

the choir" are some of the proposed chapter titles. Fourteen authors have written chapters, including Eleanor Kreider (England), John Rempel (New York city), George Wiebe (Manitoba), Leonard Enns (Ontario), and Mary Oyer (Indiana). The book is currently under consideration for publication by a Mennonite press.

When will it be available for readers? "I can't say...I hope within the next year," said Neufeld. The Resources Commission of the Conference of Mennonites in Canada contributed to the research costs of the book project.

Mennonite Conference of Eastern Canada

Conference minister announces retirement

Doris Gascho will retire from her position as conference minister of Mennonite Conference of Eastern Canada effective June 30, 1998.

Gascho has served in this position since September 1994. She previously served for eight years as pastor of Shantz Mennonite Church in Baden, Ont. She also served on both the MCEC Executive Board and the Mennonite Church General Board. The MCEC sessions in April 1998 will include a recognition of Gascho's work.

Appeal Committee files its report

In its October 8 report to the Mennonite Conference of Eastern Canada Executive Board, a board-appointed Appeal Committee upheld a March 1997 decision of the conference's Leadership Commission and made some further recommendations. The committee was formed last spring after Dalton Jantzi of Toronto appealed the Leader-

ship Commission's decision to change his ministerial status (from "pastor in a congregation" to "minister in specialized ministry") and to limit his work to settings not including women and children.

The decision followed Jantzi's completion of a two-year probation after the commission, in March of 1995, found him responsible for nine instances of sexual boundary violation. The five-member Appeal Committee unanimously affirmed the Leadership Commission's March 1997 decision.

The committee further recommended:

- that Jantzi continue in therapy, consider a period of "spiritual direction," and take a complete break from professional ministry for several years;
- that the conference, upon Jantzi's request, "could consider his full recredentialing, but not sooner than five years after he began therapy" in February 1995;
- that the conference "actively respond to the need for healing and restoration of public trust to the primary victims and to the groups who experienced secondary victimization—the congregations [Warden Woods and Black Creek, both Toronto] and the conference as a whole."

The Appeal Committee also recommended that in the future the conference should consider: forming a standing trained response team to respond to cases of boundary crossing and sexual abuse by pastoral leadership; clarifying terms such as probation and suspension in the "guidelines for discipline;" reviewing and clarifying the role of the conference minister in such cases.