

Although Canada did not participate in the Stamp Plan, the Canadian Government authorized post offices throughout the country to use a special World Refugee Year postal cancellation during May and June of this year, which read "World Refugee Year - Remember and Give". It was hoped that this would provide in the final stages of World Refugee Year a reminder and an encouragement to the general public to contribute to their local World Refugee Year committee.

Canadian Fund Campaign

For their part, the Canadian people responded to the United Nations appeal for support of World Refugee Year and carried on an intensive fund-raising campaign. This campaign was co-ordinated by the Canadian Committee for World Refugee Year set up by 43 major voluntary and religious organizations. Some 35 local committees were formed to carry on the campaign in their respective districts. The Canadian Committee carried out an intensive publicity campaign involving press releases, publicity brochures and radio and television spot announcements. During one four-month period, it was estimated that over 30,000 announcements had been made on radio and television in support of the World Refugee Year programme in Canada. In addition, mayors and reeves of municipalities across Canada proclaimed the last week of April to be National Austerity Week. During that week Canadians were requested to deny themselves some luxury or pleasure on which they would ordinarily spend money and to send the money so saved to their local World Refugee Year committee. During that week tag days and other methods of fund-raising were employed in aid of World Refugee Year.

The sum collected by these private groups, which has not yet been finally calculated, will be used in assisting programmes carried on by the High Commissioner for Refugees and UNRWA. Thirteen European camps have been adopted by name and will be closed by various local committees across Canada, using part of the "pledged" funds. The Canadian Committee also hopes to allocate a substantial sum towards building and maintaining for several years a vocational training centre for young Arab refugees in Syria. Part of the funds will also be used to assist Chinese refugees in Hong Kong.

Canadian schoolchildren, through the Junior Red Cross, have also been active during World Refugee Year and, as the Secretary-General mentioned in his report, they have been able to collect \$150,000 to help refugee children. Part of this money is to be used to provide two physiotherapists and a school teacher to serve in Hong Kong for the next two years. A part will be used to provide drugs and clothing to children in Greece and Indonesia and a part will help provide milk and protein supplements to refugee children in Tunisia and Morocco.

In carrying on the World Refugee Year campaign, Canadian committees and voluntary organizations received invaluable assistance and encouragement from the High Commissioner's Special Representative for World Refugee Year, who did much to create an awareness in Canada of the refugee problem. Because of his experience, he was also able to help organize the committees to get maximum effect from their efforts.