

co-operative has maintained steady sales to Toronto and Winnipeg markets and is concentrating at present on such items as moccasins and bello ties. The organization is now at a point where members feel they can produce in greater and steadier volume; but certain production problems have to be solved before foreign markets can be secured and supplied regularly.

CO-OPERATION WITH ESKIMOS

An Eskimo-Indian project is making headway at Great Whale River, Quebec, where a handicraft workshop was recently built. The project is jointly sponsored by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources and the Indian Affairs Branch of the Department of Citizenship and Immigration. A handicraft instructor and adviser has provided leadership and training in this enterprise. It is expected that workers will form a co-operative to handle production and sales when they have gained more experience.

Indian women are producing sealskin articles, including hats, birds and animals, duffle jackets, mitts, socks, moccasin slippers and miniature mukluks. Indian men have recently been producing fine wood carvings of birds and animals. As they attained proficiency in wood carving, a number branched to soap-stone carving. The latter are similar in design to their wood carving and clearly distinguishable from Eskimo work.

COURSES AT BIG COVE

Big Cove, New Brunswick, may soon be well known in handicraft circles, since the artistic talent of the Micmacs of this area has led to formal craft instruction. The project is financed by a grant made by the Indian Affairs Branch and is conducted by the New Brunswick Department of Industry and Development.

Courses are given in weaving, textile printing, jewellery-making, wood-turning and design of Indian origin. Participants use the name "Micmac Indian Craftsmen" and are organized as a group association. A co-operative may be formed this year.

Commercial activity has so far been confined to the production and sale of "hasty notes" and Christmas cards bearing stencilled designs, using the silk-screen process. The notes are packaged by the dozen in attractive burlap wrappers. In addition, clay figurines and baskets are sold.

SNOWDRIFT OPERATIONS

A successful project is in operation at Snowdrift, Yellowknife Agency. Twenty women are producing handicrafts valued at some \$250 a week. About 50 articles weekly (slippers, mukluks, gloves and mitts) are produced for sale.

QUILLS AND BOARDS

In spite of efforts to retain the skills of all types of handicrafts, a number of Indian crafts are gradually disappearing. Among these is quill embroidery.

Only a few skilled workers are now engaged in this work.

Porcupine quills, birch bark and sweet grass provide the raw materials. Quills are dyed with extract made from roots, berries and barks, but skilful use is also made of the natural colours of the quills.

Trinket boxes decorated with porcupine quills are still popular with tourists, as are necklaces made of clipped, inch-long sections of quill strung together and dyed in brilliant shades.

On the other hand, requests from Canadians for articles of traditional Indian design has increased the popularity of age-old Indian articles. A surprising number of requests have been sent lately to the operator of the Indian Affairs Branch warehouse in Ottawa for papoose boards, which are popular with New Canadians, particularly skiers and shoppers, since they leave the hands free and the infant happy. They have also been recommended to patients by a number of Canadian doctors who find this mode of transport for the youngest citizens healthful for the mother.

A PROTECTED MARKET

In recent years an increasing number of imported articles have competed with genuine Indian handicrafts on the Canadian market. Protection is now accorded Canadian articles. Imported items have to be clearly labelled as to their country of origin. In addition, maple-leaf tags attached to Indian craft work attest the authenticity of handicrafts produced by Indians of Canada.

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NEW SHIPPING REPORT

The Dominion Bureau of Statistics has released the first issue of a new annual report, entitled "Shipping Report Part V - Origin and Destination for Selected Commodities". Parts I and II cover the operations of vessels engaged in international seaborne shipping; Part III presents corresponding information for vessels employed in coastwise and inland service; and Part IV contains details of origin and destination by commodity of all cargoes loaded and unloaded at eight major Canadian ports.

Part V contains details of origin and destination for eight selected commodities (wheat, other grains, pulpwood, iron ore, bituminous coal, gypsum, newsprint and fuel oil). Selected because of their importance in the Canadian economy, these commodities accounted for 65 per cent of all cargoes loaded and unloaded in international shipping and 64 per cent of all coastwise traffic in 1961.

The selected commodities accounted for 72.7 per cent of the 53,760,748 tons of cargo loaded in international trade and 54.2 per cent of the 39,187,355 tons of cargo unloaded at Canadian ports from foreign countries.