulletin S.H.I.C., and A/Chair, Program Committee), Al Gunn, John Hunter, John LeBlanc (Regional Representative, Nova Scotia), Stan Maletich (Toronto), Bert Cheffins (Winnipeg), George Varnai (Vancouver), and Ed Ziegler.

Space is limited and for now we can only provide you with a biographical snapshot of the president, Viggi Ring.

Viggi's c.v. fits better in a category once known as an immigrant success story than the public stereotype of an immigration officer. Daughter of a Danish country parson, under the comparatively benign Nazi occupation of Denmark she was able to finish her education with an M.A. in Religion, Danish, and English Literature at the University of Copenhagen in 1946.

She arrived in Canada in 1947 as a non-immigrant after a post graduate fellowship from Mount Holyoke College, Massachusetts, to work as an assistant

editor, Danish section, with the CBC International Service in Montreal. From that point she experienced immigration on both sides of the desk.

After a series of semi-annual visits to the Montreal immigration office to prolong her status, on June 7th, 1950 her application for landing resulted in a deportation order; she didn't have a "valid and subsisting immigration visa", and she wasn't a domestic or farm worker. Her appeal was successful and she was landed at Montreal on August 1st, 1950.

Following a visit to Denmark she returned to Montreal and was one of a small group of multi-lingual Clerk 3/Interpreters recruited by Montreal Immigration to cope with an unprecedented influx of displaced persons in December 1951 on the closing of the camps in Europe. Viggi, as were the others, was soon working as a placement officer to cope with the volume of arrivals. (She was so employed during the arrival of the Hungarians.)

Canadian citizenship came in October, 1956. Miss Ring qualified for appointment to the Foreign Branch of Immigration in 1960 on the final competition available to those in the department without university graduation, or over age 31. Postings to Copenhagen (not altogether satisfying since the applicants thought she spoke Danish a bit too well to be a "real" Canadian), Cairo, Helsinki, Stockholm, Ottawa, Belgrade, and Glasgow flew by until she retired in 1982 as an F.S. 3.

The Bulletin asked Viggi for a short message to members and she responded as follows:

"From its inception the Society has been carried forward by a small but very dedicated group of people; I

would hope that we can now begin to reach out to other members as our programs continue to develop. The President and the Board of Directors can only take their mandate and support from the membership. We count on this, as well as your tolerance and forbearance for our shortcomings. Although we now have a reasonably sound financial base, for the next few years we must continue to rely on voluntary labour, home facilities, and the Canada Post box as our office address.

Looking back over the two short years of our official existence I think we can all feel satisfied with what has been accomplished. I hope that my term of office will see the same progress, and that in its next issue the Bulletin can speak with confidence of the support of members for the developments and initiatives the Board has in mind.

On this, members are requested to make a careful appraisal of the revised prospectus (blue leaflet enclosed in this package). Your reaction or suggestions on the 'forward planning' item are very important. The prospectus has been approved by the Board and its acceptance by members will determine the Society's course of action for the next several years. Those who remain silent will be assumed to be registering their agreement and support by payment of the annual subscription of their choice for the Society's next financial year which begins on May 1st.

Viggi Ring

FROM THE TREASURER

Viggi seems to have stolen a good deal of my message in the above but a good story is always worth repeating.

At a meeting of the Board on October 3rd, 1989, it was agreed that a copy of Fenton Crosman's Memoirs should be distributed to each paid-up member of the Society, without any attempt to recover costs. We felt that in this way we were being consistent with the primary goals of the Society, ensuring a wider circulation of the publication, and establishing a principle. The same course was taken last year with the reminiscences of our late friend and colleague, Maurice Mitchell. Both these publications have been well received and have added to the credibility of the Society. If you have not already circulated them please do so, and particularly to those who have an interest in immigration and are eligible for membership.

Of course, any member who wishes to make a contribution, as a number have done, to the publishing and mailing costs, over and above their annual subscription, is welcome to do so. These were big ticket items and the Board's decision was made easier by an indication that C.E.I.C would be continuing their corporate membership and, out of the blue, a gift of \$1000 received from the Directorate of Immigration, Alberta and North West Territories, per Ms. I.B. Wilson, the Director. So that no misconceptions can develop I should add that this most generous donation came from a private regional fund that had built up over some years from the sale of immigration caps and plaques for retirement, etc., at slightly over actual cost.

The accumulation of capital by an organization such as ours, required to meet Canada Taxation rules on its disbursements of income for which receipts for tax purposes are issued, presents some problems. If the trust fund that has been suggested were established the principle and interest would be locked in for ten years by the tax provisions. The C.E.I.C. and

Alberta/N.W.T. assistance will be of great help to the Society for its year to year program budgeting since official receipts for tax purposes need not be issued.

I hope to have a proposal ready for members to consider at the next Annual General Meeting. In the meantime I am enclosing an application/renewal form for your next membership payment. A receipt will be issued in every instance but if you feel you do not require an official receipt for tax purposes please so indicate.

Al Troy

NOTES FROM THE EDITOR

Sadly, the following names of our late members, W.J. (Bill) Brennan, W.O. (Fuzz) Darling, S.S. (Stan) Hunter and C.K. (Ken) Stroger are no longer on our membership list.

Carrie Hunter, our Membership Secretary, carries the daunting title of Chief, Immigration Identity Program, Resource Planning and Control, at Immigration. Some members of the Society were able to help Carrie to set up a display of immigration memorabilia at Immigration last fall. It generated considerable interest. The long range goal is to trace the evolution of the Immigration uniform. Something that our older members might never have thought could happen - a pregnancy uniform as issue.

You will find in the package a truly notable piece of paper (on ivory stock) - your invitation to Breaking Ground: The 1956 Hungarian Refugee Movement. Please call if you intend to attend since the lunch arrangements require some prior notice. This event, a first, is jointly funded with the University as the major partner.

