

Anglican, Baptist, Jewish, Lutheran, Mennonite, Orthodox, Presbyterian, United Church and Catholic faiths. The other nine are members-at-large from across Canada.

PROJECTS UNDER REVIEW

Several centennial projects were suggested and about 15 are currently under examination, including the preparation of a booklet of prayers and hymns of universal acceptance to be used in houses of worship across the country; the planning of a "quiet room" in the Canadian Pavilion at Expo '67; the commissioning of words and music for a centennial hymn; the drafting of a proclamation with a religious tone that would express how Canadians feel about their country; the detailing of "demonstration days" to bring together people of all faiths in one centre to show unity through diversity; and the planning of ceremonies for important dates such as January 1, July 1, and Thanksgiving Day.

NORTHERN RESOURCE AIRPORTS

A new policy for the construction of resource-development airports in the Yukon and Northern Territories was announced recently by Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing. Formulated to encourage exploration and development of resources in the Territories, the policy refers to the construction of two kinds of airport.

The first consists of airports built for initial exploratory work on the location of minerals, oil or other natural resources. The Federal Government will contribute 50 per cent of the cost of building airstrips, to a maximum of \$20,000. Toward the cost of the second type - airstrips or airports built in connection with the "pre-production" or early production stage of the exploitation of natural resources - the Federal Government may contribute 50 per cent, to a maximum of \$100,000 for each airport. The private interests involved must contribute equal amounts and bear all costs in excess of \$200,000.

ELIGIBLE PARTNERS

Cost-sharing arrangements may be entered into by the Federal Government with companies engaged in natural-resource development, with private tourist or recreational enterprises, or with established airlines. Responsibility for operating and maintaining both kinds of airport lies with the private interests involved.

Airports in the "pre-production" or early production phase must be available for public use at all times. Should an airport in this category be reclassified, the responsibility for operation and maintenance will be determined by the terms of the new classification. All airports are to be built to minimum standards set by the Department of Transport.

The programme, which has been worked out in

co-operation with the Department of Transport, may be seen as an extension of the recently-announced northern roads construction programme Mr. Laing said. He explained that, under the terms of a Department of Transport programme, the Department, in conjunction with the Department of Northern Affairs, would give special consideration to the construction of airstrips serving remote northern communities.

TUBED TREE SEEDLINGS

Using a new reforestation technique, the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests plans to plant 27 million tree seedlings, each in suitable soil in a plastic tube about three inches long. The tubes are split down one side so that the young trees can shed them as they grow. They are open at the bottom.

The plan is to plant about 24,000 acres in this way in 1966. Present proposals for distribution of the seedlings call for planting 10,000 acres of white spruce, 8,000 acres of black spruce, 5,000 acres of red pine, 700 acres of jack pine and 500 acres of white pine, a total of 24,200 acres.

The technique has been in course of development by the Research Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests since 1957. Field plantings of 25,000, 75,000 and 130,000 forest-tree seedlings were made between 1963 and 1965 to test the prototype equipment.

Following the success of these trials, it was decided to proceed with an operational planting in the 1966-67 fiscal year. A tentative allocation of \$825,000 to this project will permit the planting of the 27 million tubed forest-tree seedlings proposed. This is in addition to the extensive tree planting and seeding programmes already existing.

ADVANTAGES OF NEW TECHNIQUE

The purpose of growing tree seedlings in tubes is to enable rapid production of planting stock on short notice. The extension of the planting season to include the summer months is a special advantage of the method.

Tube-grown seedlings are considered to be a supplement to normal planting and seeding operations. One of the results from the initial large-scale planting will be to determine on which sites this method provides an attractive alternative, in the way of costs and survival, to other regeneration methods.

The procedure has several desirable features. It is flexible, as the number produced can be rapidly adjusted to meet demand. In the long run, it lends itself to mechanization with the advantages of reduced costs. It permits a high planting rate at lower cost and, in extending the planting season, provides greater stability for trained planting crews. Also, a variety of treatments can be used to promote growth and survival and, since the seedling's soil environment goes with it in the tube, greater survival and juvenile growth result, researchers say.
