

## ESKIMO AT BRITISH CO-OP SHOW

George Koneak, an Eskimo interpreter with the Northern Affairs Department and a member of the Eskimo Co-operative at Fort Chimo in northern Québec, is representing all Eskimo co-operatives in Canada at an exhibition in Manchester, England. While in Britain, he is also to attend the World Co-operative Congress in Bournemouth.

According to Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing, Koneak is the Eskimo best-informed on the subject of co-operatives, having been in the movement from the start and taken part in the establishment of most of the co-operatives in the Eastern Arctic.

The opportunity of seeing and learning how co-operatives are run in other parts of the world appeals to George Koneak. While travelling with officials of the Northern Affairs Department, he became interested in the co-operatives that were being established in Canada's North. As an interpreter, he worked with Northern Affairs development staff and Eskimos in setting up the co-operatives at Port Nouveau Quebec (George River), Port Burwell and Payne Bay. Soon after the co-operative was established at Fort Chimo, he became a member. He takes an active part in the char fishery, bakery, coffee-shop, logging operations and handicraft activities of the co-operative. "The idea of all people working together to help themselves is good", he says.

### BIOGRAPHY

Born in Payne Bay in 1931, Mr. Koneak travelled with his parents as they trapped and hunted between Cape Hopes Advance and Diana Bay. When he was 15, his father was employed with the Department of Transport at Cape Hopes Advance. By teaching the

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### NATIONAL MUSEUM TRAINEES

The Fifth Museum Training Programme sponsored by the National Gallery of Canada began October 1, when two young ladies, Michele Boulizon of Montreal and Jane Maynard Mather of Vancouver, reported for duty. The programme is carried out with the co-operation of the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, the Art Gallery of Toronto and the Royal Ontario Museum.

The two latest trainees, who will spend the first two months of the eight-month programme at the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts, have already completed studies in the field of fine arts.

Miss Boulizon, 21, is a graduate of the University of Montreal, where she obtained her M.A. in 1962. She has spent several summers at the École du Louvre, Paris, and has taken special courses in fine arts at L'Institut Catholique de Paris.

Miss Mather, 33, graduated from McGill University in 1952. She is at present working toward her M.A. in the history of art at the University of British Columbia.

wireless operators Eskimo, George learned English. Until he was 21, he earned his living hunting and trapping, then worked as a baker with the Transport Department at Fort Chimo. Three years later he served with the Hudson's Bay Company at Payne Bay as a clerk, and in 1957 joined the Northern Affairs Department as an interpreter and returned to Fort Chimo.

At the Manchester exhibition there are displays of goods manufactured by co-operatives all over the world. Canada's Eskimo co-operatives are represented by a large display of arts and crafts.

The World Co-operative Congress in Bournemouth celebrates the 100th anniversary of the founding of the first co-operative in Rochdale, England.

Mr. Koneak was the interpreter at the first Conference of Arctic Co-operatives in March 1963 at Frobisher Bay. Every Eskimo co-operative sent representatives; for many it was the first time they had met Eskimos from other northern areas.

### GROWTH OF CO-OPS

The first Arctic co-operatives were established in Canada in April 1959 at Port Nouveau Quebec (George River) and at Port Burwell in the Northwest Territories. Now 18 Eskimo co-operatives have been formed, with a total membership of over 500 - about one of every five Eskimo families. Five are engaged in commercial fishing, five operate retail stores, and seven produce and market fine crafts. At Frobisher Bay, a group of 13 Eskimo families formed a co-operative to build themselves two and three bedroom homes. Among the best-known is the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative at Cape Dorset, whose graphic art, sculpture and crafts have become known internationally.

The purpose of the programme is to provide professional training and experience for individuals interested in entering the museum and art-gallery field in Canada.

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### PROVINCIAL EMPLOYMENT

Employees of eight provincial governments and the governments of the Yukon and Northwest Territories earned \$183,353,000 in the period April-June 1963, a gain of 5.9 per cent from January-March total of \$173,056,000. Data for Quebec and British Columbia are not now available.

Provincial employees at June 30, 1963, numbered 187,698, a gain of 10.2 per cent, compared to 170,386 at March 31. Earnings of employees for the period January-June 30, 1963, were distributed as follows: departmental services, \$206,015,000 or 57.8 per cent; institutions of higher education, \$41,430,000 or 11.6 per cent; enterprises, \$104,335,000 or 29.3 per cent; and workmen's compensation boards, \$4,629,000 or 1.3 per cent.