

VETERANS' ALLOWANCES EASED

Two amendments to the War Veterans and Civilian War Pensions and Allowances Regulations have been announced by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The first of these removes the penalty imposed on recipients who own and occupy homes valued at more than \$10,000. Previously, in cases such as these, the WVA or CWA recipient was considered to be in receipt of income if his residence was valued above this amount, and consequently his allowance was reduced proportionately. Now there will not be any reduction in the monthly WVA or CWA cheques for recipients because of the value of their residences.

The second amendment, which will benefit recipients who own their homes, affects those who sell their homes or suffer loss because of damage or destruction.

Previously, the amount of money in excess of \$10,000 paid to a WVA or CWA recipient for the sale of his home, or as proceeds of insurance coverage in cases of damage or destruction, was assessed as income in an amount equal to 5 per cent of the excess over \$10,000.

This penalty is now removed on condition that the money from the sale, or insurance proceeds, will be used within one year to purchase another home.

HISTORIC PARK FOR OLD QUEBEC

Mr. Jean Chrétien, Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, recently announced the Federal Government's plans for a new national historic park within the walls of old Quebec, to be known as Artillery Park. This site, which contains some of the finest examples of the military architecture of the French regime, will be restored and developed at a cost of some \$16 million.

The development project will include: an interpretative centre relating to the *ancien régime*; a reception centre for visitors to the fortifications; an urban park; low-rental housing; an underground parking lot for about 1,000 vehicles; and offices of the Federal Government.

Work on the project, which will begin 1973, will last about eight years. Mr. Chrétien stated that many new jobs would be created not only by the restoration of the park but also by the growth of the tourist industry.

He added: "Artillery Park is one of the major projects of the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs designed to underline the major events of Canadian history, like the Fortress of Louisbourg in Nova Scotia and Lower Fort Garry in Manitoba, two internationally-famous historic sites."

Artillery Park is an eight-acre site bordered by the Côte du Palais and by MacMahon, D'Auteuil and Saint-Jean Streets. The historic buildings include the new barracks, the residence on the Côte du Palais,

the Dauphin Redoubt and a very old house that is still inhabited.

An agreement in principle was reached in October between the Corporation of the Hôtel-Dieu (Hospital) and the Department of Indian and Northern Affairs concerning the transfer of certain properties owned by the hospital. The agreement will permit the Hôtel-Dieu to expand its services and the Department to develop Artillery Park in order to meet contemporary requirements while preserving its historic character.

LABOUR HALL OF HONOUR

The Canadian Labour Congress has established a Labour Hall of Honour as a means of commemorating the contribution to the cause of the working class of outstanding leaders, members and friends of the Canadian labour movement.

After extensive balloting on a list of 24 nominees, the 30-member CLC executive council chose former CLC President Claude Jodoin, and Aaron R. Mosher, former president of the Canadian Congress of Labour and the Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers, as the first two members.

Mr. Jodoin, who retired because of ill health in May 1967, has been hospitalized in Ottawa since that time. Mr. Mosher, who died in 1959, was president emeritus of the CLC.

The CLC plans to nominate two new members each year and announce their names on or about Labour Day. To be eligible, nominees must be in retirement or deceased for at least five years, and Canadian citizens.

The Labour Hall of Honour will be housed in the new CLC headquarters building in Ottawa, which will be completed early in 1973.

In 1967, a few days before he became ill, Mr. Jodoin was awarded an honorary degree of doctor of laws from the University of New Brunswick. The citation said in part:

"His boyhood ambition was to be a surgeon. But the crash of '29 and the depression forced him to trade the scalpel for the pick and shovel.... In the sweat shops of Montreal he saw the need for surgery of a social kind, when cutters were driven to sleeping on their tables and a pair of workers might share a weekly wage of \$7.50. In 1937, he joined Montreal local 262 of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, organized a triumphant strike and negotiated their first contract."

Mr. Mosher was founding president of three labour organizations: the Canadian Brotherhood of Railroad Employees (now Canadian Brotherhood of Railway, Transport and General Workers), the All-Canadian Congress of Labour and the Canadian Congress of Labour.

He was made a member of the Order of the British Empire and awarded the honorary degree of doctor of laws by the St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia.