

## CANADIAN HERITAGE BILL

As announced in the Throne Speech on February 17, Canadians will be given an opportunity to help preserve their historical, architectural and natural heritage by a new bill that is to be introduced in the House of Commons, Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, said recently.

The proposed legislation, to be known as Heritage Canada, would set up a broadly-based corporation, with the same degree of independence as the Canada Council, to preserve individual buildings, groups of buildings and areas of historical and natural value which are nationally significant. It would also have a number of important educational and promotional objects.

### PUBLIC MEMBERSHIP

The organization, which would report to Parliament through the Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, would receive a substantial initial federal endowment grant sufficient to enable it to make a satisfactory start. Any expansion of its activities, however, would have to be with the aid of financial and other contributions from the public. Anyone interested in preserving Canada's historical and natural heritage will be able to join Heritage Canada for a nominal membership fee.

The organization's board of directors would include leading business and university people interested in preservation, or preservation experts chosen from across Canada to represent the broad geographical and cultural interests of the country, directors elected by the general membership, as well as representatives of appropriate professional organizations and Federal Government departments and agencies concerned.

Mr. Chrétien stated: "I believe Heritage Canada to be a timely and imaginative initiative which will fill a big gap in our preservation program. Although an independent body, it will complement and supplement the work already being done in my Department by the National and Historic Parks Branch. It will also add a new dimension by involving individual Canadians, who are becoming increasingly aware and interested in preserving their historical, architectural and natural heritage. I am sure that this proposed legislation will receive widespread support."

### OILMEN VISIT U.S.S.R.

Two groups of representatives from Canadian oil and gas industries arrived in Moscow recently for an extensive tour of fuel-production installations in the Soviet Union.

The Canadian groups met their Soviet counter-

parts in the Canada-U.S.S.R. Mixed Commission on Co-operation in the Industrial Application of Science and Technology, which was formed when Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, visited Moscow in January 1971.

The groups visited a wide range of oil and gas installations at Norilsk, Messoyha, Ugrum, Pynga, Tyumen, Samotlor, Leningrad and Yfa, and at the end of the tour they discussed with Soviet officials in Moscow the exchange of information on oil and gas technology of mutually beneficial interest to both countries.

Working groups for non-ferrous metals industries, and the architectural and construction industries have already made tours of the Soviet Union. Under terms of the Agreement on the Industrial Application of Science and Technology, all working groups have held joint meetings in Canada or the U.S.S.R. during 1971. The next meeting of the Canada-U.S.S.R. Mixed Commission will be held in Canada in May.

### THE SEARCH FOR EFFECTIVE AID PROGRAMS

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activities. These organizations are playing an important role in helping the developing countries. They can frequently do so in a more flexible and experimental way than government agencies. Research is also important. We intend to continue to support the activities of the International Development Research Centre, as well as other research institutes located in the developing countries themselves.

All Canadians will welcome the steady increase in the size of our development-assistance program. But I hope I have made clear that to achieve a steady increase in the amounts we devote to aid — however welcome — is only the beginning of the answer. It is all too easy in international discussions to focus on the volume of aid simply because volume is easy to talk about. To do so ignores those problems of quality to which I referred earlier. We have a good way to go yet before we find the best means for applying Canadian resources to the problems of the developing countries.

In future, I judge that all groups in Canada concerned with aid — including this Committee — will want to proceed on the basis that increasing the volume of our aid is no longer the real question. There can be argument about how fast we are moving. But the fact is that ever-larger funds are being committed every year. It will be easier to be satisfied with this trend if we are sure we have devised programs which guarantee these funds are being effectively spent. This should be the test of the success of our aid policy, rather than whether we succeed in meeting some arbitrary target.