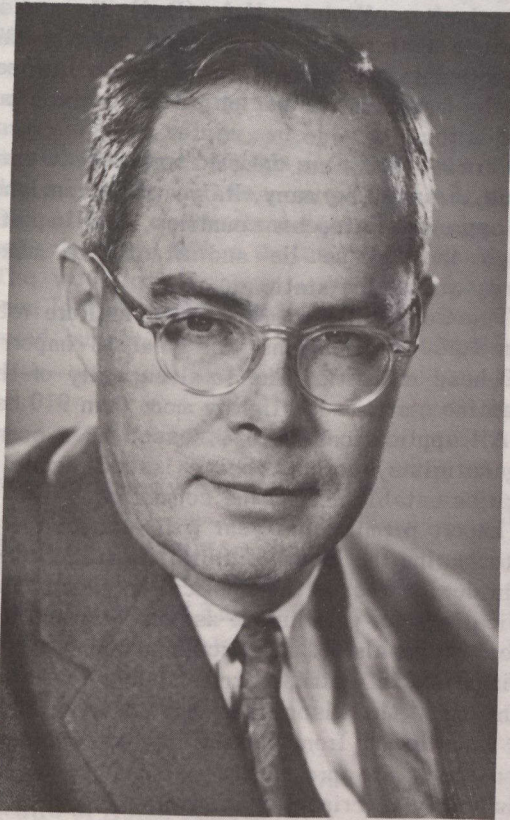


## CULTURAL EXCHANGES

Canada is this month again taking part in the exchange program of the Agency for Cultural and Technological Co-operation, which is designed to promote greater understanding and knowledge among citizens of member countries of the Agency.

Visiting Canada from Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Haiti are 38 youthful teachers. After three days in Ottawa, they went to Quebec, from where they formed into three groups - one to visit Ontario, another New Brunswick and the third to Manitoba. The program specializes in modern teaching methods.

In turn, 35 young Canadians from Quebec, Ontario, New Brunswick and Manitoba are travelling in French-speaking Africa visiting in separate groups the Ivory Coast, Dahomey, Senegal, Togo and Tunisia. Their program covers such subjects as government administration, economic planning and development, contemporary and traditional plastic arts and the study of Moslem civilization.



## CANADIAN HEADS ILO

John Mainwaring, Director of the International Labour Affairs Branch of the Canada Department of Labour for the past eight years, has been elected Chairman of the Governing Body of the International Labour Organization. Mr. Mainwaring, who represents the Canadian Government in the ILO, will remain as chairman for a year.

## LEPROSY-LIKE DISEASE STUDIED

The Federal Government has awarded Dr. Chung-yang Hsu and Dr. E. Snell of the Preventive Medical Services, Manitoba Department of Health, and Dr. E.S. Hershfield, Medical Director of the D.A. Stewart Centre for the Study and Treatment of Respiratory Disease, Winnipeg, a grant of \$18,200 to investigate skin infections resembling leprosy that have been found among some inhabitants of Manitoba.

This medical phenomenon received initial attention in 1969, when a woman who was born and had lived in the province all her life developed a condition that, following tests, led scientists both in Canada and the United States to conclude that, while she was not suffering from leprosy itself, she was suffering from a skin infection remarkably like it.

In May 1970, Dr. R.A. Feldman, a senior scientist at the Centre for Disease Control at Atlanta, Georgia, was asked to assist in elucidating the problem. His investigations led to the discovery of five similar cases in Manitoba and one in the neighbouring state of Minnesota.

In 1971 six more cases were discovered, all possessing characteristics like those of the condition found in the original patient.

Among the common characteristics are:

- (1) The onset of the disease occurs between October and April;
- (2) all the initial areas of infection occur in parts of the body that are normally exposed - legs, arms and eyebrows;
- (3) all patients except one are living in rural areas;
- (4) age incidence at the onset of the disease was either over 50 or under 19;
- (5) the development of the disease was usually rapid and always located in a limited area.

## U OF Q COMMUNICATIONS

With 23,000 students and eight campuses extending across 800 miles, the University of Quebec has special communications needs. To meet these and to help "bring the university to the student", U of Q officers met with specialists at Bell Canada to design a custom-made communications system. Now, scientists lecturing from the research centre give courses to students in distant locations. Each campus has instant access to central computers in Quebec City, where all kinds of information ranging from data for research work to student records is stored. The system enables administrators in Chicoutimi, Hull, Montreal, Rimouski, Rouyn and Trois-Rivières to meet regularly without leaving their offices, and written information is transmitted instantly between campuses. Far apart, but never isolated, the University of Quebec's campuses use telecommunications to extend university facilities on a provincial scale.