

## NORTHERN RESEARCH GRANTS

The Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Mr. Arthur Laing, has announced grants totalling \$245,000 to research institutions carrying out studies of the North and to scientific expeditions working in the North; in addition, \$5,000 has been provided for a conference on northern studies.

Grants have been awarded to 13 institutions and three scientific expeditions. The programme of grants for northern studies began in 1962 with the award of a total of \$60,000 to nine institutions. Since then, annual awards have increased to the present \$250,000 distributed among some 17 recipients. The annual awards have covered research in botany, zoology, microbiology, entomology, geology, geography, glaciology, oceanography, physics, archaeology, anthropology, sociology and economics. The northern scientific conference will help in the co-ordination of northern research and may be repeated annually.

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## WORKERS LEARN ENGLISH ON JOB

Learning to speak and write English in a factory atmosphere isn't customary, but it has proved highly successful for a group of power sewing-machine operators who are all recent immigrants to Canada. This unusual industrial training-programme was developed by the Alberta Department of Education, the Federal Government and the Great Western Garment Company of Edmonton. It was designed to improve the ability of garment workers, who were also new Canadians, to communicate on the job with supervisors and fellow workers, and to read and follow instructions.

Three days a week for six weeks, 15 girls from Turkey, Poland, France, Portugal, Italy, China and Greece left the factory production-line for two-hour intervals to work at blackboards and desks to master a basic vocabulary of 850 English words. Class-time, with an added bonus of full pay for the girls, was geared to the familiar — shopping for food and clothing, care of the home and the person, and factory routines and safety.

With the assistance of a highly-skilled language teacher, illustrated work-books and texts, trainees repeated words and sentences aloud, singly and together, until pronunciation and phrasing improved. In spite of the fact that most of them had families and homes, the girls found time to complete assigned lessons in their work-books. When the last class-day arrived and graduates were presented with certificates from Alberta's Division of Vocational Education, the girls demonstrated their ability to read from textbooks, to follow spoken instructions and write simple sentences in English on the blackboard. Representatives from the company, the provincial government and the Citizenship Court, who took part in the ceremony and witnessed the demonstration, encouraged the trainees to build on the English-language groundwork fostered successfully in a factory atmosphere.

## PRINCE ALBERT NATIONAL PARK

A long-term master plan of redevelopment for Waskesiu Townsite in Prince Albert National Park, Saskatchewan, is complete and ready for public presentation, according to Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Arthur Laing. "Visitor patterns established in the last five years through surveys throughout the Canadian national park system have made us reassess the land-use in all parks in order to employ it best for the benefit of the Canadian people as a whole," Mr. Laing said, in announcing the completion of the plan.

The visitor trend, he said, had forced his Department's National and Historic Parks Branch to programme land in the parks for redevelopment into day-use facilities and additional campground space to accommodate the mobile park visitor of today. "In fact," said Mr. Laing, "we shall have to add more than 10,000 new campsites in the national parks by 1971 — more than were constructed in all of the national parks before 1965."

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## FISH-PROTEIN CONFERENCE

Part of the answer to the world's increasing protein needs is expected by governments and the food industry to depend on a rapid growth in the development of fish-protein concentrate (FPC).

Because of the urgent need for this product and the interest its potential producers and users have evinced, the Federal-Provincial Atlantic Fisheries Committee is sponsoring a conference on fish-protein concentrate in Ottawa on October 24 and 25. The Committee is made up of deputy ministers responsible for fisheries in the Federal Government and the governments of the five Atlantic coast provinces. Its chairman will be Dr. A.W.H. Needler, Deputy Minister of Fisheries of Canada, and moderators of the various sessions will be his provincial counterparts, Maurice Lessard of Quebec, Brian Meagher of Nova Scotia, Dr. Leonce Chenard of New Brunswick, Eugene Gorman of Prince Edward Island, and Eric Gosse of Newfoundland.

## TOPICS OF DISCUSSION

More than 20 papers will be presented under the following headings for the five sessions of the conference: The World Protein Situation; Canadian Raw Material Resources; Processing Technology; Standards of Fish Protein Concentrate; and the Status of Fish Protein Concentrate Development.

Scientists and other specialists from various departments of government, in both Canada and the United States, representatives of the fishing industry, and food and pharmaceutical experts from Canada, the United States and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations will participate actively in the conference, while many others interested in FPC development are expected to be present. Arrangements for the conference are being made by the Industrial Development Service of the Department of Fisheries of Canada.