

## NATIONAL LIBRARY OPENS

Mr. George J. McIlraith, Minister of Public Works, has announced that Prime Minister L.B. Pearson will officially open the new \$13-million National Library and Archives Building in Ottawa this week.

Miss Judy LaMarsh, Secretary of State for Canada, will act as chairman of the ceremony, which will be held in conjunction with the twenty-second annual convention of the Canadian Library Association.

The building has a 300-foot frontage and extends for more than 200 feet towards the Ottawa River. It covers more than 500,000 square feet and has nine floors and three mezzanines above ground level, and three floors below ground level. There is a 409-seat auditorium to the west of the main structure. The library will accommodate 2,500,000 volumes, as well as many manuscripts.

## WALL ADORNMENT

Four murals, each measuring 35 feet by 9 feet, were commissioned for the new building. Two were the work of a former director of the National Gallery of Canada, Dr. Charles Comfort, who painted them on the site. The other two were painted by the eminent French-Canadian artist and art teacher Alfred Pelland; one is near completion and may be mounted in time for the opening.

A third artist, John Hutton of London, England, created a number of floor-to-ceiling glass screens for the main entrance and main lobbies on three other floors. His work, which represents figures from world literature, is engraved directly on the glass. About 50 per cent have been installed, and all will be in place by the time of the opening.

\*\*\*\*

## CANADIAN HOUSES IN BRITAIN

The first finished units of "The Maples", a 173-unit Canadian timber-frame housing project at Harlow, Essex in Britain, was officially opened recently by Sir Donald Gibson, the Director-General of Research and Development, British Ministry of Public Buildings and Works.

The project is the result of a recommendation by a British housing mission that visited Canada in 1963, and urged the building of a medium-density housing project to test the viability of Canadian timber-frame construction techniques under British conditions. Canada agreed to collaborate in the test project, and the first two houses of a 173-unit development have now been completed.

For several years, the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce, in co-operation with the Lumber and Plywood Industries of Canada, has conducted an extensive programme to promote timber-frame construction for housing in Britain, to increase the sale of Canadian timber, plywood and other building materials.

The Harlow Development Corporation provided the site and named it "The Maples" in recognition of Canada's participation. Canada's federal housing

agency, the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, was retained as the architect and site supervisor, and George Calverley and Sons (Contractors) Ltd., of Leicester, as the prime contractor.

## DEMONSTRATION HOMES

The first two houses, one three-bedroom and one four-bedroom unit, will be retained by the Canadian Government, in co-operation with the Harlow Development Corporation, as demonstration homes. The first will be completely finished and furnished to illustrate its adaptability to the living requirements of the average British householder. The second will serve as a practical classroom for architects, builders, and housing authority officers, and the key points of Canadian timber-frame construction will be illustrated and explained by Canadians.

Invitations are being extended to individuals and groups concerned with British housing to visit the site.

\*\*\*\*

## NATO MINISTERS MEET

The Canadian delegation to the summer ministerial meeting of the North Atlantic Council, held in Luxembourg on June 13 and 14, was led by Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs. Mr. Martin was accompanied by the President of the Privy Council, Mr. Walter Gordon, and assisted by the Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. H.B. Robinson, the Permanent Representative of Canada to the North Atlantic Council, Mr. Ross Campbell, and officials from the Department of External Affairs.

\*\*\*\*

## AIR-TRAVEL MISSION TO U.S.S.R.

A group of senior Canadian businessmen, industrialists and educational leaders left Montreal for Moscow recently on a fact-finding tour of the Soviet Union organized by Air Canada.

Led by the President of Air Canada, Mr. G.R. McGregor, the party of more than 100 is to spend one week touring the U.S.S.R. from the capital to Leningrad and Sochi, visiting major U.S.S.R. businesses and manufacturing concerns and meeting senior Soviet trade and commerce officials.

The members of the party, who come from all parts of Canada, include chairmen and presidents of major business, industrial and service corporations, presidents of senior Canadian trade organizations and leaders in the Canadian academic world.

The group will return to Canada with a firsthand impression of many of the major industrial organizations, cultural and academic facilities and tourist attractions of the Soviet Union, of their counterparts in the world's largest nation and of the possibilities for increased commercial and passenger traffic between Canada and the U.S.S.R.