

the North is reflected in the increase in revenues received by the Government from oil and gas lands. For example, in 1956-1957 revenues were approximately \$942,000 and in 1958-1959 they rose to \$8.3 million.

"I expect that the new oil and gas regulations which my Department has drafted will be promulgated soon. Once these regulations have been released, there will undoubtedly be an increase in the number of individuals and companies applying for oil and gas exploration permits and conducting field investigations in the Queen Elizabeth Islands. This means that within the next two or three years there will be more aircraft and personnel travelling in and out of the area who will be in need of the varied services provided by the Joint Arctic Weather Stations programme. I know that in the past you have gone out of your way to be of assistance to both scientific expeditions and exploration companies. I know also that you have done this under very trying circumstances. It is hardly necessary for me to point out that the services which you are providing, especially with regard to weather information and communications, are of basic importance to our northern development programme.

HELP BY WEATHER STATIONS

"Here are some of the things which you will be called upon to provide: daily information on local weather, ice and airstrip conditions; information on the availability of shipping space for equipment on sealift and airlift transportation; communication facilities for commercial traffic; and, at times, the loan of equipment, storage space and the use of accommodation for personnel. I think you realize that in the Queen Elizabeth Islands, especially, the services you can provide through the Joint Arctic Weather Stations programme are as important in the search for oil and gas in this area as the services provided by the geologist, the engineer and private enterprise.

"...Turning now to my own Department, I would like to say a few brief words about our plans for northern development. I know that there has been the impression that my Department's responsibility and concern in the Territories was primarily the administration of Eskimo affairs. This responsibility is an exceedingly important one, but, as I have already indicated, far beyond this, our concern extends to everything involved in northern development. The Act setting up the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources requires the Department to co-ordinate the activities of all government agencies operating in the Yukon and Northwest Territories. All of us know that in meeting the tremendous problems facing us in Northern Canada we cannot afford the luxury of independent and unrelated operations

"As I said in a speech in Ottawa last month:

'...The key resources of the north will be developed in partnership with private enterprise. As a full partner, government must be as enterprising as the entrepreneur. Private enterprise has a perfect right to expect that its partner will be an asset, not a hindrance. Above all, this means that the operational and administrative machinery of government involved in resource administration must be realistic and in tune with the times. It must not become static and inflexible and it must never be intractable. The administration must respond to the legitimate needs of its partner with alacrity and adroitness. I personally believe that government can learn a good deal from the way industry and business administer their affairs. I also believe that our partners in the north, no matter how enterprising, can learn something from us so long as we remain dynamic and imaginative'.

"As the Minister responsible for co-ordinating government activities in the North, I have to be particularly sensitive to the needs and problems posed by northern development so they can be met on the spot as quickly and efficiently as possible. In order to achieve this over the next year or two we are planning a further decentralization of authority and functions to our personnel stationed in field offices throughout the territories. The object of this decentralization programme is to have a staff who can deal with territorial needs on the spot as they arise from day to day. We are making our operational and administrative machinery, especially with regard to resources, as flexible and efficient as possible. In this way we are confident that much more effective co-ordination of government activities and co-operation between departments will be accomplished.

"In closing I would like to repeat what I stated in Edmonton in September of 1958, when I suggested that perhaps the time has come to consider the development of the Territories' resources from the north and from the east as well as from the south. At that time I said:

'I believe quite seriously that future development in the north will be a two-pronged affair. In the west the push northwards from the south will continue, and the resources of northern territories will be drawn increasingly into the growing economic framework of the provinces. In the eastern Arctic a northern prong will develop. It will push southwards and westwards and will stimulate - virtually for the first time - widespread economic gains along Canada's third sea coast and on into its hinterland. Between these two fronts the jaws of progress will begin to clamp onto our northern territories. At these jaws gradually close in the years ahead, as transportation networks penetrate through the interior, we will see a real awakening in the last remaining frontier in this country'.