

## MECHANICAL METEOROLOGIST

Spools of magnetic tape started whirling on October 1 and an output printer clattered out its first chart, as Transport Minister George McIlraith pushed a button to commission his department's meteorological computer at the central analysis office at Montreal International Airport.

The computer, a Bendix G-20 leased from Computing Devices of Canada, digests basic meteorological data at a rate of 100,000 computations a second and produces weather charts showing actual and expected distributions of pressure. "The meteorologist still retains his role as a forecaster", Mr. McIlraith said, "for he must interpret the charts and use them as the base upon which he prepared the forecasts for general distribution". The computer takes over many of the tasks now carried out by meteorologists and frees them to interpret the computer product and provide more specific weather information for aviation, agriculture, navigation and the general public.

Dr. P.D. McTaggart-Cowan, director of the meteorological branch of the Transport Department, said techniques to solve the equations of motion applicable to the behavior of the atmosphere were developed as early as 50 years ago but could not be usefully applied until the advent of high-speed electronic computers.

According to Dr. McTaggart-Cowan, modern meteorology requires the processing and analysis of data gleaned from thousands of observing stations, but only a computer can process the data fast enough to give a timely analysis. To produce a chart showing expected pressure distributions 36 hours ahead, the G-20 computer performs 14,000,000 arithmetical operations in six minutes.

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## FOREST EXPERT TO MALAYA

R.G. Ray, Chief of Forest Management in the Department of Forestry's Administration Branch, recently left Ottawa for Malaya, Pakistan and Kenya on assignment as a forestry adviser to the Canadian External Aid Office. He is one of three advisers to the Canadian Government who will spend two weeks in Malaya investigating that country's request for a natural-resources survey, to include forests, agriculture and minerals. The others are Dr. P.C. Stobbe, Director, Soil Research Institute, Department of Agriculture, and Dr. C.S. Lord, Chief Geologist, Geological Survey of Canada.

The Canadian experts will gather information and report to the External Aid Office on the requirements for the proposed resources survey, including Malaya's contribution in the way of personnel and facilities.

## PAKISTAN AND KENYA

Mr. Ray will continue from Malaya to Pakistan, where a forest-inventory survey was made under Canada's external aid programme, and thence to Kenya, where he will visit another Canadian-sponsored forest survey, which began in January.

On the return trip, Mr. Ray will stop in London, England, for discussions with the British Department of Technical Co-operation.

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## CRIMINAL STATISTICS

Adults charged in Canada during 1961 with indictable offences numbered 43,161, an increase of 9.7 per cent from the 1960 total of 39,343, according to the annual report "Statistics of Criminal and Other Offences" issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. The number of charges laid in 1961 advanced 11.5 per cent, to 81,867 from 73,411 the preceding year.

Of the number of persons charged in 1961, 38,679, or 89.6 per cent of the total were convicted and 4,173, or 9.7 per cent, were acquitted; the remaining 308, or 0.7 per cent, were otherwise disposed of. Of those convicted, 19,136, or 49.5 per cent of the total, were sentenced to correctional institutions, 11,023, or 28.5 per cent were given a suspended sentence, 8,508 were fined, and 12 were sentenced to death.

## CRIMINAL OFFENCES

Offences against the Criminal Code accounted for 98.7 per cent of all convictions, while offences against federal statutes accounted for 1.3 per cent. The number of persons convicted of offences against the person rose in 1961 to 5,606 from 5,012 in 1960 and accounted for 14.5 per cent of the total number of convictions, while persons convicted of offences against property with violence accounted for 20.3 per cent, offences against property without violence for 51.3 per cent, malicious offences against property for 2.0 per cent, offences involving currency and forgery for 3.4 per cent, and other Criminal Code offences for 7.2 per cent.

## SEX OF OFFENDERS

Of the 38,679 persons found guilty in 1961, 35,516, or 91.8 per cent, were males and 3,163, or 8.2 per cent, were females. Of the males, 26,462 or almost three-quarters of the total, were between 16 and 34 years of age. The total number of males found guilty in 1961 increased by 8.0 per cent from the preceding year, while the number of females found guilty advanced by 23.9 per cent.

Summary convictions reported in 1961 increased 6.5 per cent to 3,109,283 from 2,920,540 in the preceding year. Parking violations accounted for 58.6 per cent of the 1961 total, Criminal Code for 2.9 per cent, federal statutes for 1.1 per cent, provincial statutes for 29.1 per cent, and municipal bylaws for 8.3 per cent.

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## NEW BOOK BY GALLERY CURATOR

The story of Canadian art from the beginnings of New France in the seventeenth century to the present has recently been published by the National Gallery of Canada. The author, R.H. Hubbard, an