

PROJECTS BY PROVINCES

In the Atlantic Provinces, 148 projects are in progress or completed: 43 in Newfoundland, costing \$1,288,000; 23 in Prince Edward Island, costing \$417,000; 50 in Nova Scotia, costing \$1,223,000; 32 in New Brunswick, costing \$920,000. ARDA projects in Quebec totalled 144, at a cost of \$10,615,000. Those in Ontario numbered 37, costing \$4,568,000. A total of 203 projects were approved for the Prairie Provinces: 60 in Manitoba at a cost of \$5,269,000; 108 in Saskatchewan, costing \$11,208,000; 35 in Alberta, costing \$4,676,000. There were 25 projects approved for British Columbia, for a total cost of \$1,078,000.

In addition to these cost-shared projects, a further 41 were undertaken directly by the Federal Government, at a total cost of \$1,105,000.

VARIETY OF PROJECTS

Under ARDA, each province initiates and carries out its own projects, with federal financial, and sometimes technical assistance. Emphasis on the type of project varies among the provinces, according to their needs. For example, Saskatchewan has concentrated on community pastures, with a total of 59 in process of development. The Newfoundland programme has consisted chiefly of research work; 38 such projects are now under way or complete. While Quebec has had a diversified programme, the emphasis is on improvement of watercourses to improve and increase the arable land on hundreds of farms.

A Quebec project of special interest at this early stage of ARDA's development is one of detailed research into economic and social conditions in the Gaspé region, which is being carried out by the Bureau d'aménagement de l'est du Quebec. To date, \$2,470,000 in federal-provincial funds has been allotted to this project. Another major Quebec project valued at \$1,260,000, is designed to provide heavy motorized machinery for improvement of various farm lands in the province. In Saskatchewan, a \$200,000 project has been organized to study social and economic conditions in Census Division 16, north and west of Saskatoon. This project is being carried out under contract by the Centre for Community Studies at the University of Saskatchewan.

All ARDA projects to date are being carried out under the federal-provincial ARDA general agreement, signed between the Federal Government and each province in the autumn of 1962. A new agreement, covering the period from 1965 to 1970, is now under discussion. Under this new agreement, the Federal Government has agreed to provide \$25 million a year, plus a \$50-million special-projects fund over the whole term of the agreement.

STRATFORD BOX-OFFICE OPENING

One of the harbingers of spring in Southern Ontario is the opening of the Stratford Festival's box office - this year the event takes place on March 1. Almost 400,000 tickets, representing a record box-office potential of \$1,494,700, will go on sale

over the counter and by mail order for the Festival's 16-week season.

The 1965 season will open on June 14 with "Henry IV" (*Henry IV*, Part I), "Falstaff" (*Henry IV*, Part 2), "Julius Caesar", and "The Cherry Orchard" are the other plays in the repertory at the Festival Theatre.

OPERA PRODUCTIONS

At the Avon Theatre, the North American première of the Weill-Brecht opera "Mahagonny" will take place on July 2, and last year's success, "The Marriage of Figaro", will open on July 6. The operas will run Monday (except July 5) through Saturday, with matinees on Wednesdays and Saturdays, until August 28.

The Festival will also present eight Sunday afternoon and six Saturday morning concerts in the Festival Theatre.

There are 286,766 tickets for the 127 performances of the four plays - 73,194 for 66 performances of the operas and 31,548 for the 14 concerts. There will also be 1,000 tickets for the Choral Workshop programme to be heard in Knox Church on July 23, and 2,258 tickets for the August 27 performance of Handel's "Solomon" in the Festival Theatre.

CHINESE FOREIGN MINISTER

The Foreign Minister of the Republic of China, His Excellency Shen Chang-huan, arrived in Ottawa on February 24 for an informal two-day visit, during which he had consultations with the Secretary of State for External Affairs and other members of the Cabinet. Mr. Shen's stay in Ottawa was part of a trip to Canada during which he met members of the Chinese communities in Montreal and Toronto.

Mr. Shen arrived at Uplands Airport, where he was met by Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, who gave a luncheon in his honour next day. The Foreign Minister was also received by the Prime Minister and other Cabinet Ministers during his stay. He left Ottawa with his Party for New York on February 26.

MICHENER NAMED TO NEPAL

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, has announced the concurrent accreditation as first Canadian Ambassador to Nepal of Mr. D. Roland Michener, Canadian High Commissioner to India. Establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and Nepal was announced on January 18.

Mr. Michener was born in Lacombe, Alberta, in April 1900. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1924 and was appointed King's Counsel in 1943.

He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1953, and was re-elected in 1957 and 1958. He was Speaker of the House of Commons during Canada's Twenty-third and Twenty-fourth Parliaments, 1957-62. His appointment as Canadian High Commissioner to India was announced on July 6, 1964.