

CANADA-SAN MARINO VISA PACT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, has announced the conclusion of a visa-modification agreement between San Marino and Canada. An exchange of notes between Mr. Federico Bigi, Foreign Minister of San Marino, and the Secretary of State for External Affairs was completed on October 16 by Mr. Raymond Lette, Consul-General of San Marino in Montreal, and Mr. D.M. Cornett, Head of the Consular Division of the Department of External Affairs, acting on behalf of their governments. The agreement comes into force on November 15.

Under its terms, Canadian citizens holding valid passports may visit San Marino for periods not exceeding three consecutive months without obtaining visas. Citizens of San Marino intending to visit Canada and holding valid passports will be granted, free of charge, multi-entry visas valid for an unlimited number of entries into Canada within a period of 12 months.

AIRPORT ROOM FACILITIES

Twelve compact but comfortable roomettes, each air conditioned and with its own wash-room and shower facilities, will be available to the travelling public in the new Toronto International Airport (Malton) air-terminal building when it is completed, it was announced recently by the Department of Transport. The roomettes will be for occupancy by air travellers passing through Toronto airport who are delayed in the terminal building between flight connections.

Also available to the public in the building will be five rooms in the same area as the roomettes suitable for business meetings of executives and private organizations.

The DOT plans to offer these services on a 24-hour basis, the actual operation of the facilities being carried out by a commercial concern. Operation of the premises will be by contract let by the Department following the calling of tenders in the Greater Toronto area. The standard of operation will be set by the Department and will be closely supervised.

ARCTIC OIL SANDS DISCOVERED

An extensive area of oil-saturated sands has been discovered in the northwestern section of Melville Island, in Canada's Arctic archipelago, Northern Affairs Minister Walter Dinsdale announced recently in the House of Commons.

Although the full extent of the area is not yet known, two exposures examined in detail indicate that the sands extend in an outcrop for at least 60 miles. The top 65 feet of the sands, which reach a depth of about 80 feet, are well saturated and quite similar to the richer portions of the McMurray oil sands in Alberta.

The discovery of the area was made early in August by a geological field party of J.C. Sproule and Associates Limited of Calgary. Exploration work

in the area was being carried out for permit holders, including Canadian Oil Companies, Bankeno Mines Limited and W.R. Sheeky and Ross Tolmie. Samples of the oil-saturated sands have been shipped from Melville Island and will undergo extensive examination to obtain further information on the potential of the area.

If methods proposed for the commercial extraction of oil from the McMurray (Athabasca) sands prove successful, similar methods might one day be used to extract oil from this area on Melville Island.

The find suggests that reserves of oil in conventional form (i.e. liquid) may be found below the surface elsewhere in the Arctic islands. Permit holders will continue their efforts next summer.

MINERAL PRODUCTION

The value of Canada's mineral production reached a record \$2,573,783,000 in 1961, an increase of 3.2 per cent over the preceding year's \$2,492,510,000, according to the annual report on mineral production of the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Among major minerals there were increased values for iron ore, nickel, asbestos, crude petroleum, and cement, and decreases for copper, uranium, zinc, and sand and gravel.

Production in Ontario declined in value to \$948,256,000 from \$983,104,000 in 1960, and accounted for a smaller share of the national total of 36.7 per cent compared to 39.4 per cent in 1960. Alberta displaced Quebec as the second largest mineral-producing province, with a value of \$463,709,000, against \$395,344,000, and accounted for 18.0 per cent of the national total, compared to 15.9 per cent.

The value of production in Quebec rose slightly to \$447,437,000 from \$446,203,000, while the share of the national total was slightly smaller at 17.5 per cent versus 17.9 per cent. Saskatchewan was next, with a value of \$218,201,000, up from \$212,093,000, and represented 8.5 per cent of the Canadian total in both years.

Mineral production in British Columbia in 1961 was valued at \$192,320,000 (\$186,262,000 in 1960); Manitoba, \$99,157,000 (\$58,703,000); Newfoundland, \$92,682,000 (\$86,637,000); Nova Scotia, \$59,545,000 (\$65,453,000); Northwest Territories, \$20,692,000 (\$27,135,000); New Brunswick, \$17,851,000 (\$17,073,000); Yukon Territory, \$12,987,000 (\$13,330,000); and Prince Edward Island, \$947,000 (\$1,173,000).

EX-PREMIER TCA DIRECTOR

Mr. Leslie M. Frost, former Premier of Ontario, has been appointed a director of Trans-Canada Air Lines, Transport Minister Léon Balcer announced recently. Mr. Frost fills the vacancy caused by the expiration of the term of Mr. C.M. McEwan's on October 1.

Mr. Frost, 67, was Premier of Ontario from 1949 until his resignation on August 2, 1961. He is a member of the Privy Council and lives in Lindsay, Ontario.