

But our transportation system is more costly than it should be and, in the competitive world of today, Canada, with her great distances and dependence on foreign trade, simply cannot afford this luxury. We *must* reduce the relative, if not the absolute cost of moving goods and materials within Canada and to overseas markets if we are to remain competitive....

\* \* \* \*

### INDIAN PAVILION FOR EXPO '67

Mr. John R. Nicholson, then the Superintendent of Indian Affairs, announced recently that plans, which had received the support of the Federal Government, for a Canadian Indian Pavilion at Expo '67, would be discussed at a meeting of the National Indian Advisory Board to be held in Ottawa in January 1966.

The Indian Pavilion, to be located in the Canada area of the exhibition, will, according to the Minister, symbolize the heritage of the Indian people and describe its contribution to Canada. In design and its exhibits alike, the Pavilion will portray and emphasize the cultural expression of Canadian Indians.

Mr. Nicholson added that, in accordance with Government policy, continuing consultation with Indians would take place during the course of the project, particularly in the work of the special design committee. He also said that he hoped to see active Indian participation, not only in the planning but in the operation of the Pavilion.

\* \* \* \*

### BISON RETURN TO MANITOBA

After an absence of almost 100 years, an original Manitoba resident — the plains bison — is coming home.

Mr. Arthur Laing, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources and Mr. Sterling R. Lyon, Minister of Mines and Natural Resources of Manitoba, in a joint release, said recently that a herd of 20 plains bison (popularly called buffalo) from Elk Island National Park in Alberta will be settled in the new 500,000-acre Mawdesley Wildlife Management area east of The Pas in Manitoba. This is a pilot project of the Manitoba Department of Mines and Natural Resources and the Canadian Wildlife Service to find out if bison can survive in Manitoba.

The area chosen for the release of the bison lies between Moose Lake and Mawdesley Lake. It was selected after surveys had been made of several possible sites by Federal bison experts and contains habitat similar to that which supports plains bison in the Alberta portion of Wood Buffalo National Park. Though climate and vegetation appear to be suitable, only a prolonged and intensive biological study can ascertain if bison can thrive in the area. Rather than wait for such a study, Mr. Lyon said, it was decided to release a small experimental herd and observe how they adapted to their new surroundings. If the first release is successful, a second and larger release would be made in future, the Ministers said.

There is evidence that bison did at one time occasionally inhabit the area. Buffalo bones have been found near where the release will be made and the local people can recall stories told by their forefathers of buffalo hunts.

The buffalo are being selected from the anthrax-free Elk Island herd and are being released in an isolated area where there is no chance of their coming in contact with domestic stock.

Mr. Lyon said that, if successful, this experiment would see the return to Manitoba of one of its largest and most exciting wildlife attractions. The original herds were shot out and their habitat destroyed during the early settlement of the province. Mr. Lyon said that the re-introduction of the buffalo would return it to its natural home. The first release of the animals is expected late next year.

\* \* \* \*

### MURAL FOR NEW AGRICULTURE HQ

A Vancouver artist, Takao Tanabe, has been commissioned to paint a mural 80 feet wide and 13 feet high to dominate the main-floor foyer of the Sir John Carling building, \$10-million headquarters of the federal Department of Agriculture, which is now under construction at the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa.

The announcement by Public Works Minister George J. McIlraith, followed the selection of Mr. Tanabe's design by a five-man board. Mr. Tanabe's entry was among three invited from prominent Canadian artists. The others were from Gerald Trottier of Grand Calumet Island, Quebec, and London, Ontario, and Kenneth Lochhead of Winnipeg, Manitoba.

As winner of the competition, Mr. Tanabe will be awarded a \$25,000 contract for execution of the work, which will be done on Japanese dip-dyed paper applied to low-relief sculpture. Each of the three centre panels will be 20 feet wide; the two end panels will be 10 feet wide. The theme of the mural, suggested by the Department of Agriculture, is "Man, Soil and Climate".

Mr. Tanabe will do most of the work in his Vancouver studio, after which the mural will be shipped to Ottawa in relatively small panels for final assembly and completion at the site.

\* \* \* \*

### VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION

The main item on the agenda of a recent meeting of the National Advisory Council on the Rehabilitation of Disabled Persons in Ottawa was discussion of a series of proposals to strengthen and expand the joint federal-provincial vocational rehabilitation programme.

Since this programme began in 1952, co-ordinated rehabilitation services have been made available to a steadily-increasing number of physically-handicapped people and, in recent years, to more and more mentally retarded, or mentally "restored" persons.

The Minister of Labour said that, with the increasing effectiveness of the programme, the value of