

James Bay inhabitants reject compensation offer

The Eskimo and Indian inhabitants of the James Bay area have refused proposals by the Government of Quebec to modify the \$5.8-million hydroelectric power project at La Grande River, including compensation of \$100 million that would have been paid to them over the next ten years.

Premier Robert Bourassa proposed, late in January, that certain areas would not be flooded, one or two tributary rivers would not be affected and one of the reservoirs would not be created. The \$100 million would be paid over a period of ten years — \$40 million to a native development corporation and \$60 million in royalties from development of the area's resources.

In return, had the offer been accepted, the James Bay native people — about 6,500 — would have signed away all

land claims in the 135,000-mile area except for 2,000 square miles for hunting, trapping and fishing.

In reply to the proposal, James O'Reilly, chief legal counsel for the Indians of Quebec Association, said that they would continue the legal action against the development. He stated that the Government of Quebec would have to offer at least 15 times the area for a settlement to be reached out of court. "That would be an absolute minimum," he declared. The President of the Northern Quebec Inuit Association stated that the \$100-million offer may sound like a large sum but that the natives "were interested in land, not money". (See also issues dated February 14, 1973, Page 1; November 28, 1973, Page 1; December 5, 1973, Page 4; and January 9, 1974, Page 4.)

Five to be honoured at chancellor's convocation

Dr. John J. Deutsch, Principal and Vice-Chancellor of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, has announced that five honorary degrees will be conferred at the convocation on April 5 for the installation of the former Governor General, Mr. Roland Michener, as the university's ninth chancellor. The recipients of Doctor of Laws degrees are: Senator Thérèse F. Casgrain, Mrs. Norah E.W. Michener, Mr. Robert A. Cranston, Mr. Justice Emmett Hall and Senator Grattan O'Leary.

Robert A. Cranston

Mr. Cranston is a senior partner in the Toronto law firm Lang, Michener, Cranston, Farquharson & Wright. He was called to the Bar of Ontario in 1936 and has had a distinguished career in both law and business.

Thérèse F. Casgrain

Mrs. Casgrain, who was summoned to the Senate of Canada in 1970, has long been active in public life. She was a key figure in establishing the woman's right to vote in Quebec, took part in numerous law reforms, and was the first woman party leader in Canada (1951-57, Quebec Social Democratic

Party). She was a founder of the French Junior League, the Société des Concerts Symphoniques de Montréal, and La Fédération des Femmes du Québec. Mrs. Casgrain is past president of the League of Women's Rights and the League of Civil Liberties.

Emmett M. Hall

Mr. Justice Hall, one of Canada's most distinguished jurists, was called to the Bar of Saskatchewan in 1922. He received an appointment as Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench in 1957 and in 1961 as the Chief Justice of Saskatchewan and of the Court of Appeal. He became a justice of the Supreme Court of Canada in 1962 and retired in 1973.

Mr. Justice Hall was named chairman of the federal Royal Commission on Health Services in 1961, and is currently serving as chancellor of the University of Guelph. In September 1973, he was appointed arbitrator in the Non-Operating Railway Workers' Contract Dispute and prepared the recently accepted arbitration award.

M. Grattan O'Leary

Senator O'Leary is the dean of Canadian journalists and editor emeritus

of *The Ottawa Journal*. He is one of "Ten Famous" Canadian journalists since Confederation to be placed in the Hall of Fame in the Parliament Buildings. His contributions to Canada as a journalist include first-hand reportage of the 1921 Disarmament Conference in Washington, D.C. and the 1945 Potsdam Conference in Berlin. He was one of the Canadian journalists invited by Britain to report on the British war effort in 1941. He was named to the Canadian News Hall of Fame in 1967.

Senator O'Leary was summoned to the Senate of Canada in 1962, and was rector of Queen's University in 1967 and 1968.

Norah E.W. Michener

Mrs. Michener graduated from the University of British Columbia, the Toronto Conservatory of Music and received her doctorate in philosophy from the University of Toronto. She has been chairman of the Mothers' Placement Committee and president of the Delhi (India) Commonwealth Women's Association. During her stay in India, she worked for relief in stricken areas.

Mrs. Michener holds the title of Dame of Grace Most Venerable Order of Hospital of St. John of Jerusalem and is the author of *Maritain on the Nature of Man in a Christian Democracy*. Queen's is particularly pleased to welcome Mrs. Michener to the University community on the occasion of her husband's installation.

New minimum wage

The minimum wage for some 19,300 employees in industries under federal jurisdiction will be increased to \$2.20 from \$1.90 an hour, effective April 1. At the same time the minimum wage for employees under the age of 17 will be increased to \$1.95.

In making the announcement the Labour Minister, John Munro, stated: "The increase will help bring about a more equitable distribution of income among working Canadians. Moreover, advances in average wages and salaries, consumer prices and productivity across the country make the change both necessary and desirable.