



The United Church of Canada

Community Centres

OR

Institutional Churches

IN

The West at

AHOUSAT
BATTLEFORD
BIENFAIT
BONNYVILLE
CALGARY

EDMONTON
ETHELBERT
FILE HILLS
FORT WILLIAM
FRASER VALLEY
GYPSUMVILLE

KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN KAMSACK

MOOSE MOUNTAIN

NANAIMO NEWCASTLE

PINCHER CREEK
PRINCE RUPERT
PRINCE GEORGE
REGINA
ROSSMAN

ROSSMAN SASKATOON SKIDGATE SMOKY LAKE

SUPERIOR PRESBYTERY

VANCOUVER VICTORIA

VILNA

WINNIPEG WHITE FOX

YORKTON

The East at

GLACE BAY
HALIFAX
HALTON
HAMILTON
MATHESON
MONTREAL
N. FRONTENAC

NIAGARA OTTAWA

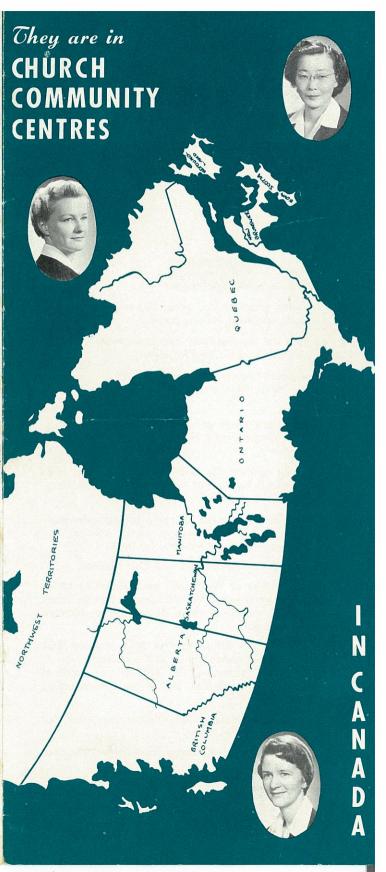
RAMA (MUSKOKA) ST. CATHARINES

ST. JOHN
ST. JOHN'S
SUDBURY
SYDNEY
TORONTO
TWILLINGATE
WELLAND
WINDSOR

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY HAD 70 WOMEN IN CHURCH COMMUNITY WORK IN 1959

THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

1959 (10-M)



What a Community Missionary Does

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Despite Canada's Christian heritage and rich resources many of her individual citizens, minority groups and new arrivals are disturbed, lonely, despairing, rudderless. To help them meet their needs and to draw them within the Christian fellowship single women missionaries work and witness through church community centres and institutional churches.

Depending on circumstances and place the community missionary

in Social Services

- meets the practical and social needs of patients in hospitals, sanitaria, nursing homes.
- counsels the handicapped and convalescent, finding shelter, jobs and training for them.
- helps Indian families from Reserves find work, housing, medical care, friends and Christian fellowship in the city.
- helps Indian students and employed young people to find boarding places and to adjust to the impersonal life of a city.
- welcomes and advises new Canadians, making contacts on their behalf with landlords, schools, doctors, employment agencies, English classes.
- initiates clubs for senior citizens, helping individuals find proper shelter, medical care, and so on. Organizes camps and holidays for them.
- works with the unemployed and their families.
- refers families or single men and women to social agencies when advisable and cooperates in cases that social welfare workers, doctors or psychiatrists refer to church.
- shares with the Elizabeth Fry, John Howard and Alcoholics Anonymous groups in the rehabilitation of prisoners or alcoholics, the tangible or spiritual support of their families, and in the prevention of delinquency.
- provides a homework room, lunches, recreation for children in crowded areas.
- works with interested women from uptown churches who offer their help.
- instigates social action.

in Education

- trains leaders and teachers for Sunday and midweek groups.
- plans and finds leaders for Vacation Schools, some of which last 6 weeks.
- holds classes in English for men and women from Europe and the East.
- arranges craft and other interest groups for seniors and teen-agers, millinery and dressmaking for young mothers.
- provides child welfare talks for mothers.
- trains junior or teen-age choirs which meet for rehearsal and fun, sometimes for food.
- participates in a club with inexperienced men and women, helping them plan programs to meet their needs.
- looks after books sent fortnightly to the reading room by the Public Library.
- gives leadership in Christian drama.

Preparation

TO FILL SUCH A VARIETY OF RESPONSIBILITIES A COM-MUNITY MISSIONARY MUST HAVE EXPERIENCE IN CHURCH GROUPS AND BE A GRADUATE OF THE UNITED CHURCH TRAINING SCHOOL

AND

HAVE SENIOR MATRICULATION (or equivalent) PLUS BUSINESS OR PROFESSIONAL TRAINING (such as a teacher) WITH AT LEAST 2 YEARS' PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE.

OF

BE A UNIVERSITY GRADUATE AND, IF POSSIBLE, HAVE THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF RELIGIOUS EDUCATION. SOCIAL WORKERS ARE PARTICULARLY VALUABLE. SKILL IN MUSIC, ART, CRAFTS, DRAMA IS OF GREAT VALUE, AS IS EXPERIENCE IN CAMP OR PLAYGROUND LEADERSHIP.

in Evangelism

- supervises church school and other Sunday groups.
- preaches sometimes.
- participates in a congregation with members who share its responsibilities loyally.
- is always ready to listen—to boys and girls, young people, parents, older people, disturbed people, enthusiastic people.
- visits the sick, handicapped or older folk.
- leads Bible Study in adult, C.G.I.T. or Hi C meetings.
- plays the organ or piano for worship.
- initiates and helps with W.M.S. mission study.
- gives family and individual counselling.
- is always ready with new ideas when a class or project drags.
- makes the centre an attractive spot.
- gives herself in appreciation and fellowship wherever needed, discovering that interruptions can be the most important moments.
- sometimes provides Christian Education in schools.
- is first on the job as a Christian neighbour when a new family moves into the community.
- stands by to give support and reassurance in court situations.