

## CANADA-ALGERIA RELATIONS

Two development-assistance agreements and a long term wheat agreement were signed by Canada and Algeria recently during a visit to Ottawa of senior Algerian officials.

The wheat agreement, which the Algerian delegation signed on behalf of their Government, is for the purchase of from 850,000 to one million tons of Canadian wheat during the period from August 1, 1971, to July 31, 1975. The development-assistance agreements involve Algerian fisheries and forestry projects.

Mr. I. Jazaïry, Director of Economic, Cultural and Social Affairs in the Algerian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, headed the delegation, which consisted of representatives from the Algerian ministries of Finance, Commerce, Industry and Energy, Agriculture and Agrarian Reform, Transport, Primary and Secondary Education and of the Permanent Committee for the Development of Algiers.

The delegation had been invited to Ottawa to discuss with senior Canadian officials a wide range of commercial, economic and development-assistance questions. The talks included increased sales of Canadian products to Algeria, the granting of Canadian credits to facilitate such sales, development-assistance projects already under negotiation and possible new projects.

The visit reflected a desire on the part of the Governments of Canada and Algeria to improve and strengthen economic and commercial ties between the two countries.

## INDUSTRY AIDS MENTAL HEALTH

Canadian industry is helping in the rehabilitation of people recovering from mental illness. Contracts with companies from coast to coast enable the Canadian Mental Health Association's work centres to prepare patients for re-employment.

As an example, Richards-Wilcox of Canada Ltd., London, Ontario, which is taking an active part in the program, recently made 300 aluminum spent-fuel trays for Atomic Energy of Canada's Gentilly Nuclear Power Station. After being fabricated, the trays were sent to the Mental Health Work Centre in London, where patients cleaned loose weld deposits and spatter from the units.

Gene Lobb, Manufacturing Engineering Manager at Richards-Wilcox, who was responsible for initiating the program, is completely satisfied with the results and his opinion is shared by Cliff Woodhead, Power Projects Quality Control. Richards-Wilcox is believed to be the first AECL supplier to subcontract work to the Canadian Mental Health Association.

The London work centre was the first of three now operated by the Association. St. Claire Jackson, the Director, and his staff of five have had remarkable success in preparing those in their care to resume

happy, useful lives in business and industry.

There are from 40 to 50 patients in the work centre at all times, who live in boarding-houses in the immediate area. As one group completes the rehabilitation course, another takes its place.

## TWO NATIONAL MUSEUMS BEING RENOVATED

Two of Canada's national museums, Man and Natural Sciences, will soon be back in business.

The Victoria Memorial Building, built in 1910 in what is now the heart of Ottawa, is undergoing a complete renovation. It is this building that houses exhibits of the National Museum of Man and the National Museum of Natural Sciences.

Old displays, some dating back to 1935, have been torn out and will be replaced by new exhibits that will be a mixture of entertainment and education.

The revamped auditorium opened in October to accommodate the Wednesday Night Lecture Series, held last year in the auditorium of the National Gallery of Canada. This new series, featuring internationally-renowned speakers, will be the most ambitious the National Museums of Canada has ever undertaken.

The Mammal Hall, the Bird Hall and a hall for temporary exhibits should be ready by next summer. Other halls - Mineral Sciences, Orientation (showing stages of man's educational and cultural evolution), Palaeontology, Canada Before Cartier, and the halls of Canadian Indians (West Coast, Iroquois, Plains, and Sub-Arctic) - will be ready for use a little later in the year.

Two complete floors of displays will be open to the public by January 1972, with five or six new exhibit areas in addition to three refurbished halls. By August 1973, another seven halls will be finished.

## TRAVELLING EXHIBITS

Plans are being made to send a program of exhibitions to other parts of Canada. The National Museum of Man, which had already begun its travelling-exhibit program, had to curtail it owing to the renovations. The travelling-exhibit project is expected to be developed further when renovations are completed.

Despite the great changes taking place, the museum will continue to strive for a balanced emphasis on research, preservation, education and exhibition. A new stress on exhibition, using the latest techniques, is now possible because of the increased display space resulting from the dispersal of staff and collections across the Ottawa area.

Four floors of the great stone building will be exploited, more than doubling the display area available in the past. With the stimulation of greater space and variety of exhibits, the museologists and scientists are looking forward to their museums playing a far greater cultural and educational role in the capital.