VISITS

On several occasions your Committee visited various facilities in Ottawa and throughout Canada dealing with rehabilitation, technical aids, independent living and group accommodation.

To become familiar with the approaches taken by other countries, your Committee met with several international authorities and visited a wide range of services for the handicapped and disabled. Immediately following its organization meeting in June, the Committee attended the 1980 World Congress of Rehabilitation International in Winnipeg. In mid-summer, the Committee went to Washington, D.C. and Boston for a thorough briefing on American federal and state legislation for the handicapped. Later, your Committee travelled to Great Britain, Sweden, France and the Federal Republic of Germany to examine their policies and programs for the handicapped and disabled.

HEARINGS

To hear first hand the views, concerns and recommendations of Canadians, your Committee divided into two Sub-committees and travelled to 18 cities and towns. The 408 deputations making presentations to the Sub-committees came from a broad cross-section of Canadians interested in the needs of the disabled and handicapped. Individuals, disabled consumer groups, voluntary associations, professional associations, rehabilitation institutes, provincial governments, municipalities and agencies were among those who appeared before the Committee. In addition, your Committee has received hundreds of written briefs and papers from individuals, organizations, municipalities, provincial Governments and federal departments and agencies.

To increase public awareness of the major issues affecting disabled Canadians, several Committee members participated in hot-line shows, appeared on local and national television and radio programs, and gave numerous press interviews.

LOCATION OF HEARINGS

- · St. John's
- Halifax
- Charlottetown
- Moncton
- Montreal
- Sherbrooke

- Chicoutimi
- Woodstock (Ont.)
- Kitchener
- Toronto
- Ottawa
- Timmins

- Winnipeg
- Brandon
- · Regina
- Calgary
- Vancouver
- Whitehorse

FINAL REPORT

Work is currently underway on the final report which is to be tabled in the House of Commons no later than December 19, 1980.

This report will contain your Committee's recommendations on all subjects outlined in the Order of Reference.

MEMBERS OF COMMITTEE

DAVID SMITH Chairman

WALTER DINSDALE

Vice-Chairman

THÉRÈSE KILLENS

Vice-Chairman

J. RAYMOND CHÉNIER

BRUCE HALLIDAY

PETER LANG

NEIL YOUNG

RICHARD RUMAS
Clerk of the Committee