

television in this country. At the close of the 1956-57 period the Corporation faced another year in which costs would be considerably higher to meet essential development of the television service and maintenance of the radio service, but for which its revenue basis was still not certain."

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GERMANY-CANADA NEGOTIATIONS: The Department of External Affairs has announced that negotiations have opened in Ottawa with representatives of the Federal Republic of Germany on the terms of a proposed bilateral agreement for co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy. The proposed agreement will provide for co-operation on a reciprocal basis over a broad field including the exchange of information and the supply from either country to the other of equipment and materials of importance in the peaceful utilization of atomic energy. It will make possible in particular the conclusion of contracts for the supply of uranium from Canada to Germany on a commercial basis.

The representatives of both countries will promptly report to their governments the results of the present negotiations, with a view to the early conclusion of the proposed agreement.

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IMPORT CONTROL: Mr. Douglas S. Harkness, Minister of Agriculture, has announced that the Government has placed skim milk powder under import control. The price of skim milk powder in Canada has been supported at 17 cents per pound. Under the influence of the support programme imports have been heavy, with producers in other countries taking advantage of the support price. The stocks on hand as at September 1 were in excess of 27,000,000 pounds, the highest on record. In order to protect Canadian producers from the danger of the market being swamped by large supplies of imported milk powder the Government has acted to apply control. Had imports continued at the current rate, the major part of the Canadian production would be going into the hands of the Agricultural Prices Support Board instead of directly onto the market.

SCOUT H.Q. TO CANADA: International Headquarters of the Boy Scouts Association is to be moved from London, England, to Ottawa. The Boy Scout Movement is planning to launch a five-year programme of world-wide expansion and development, and the move of the International Headquarters to Canada is part of the plan, it was announced at the 16th Bi-ennial meeting of the International Scout Conference at Cambridge, England, following the Jubilee Jamboree at Sutton Coldfield last month.

EDUCATION GRANTS: Drastic revisions in the field of education grants are being planned for next year by the Ontario Government, Premier Leslie M. Frost disclosed recently.

This would be part of reforms contemplated to remove as large a portion as possible of the tax burden from real estate, and particularly from the home owner and the farm owner.

Ontario's elementary and secondary school enrolment, which is now around 1,100,000, is expected to double over the next fifteen to twenty years. The new grant system will aim at assisting the municipalities, and through them, the municipal taxpayer, to solve the financial problem created by this expansion.

Increased school grants were introduced at the last session of the Legislature but, the Premier said, these "are only a preliminary to what we plan for the coming year". Main item in this last raise of school grants was an increase of \$2 in the special per pupil grant paid to each elementary school board. Total grants for elementary and secondary school education will absorb \$101 million in 1957-58.

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FLU VACCINE: The first quantities of Canadian-produced vaccine for protection against Asiatic influenza are being distributed to the provinces according to population and each province will arrange for carrying out its own immunization programme, it has been announced by Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare.

Mr. Monteith stated that it is expected some 600,000 doses of the vaccine will be available between now and the end of December and an additional, somewhat larger amount by March 31, 1958. The Canadian vaccine is being produced by the Institute of Microbiology and Hygiene of Montreal and the Connaught Medical Research Laboratories of Toronto. The costs of provincial purchases of the vaccine will be shared on a 50-50 basis by the two senior levels of government.

FIRE LOSSES LOW: Quick and effective action by provincial government forest fire fighters has kept Canadian forest fire losses low this year.

In announcing that only 386,455 acres have been burned over this year contrasted to 2,206,598 acres for the same period of last year, the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources gave credit to provincial forest fire protection services for quickly getting fires under control and thus limiting the extent of areas burned.

To the end of August there have been 5,039 forest fires in Canada compared to 4,809 for the same period of 1956 but improved forest fire protection facilities have made possible the significant reduction in damage.