

HISTORIC CONVENT PRESERVED

The Convent of the Sisters of Charity, St. Boniface, Manitoba, less formally known as the Grey Nuns' Old Convent, is to be preserved as a national historic site. The convent, an outstanding example of Red River frame design, was built in 1851.

"Preservation of the building would be fully justified on architectural grounds alone" said Mr. Dinsdale, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources. "On human grounds, its historic significance is even greater. It was from here, starting more than a century ago, that groups of Sisters travelled across the prairies and down north to the Arctic. They first came to Fort Providence, in what is still the Northwest Territories, in the year of Confederation. Then as now they demonstrated, in the most practical way, the virtue of charity from which they take their name."

Mr. Dinsdale recalled the services provided by the Grey Nuns in the Far North in the days when contact with the "outside" was limited to one or two river steamers during the short summer. "While communications are better now," he said, "and other agencies are also active in the North, the Sisters' tradition of service to the people continues through their hospitals, their management of school hostels, and their teaching in northern classrooms".

The history of the Grey Nuns in St. Boniface dates from 1844, when four Sisters arrived from Montreal in response to an appeal from Bishop Provencher.

The old convent has been leased to the city by the Grey Nuns for 99 years without charge. The agreement signed by Mr. Dinsdale and Mayor Guay provides for a \$40,000 federal contribution toward its restoration. The first instalment - a cheque for \$10,000 - was turned over to the Mayor at the signing ceremony.

In addition to the federal contribution, the Province of Manitoba, the Metropolitan Council of Greater Winnipeg, and the City of St. Boniface will each contribute \$20,000 towards the restoration. In the restored building, La Société Historique de St. Boniface will establish and maintain a museum showing the early religious and social life of the City and surrounding settlement.

BARRETTE NEW ATHENS ENVOY

The appointment of Mr. J. Antonio Barrette as Canadian Ambassador to Greece was announced on March 2 by Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Barrette succeeds Mr. D'Arcy McGreer.

Mr. Barrette, who was born in Joliette, Quebec, in 1899, studied at Laval University and the University of Montreal. He was elected to the Quebec Legislature in 1936 and served continuously as a Member of that Assembly until September 1960. He became Quebec's Minister of Labour in 1944, holding that portfolio until January 1960. Mr. Barrette then became Premier of Quebec, a post he held until July 1960.

YEAR OF WORLD CO-OPERATION

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, has announced that Canada and 11 other member states of the United Nations have been appointed by the President of the General Assembly, Sir Zafrullah Khan, to serve on the Preparatory Committee for a Year of International Co-operation. The other members of the Committee are the Central African Republic, Ceylon, Cyprus, Czechoslovakia, Finland, India, Ireland, Paraguay, Peru, Thailand and the United Arab Republic.

On December 19, 1962, the General Assembly in plenary session unanimously adopted a resolution on this subject introduced by India and Canada and co-sponsored by 18 other countries. It requested the President of the Assembly to nominate a Preparatory Committee of up to 12 member states to consider the desirability of designating 1965, the twentieth anniversary of the United Nations, as International Co-operation Year. The Committee just appointed will report to the eighteenth session of the General Assembly next autumn on measures and activities that might be undertaken by member states, the Specialized Agencies and non-governmental organizations to further the objectives sought in the proposal.

The General Assembly expressed the conviction that a designated period of rededication to international co-operation would serve to direct attention to the common interests of mankind and to accelerate the joint efforts being made to further those interests.

The proposal for an International Co-operation Year was first advanced at the United Nations by Prime Minister Nehru in 1961, during the course of the sixteenth session of the General Assembly. The Canadian Government has lent its full support to the proposal and, at the most recent session of the Assembly, the Canadian Delegation played an active role in promoting broad acceptance of the resolution embodying the proposal. The Preparatory Committee is expected to meet shortly in New York at UN headquarters.

FARM CASH INCOME

Farm cash income, excluding supplementary payments, received by Canadian farmers in 1962 reached a record high of \$3,080.7 million, according to preliminary estimates by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This figure is 4.3 per cent above 1961's preceding peak total of \$2,954.0 million.

These estimates include cash income from the sale of farm products, Canadian Wheat Board participation payments on grain crops of previous years, net cash advances on farm-stored grain in Western Canada, and deficiency payments made under the provisions of the Agricultural Stabilization Act. No allowance is made for costs incurred by farmers in the production of commodities sold.

MAIN FACTORS

The more important contributions to the gain in farm cash income from 1961 to 1962 included increased returns from deliveries of wheat, cattle

(Over)