

PROVINCIAL PROGRAMS

The Canada Student Loans Plan provides most of the repayable aid available to undergraduate students. Most of the non-repayable aid (grants, scholarships, bursaries, etc.) comes from provincial government funds. Some of the provinces - Ontario, Newfoundland, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia and Alberta - have formally combined the Canada Student Loans Plan with their own non-repayable aid programmes in order to create a single comprehensive scheme. In these provinces a student seeking financial assistance fills in an application form which serves as an application both for a federal loan and for provincial non-repayable aid. His needs are assessed and, if he is eligible for assistance, aid is provided on the basis of a loan-grant formula - so much in loan and, over a certain level of need, so much in grant. Thus, in Ontario, a student assessed as needing \$700 in aid will receive the first \$150 in the form of a loan and the next \$550 on a 40 percent grant and a 60 percent loan basis. Quebec maintains a program that is somewhat similar both in principle and practice.

Most of the provinces that have combined their aid programs with the Canada Student Loans Plan provide the bulk of their financial assistance in grant form. Most of the provinces with "uncombined" aid programs (provincial aid programs that are kept administratively separate from the Canada Student Loans Plan) award non-repayable aid in the form of scholarships or bursaries. The Yukon and Northwest Territories are the only jurisdictions that award allowances to some undergraduate students.

Normally a province only provides student aid to those students who are classified as "residents" of the province. The definition of "residents" is not the same in all provinces but a student whose parents reside in a particular province, or who has himself resided there for a designated period, is usually eligible. Exceptions are sometimes made for provincial residents attending university in another province, or outside Canada. Some provincial governments do not give financial aid to residents attending universities situated outside the home province. Financial assistance through the Canada Student Loans Plan is not normally subject to this restriction.

DESIGN AWARDS INCREASE

A record 43 National Design Council scholarships and grants has been announced by Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade of Commerce.

Mr. Pepin said that if Canada wanted to compete in domestic and world markets Canadian industrial design would have to show "marked improvement". Modern consumers, who were becoming more sophisticated, demanded a high standard of quality in the design of the products they bought as well as competitive prices, the Minister said.

"This continuing incentive program," Mr. Pepin

continued, "is an effort by the Government, through the National Design Council, to help industry meet this design challenge by upgrading Canadian design capability and technology and by encouraging the promotion of industrial design by the private sector."

Through the scholarships offered by the Council, promising individual designers are able to take advanced training anywhere in the world. By means of grants, the Council also stimulates research into new design technology, the results of which are made available to Canadian industry, thus encouraging new product development and improved design practices.

Mr. Pepin noted that 29 scholarships were to be awarded to Canadians for advanced training in design and related subjects. Ten research grants would, he said, also be made to individuals or organizations engaged in special research projects in industrial design, and four grants would be given to organizations to assist them in their industrial design promotion activities in Canada. The recipients would receive their awards officially in December.

Last year there were 26 such grants awarded by the National Design Council.

IMPROVING QUALITY

Foreign importers have already noted a marked improvement in the quality of Canadian design, and Mr. Pepin pointed to the increase in Canada's exports from \$11,111 million in 1967 to \$13,220 million in 1968. An increasing share of this total comes from the sale of manufactured goods abroad, as Canada's base of secondary industry grows. In domestic product, also he noted, one dollar in four of Canada's gross national product was earned by manufacturing industry.

"In developing this manufacturing strength, good product design becomes increasingly important if our own products are to sell in large quantities both at home and abroad," Mr. Pepin said.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

A total of 34,751 birth registrations were filed in provincial offices during July, compared to 30,453 in June and 29,661 in July 1968. For the first seven months of 1969 the cumulative total was 3.4 per cent above the total for the corresponding period of 1968, with seven provinces reporting increases.

There were 22,256 marriages registered in provincial offices in July, compared to 18,536 in the corresponding month of 1968. The total for the first seven months of 1969 exceeded that for the corresponding period last year by 7.6 per cent, increases being reported in all but one province.

During July, 13,428 deaths were recorded in provincial offices, compared to 12,340 in June and 11,253 in July 1968. Deaths for the first seven months of 1969 were 1 per cent above those recorded in the corresponding months of last year, although there were decreases in four provinces.