

*Status of Women**

THE fourteenth session of the Commission on the Status of Women was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from March 28 to April 14, 1960. As in the previous two years, Canada participated as a member of the Commission. Mrs. Harry S. Quart of Quebec City was the Canadian representative, with Marion Royce, Director of the Women's Bureau of the Department of Labour, as alternate.

The eighteen-member body is a functional commission of the Economic and Social Council, which prepares studies on the status of women in the political, economic, social and educational fields. Member nations are elected to the Commission for a period of three years. This year, therefore, brought to a close Canada's current direct participation in its sessions.

Other countries participating in the fourteenth session were Argentina, China, Colombia, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Finland, France, Greece, Israel, Japan, Mexico, the Netherlands, Pakistan, Poland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom and the United States of America. Official observers were present from Hungary, Peru, Rumania and Uruguay. The ILO, UNESCO and WHO, the three Specialized Agencies with which the Commission works most closely, were also represented. A number of non-governmental organizations in a consultative relation to the Economic and Social Council took advantage of their privilege of representation to put before the Commission the points of view of their organizations on various items of the agenda.

Mrs. Blanca Stabile, delegate of Argentina, was elected chairman of the Commission, with Mrs. Zofia Dembinska of Poland as first vice-chairman, Mrs. Quart of Canada as second vice-chairman, and Mrs. Alexandra Mantzoulinos of Greece as rapporteur. Mrs. S. Grinberg-Vinaver, Chief of the Section on the Status of Women, represented the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and Miss Aline Fenwick acted as secretary to the Commission.

The sessions of the Commission, held in the chamber of the Faculty of Law of the University of Buenos Aires, attracted a great deal of attention. Observers crowded the galleries and the press reported the discussions from day to day. A local reception committee had planned a variety of social events and excursions, which gave the delegates an opportunity to meet many people and become acquainted with the country. The President of Argentina, Dr. Arturo Frondizi, spoke to the members of the Commission at a special reception on the opening day, when the 18 delegates also gathered to lay a wreath on the monument to the national hero, San Martin.

The many informal contacts brought to light a warmth of feeling among Argentinians towards Canada. Several times the Canadian representative was

*By Miss Marion V. Royce, Director, Women's Bureau, Department of Labour, and. Alternate Representative for Canada at the fourteenth session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.