

JAPANESE CAR PLANT IN CANADA

Mr. C.M. Drury, Minister of Industry, announced recently that the Government had brought into effect tariff arrangements that would enable Canadian Motor Industries Limited to assemble automobiles in Canada at its new plant in Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia. The arrangements entered into with CMI are similar to those under which other vehicle assemblers are operating in Canada, and have been extended to the new company by Order-in-Council.

Canadian Motor Industries is licensed to produce certain cars of Japanese make in Canada. The first model that will be produced in the new plant is the Isuzu *Bellett*, a four-door sedan. The company plans to add other models to its operations. Components are being purchased from Canadian parts-makers, and other parts will be imported from Japan. Domestic and imported parts will be assembled in the Cape Breton plant.

Initially, the company will employ 40 workers, but this number will increase as output expands. The capacity of the plant is 3,000 vehicles a year. The company has a franchise to export to certain other countries.

FRANCE-CANADA DEFENCE RESEARCH

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, has announced that France and Canada had agreed on arrangements intended to facilitate co-operation in defence research, development and production. These arrangements provide for periodic meetings of senior officials of both governments, as necessary, in either Canada or France, to develop specific programmes in the spheres of defence research, development and production.

HANDICAPPED REFUGEES PROJECT

The Department of Manpower and Immigration recently announced that arrangements had been made with eight provincial governments to bring to Canada 50 handicapped refugees and their families each year. The participating provinces are Newfoundland, Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta.

Tuberculosis sufferers will constitute the majority, but other handicapped refugees who are expected to be self-sufficient eventually, will also be included in the special programme.

Costs of transportation and initial settlement, as well as of subsistence until the families become established, will be borne by the Federal Government. The provinces will, in general, provide hospitalization and treatment to the handicapped members of each family. New Brunswick will share treatment costs with the Federal Government.

Renewed participation in the programme will be discussed with the provinces each year. Medical

documents and case reports of each refugee family will be provided to the provinces before the families are brought to Canada.

More than 300 tubercular refugees and about 500 members of their families brought to Canada under the World Refugee Year Programme between December 1959 and March 1961, have made a successful adjustment to Canadian life. Most of this group have now entered the labour force and are making their contribution to the economy of the country.

MARINE TRAFFIC PLAN ACCEPTED

Transport Minister Paul Hellyer announced recently that the assembly of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) had adopted unanimously a Canadian proposal aimed at increased safety in marine-traffic control in the waters of member countries.

The proposal, put forward at the fifth Assembly of the IMCO in London, recommended the amendment of the Safety of Life at Sea Convention (SOLAS) so that a member country that operated a marine-traffic control network could require the ships of other signatory countries to be fitted with very high frequency (VHF) radio-telephone equipment of a specified standard, for use in waters where marine-traffic control was in use.

The Canadian proposal won support from the Assembly delegates, but will not come into force until it has been ratified formally by a two-thirds majority of the SOLAS Convention membership. The backing of the delegates indicated, however, their approval of the step taken by Canada earlier this year in establishing a VHF radio-traffic control system on the St. Lawrence as a safety measure. While Canadian ships already have this equipment, not all foreign vessels are so equipped and the Transport Department has been making VHF "walkie-talkie" equipment available to them while they have been in the St. Lawrence traffic-control sector.

Other amendments to the Safety of Life at Sea Convention adopted by the Assembly included new provisions for fire protection for passenger ships built in the future. These will also come into effect following ratification by the required majority of convention signatories.

Canada was re-elected to the IMCO Council with an impressive vote. Fifty-two of the 66 member nations voted on council membership and of that number, 43 supported Canada.

AWARDS TO ART GALLERIES

The Canada Council recently announced six grants to help restore Canadian works of art.

The Willistead Art Gallery in Windsor, Ontario, receives \$10,000 towards the purchase of a series of water colours by George Heriot, an artist who was at one time Deputy Postmaster General of Canada