

### Support for world food and control of drug abuse

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan pledged in February \$40 million in aid to the United Nations World Food Program (WFP) on behalf of the Government of Canada.

This amount, which covers 1975 and 1976, has been increased by 18 per cent over that given for the two-year period 1973-74.

"Twenty-five per cent of the pledge will be in cash and 75 per cent in commodities," Mr. Whelan said.

In past years commodities supplied by Canada to the WFP have included grains and high protein foods such as skim milk powder, cheese, fish and dried eggs.

Mr. Whelan's announcement of the pledge was read at the UN's World Food Program Pledging Conference in New York City by Leopold Corriveau, parliamentary secretary for the Minister of Agriculture.

The World Food Program has about 600 projects in about 90 countries. It provides emergency aid to any country facing either natural or man-made catastrophes with the only condition that food aid must be used for economic and social development.

Since the WFP began in 1963, Canada has been the second largest contributor.

#### Control of drug abuse

As part of Canada's ongoing support of the UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control, a \$200,000 cheque was given to United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim recently by S.F. Rae, Canadian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Marc Lalonde, Minister of National Health and Welfare, emphasized the importance to Canada of supporting the United Nations Fund. "Canada and the United States are currently bearing the brunt of the illicit traffic in narcotic drugs and, therefore, anything that can be done to stem the flow of such drugs into North America will benefit Canadians." The UN Fund, stated Mr. Lalonde, was one of the most effective means of supporting this objective.

This payment brings Canada's contributions to the UN Fund to \$600,000 during the last three years. Canada has been a member of the UN Commission on Narcotic Drugs since its inception in 1946. The UN Fund for Drug Abuse Control was established in 1970. Since that time Canada has made grants of: \$150,000 in 1971-72; \$250,000 in 1972-73; and \$200,000 for 1973-74.

The Minister said that the Canadian Government, in response to a strong plea made on behalf of the UN Secretary-General to members of the UN Commission, had committed \$200,000 each year through to fiscal 1975-76, for a total commitment of \$1 million, to enable the UN Fund to plan for the continuation of current projects and initiate future projects.

The Fund assists member countries to combat illicit drug traffic by replacing the cultivation of plants from which such drugs are produced, by conducting training for senior law enforcement and customs officials and also by conducting international conferences to review programs of education in drug abuse.

### A bill to preserve Canada's national heritage

Secretary of State Hugh Faulkner announced recently that he would submit a bill to the next session of Parliament to regulate the export of heritage property. "I share the concern of many Canadians at the extent our national heritage has been diminished over the years through the export abroad of important national treasures," the Minister stated.

The bill will propose that a control list establishing categories and age

and value limits be set up so that the departure from Canada of an object of sufficient importance to be considered a national treasure can be postponed, if a independent review board judges that a reasonable delay period should be created to enable interested Canadian public authorities and institutions to purchase them at a fair market price. If the object is not purchased within the time limits of the delay period, an export permit would be

granted and the object would be free to leave the country legally.

The method of control will be designed to ensure the co-operation of the collector-dealer fraternity in Canada and, Mr. Faulkner explained, "with the active support of the Minister of Finance, tax incentives will be proposed so that it will be to the advantage of Canadians to do business with appropriate Canadian institutions rather than accept foreign offers to buy their recognized treasures".

The control system proposed would be administered across the country by the Canadian Customs acting on the advice of local authorized experts.

The Minister emphasized that the system of export-control which will be submitted by the Government will not be confiscatory. "It will contain no hint of expropriation," he stated. Further, the Act and Regulations will affect only objects of cultural significance that have been in Canada long enough to merit consideration as national treasures. Parliament will be asked for funds to enable the Government to assist Canadian authorities and institutions in purchasing such objects when they are threatened by export, and for repatriating national treasures that may come on the market abroad.

### Flight simulator for British Airways

British Airways has ordered a second Boeing 747 aircraft flight simulator for flight-crew training from CAE Electronics Ltd of St. Laurent, Quebec.

The British Overseas Aircraft Corporation (BOAC), predecessor company to British Airways, was the first international airline to order a Boeing 747 flight simulator, in July 1970, and at that time chose CAE to develop and manufacture this first flight simulator for the first wide-bodied jet airliner.

This is the fourth order for an aircraft flight simulator to be announced by CAE Electronics Ltd in the past three months, representing close to \$7.5 million in new business. Swissair ordered a DC-9-50 flight simulator in mid-October; Air Canada announced an order for a DC-9-32 flight simulator in November, and North Central Airlines ordered a DC-9-30 flight simulator in December.