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UNITED NATIONS TRAINING CENTRE

The rivers, forests, cities and industries of Western Canada and Northwestern United States will serve as a laboratory in economic and social development for a new-type of training centre to be operated by the United Nations and the University of British Columbia with assistance from the Government of Canada, beginning on June 1.

The regional training centre for United Nations fellows, with headquarters at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, B.C., will enable trainees from underdeveloped countries to study and observe activities in fields such as hydro-electric power development, mining, forestry, land management, cooperatives, credit unions, social welfare, and public administration.

In contrast to training centres that provide formal lectures and group field trips, the Vancouver centre will draw up individual training plans to suit the specific needs of each fellow. A trainee, selected under the UN Technical Assistance Programme, may enroll for classroom instruction, if appropriate, or he may carry out guided studies under faculty supervision. In addition, he will be attached to a field agency or governmental office in the laboratory area for first-hand observation in his specialty.

Canada and Northwestern United States were chosen as the laboratory area because in "the past 50 years this area has experienced a most remarkable expansion of population and of

economic development", an arnouncement of the centre states. "The region's natural resources of land, forest, wild life, minerals, water and energy have provided the basis for significant development which can usefully be studied by personnel from the less materially developed countries".

Under a three way agreement on operation of the centre, the United Nations will supply fellowships for the trainees and will provide a director and an administrative officer. The University of British Columbia will provide instruction and guidance for the fellows, as well as office space for the centre. The Canadian Government will contribute \$10,000 in each of the three fiscal years beginning 1959-60. The United States Government has cooperated by making the facilities of its agencies in Northwestern States available to the trainees for study and observation.

The agreement was signed on behalf of the United Nations by Hugh L. Keenleyside, UN Under-Secretary in charge of the Office for Public Administration. UN and Agency fellows eligible for fellowships for the centre will be provided under the present Technical Assistance Programme of the United Nations and related agencies (under this programme, experts in economic and social fields are sent to underdeveloped areas, and fellows from those countries are enabled to obtain advanced training abroad).

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