

PACIFIC SCIENCE CONFERENCE: Canada will be represented by a strong delegation of scientists at the Seventh Pacific Science Congress, which is to be held under the auspices of the Royal Society of New Zealand by the Pacific Science Association, 2-23 February, 1949, it was announced December 22 by the National Research Council at Ottawa.

Head of the delegation from Canada will be Dr. G.M. Shrum, of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C. Deputy head of the Canadian delegation and responsible for the selection of the scientific papers to be presented by the delegates is Dr. W.H. Cook, Director of the Division of Applied Biology, National Research Council, Ottawa.

Pacific Science Congresses have for their purpose two main objects: (a) To initiate and promote co-operation in the study of scientific problems relating to the Pacific region, more particularly those affecting the well-being of Pacific peoples; (b) To strengthen the bonds of peace among Pacific peoples by promoting a feeling of brotherhood among the scientists of all Pacific countries.

FORMER CONGRESSES

Congresses have been held in Honolulu, 1920; Australia, 1923; Japan, 1926; Java, 1929; Canada (Victoria and Vancouver), 1933; United States (California), 1939. It had been intended to hold the Seventh Congress in the Philippines in 1941 or 1942 but this of course was impossible and the series had to be discontinued until more favourable conditions prevailed. New Zealand has now invited the Pacific Science Association to hold its Seventh Congress in that country in February 1949.

The Seventh Congress is being organized in ten Divisions: 1. Geology and Geophysics; 2. Meteorology, 3. Oceanography and Marine Biology, 4. Zoology, 5. Botany, 6. Soil Resources, Forestry and Agriculture, 7. Anthropology, 8. Public Health and Nutrition, 9. Social Sciences, and 10. Organization of Research. Plans are being made for symposia in each Division on broad general subjects as well as for papers on more specific themes.

Members of Canada's delegation will present papers on Canadian subjects pertaining to the work of each of the ten Divisions. About eighty Canadian papers are being prepared.

While all members of the Canadian delegation are being sponsored by the federal Government as official delegates, their traveling expenses are being met from various sources that are interested in being represented, and in some instances delegates are paying their own way.

Those who have been appointed to be members of the Canadian delegation to the Seventh Pacific Science Congress in New Zealand are:

Head of the Delegation:

Dr. G.M. Shrum, Head of the Department of Physics, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., and a member of the National Research Council of Canada.

Deputy Head of the Delegation:

Dr. W.H. Cook, Director of the Division of Applied Biology, National Research Council of Canada, Ottawa, Ont.

Other Members of the Delegation:

Dr. E.S. Archibald, Director, Dominion Experimental Farms Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont.

Dr. T.W.M. Cameron, Director of the Institute of Parasitology, McGill University, Macdonald College, P.Q.

Dr. Neal M. Carter, Director, Pacific Fisheries Experimental Station, Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Vancouver, B.C.

Dr. W.A. Clemens, Head of the Department of Zoology, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.; and a member of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada.

Dr. W.E. Cockfield, Geological Survey of Canada, Department of Mines and Resources, Vancouver, B.C.

Dr. Pierre Dansereau, Biogeographical Service, University of Montreal, Montreal, P.Q.

Dr. R.E. Foerster, Director of the Biological Station of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, Nanaimo, B.C.

Dr. E.A. Hodgson, Assistant Dominion Astronomer, Department of Mines and Resources, Ottawa, Ont.

Dr. W.C. Hooper, Commercial Secretary for Canada, Sydney, Australia.

Dr. D.G. Laird, Professor of Agronomy, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C.

Mr. Andrew Thomson, Chief of the Dominion Meteorological Service, Department of Transport, Toronto, Ont.

Dr. J.P. Tully, Oceanographer in Charge, Pacific Oceanographic Group of the Joint Committee on Oceanography, Pacific Biological Station, Nanaimo, B.C.

Dr. W.E. van Steenburgh, Research Adviser, Science Service, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Ont.

TRAINING CRUISES: Two officers and 23 men of the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) are to fly from Montreal to Bermuda on December 29 to join three ships of the Royal Navy for three-month training cruises in the Caribbean, South Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico.

The group will be drawn from H.M.C.S. "York", Toronto naval division, H.M.C.S. "Prevost", London, H.M.C.S. "Hunter", Windsor, H.M.C.S. "Carleton", Ottawa, and H.M.C.S. "Scotian", Halifax. Officer in charge will be Lieut. J.E. Trusler, R.C.N. (R) (Retired), of Toronto.

The ships in which they will make the cruise are the cruiser H.M.S. "Glasgow", the sloop H.M.S. "Snipe" and the frigate H.M.S. "Bigbury Bay".

The "Glasgow" will leave Bermuda January 3 and will call at such points as Rio de Janeiro, Buenos Aires, the Falkland Islands and Trinidad, before returning on April 5. H.M.S. "Snipe" leaves Bermuda on the same date but will follow a different route, among her stopping points being St. Thomas, in the Virgin Islands, the French Island of Martinique, Trinidad, Cayenne, in French Guiana, Paramaribo, the island of Demarara and Kingston, Jamaica.

The "Bigbury Bay" is scheduled to sail January 1 and will call at ports in the West Indies, Central America, Texas, Louisiana and Florida.

ROYAL CANADIAN NAVY - 1948: Cruises to the sub-Arctic and semi-tropics, the largest peacetime reserve training program in R.C.N. history, the commissioning of H.M.C.S. "Magnificent", the naval air station H.M.C.S. "Shearwater", and the Canadian-built Tribal class destroyer, H.M.C.S. "Athabaskan", were among the notable events written into the history of the Royal Canadian Navy in 1948.

A preliminary announcement that a new type of anti-submarine escort vessel was to be constructed in Canadian shipyards was made in November. This craft will possess the speed, manoeuvrability and equipment required to make it capable of dealing with the fast types of submarine.

Also due to be built in Canada is a large, modern icebreaker whose duties, in addition to the ones in which she will normally be employed, will include the servicing of far northern weather stations.

Early in the year, units of the Atlantic and Pacific fleets made their annual spring cruise and met in the Caribbean for intensive manoeuvres and exercises. In September, ships of the R.C.N. for the first time penetrated Hudson Bay. And in mid-October the largest group of Canadian warships to put to sea since the end of the Second World War sailed from Esquimalt on a month-long cruise to Pearl Harbor, in the Hawaiian Islands.

From May to October the R.C.N. engaged in the training of approximately 2,500 officers

and men of the naval reserve, with activities reaching their peak in July and August. Two-week reserve training cruises to such Atlantic points as Bermuda, Boston and Charlottetown, and San Francisco, Seattle and Prince Rupert on the Pacific side, were carried out almost continuously during the five-month period and rolled up an impressive total of more than 60,000 sea miles.

In addition, training was given on fresh water. H.M.C.S. "Portage", an Algerine escort and the largest class of warship capable of navigating the locks, sailed from Halifax to the head of the Lakes in June and provided training facilities for personnel of inland naval divisions until well into August.

CANADIAN ARMY - 1948: The year 1948 was a busy and highly successful one for the Canadian Army.

Important among a number of changes was the switchover of the Princess Patricia's Canadian light Infantry from a straight out-and-out infantry unit to an airborne battalion. Another was the launching of a huge \$30 million nationwide housing project for married members of the Armed Forces. Still another was the unprecedented step-up in winter warfare training for all ranks of the Army, both Active and Reserve.

The "Pats" learned that they had been selected as Canada's first peacetime paratroopers last August when Major-General C.C. Mann, CBE, DSO, flew west to give members of the famed unit the word. They volunteered immediately, almost to a man. Training is in two distinct phases: first in parachute and second in air-transport. At Year's end, many members of the "Pats" have qualified for their wings and others are now undergoing training at Rivers.

Construction of living quarters - mostly at isolated stations - for married members of the Armed Forces and their families was accelerated with two years program being completed in a single year.

For what is possibly the first time in peacetime Canadian Army history, Reserve Force soldiers find themselves training alongside members of the Active Army at a series of winter training camps set up across the country.

At Churchill, the Army has been busy finding ways of making the business of keeping alive in the Arctic easier.

Emphasis has been placed on "cold weather" training of soldiers, both Active and Reserve.

The foregoing, however, are only incidental highlights of a really big year which, among other things saw the opening, for the first time on a tri-service basis, of the Royal Military College at Kingston, Ont., the Royal Roads at Esquimalt, B.C., as the Canadian Joint Services Cadet Colleges; the lowering of the enlistment age to 17 years and lowering of the educational requirement for enlistment, the continued development of co-operative arrangements with Britain and the United States, and a further increase in pay and allowances for almost all ranks of the Army.