

NEW AMBASSADOR

His Excellency Dr. Arturo Calventi presented his Letters of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Dominican Republic to Canada to the Deputy Governor-General, Mr. Gerald Fauteux, LL.D., on August 5. The ceremony took place at the Supreme Court of Canada.

Dr. Calventi, who was born at La Vega, Dominican Republic, on October 12, 1918, holds the degree of Doctor of Laws from the University of Santo Domingo. He has held various important positions in his country's foreign service and prior to coming to Canada was Minister of the Dominican Republic in Washington.

OCEAN INSTITUTE

Canada, which possesses the longest coastline of any country in the world, is taking steps to expand oceanography in the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys to fill the gaping need for oceanographic data on its coastal waters for defence and resource assessment purposes.

It is setting up on the east coast, in Bedford Basin near Halifax, a \$3 million oceanographic institute, which will have the facilities to allow studies in any phase of the science. The new institute will take five years to complete and, when in operation, will have a staff of some 300 oceanographers, hydrographers, submarine geologists and other scientific personnel, plus supporting staff, and an operating fleet of 10 oceanographic vessels.

Specifically, the new Institute will turn an oceanographic research spotlight on Canada's Atlantic and sub-Arctic coasts to study the physical characteristics of the waters and underlying sea bed. The resultant data is needed for anti-submarine defences and to ascertain the resource potential of the country's continental shelf in these regions and to assist navigation.

An extensive programme of work is envisaged in the new project. Oceanographers and hydrographers will study and map the topography of the ocean floor, and measure the movements, temperature, density, and chemical properties of the water at various depths.

They will study the separate and distinct layers of water of which the oceans are comprised, and each of which has its own characteristics. Modern methods of submarine detection depend on the transmission of sound in water, which requires a detailed knowledge of these characteristics.

Geologists will study bottom sediments and cores taken from the ocean floor. Such studies will yield valuable data on the life of the earth's crust, enable geologists to recreate the history of mountainous formations on land

and reveal possible mineral resource wealth on the shelf.

Geophysicists will use magnetometers, gravimeters, and seismic equipment to diagnose the structures underlying the floor.

The heart of the new project will lie, of course, in its fleet of oceanographic and hydrographic ships. The ship-building programme will add additional ships until the requirements are met for new ships and for the replacement of old and chartered ones now in use by the Canadian Hydrographic Service. A multi-million dollar shipbuilding programme has already been set under way. The first of the new oceanographic vessels, the \$7 million C.G.S. Hudson, is expected to be commissioned in 1961.

The whole project will mean the building up, near Dartmouth, of a strong centre of marine sciences. It includes liaison with the Fisheries Research Board, the Atlantic Oceanographic Group which will be housed in the new Institute, and with Dalhousie University, which is setting up an Institute of Oceanography for the training of scientists, many of whom will be employed by the new Federal Institute. It will also be the headquarters of the polar group of oceanographers, hydrographers, geologists, and other scientists, working in the ice-bound sections of the far Arctic.

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PROGRESS IN THE NORTH

Addressing the 17th session of the Council of the Northwest Territories on July 27, Commissioner Gordon Robertson briefly reviewed developments in the North during the past six months. He drew attention to recent amendments made by Parliament to the Northwest Territories Act, with the general intent of introducing more flexibility into the government of the Territories and confiding more responsible power in the Council itself.

Communications in the North are rapidly opening up, according to Mr. Robertson. The report of the Royal Commission appointed to study the route of the proposed railway to Great Slave Lake is expected later this summer. The CBC had made for its part, good progress in its plans to improve and extend broadcasting in Northern Canada. By autumn five more stations will have been added to the CBC network in the North, including a new and up-to-date 1000-watt transmitter at the new townsite of Inuvik. In the meantime, the number of CBC shortwave broadcasts to the Canadian North has been increased.

A major effort to develop the potential resources of the North is now under way. The nickel mine at North Rankin and the Imperial Oil refinery at Norman Wells are two examples of new and extensive industrial ventures which give employment to Eskimos. At the Keewatin Re-establishment Project, people from econo-