

It is expected that during the cargo-handling operations this season, more than 100,000 tons of freight will be taken to points all the way from the south shores of Hudson Bay to Eureka and Tanquary Fiord, at the northern end of Ellesmere Island.

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### APRIL BUILDING PERMITS

Canadian municipalities issued building permits in April to cover construction estimated at \$289,718,000, an increase of 34.8 per cent from last year's corresponding total of \$214,892,000. This brought the value in the January-April period to \$728,411,000, higher by 13.1 per cent than the 1962 total for the same period of \$644,183,000.

The value of residential construction covered by building permits issued increased in April to \$154,787,000 from \$117,831,000 a year earlier and, from January to April, to \$369,033,000 from \$312,605,000, while the value of non-residential construction advanced in the month to \$134,931,000 from \$97,061,000, and in the four-month period to \$359,378,000 from \$331,578,000.

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### NWT COUNCIL MEETS

The Council of the Northwest Territories met at Inuvik on the Mackenzie Delta on July 8 for what may prove to be the last session in the north for members of the present Council. The summer session, always held in the north, will be a continuation of the May sitting called to deal with the emergency of the Hay River floods.

Now before Parliament are bills to create from the present Northwest Territories two separate territories, Mackenzie and Nunassiat. References for advice as to the dispositions of territorial property will be included in Council business this summer.

The current session is dealing with some 30 bills, and is expected to rise about July 19. Items under discussion will include the setting up of a public utilities board for the Northwest Territories and amendments to the Low-Cost Housing Ordinance to help people living in the flood-damaged areas of Hay River and Fort Simpson obtain new housing.

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### TRAINING A LABOUR FORCE

The technical and vocational training of employed and unemployed alike in order to upgrade the skills of members of the labour force was an essential step toward solution of the unemployment problem, said C.A.L. Murchison, Commissioner of the Unemployment Insurance Commission, recently in Chicago, speaking at the fiftieth anniversary convention of the International Association of Personnel in Employment Security (the international president of which is Marcel Guay, Quebec regional director of the UIC).

An annual output of nearly 300,000 trainees was expected in Canada, Mr. Murchison went on, as soon as all the training establishments were finished under the joint federal-provincial technical and

vocational training programme, which was designed to improve and modernize workers' skills and reduce the imbalance between manpower supply and requirements.

"The National Employment Service assists in the work of selecting candidates for training," he said, "and it has been found that a significant proportion of the applicants fails to qualify for training in courses offered, due to the fact that they do not have the academic standing necessary for admission."

Emphasizing that men and women must be available whose training met the requirements of modern industry with its increasing trend towards automation, Mr. Murchison said that skills for the jobs now in demand could not be acquired by a worker unless he had adequate schooling. In order to help the labour force of the future cope with the demand, the NES had, in 1955, inaugurated a "Stay in School" programme to encourage the school population to make the utmost use of the formal training available to them, if they hoped to compete successfully in the labour market.

"There is no doubt that the programme has been a great success," Mr. Murchison said. "The schools, organizations of employers and workers and parent-teacher groups are supporting it, and the incidence of school-drop-outs is becoming less and less as time goes on."

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### MORE ARCTIC HOMES

Public Works Minister Deschatelets, recently announced the award of a contract valued at nearly \$600,000 for the construction of 40 housing units at Inuvik, Northwest Territories.

The ten houses, which will accommodate employees of the Federal Government, will be two-storey buildings, each consisting of four semi-detached housing units. Each housing unit will consist of a living room, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms and a bathroom.

The buildings will be of frame construction on pile foundations. Their exterior finish will be in aluminum siding, while the interiors will be completed with gypsum board on the walls and ceilings and vinyl asbestos tile on the floors. Heating will be by hot water from a central plant.

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### NIGERIAN CADETS IN CANADA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, recently announced that the Nigerian Minister of Defence, Mr. Muhammadu Ribadu, and the High Commissioner for Canada in Nigeria, Mr. T.L. Carter, had signed an agreement in Lagos setting forth the conditions governing the training in Canada of military personnel from Nigeria.

The agreement stipulates that Canada is responsible for the training of Nigerian personnel as well as their lodging and travel within Canada. The Nigerian Government bears the cost of the basic pay and allowances for its military personnel and their transportation to and from Canada.

A number of Nigerian cadets are currently being trained with the Royal Canadian Air Force, the Canadian Army and the Royal Canadian Navy.