

## PRAIRIE WETLANDS AGREEMENTS

For the first time, Prairie farmers are being paid to maintain a safe breeding-place for ducks. In announcing arrangements with 11 landowners in Saskatchewan and Manitoba, Mr. Arthur Laing, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, said he hoped this year's pilot project would set a precedent for many more such agreements in the future. "These agreements," said Mr. Laing "guarantee that for 20 years the landowner will not drain, fill, or burn the vegetation around the wetlands on his property. In that way, the breeding grounds of the ducks are protected from damage by man, and, at the same time, the farmer-landowner is provided with a new, if modest, source of income.

### EXPLOITING A FARM RESOURCE

The work is being done in co-operation with the federal Department of Agriculture as one means of expanding farm income by taking advantage of all the resources of farmlands and using them together wisely. Farms for the pilot project were selected from the Manitoba-Saskatchewan border area because of the great value of that pothole country in duck production.

The agreements are only one phase of an expanded programme of waterfowl and wetland management suggested by the International Migratory Bird Committee, which was established jointly by Canada and the United States in 1961. Control of waterfowl damage to farmers' crops, by use of automatic acetylene exploders and provision of lure crops, is a necessary part of the expanded programme and is being tried out in new areas in the Prairies each year.

The programme is designed not only to save wetlands but also to provide an economic link between producers and users of waterfowl.

The agreements cover 1,184 potholes totalling 1,011.4 acres scattered throughout 6,560 acres of farmland. The total being spent for pothole easements is approximately \$14,000.

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## POLICE ADMINISTRATION 1962

Canada's police strength on December 31, 1962, stood at 27,744 (27,566 policemen, 178 policewomen), with a total full-time personnel strength of 32,679 (27,744 police and 4,935 civilians), according to advance figures that will be contained in the 1962 Dominion Bureau of Statistics report "Police Administration Statistics".

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police had a strength of 6,812, the Ontario provincial police of 2,039, the Quebec provincial police of 1,562, municipal police (not including RCMP and OPP municipal contracts)

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16,162, Canadian National Railways police 526, Canadian Pacific Railway police 512, and National Harbours Board police 131.

Criminal action took the lives of 12 policemen on duty in 1962, compared to two in 1961, while accidental deaths on duty took five lives, compared to six in 1961.

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## WHEAT MISSION TO EUROPE

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and representatives of the Canadian Wheat Board recently completed a week-long round of grain discussions in Britain, West Germany and France. He was accompanied by Mr. W.C. McNamara, Chief Commissioner of the Wheat Board, and Mr. C.E.G. Earl, Comptroller-Secretary of the Board. Mr. D.H. Treleaven, the Wheat Board's London Manager, joined the group in Britain.

The tour followed closely the completion of the 1963 Canadian wheat harvest, which had yielded a record 719 million bushels. With this crop in hand, Canadian officials discussed grain requirements and other aspects of trade for the coming year with representatives of the grain trade, millers and government officials in the three countries they visited. The group spent three days in Britain, two in West Germany and one in France.

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## NEW CANADA GOOSE STAMP

Details of a new 15-cent regular-issue stamp, to be placed on sale on October 30, were recently announced by Postmaster-General Azellus Denis. The new stamp, which shows four Canada Geese in flight, will be printed in blue by the steel-line engraving process. The drawing is the work of Anugs Shortt, a noted ornithological artist from Winnipeg, Manitoba, and the layout is by Paul Arthur of Ottawa.

Besides the four geese, the words "Canada, postes, postage" and the denomination appear at the lower edge of the stamp.

In making the announcement, Mr. Denis pointed out that the 7-cent air-mail stamp showing a single goose had been very popular with philatelists and the public for many years. Since this issue is to be replaced early next year, it was felt that the popular national bird should be kept on at least one of the regular stamps.

The new stamp is of the large size, in a vertical format. The 15-cent denomination is used most frequently for overseas air-mail letters and parcel post.