

Michener awards presented

The *Edmonton Journal* has won the 1980 Michener Award for journalism with "moving and deeply sensitive stories" about abuses in the Alberta systems for child welfare and foster care.

Governor General Edward Schreyer announced the decision recently at a Government House dinner.

Toronto radio station CHUM-FM received honourable mention for a one-hour program on abuse by doctors in the Parkdale area of the city involving prescription drug issuing privileges.

Citations of merit

The Toronto daily newspapers *The Globe and Mail* and the *Toronto Star* received equal citations of merit for their submissions among the 30 entries.

The *Globe* entry dealt with the deaths in 1979 in Northern Ontario of seven young summer forestry workers in a fire set to clear debris. The *Star's* submission led to Khristine Linklater, a Yukon woman convicted of the slaying of her abusive husband, being freed.

Wendy Koenig, who won an honourable mention for *The Journal* in 1979, wrote the two-part series receiving the top prize this time. The award is for meritorious service in journalism benefiting the public interest and is named after Roland Michener, a former governor general.

Her work led to a provincial commission being appointed to examine the child-welfare system. She reported abuses in the Peace River area. Her stories led to sweeping changes in screening foster parents, monitoring foster homes and placing of foster children.

Alberta ombudsman Randall Ivany said that as a result of her series, he had launched three investigations and "in all of these I have been able to confirm the accuracy" of her stories.

Honourable mention

CHUM's honourable mention, the fruit of hundreds of hours of research over six months, led to one doctor's licence being cancelled by the College of Physicians and Surgeons, with hearings set for a second doctor.

The station's investigation was generated by evidence that a man had died from an overdose of drugs prescribed by doctors.

The *Globe* stories arose from the disastrous "burn" near Geraldton, Ontario,

in which seven young people were unable to escape the blaze they had helped set. Reporters Mary Kate Rowan and James Jefferson produced stories leading to a Legislature inquiry and new rules for such debris burns by the Ontario Department of Natural Resources.

Toronto Star reporter Frank Jones wrote the other citation of merit winner concerning Mrs. Linklater, a former cross-country ski competitor who shot her husband after a night of drinking and was convicted of second-degree murder.

Mr. Jones, helped by community women concerned that an Indian woman was convicted by an all-white jury, wrote stories about the impact of alcohol on family life in the area.

Mrs. Linklater was released to Mr. Jones's care by an appeal court to wait out a successful bid to have the sentence set aside and eventually was rehabilitated.

Philippine foreign minister visits

Philippine Foreign Minister, General Carlos P. Romulo, recently visited Canada at the invitation of Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan.

During his visit to Ottawa, General Romulo and Dr. MacGuigan spoke on a wide range of international and bilateral issues. Constituting an important part of the discussion was an *aide-memoire* setting out Philippine proposals for trade, foreign investment insurance, economic and energy co-operation agreements with Canada, development assistance, and



Foreign Affairs Minister Romulo (left) presents Dr. MacGuigan with a gift.

mutual co-operation in the fields of culture, education and science.

The Philippine foreign minister's visit indicated the growing importance of Canada's relations with the Philippines, both bilaterally and as a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. In 1980, Canada's exports to the Philippines totalled \$108 million and imports from the Philippines amounted to \$101 million.

General Romulo, accompanied by his wife, Mrs. Beth Day Romulo, also attended a luncheon hosted by Dr. MacGuigan. The Philippine foreign minister called on Senate Speaker Jean Marchand, attended dinners given by the ASEAN ambassadors and the Canadian Philippine Council and was the guest at a reception hosted in his honour by Philippine Ambassador Ramon del Rosario.

A highlight of their stay in Canada was a visit by General and Mrs. Romulo to the National Defence College of Canada in Kingston, Ontario where an honorary degree was conferred on the foreign minister earlier this year.

Canadian skater wins again

Canadian figure skater Tracey Wainman won her second international title in three weeks by finishing first at the Skate Canada figure skating competition held recently in Ottawa.

Miss Wainman of Toronto placed third in the three segments of the competition — free skating, the short program and compulsory figures — to take the title. She finished ahead of Rosalynn Summers of the United States. Miss Wainman also finished first at the recent St. Ivel competition in England.

Last year the International Skating Union instituted new scoring regulations designed to ensure that the most consistent skater rises to the top. The new point system was introduced to prevent a skater developing a sizable lead after compulsory figures and coasting to a championship with only mediocre free skating.

Norbert Schram of West Germany finished first in the men's event followed by Brian Orser of Penetanguishene, Ontario. Mr. Orser won both the short and long programs but Mr. Schram skated more consistently to win the title.

Carol Fox and Richard Dalley of the United States won the ice-dancing title ahead of Karen Barber and Nicholas Slater of Britain.