

Aid for Asian refugees

Refugees in two parts of the world, the "boat people" of Southeast Asia, and Ugandans who have fled to Kenya, will receive emergency aid and resettlement assistance with the help of two contributions totalling \$500,000 from Canada.

The grants will come from the multi-lateral funds of the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), and are made in response to special UNHCR appeals from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) for support.

Half of the Canadian contribution will be used by UNHCR to help some of the more than 10,000 people who, since the spring of 1975, have sailed from Vietnam and Kampuchea, often in unseaworthy vessels, to seek refuge in neighbouring countries — Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, Indonesia, Hong Kong and Japan. Although the UNHCR is helping countries of temporary asylum to provide emergency aid and has permanently resettled about 6,000 refugees, the exodus of "boat people" has grown recently to an estimated 1,500 a month.

In Kenya, at least 4,000 Ugandans have registered as refugees, while another 300 more people have been arriving each month. The UNHCR has appealed for additional funds to provide subsistence allowances, rural settlement assistance, and educational aid.

This assistance is in addition to Canada's contribution to the regular work of the UNHCR, which was \$850,000 for 1977-78 and will rise to \$1 million next year, subject to Parliamentary approval.

Seasonal workers for peak periods

Employment and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen has signed Memoranda of Understanding concerning the Commonwealth Caribbean Seasonal Agricultural Workers Program with the Governments of Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados, Grenada, the West Indian Associated States and Montserrat.

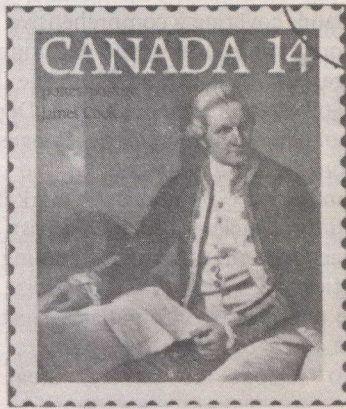
The Memorandum formalizes a program that has been in operation since 1966, allowing Caribbean workers to enter Canada temporarily to fill jobs in agriculture if workers are not available in Canada. Last year, some 4,400 Caribbeans entered Canada under the program,

compared with 4,875 in 1976. Fewer workers were admitted in 1977 because of the increased availability of Canadian workers.

"The basic principles for the movement of workers are firmly established in the Memorandum, which will result in more orderly management of the program," Mr. Cullen said. "It provides that workers will be employed in the Canadian agricultural sector only during periods when Canadian workers are not available, to be determined by the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission."

Explorer featured on new stamps

The Post Office honoured one of the greatest explorers in Canadian history, Captain James Cook, with two stamps issued in Victoria, British Columbia, April 26. This year is the bicentennial of Cook's third voyage and his explorations of Canada's west coast. (See *Canada Weekly* dated March 15, 1978, P. 4.)



The stamps feature a portrait of Cook by Nathaniel Dance and a water-colour of Nootka Sound by John Webber, an artist in Cook's crew. The Dance painting, on permanent display at the National Maritime Museum, London, was the last portrait of Cook before his death in the Hawaiian islands in 1779.

"Canadians owe a great debt to Captain Cook and the courageous men who sailed with him," said Postmaster-General J. Gilles Lamontagne in making the announcement. "He charted both the east and west coasts of Canada and was the first to recognize the tremendous breadth of the continent. Cook has been called the greatest explorer-seaman of all time; he was a skilled navigator and observer, and his journals and charts were a legacy for future explorers of the continent."

Multilingual Alberta

The official opening last month of Alberta's Multilingual Biblioservice coincided with the arrival of 3,500 books on a long-term loan from the National Library's Multilingual Biblioservice.

The aim of this new service, financed by Alberta Culture and administered by the Edmonton Public Library, is to circulate books and other materials to the ethno-cultural communities in the province in the language of their choice. The materials will be provided through public libraries in the province.

Alberta will also establish its own collection of books in non-official languages as the demand arises, and books in French, and eventually, other materials such as periodicals, records, tapes and films will be added to the collection; a union catalogue of all materials will be published and made available at all public libraries. Plans also include a reference collection, in English, on ethno-cultural communities in Alberta to assist teachers and librarians with exhibits and events featuring ethnic groups.

The National Library in Ottawa has a circulating collection of books in Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Dutch, Finnish, Gaelic, German, Greek, Hindi, Hungarian, Icelandic, Italian, Maltese, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Punjabi, Russian, Slovak, Spanish, Swedish, Ukrainian and Urdu. New languages are being added every year.

According to the 1971 census, 35 languages other than English and French are spoken in Alberta.

In making projections, a study was undertaken of the rate of language retention by ethno-cultural groups, and the upsurge of interest in language learning through the 1970s. In addition to French immersion schools, Alberta also supports Ukrainian bilingual schools for children. A German school will open this fall.

Leafs make NHL playoffs

A goal scored by Lanny McDonald against the New York Islanders in New York on April 29, after four minutes of overtime, put the Toronto Maple Leafs in the National Hockey League semi-finals for the first time since 1967.

McDonald's goal, which just slipped by the glove of goaltender Glenn (Chico) Resch, gave the Leafs a 4-3 game victory