

TIEDOTUKSIA

REUNION OF SISTERS, conference, held in Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minnesota, June 17-22, 1986

Sponsored jointly by the Universities of Minnesota and Kuopio, the conference was attended by some 200 persons, 50 of them from Finland. It was inspired by the life-work of the Finnish playwright Minna Canth, an early pioneer of the women's liberation movement. The program was the first of its kind dealing in breadth and depth with the work, position and motives of Finnish, Finnish-American and American women. The participants were representatives of the arts and sciences and political life of North America and Finland. In addition to the

lectures and speeches given, the program included meetings of working groups composed of representatives of different branches of scholarly research. The Finnish chairman of the History Working Group was Olavi Koivukangas.

The next Reunion of Sisters conference will be held in August 1987 in the city of Kuopio, Finland. Warm thanks are due to Marianne Wargelin-Brown, Carl Ross and the rest of the organizers of this year's conference.

(Olavi Koivukangas)



Mrs. Diane Magrath opening the Reunion of Sisters conference at the Earl Brown Center. Seated up front, at the left are ex-Ambassador to Finland Mr. and Mrs Keith Nyborg.

Pan-Scandinavian Collaboration in Migration Studies

A center for migration studies, The Norwegian Emigration Center, opened its doors at Stavanger, Norway, in June this year. In honor of the occasion, the directors of corresponding institutions in the other Nordic countries met there to take a look around and to discuss various forms of collaboration. The Norwegian center is concentrating, at least in the beginning, on assisting genealogical researchers and, in particular, the

descendants of Norwegian emigrants in North America. The close relations between The Norwegian Emigration Center and the tourist trade is reflected by the fact that the center is temporarily based in the city's biggest hotel. The city of Stavanger has given the new cultural center a warm welcome and the problem of a permanent location for its headquarters is expected to be solved shortly.



The heads of the several Scandinavian institutes of migration studies: Olavi Koivukangas (left), of Turku, Finland; Helle Otte, Aalborg, Denmark; Hans Eyvind Naess, Stavanger, Norway; and Ulf Beijbom, Växjö, Sweden.

The matters dominating the discussions were the computerizing of data and the possibilities of collaboration in this area as well as the preparations being made to

celebrate in 1988 the 200th anniversary of the European settlement of Australia. In February of that year, a seminar will be held in Melbourne on Scandinavian emigration to



The Norwegian Emigration Center, which was founded in 1986, is presently housed in temporary quarters but hopes to be able to move to these premises in downtown Stavanger, where the municipal bureau of social affairs is now located.

Australia. The hope has been expressed that the Nordic countries would assemble a joint exhibit to depict pictorially emigration from Scandinavia to Australia. A duplicate exhibit might be put together to tour the four Fennoscandian countries.

Thanks are due to Dr. Hans Eyvind Naess for making the good arrangements for the meeting and enabling the participants to become acquainted with unique Norwegian scenery. The discussions took place partly on a tour of Stavanger Fjord.

Olavi Koivukangas
