

NEW PASSPORT REGULATIONS

Changes in passport requirements for the purpose of strengthening the security of Canadian passports have been announced by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs.

The following are some of the changes:

PROOF OF CANADIAN CITIZENSHIP

All applicants for passports residing in Canada must provide documentary evidence of their claim to Canadian citizenship.

Birth certificates or certificates of proof of Canadian citizenship must be presented by applicants who claim they were born in Canada.

Applicants not born in Canada must provide evidence of Canadian citizenship in the form of certificates of naturalization in Canada, certificates of Canadian citizenship or certificates of registration of birth abroad.

PASSPORT RENEWALS ABOLISHED

The steady increase in the number of passports reported lost or stolen by Canadian travellers, the majority of which are lost outside Canada, has reached a level where steps must be taken to reduce the security hazard of unrecovered documents. Because of this hazard, the Government has decided that the renewal of Canadian passports should be eliminated and the life of the passport limited to a single five-year term.

Passports already issued may not be renewed

on the expiry of the original five-year period. Passports issued originally for five years and since renewed for a further period of up to five years will continue to be valid until the expiry date shown in the passport.

DECENTRALIZATION OF ISSUANCE

The Department of External Affairs hopes to decentralize the issuance of passports by opening branch offices at the major international air terminals from which travellers depart, often on short notice on direct overseas flights. It is hoped that offices will be established in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver in 12 months, as soon as staff resources permit; a small office is to be opened later in the Maritimes.

Future decentralization will be undertaken in relation to the establishment of further major international airports and the volume of passport applications emanating from these, which would be necessary to justify the expenses involved.

NEW FEES

For the past 43 years, Canadian passports have cost \$5.00 each. The Government has now found it necessary to introduce a new fee schedule that will increase the cost of a regular Canadian passport to \$10.00 and the businessman's passport to \$12.00.

The new fees and the new passport requirements became effective on January 22.

WATER-RESEARCH CENTRE

The Federal Government is going ahead with the construction of a major water-research centre, which will be known as the Canada Centre for Inland Waters, at Burlington, Ontario. The building complex, first announced in 1967, will cost \$23 million.

"This project," Energy, Mines and Resources Minister J.J. Greene said, "emphasizes the Government's concern over water pollution and other problems affecting the international waters of the Great Lakes System."

Besides pollution and the quality of water, the centre will study such problems as current and circulation of the lakes, changing water-levels, flooding, shore erosion, sedimentation, ice-formation, and biological factors, along with their economic and social effects.

Chemists, biologists, engineers, physicists, geologists, economists, sociologists and other specialists will be working together at the centre, the facilities of which will also be used by universities and the private sector.

Three federal agencies are developing the centre: the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Fisheries Research Board and the Department of National Health and Welfare. The first

has the main co-ordinating role and responsibility for the operation of the centre.

Besides the necessary marine facilities and service buildings, plans call for construction of a main research laboratory, a hydraulics laboratory, common-user facilities and a water-quality pilot plant. The pilot plant will be used for studies aimed at improving treatment methods for industrial wastes and sewage.

The Burlington site, in the shadow of the Skyway Bridge, was chosen, among other reasons, because of its strategic location on the lower Great Lakes and its proximity to major sources of water pollution from industrial and urban complexes on both sides of the international boundary.

The project should be completed in autumn 1972.

ESKIMO BOOK PROGRAMME

Two copies of the first in a series of Eskimo books have been presented to the National Library by Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Jean Chrétien.

The volume, entitled *The Autobiography of John Ayaruaq*, is written in syllabics, a script that