

FEDERAL EMPLOYMENT

Civilian employees of the Government of Canada, including its corporations and agencies, totalled 348,280 at the end of September 1964. Earnings of these employees aggregated \$158.2 million in September, up by 10.0 per cent from the preceding month and by 17.6 per cent from September 1963. This large gain was due to the recent salary increases granted to certain classes of employees. Cumulative gross earnings for the period January 1 - September 30 amounted to \$1,270 million, compared to \$1,216 million for the same period of 1963. Gross earnings for the first six months of the 1964-65 fiscal year totalled \$866 million.

AGENCIES AND CORPORATIONS

Agency and proprietary corporations and other agencies employed 143,455 persons at the end of September 1964, down slightly from the figure for August but up 2.8 per cent from those for September 1963. Gross earnings in September were 7.7 per cent above the August total and higher by 17.7 per cent than those of a year earlier.

Staff of departmental branches, services and corporations totalled 204,825 at the end of September. Regular earnings for this group aggregated \$79 million in the month, slightly below the preceding month but up by 5.0 per cent from a year earlier.

* * * *

ARCTIC BIRD SANCTUARY

Bylot Island, off the north coast of Baffin Island, has been declared a migratory-bird sanctuary, it was announced recently by Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing. Bylot Island is the principal breeding-ground of the greater snow goose, which winters in coastal waters from Chesapeake Bay to North Carolina. This bird is hunted each fall only at Cap Tourmente and vicinity, east of Quebec City, the only major stopping-place in spring and autumn between the breeding and nesting areas.

PROTECTIVE PROHIBITIONS

Mr. Laing noted that Bylot Island is near a large new iron-ore discovery on northern Baffin Island. Mineral exploration and other activities that might disturb the geese are prohibited in the sanctuary during the summer nesting season. Eskimos may still carry firearms and trap fur-bearing animals in the sanctuary. Sled dogs will be permitted on the island, but will not be allowed to run at large when migratory birds are present.

Bylot Island, some 4,200 square miles in area, is the summer home of about 60 per cent of the world's greater snow geese. It also supports large colonies of murre and kittiwakes. A permanent ice-cap covers the northern third of the island, but sedges and grasses grow luxuriantly in the southwest area occupied by the geese.

The Bylot Island sanctuary brings Canada's total sanctuary area to 43,887 square miles, of which 42,922 square miles are in the Northwest Territories. It is the fifteenth sanctuary established in Canada's Arctic.

PRIVATE AND PUBLIC INVESTMENT

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, recently tabled in the House of Commons a report entitled "Private and Public Investment in Canada, Outlook 1965", which summarizes the results of a recent survey of capital-spending intentions.

As outlined in this report, capital-expenditure plans for all sectors of the economy during 1965 involve outlays of \$12,305 million. Such a capital programme would set a record, exceeding by 14 per cent the \$10,827 million spent in 1964.

NEW CONSTRUCTION

Expenditures for new construction are expected to total \$8,073 million, 15 percent above the \$7,011 million spent in 1964. Most of the additional expenditure is for non-residential building construction, though outlays for house building are expected to increase by 11 per cent and those for engineering construction by 10 per cent. Plans for the purchase of machinery and equipment involve expenditures of \$4,232 million, 11 percent more than the \$3,816 million spent last year.

BUSINESS INVESTMENT

According to present plans, business investment in 1965 will exceed that of last year by \$758 million, or 12 per cent. Over half this increase is accounted for by a rising level of expenditures in manufacturing plant and equipment. Within manufacturing, much the largest part of the increase is accounted for by sharply-expanded programmes in the chemical, transportation equipment and paper industries. Construction of buildings of commercial type, particularly office buildings, hotels and facilities related to Expo '67, is expected to be much higher in 1965 and to contribute significantly to the expansion in business investment. With the completion of major projects in 1965, capital outlays for iron-ore development and for pipe-lines will be lower this year.

Expenditures for social-capital facilities are expected to be sharply higher in 1965. On the basis of present plans, total spending in this sector will be up by more than 20 per cent, including increases of 64 per cent in outlays for new university facilities and 23 per cent in outlays by provincial governments.

PROVINCIAL AND METROPOLITAN PLANS

In addition to investment plans for the country as a whole, the report provides information on capital-spending intentions in the provinces and the major metropolitan areas. All major regions of Canada are expected to have larger capital programmes in 1965. Among the individual provinces, the sharpest increases are indicated for Nova Scotia (27 per cent) and New Brunswick (21 per cent). These are followed by Quebec and Ontario, an 18 percent rise being expected in both provinces.

Mr. Sharp said that the accomplishment of the capital programme planned for 1965 would exert an important expansionary influence on the economy generally. In addition, it reflects the continuing confidence of businessmen in Canada's economic future.