

Prince Andrew to study in Canada

Lakefield College School, near Peterborough, Ontario, will have a royal student next year, when Prince Andrew, the second son of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh takes up his studies there during the winter and spring terms.

The Prince, who will be 17 years old in February, will undertake a full program of Grade 12 studies at the school, where he will also board.

Gordonstoun, a school in Scotland, which he is now attending, has a similar curriculum and an agreement for exchange of students. Prince Andrew will be the Gordonstoun representative at Lakefield during the two terms, an arrangement which will allow him to continue preparing for his final examinations under the British system. The winter term runs from January 6 to March 17; the spring term from April 5 to June 11.

During his period of studies at Lakefield, Prince Andrew will undertake no engagements of any kind and will confine himself exclusively to school work.



Prince Andrew

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police will assure security arrangements while he is in Canada.

Prince Andrew, second in line of succession to the Throne, is the third born of the Queen's four children. He was born at Buckingham Palace on February 19, 1960.

Public Service award

Stuart Milton Hodgson, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, will receive the Outstanding Achievement Award of the Public Service for 1976, the Prime Minister announced on December 3.

This award, granted under the Incentive Award Plan of the Public Service of Canada, consists of a citation and an honorarium of \$5,000. The recipient is chosen by a committee of prominent Canadians from outside the Public Service.

The Outstanding Achievement Award is one of the four programs which make up the Incentive Award Plan. The others are the Suggestion Award Program which is open to Public Servants up to and including middle-management levels; the Merit Award Program which is aimed at all levels of Public Servants; and the Long Service Award Program for those who have served the Federal Government for 25 years.

Mr. Hodgson, a native of Vancouver, British Columbia, was appointed to the Northwest Territories Council to represent labour in 1964, and in July 1965 was named Deputy Commissioner. He became Commissioner in 1967, the first non-civil servant to hold the position.

Within six months of his appointment, he succeeded in having the Northwest Territories government administration moved from Ottawa to Yellowknife, the then newly-established capital of the Northwest Territories.

Government introduces measures to reduce unemployment

Additional measures to reduce unemployment were announced on November 25 by the Department of Manpower and Immigration and the Unemployment Insurance Commission. They include doubling of this year's Local Initiatives Program (LIP) from \$100 million to \$200 million; the provision of \$50 million for federal labour-intensive projects in areas of high unemployment; and a decrease of 9 per cent in the unemployment insurance premium rates for employers and workers.

An earlier announcement of Government measures designed to reduce unemployment included a \$40-million increase for occupational training, bringing the total for the year to \$522 million and enabling the training this year of more than 305,000 Canadians; and expansion of the Canada Manpower Mobility Program in 1976-77 to \$13.7 million, enabling permanent relocation of 15,000 families, and other mobility grants to some 40,000 to 40,500 workers. The expanded LIP program will create a total of 248,000 man-months of em-

ployment for an estimated 47,000 workers. The additional funding will be directed solely to areas where unemployment exceeds 7 per cent. A special effort will be made in the expanded program to reduce youth unemployment.

The expanded program is intended to reduce unemployment in the winter months. In April the Government's announced "employment strategy" will take effect with programs costing \$358 million in 1977-78 and benefiting 135,000 participants. Of these programs, a \$200-million Canada Works Program will create 61,000 jobs and will sustain and expand the job-creation levels built up under LIP. The \$50 million for federal labour-intensive projects will include repairs and maintenance in National Parks; construction and maintenance of small harbours for small vessels; and fisheries-management projects.

The current unemployment insurance premium rate for employees will be reduced from \$1.65 per \$100 insured

earnings to \$1.50. At the same time the employer rate will be reduced from \$2.31 to \$2.10 per \$100 insured earnings.

The lower insurance rates will begin January 1, 1977, when the maximum insurable earnings will be increased from \$200 to \$220 a week. In effect, this will mean maximum employee and employer premiums will remain at \$3.30 and \$4.62 respectively. The premium reduction takes effect at the same time the automatic indexing of the personal income tax system increases both personal exemptions and tax brackets by 8.6 per cent for the 1977 taxation year. This indexing results in a reduction of taxes payable of \$950 million in the 1977 taxation year.