

## FORT GARRY HISTORIC PARK

"Work will be started this year on a new museum building for Lower Fort Garry", the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Mr. Walter Dinsdale, announced recently in Winnipeg. "The museum's theme will be the fur trade's contribution to the development of Canada. It will feature the famous Hudson's Bay Company collection, which for many years was displayed in the Company's Winnipeg department store."

The collection, which the Company recently gave to the government of Manitoba on permanent loan, will be made available to the National Historic Sites Division for the new development programme at Lower Fort Garry.

In paying tribute to the Company and the Manitoba government, Mr. Dinsdale said that "the co-operation of the Hudson's Bay Company and of the government of Manitoba in this important project is greatly appreciated. Co-operation of this kind by all levels of government and all community groups is required for the proper development of Canada's rich historic heritage."

### MUSEUM SITE

The museum will be contained in a reconstructed outward replica of the Lumber Retail Store that stood just west of the Fur Loft and Trading Building. "Inside will be a modern museum, but the building will duplicate the outward appearance of the original", said Mr. Dinsdale. Other plans include refurbishing of all existing historical structures and the creation of the living atmosphere of the mid-nineteenth century.

Lower Fort Garry, constructed between 1831 and 1839, contains some of the oldest buildings standing west of the Great Lakes, and was one of three stone forts constructed by the Hudson's Bay Company. Closed in 1911, it was leased in 1913 to the Motor Country Club. "We are grateful to the Club for the excellent care they gave the buildings over the years," said Mr. Dinsdale. "When the Company turned the Fort over to the Federal Government, we assumed an obligation to turn it some day into a full-fledged national historic park. The Motor Club always kept this objective in mind during the years it managed the Fort."

With interest in history burgeoning in Canada, and the country's Centennial only five years away, the time had come, Mr. Dinsdale went on, to make the Fort available as an historic park. Last year more than 50,000 people visited it. The museum, together with the living history to be portrayed in the other buildings, will undoubtedly make Lower Fort Garry one of the great historical attractions in Canada.

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## SCIENTISTS STUDY BAFFIN ISLAND

A 25-man team of scientists and assistants from the federal Department of Mines and Technical Surveys left Ottawa last week to make an extensive gravity and geographical study of the practically unexplored northern half of Baffin Island. The party comprises scientists from the Department's Gravity Division of the Dominion Observatories, geographers from its Geographical Branch, and two topographical engineers to establish position.

This year's project is part two of a two-part operation begun in 1961. Studies were made at that time of the southern half of the island.

In making the announcement of the 1962 survey, Mines and Technical Surveys Minister Jacques Flynn said: "Little is known of this rugged island with its extremely mountainous terrain. Its strategic position on the threshold to the High Arctic makes it vitally important to obtain information about its physical and other features. The studies we are making will supply much needed basic information on the island."

### GRAVITY STUDIES

The gravity studies will consist of a regional survey of the entire north half of the island and detailed gravity surveys of the Penny and Barnes icecaps. The project's gravimetrists expect to establish some 2,200 gravity stations in all, which will bring to 4,400 the total number of gravity stations established on the island.

Geographical studies will comprise investigations of terrain conditions and land forms throughout the northern half of the island and an intensive study and analysis of the two icecaps already mentioned and surrounding areas. Geographers will pay particular attention to the effect of glaciation on land forms and the nourishment and mass balance of the icecaps themselves.

### AIR TRANSPORT

A large part of the operation will necessarily be airborne, entailing the constant services of two helicopters and a fixed-wing aircraft. Because of the extreme ruggedness of the island, the regional gravity survey will be done by helicopter. Other fixed-wing aircraft will transport the parties and equipment to and from the island and from campsite to campsite. The main base camp will be at the northwest margin of the Barnes icecap.

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## REGIONAL PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes declined in five of the ten regional cities during February and March 1962, increased in three and remained unchanged in two. Decreases ranged from 0.1 per cent both in Saint John and Edmonton-Calgary to 0.4 per cent in Vancouver. Increases of 0.1 per cent occurred in St. John's and Saskatoon-Regina, and 0.2 per cent in Winnipeg.

Food indexes declined in eight cities and increased in two. Shelter indexes were unchanged in six cities, decreased in three and increased in one. Clothing indexes were up in all cities. Household-operation indexes rose in seven cities, were unchanged in two and declined in the remaining city. Indexes for "other-commodities-and-services" were unchanged in six cities, declined in two and rose in the other two.

*St. John's* - The total index rose 0.1 per cent from 116.6 to 116.7 as a result of increases in the food, clothing, and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes. Both the shelter and household-operation indexes were unchanged.

*Halifax* - The total index declined 0.2 per cent from 129.6 to 129.4 as a result of a drop in the food

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