

their own nationals. The Red Cross has stepped up its emergency efforts to aid refugees who have no legal right to food and medical care in the countries where they sought refuge, and is also working on refugee repatriation and rehabilitation. Canada provided roughly \$10 million in food aid, air transport and other goods and services for the Sahel in 1973, and in December announced a \$1.5-million contribution that is sending wheat to Ethiopia.

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### NRC awards

The National Research Council of Canada has awarded 1,906 postgraduate scholarships and 158 postdoctorate fellowships for 1974-75, estimated at a total of \$9,100,000. The scholarships have a value of \$4,050 for 12 months; the fellowships, \$9,000 for 12 months.

These awards represent an important aspect of the Council's effort to maintain a basic capacity for research training in science and engineering. The object is to support the provision of postgraduate scientific manpower for the creation of knowledge and the application of science related to Canadian needs.

Postgraduate scholarships are awarded to first class students to enable them to pursue graduate studies leading to the Ph.D. degree. Postdoctorate fellowships are awarded to recent Ph.D. graduates to help them in acquiring additional research experience which, in many instances, is a prerequisite for an academic or industrial career.

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### ECE timber committee tour Canada

More than 100 senior government officials and industry leaders from 15 European countries and the United States recently took a cross-Canada study tour of the forest industry.

The visitors, who were here for two weeks, were representatives of the Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Timber Committee. This is the committee's first study tour outside Europe and came at the invitation of Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Alastair Gillespie.

Canada became a full member of the ECE last July after some years as an

observer in this organization.

The objective of the tour, which ended June 8 after visits to Quebec, Ontario and British Columbia, was to exchange technical information and to provide European countries with a better understanding of Canada's forest resources, technology and industrial potential.

The delegates examined the Canadian technology of lumber and plywood manufacture; transport, handling and distribution of forest products; quality control and other related activities.

The Economic Commission for Europe is a permanent institution of the United Nations. Delegates were from Belgium, Britain Czechoslovakia, France, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, the Soviet Union, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, and Yugoslavia, in addition to the U.S. and ECE headquarters staff in Geneva.

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### Strawberry success story

Two years after its release, Bounty strawberry is coming on strong as a major variety for eastern Canada.

Developed at the Agriculture Canada Research Station in Kentville, Nova Scotia, the new berry has passed one field test after another with flying colours.

"It looks better than we expected



all round," says Don Craig, head of the berry-breeding program at the station.

"It yields higher and more dependably than other eastern varieties; it extends the berry season by seven to ten days; it is very resistant to gray mold disease, has top quality for fresh desserts or frozen packaging and is easy to pick in commercial plantings or your home garden."

The summary of its virtues makes Bounty look like a runaway competitor against longer established varieties in eastern Canada. But not so, according to Dr. Craig. "Because of its later ripening date, Bounty is no threat to older varieties, such as Redcoat, which have finished their season before Bounty is ready for harvest. This was the first reason for producing Bounty — to extend the fruiting season."

Yields from testings during the past three years average 18,145 pounds an acre for Bounty, compared to 14,200 for Redcoat, the main variety grown in the east. The berries often measure up to an inch-and-a-half in diameter.

The extent of Bounty's resistance to gray mold disease, which can drastically reduce yields from other varieties, is an extra bonus.

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### Touring arts directory

The Touring Office of the Canada Council will publish a new directory of the performing arts available for touring in Canada. It will include information on professional performing artists and attractions available for tour bookings in 1974/75; individuals and organizations who sponsor attractions in their communities; theatres, halls and auditoriums. The directory, which is expected to appear in September, will be distributed in Canada and abroad.

Information to the arts community has been one of the major tasks of the Touring Office since its formation in April 1973; the directory will help fill this need.

To be listed in the first edition of the directory, artists must be professional, residents in Canada and available for touring. All sponsors who can be identified will be listed, and most facilities in towns of 10,000 or over will be listed along with some technical information.