



### Royal Canadian Mounted Police salute Queen's jubilee in Britain



The Royal Canadian Mounted Police Musical Ride will tour Britain this year in honour of the Queen's jubilee. The visit, from early May to late June, will be the fourth time the famous horses and men of the Ride have performed in Britain. The first was in 1957, followed by tours in 1969 and 1974.

Canada's red-coated "Mounties" will make a number of appearances during the tour, other than performing the Ride, including participation in the jubilee celebrations in London and Windsor. They will also be part of a ceremonial parade to the Mansion House to be received by the Lord Mayor of London and will visit the Canadian Memorial Hospital at Taplow, Buckinghamshire.

#### The Ride

The Musical Ride, which was instituted in the Force shortly after its inception in 1873, is believed to have originated in the lancer regiments in Britain. It is usually performed by a full troop of 32 men astride jet black horses, with the intricate figures derived from calgary drill, executed at the trot and canter to the music of an accompanying band. The series of figures, called by such names as "The Dome", "The Maze", "The Bridal Arch", "The Wagon Wheel" and "The Shanghai Cross", ends with a thundering charge at full gallop.

Members of the troop — all regular policemen who serve with the Ride for two years — wear "review" order. The eight-foot lance bearing a red and white pennon, which each man carries, rests in a "bucket" attached to the offside stirrup iron.

The horses, specially bred and raised by the RCMP, stand from 15.3 to 17 hands and weigh from 1,100 to 1,350 pounds.

### Canada at UN water conference

Five theme papers are being presented by the Canadian delegation to the United Nations Water Conference, led by Leader of the Government in the Senate Raymond J. Perrault, at Mar del Plata, Argentina, from March 14 to 25.

Canada, in the fortunate position of having one seventh of the world's fresh water within its boundaries, has a problem of distribution rather than scarcity. One of the papers, from the Department of Fisheries and the Environment, covers river-basin planning, necessary because of an increasing concentration of population, and more stresses on water resources owing to the demands of an industrial and affluent society. The other paper, from the same department, dealing with the reduction of flood damage, describes regional variations of the problem as well as the divided responsibilities of the federal and provincial governments.

Canada's ten provincial governments each have responsibility for water resources within their territory. Quebec has prepared a paper outlining regulations for water management in that province. Prince Edward Island, smallest of the provinces and entirely surrounded by salt water, is reporting on the management of inland coastal waters.

Canada shares an 8,900-kilometre-long border with the United States, not only from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans but in the north with Alaska. Boundary waters cover some 3,900 kilometres. The work of the International Joint Commission, set up in 1909, is described in the fifth theme paper, prepared by environmental officials of the two countries. Canada and the U.S. have adopted two basic premises: water-related activities in one country should not be undertaken in a way which would affect the other country and all problems should be addressed jointly.

The IJC commissioners, three from each country, investigate problems referred to the Commission impartially and after study, often by a special technical board, bring in a unanimous report to both governments. It is customary now to hold public hearings at which citizens may express their

### Crown corporation for Canada's rail passengers

The Federal Government has created a new crown corporation to operate all passenger rail service, Transport Minister Otto Lang announced this month.

The new company, VIA Rail Canada Inc., "will contract with Canadian National and Canadian Pacific railways for the actual operation of trains on the property of either railway company."

Plans and budgets of the new corporation will be subject to Government approval. Mr. Lang said VIA would gradually take over CN and CP routes

and operate as a subsidiary of CN.

The new company will be run by a board of directors made up of representatives from CN, CP, the Government, business and labour, said the minister. It aims to improve rail passenger service while reducing the levels of public subsidy.

"The Government recognizes that the services are unlikely to be profitable in the short term," he said. "We are, therefore, prepared to contribute to the capital requirements and find a satisfactory basis for covering operating losses, provided effective management has been demonstrated."