

FOUR-NATION DEFENCE RESEARCH

Dr. L.J. L'Heureux, newly-appointed Chairman of Canada's Defence Research Board, presided on June 11 as chairman of the eleventh annual meeting of the Technical Co-operation Programme in Research and Development, which took place in Ottawa.

The programme was instituted in 1958 to further the objectives of the Declaration of Common Purpose made the previous year by the President of the United States and the Prime Ministers of Britain and Canada, which established the principle of interdependence for collective defence and mutual help. Australia joined in July 1965.

At the Ottawa meeting, representatives from the four countries considered reports and representations from various working groups and reviewed achievements during the past year.

The U.S. was represented by Dr. John S. Foster, Jr., Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Department of Defense; Britain, by Sir William Cooke, Chief Adviser (Projects and Research) Ministry of Defence, and Australia by H.A. Wills, Chief Defence Scientist, Department of Defence.

TOURISM IN THE YUKON

Ever since the Gold Rush of 1898, the Yukon has held the attention of mining and related industries. Today, mining is the largest single contributor to the Territory's economy. Hard on the heels of the gold-seekers, however, curiosity-seekers made the trek to the Klondike to visit the scene of the most fantastic gold rush the world had ever known. They were the Yukon's first tourists.

The tourist industry, which developed practically unnoticed, was less spectacular than the Gold Rush, and its benefits to the economy were less tangible, but although its growth has been gradual, if not sporadic, tourism has become the second largest industry in Yukon Territory.

In 1962, the Territory entertained just over 40,000 tourists who left behind them about \$2 million. By 1968, tourist numbers had grown to nearly 120,000 and the dollar value of the trade last year was over \$7.5 million.

GROWTH WILL CONTINUE

Encouraging signs of continued expansion are evident in several areas.

The Yukon had 68 establishments providing accommodation in 1967, while last year it was up to 83. Several expansions of existing establishments are under way in the communities and at highway lodges. Construction plans have been announced for three new hotels at Whitehorse, one at Ross River and plans are under way for a highway establishment at Little Salmon Lake.

An upsurge in cruise-ship tours up the Inside Passage has indicated a corresponding need for greater emphasis on highway travel to maintain a

balance in the tourist volume. The Yukon's travel branch has been working closely with travel promotion agencies in Alaska and Northern British Columbia to establish a "common market" for highway travel. The theme "Follow the Gold Rush Route" is being developed with the suggestion of a "golden thread" (the highways), which tie together the Gold Rush areas of Barkerville and Atling in B.C., the Klondike Trail of '98 to Dawson City, and on to Fairbanks and Nome in Alaska.

Attention is also being paid to the restoration of historic buildings. The National Historic Sites Branch is currently engaged in a programme of preserving several historic attractions in Dawson City, and this may well extend to other sites along the Klondike Trail.

Generally, the outlook for the Yukon's second largest industry is an optimistic one. With the present trend of economic development in the Yukon, indications point to an even more rapid growth in the tourist industry than was seen since the Territory's travel and information department was established in 1962. D. Wm. Carr & Associates Ltd., in their 1968 study, *The Yukon Economy, Its Potential for Growth and Continuity* predict that, by 1985 the number of tourists visiting the Yukon will have reached close to 400,000 a year, and that the output or value of the tourist industry by 1985, based on its estimated value of \$7 million in 1967, will rise to \$50 to \$60 million.

HOURS OF WORK REVIEW

Labour Minister Bryce Mackasey has announced that he has appointed a working party to examine the application of the hours-of-work provisions of the Canada Labour (Standards) Code, and to make recommendations for possible revisions. Mr. Mackasey said he had decided that these provisions, which have been the cause of some administrative difficulty, should be the subject of a thorough review.

The hours-of-work provisions, which came into force on July 1, 1965, require the payment of premium overtime rates for hours worked in excess of eight in a day and 40 in a week. Maximum hours are 48 in a week and these can be exceeded only by permission of the Minister of Labour, or in emergency. There are also provisions for averaging, over a period of two or more weeks, where the nature of the work necessitates irregular distribution of hours of work.

Mr. Mackasey said that the working party would examine the objectives of hours of work legislation, consider alternative ways of achieving the objectives, and evaluate the experience of the Labour Standards Branch in administering the existing legislation. The working party will also consider the economic and social implications of regulating hours of work, with particular reference to effects on costs, productivity, employment, supply of labour, leisure, worker efficiency and welfare.