

partly on site by Patricia Wheeler of Vancouver, relates Canadian art to the theme of the Exposition.

Sponsoring departments

Canada's participation in Expo '75 is sponsored by the Departments of External Affairs, Environment Canada, Industry, Trade and Commerce and the Ministry of Science and Technology. The exhibit was designed and constructed by Information Canada/Exposition. Basic pavilions were provided by the Exposition association. Dr. J.D. Kingham, of the Department of the Environment, provided assistance in the development of the exhibit.



Canadian hosts and hostesses at the International Ocean Exposition, Okinawa.

Handicapped persons hiring study

"It is hoped that a stronger emphasis on government hiring of handicapped people will ensure they are given an equal opportunity to secure employment in the Public Service," Robert Andras, Minister of Manpower and Immigration, said recently, announcing the start of a study by his department and the Public Service Commission of the hiring practices of handicapped people in the Public Service.

"The prime aim of the joint study is to increase the employment of Canadians with special needs in the Public Service. In addition, the study will identify and eliminate unnecessary or restrictive hiring practices and develop alternative methods of recruitment." Mr. Andras stressed that the project was a study, and not meant to be a solution to all employment problems associated with handicapped people.

The study will have a brief demonstration period of six months in four areas — Montreal, Toronto, Vancouver and the Ottawa-Hull national capital region. Personnel from the Public Service Commission, the Departments of Manpower and Immigration and National Health and Welfare will be involved.

No position will be reserved exclusively for the placement of handicapped people and all such candidates must be fully competent to hold the particular position for which they are applying, said Mr. Andras.

"By making departments more aware

of the capabilities of handicapped candidates, it is expected that a greater number of people with special needs will be introduced into the Public Service," he said.

After six months, an analysis will be made of the adjustment of the handicapped worker to the new environment and suitability for the position and recommendations will be made to the Minister of Manpower and Immigration and the Chairman of the Public Service Commission.

Wheat to Brazil

The Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board, Otto Lang, announced on October 31 that Canada had negotiated a new wheat agreement with Brazil under which from 900,000 metric tons to 1.5 million metric tons of wheat — approximately 33 to 55 million bushels — will be sold to Brazil over the next three years. This is in addition to the 100,000 metric tons in completion of the previous long-term agreement between the two countries.

Under the new agreement, the Canadian Wheat Board has concluded a contract for 400,000 metric tons to be shipped from St. Lawrence ports in May, June and July next year.

Brazil has been a major market for Canadian wheat since 1970, when the first long-term agreement was signed.

The new agreement provides for credit over three years, made possible under a guaranty from the Federal Government.

Towards a stabilized farm policy

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan recently hailed the changes in the new Agricultural Stabilization Act, as a major advance in national farm policy.

"The legislation will encourage farmers to stay in business and to develop even more productive and efficient operations," he said.

"It is a long step forward in the development of a stable agricultural industry in this country. Stability in the food-producing industry is important, not only for the farmer, but even more so for the consumer."

The amended act provides for guaranteed returns to farmers, for a list of specified commodities, of 90 per cent of the five-year average weighted price adjusted according to trends in the cost-of-production index. Commodities that must be supported at not less than that level are cattle, hogs and sheep, industrial milk and cream, corn and soybeans, and oats and barley produced outside the jurisdiction of the Canadian Wheat Board.

The foregoing commodities, combined with additional ones supported by other legislation, means that government stabilization programs guaranteeing returns to farmers now cover products representing 88 per cent of farm cash income. The legislation also gives the Cabinet the authority to apply stabilization programs to any other farm commodity recommended by the Agricultural Stabilization Board.

Other new features of the amended act are: provision for regional stabi-