

OLD COAST GUARD TUB REPLACED

Plans to build a new vessel to replace CCGS *Estevan* on the west coast were announced recently by Transport Minister Paul Hellyer. Construction will probably start later this summer, as part of the Department's long-term replacement programme.

The *Estevan*, oldest ship of its class in Canadian Coast Guard fleet, is familiar all along the west coast, where it has served since 1912. Built at Collingwood, Ontario, the *Estevan* sailed round Cape Horn to embark on its Pacific service. It will be retired as soon as a replacement is provided.

The new twin-screw, diesel-operated vessel will be fitted for light-station supply duties, buoy-tending and search-and-rescue operations. Its length will be approximately 240 feet and it will have a displacement of 2,800 tons. The ship will have a crew of 55.

It will carry adequate water, stores and provisions for a voyage of 45 days and sufficient fuel for 15 days at cruising speed.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

There were 31,259 births recorded in provincial offices in Canada during May compared to 35,034 in May 1967, bringing the total for the first five months of the year to 152,698, 3.7 percent below the 158,585 for the corresponding period last year. Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba reported decreases.

Marriages numbered 12,532 in May, about the same as the 12,590 reported in May 1967. For the cumulative period, marriages were 8.6 percent higher than in the same period last year (49,421 compared to 45,519), with only Prince Edward Island, Nova Scotia and New Brunswick reporting decreases.

During May, 12,460 deaths were recorded, compared to 13,061 in April and 12,979 in May 1967. The cumulative total from January to May was 67,630, 7.8 percent higher than in the 1967 period (62,748). Only two provinces, Newfoundland and Nova Scotia reported decreases.

FARM CASH RECEIPTS

Farmers' total cash receipts from agricultural operations, excluding supplementary payments, are now estimated at \$4,379.0 million for Canada (except for Newfoundland). As a result of more up-to-date information becoming available recently, this estimate differs slightly from that presented in the advance preliminary report published in March. It is 3.3 percent above the previous record of \$4,238.7 million set in 1966 and 22.8 percent above the average for the five years, 1962 to 1966.

The most significant contributions to the gain in farm cash receipts in 1967 were higher participation payments by the Canadian Wheat Board, increased

cash returns from the sale of dairy products, tobacco, barley, cattle and calves, and larger payments under the dairy support programme. In contrast, lower cash returns were realized from wheat, oats, rye, flaxseed, potatoes, hogs and poultry products. Increases in total cash receipts, ranging from about 3 to 6 per cent, were estimated for Quebec, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta and British Columbia. In the remaining provinces, cash receipts were lower, with declines ranging from less than 1 per cent in Manitoba to nearly 10 per cent in New Brunswick.

In addition to the above income, farmers received supplementary payments amounting to \$6.1 million in 1967, in contrast to \$41.3 million in 1966. These payments include only those made under the Prairie Farm Assistance Act and other government assistance to farmers who suffered losses as a result of adverse weather conditions. In 1966, these payments included substantial outlays for assistance to farmers in Quebec and Ontario, who suffered from extreme drought conditions during 1965; with improved conditions in subsequent years, these payments declined. When added together, farm cash receipts from farming operations and supplementary payments totalled \$4,385.2 million in 1967, 2.5 percent above the previous high record of \$4,280.0 million in 1966.

Provincial farm cash receipts (excluding supplementary payments other than those paid to dairy producers) are as follows (in thousands of dollars for 1967, with comparable 1966 figures in brackets): Prince Edward Island, 33,807 (36,546); Nova Scotia, 55,031 (55,842); New Brunswick, 48,827 (53,760); Quebec, 634,262 (595,387); Ontario, 1,279,037 (1,230,904); Manitoba, 374,708 (375,721); Saskatchewan, 970,607 (945,697); Alberta, 786,940 (756,950); British Columbia, 195,819 (187,881).

WAGE RATES

Average wages paid in industries surveyed by the federal Department of Labour increased by 7.6 per cent last year. In 1965-66, the increase was 6.4 per cent.

This general index of average straight-time wage rates for selected non-office occupations is based on annual surveys of wage rates prevailing in some 30,000 establishments across Canada.

Final figures arrived at through the surveys show that the general index increased from 124.0 to 133.4 at October 1, 1967. The base year of one hundred is 1961.

Of the eight main industrial divisions comprising the index, logging, with 11.3 per cent, had the largest increase in average wage rates, its index figure moving from 140.2 to 156.0. Local administration was second with 9.9 per cent, while the manufacturing division showed a 7.3 percent increase. Mining had the lowest percentage increase at 6.1, falling below service, at 6.7 per cent, trade, at 6.9 per cent, transportation, communication and other utilities, 8.6 per cent, and construction, 9.4 per cent.