

Urban demonstration program

Urban Affairs Minister Ron Basford has announced the establishment of a \$100-million fund for an "urban demonstration program" from 1975 to 1981.

The program which the Fund will create is expected to include some 20 projects by 1976, including the foundation for Canada's participation in the 1976 United Nations Conference/Exposition on Human Settlements to be held in Vancouver. A number of the demonstration projects will be nominated as Canadian projects for inclusion in the UN demonstration program and the exposition portion of the UN Conference.

The money will be used to support urban projects in the following areas: to develop innovative projects to show the effective working of new methods of house design and construction; to demonstrate the feasibility of low-energy urban systems; to illustrate new ways of getting the utmost value from scarce and expensive natural resources by recycling for multiple use; and to apply new technology to many other critical areas such as improved public transportation and arrangements for the financing, building and administration of new communities and renewed communities. The Fund will be applied to federal, provincial and municipal programs and projects, as well as to projects put forward by the private sector and individuals.

Napoleonic documents gift to Public Archives

Dr. Casimir G. Stanczykowski, Montreal broadcaster, has presented to the Public Archives of Canada, a set of original Napoleonic documents. They consist of 29 letters written by Napoleon's confidential secretary to the French ambassador in Warsaw, outlining France's secret preparations for the invasion of Russia in 1812. They will become part of the permanent collection of the National Ethnic Archives.

The correspondence reveals Napoleon's secret plans and preparations for the ill-fated invasion of Russia, in which the Poles were allies of the French. The letters are

dated from December 31, 1811 and June 17, 1812. France declared war on Russia on June 22, 1812.

Dr. Stanczykowski who is President and General Manager of Chateau Broadcasting Ltd., owners and operators of radio station CFMB, Montreal, is a prominent member of the Canadian Polish community and a member of the National Consultative Committee on Multiculturalism. The letters he has donated to the Public Archives of Canada come from his own extensive collection of documents and artifacts gathered over 20 years.

Normandy commemoration

Canada will send an official delegation to France this June to commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the Normandy landings.

The Canadian delegation will be headed by the Minister of Veterans Affairs, Daniel J. MacDonald, and the Canadian Ambassador to France, Léo Cadieux. It will include, from Canada, representatives of Parliament, surviving "D-Day" formation commanders, survivors of each battalion and of the supporting arms and services, representatives of the Royal Canadian Navy and the Royal Canadian Air Force, and of the Royal Canadian Legion and the National Council of Veterans Associations.

A two-day official French program is being planned, with the Canadian and British ceremonies taking place on the afternoon and evening of June 5 and those in the United States sector being held on June 6.

The principal Canadian event will be a remembrance ceremony in Beny-sur-Mer Canadian War Cemetery at 4:30 p.m. on June 5.

The Canadian 3rd Division, the 2nd Canadian Armoured Brigade and the 1st Canadian Parachute Battalion formed nearly a fifth of the total invasion force of nearly 100,000 men, which stormed across the Normandy beaches that June day nearly 30 years ago. Canadian ships and sailors had ferried them across the English channel during the dark hours, and Canadian planes and airmen had spread a protective umbrella over the entire operation. By the end of that day, Canadian forces had come closest to reaching their objectives, at the cost of more than 1,000 casualties.

Canadian assists ILO

When the International Labour Organization needed assistance in probing major management and personnel questions, it sought advice from Canada, and as a result, S.H. Mansbridge, Assistant Deputy Minister, Administration, Department of National Health and Welfare, is in Geneva for a nine-month assignment as co-ordinator of a steering committee reporting to the Director-General of ILO.

Mr. Mansbridge will prepare a report on ILO's major management and personnel questions for the Director-General to present to the governing body of 12 member states, which includes Canada.

Olympic semi-postal stamps

Three Olympic semi-postal stamps, the first surcharged stamps ever issued by the Canada Post Office went on sale on April 17. These stamps, called Olympic Action Stamps are the third issue of a special Olympic series. The denominations of the three stamps are: eight cents plus two cents surcharge; ten cents plus five cents surcharge, and 15 cents plus five cents surcharge. When the semi-postal stamp is sold across a regular post office counter, the net proceeds from the surcharge portion is counted as Olympic support revenue; when it is sold through the Philatelic Service, the total value including the surcharge, will be counted as philatelic revenue and the net proceeds, after deducting costs, will go to the Organizing Committee for the Olympic Games.

