

PUBLIC SERVICE MERIT AWARDS

During the past year, a public servant ran through machine-gun fire transferring confidential documents from an embassy to a car; others devised the means to save the Canadian taxpayer \$5 million during the next five years, and the contributions of a research team may result in overseas sales of some \$28 million.

These individuals and others have been granted merit awards by the Incentive Award Board of the Public Service of Canada for "performance or contribution of unusual merit". The award, one of four given by the Public Service is for a sustained high level of performance or for a contribution that results in a major improvement of efficiency, operations or service to the public.

J.W. Culhane, of the Department of External Affairs, was awarded \$500 for his service during six months of civil strife in Santo Domingo, capital of the Dominican Republic. Every week, he drove to the airport through dangerous zones, sometimes through sniper fire. When the embassy had to be abandoned temporarily, he volunteered to carry confidential material to a car under rifle and machine-gun fire.

William Brown, Morris Bubbis and Lieutenant-Commander Allan Turner of the Department of National Defence, share an award of \$1,000 for their contribution, over a five-year period, to a navy projectile development programme. One result of their efforts is the possibility of overseas sales amounting to some \$28 million.

Two employees of the Department of National Defence, Edwin Meads and William Hart, shared an award of \$500 for devising the means to convert a large surplus of ammunition to practice material with the resultant savings of \$5 million.

John Powers, another National Defence employee, was awarded \$1,000, the highest merit award given by the Board, for his work on both of these projects, for a number of significant proposals and for consistently working in a manner beyond what management can normally expect.

Ten other awards totalling \$3,350 were given by the Board.

NOVA SCOTIA RESEARCH GRANT

An industrial research institute, recently established at the Nova Scotia Technical College, will receive a grant of \$120,000 from the federal Department of Industry.

The second such institution created at a Canadian university, it will be known as the Atlantic Industrial Research Institute; the first, a pioneering venture, was established at the University of Windsor last year, with a grant from the Department of Industry.

The grant to the Nova Scotia Technical College will cover the costs of establishing and administering the AIRI during its first three years of operation.

The Institute has been set up as a non-profit organization associated with the Nova Scotia Tech-

nical College and will undertake contract research for industry, using college staff and equipment. Research and development services will be available for industries too small to support their own research staff. Direct research costs will be borne by clients, and it is expected that the Institute will eventually be self-supporting.

The Nova Scotia Technical College has provided some scientific services to local industry in the past, and the new Institute will permit expansion of these services and closer liaison with industry. As well as undertaking contract research, it is anticipated that the Institute will provide, where possible, specialized training to industry and will organize technical seminars.

CATTLE EXPORT CONTROL

Trade and Commerce Minister Robert Winters announced recently that purebred Charolais cattle had been placed under export control.

Mr. Winters said that the action was taken under the Export and Import Permits Act at the request of the federal Department of Agriculture. The Act permits Government action "to ensure that there is an adequate supply and distribution" of commodities in Canada.

The Minister emphasized that, while the control covers all purebred Charolais in Canada, it was intended only to restrict the export of purebred Charolais imported from France and purebred Charolais, both parents of which were imported from France.

HOSPITALS IN 1966

Canadian hospitals in operation in 1966 numbered 1,274 (excluding mental and tuberculosis), with a total rated capacity of 137,000 beds and cribs, or 3,000 more than in 1965. The ratio of beds per 1,000 population advanced slightly to 6.9 from 6.8. Some 89.3 per cent of the rated capacity was located in public general and allied special hospitals, which recorded an increase in the average daily population in hospitals from 95,700 to 98,400 adults and children, though the level of occupancy fell from 82.3 per cent to 80.7. The average length of stay in public hospitals increased moderately from 11.6 to 11.7 days in the case of adults and children, but declined slightly for the newborn from 6.8 to 6.7 days.

Personnel employed in Canadian public hospitals in 1966 amounted to 255,100, a gain of 7.0 per cent over the figure for 1965. Full-time employment accounted for 88.0 per cent of which over one-half (56.4 per cent) was nursing staff. Accumulated paid hours worked by all employees was equivalent to 13.3 hours of care for each patient compared to 13.0 in the previous year.

Revenue fund income of public general and allied special hospitals in 1966 was estimated at \$1,108,685,000, or \$34.26 a day, for each patient