



BMR

NEWS
BRIEFS

32 ISABELLA STREET, TORONTO 5

February 15, 1961.

ON THE MOVE THROUGH ONTARIO

On January 31st the first of a series of panel discussions sponsored by the Y.M.H.A. and the Toronto Telegram was broadcast to listeners in the Toronto area. The subject of the first debate was municipal politics. A highly qualified panel of experts, including our Director, Eric Hardy, Metropolitan Chairman Fred Gardiner, were interrogated by the municipal staff of the Telegram. Questions put to the panel were direct and designed to put the participants "on the spot". To this end the Tely staff were often assisted by other members of the panel and a fast and occasionally heated discussion of current municipal questions resulted.

This was but one of many public speaking engagements which have kept the staff of our organizations on the move through Ontario for the past few months. Frank McGilly Research Associate, recently addressed the Peterborough Rotary Club, Eric Hardy the Trenton and Schomberg Lions Clubs. Mr. Hardy has also participated on panels in Oakville, Kitchener and at the Toronto Board of Trade.

The Institute and Bureau staff welcome such invitations as an opportunity to combine public service with informing organizations and individuals of the work done by the Bureau of Municipal Research and the Citizens Research Institute of Canada.

AN ADDITION TO STAFF

The Bureau and Institute are most pleased to report to members that Mr. Lionel Feldman, B.A., has joined our staff as a Research Associate. A former employee of the Special Projects Branch of the Department of Municipal Affairs, Mr. Feldman brings to the position both experience and training in political economy.

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR THE ELECTORS

"It is aimed directly at the electors of the Metropolitan area to assist them in choosing the men and women who will represent them for the next two years... All of the questions must be answered by the successful campaigners in the next two years.."

Many of our members will have noted that the bulletin issued prior to this year's election took a new approach. In the past the Bureau has provided its readers with background information for the election. This year, with a struggle of personalities which threatened to obscure all other considerations, the Bureau concentrated on drawing attention to the important issues. In this we were undoubtedly successful. Through the co-operation of the Women Electors Association and through newspaper coverage --including in one instance reproduction of the entire bulletin--we obtain a circulation which would be almost impossible to estimate.

INTERESTED IN PENSION PLANS?

Frank McGilly, of the staff of the Bureau and Institute, has just completed a summary of pension plans in effect in various Ontario municipalities. The survey, which was undertaken on behalf of the Ontario Municipal Association, can be obtained by our members through this office (50¢ a copy).

THE BUREAU AND INSTITUTE'S CONTRIBUTION TO EDUCATION

For several years the Director of the B.M.R. and the C.R.I.C. has promoted an active friendship between our organizations and the University of Toronto. In addition to conducting a regular course in local government, Mr. Hardy frequently appears as a guest speaker in various other courses and lecture series. Referring to an annual lecture given by the Director to the Library School, Mrs. Bassam, Library School Director, writes "It is kind of you to speak to the students again ... We really do need you.". This mutually beneficial relationship not only contributes to the scope of our present organizations but also promises that those who are most likely in future to have interests in common with and to support the Bureau and the Institute --those who, as young men and women, have already shown an interest in government-- will be made aware of the existence of the B.M.R. and the C.R.I.C. at an early stage in their career.

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