

LOCAL INITIATIVE GRANTS

The first approvals for support of community projects through the Local Initiatives Program were announced recently by Mr. Marcel Prud'homme, Parliamentary Secretary to Mr. Otto Lang, Minister of Manpower and Immigration. "Response from all areas of Canada has been excellent, with more than 1,000 applications already received at our regional offices," Mr. Prud'homme said. "I expect that applications will generally now be approved or rejected within about ten days from the date of application."

The sample projects range from construction of a community medical-dental clinic at Deer Lake, Newfoundland, to the provision of services to persons and families in need through The Helping Hand organization at Edmonton, Alberta. The Deer Lake Public Health Association will receive up to \$32,282 for their project, which is expected to provide 30 new jobs at Deer Lake this winter. At Edmonton, The Helping Hand will receive up to \$62,864 to employ 25 people in providing such services as snow-removal, household maintenance, repairs to appliances, and similar jobs, to senior citizens, blind, crippled or disabled people, single-parent families and others in need.

The Roman Catholic Parish Council of Alberton, Prince Edward Island, will receive up to \$56,400 to assist in a \$172,240-project to build a Christian education centre and place of worship. It is expected that 30 new jobs will be provided by the project this winter.

An amount of \$31,150 has been approved to provide 12 new jobs in a project sponsored by the Wycocomagh Band Council to improve housing on the Reserve in Inverness County, Nova Scotia.

Two projects to provide day care for small children of working parents have been approved for support. The Prince George Day Care Society will receive up to \$29,790 to employ 15 people in opening three new centres at Prince George, British Columbia. The Garderie Cooperative de Saint-Hyacinthe will receive up to \$19,185 to employ six people in establishing a day-care centre at Saint-Hyacinthe, Quebec.

In New Brunswick, the St-Jacques sports committee will receive up to \$22,963 for a project to employ 12 people in building, repairing, maintaining and supervising skating rinks and snowmobile trails.

An amount of \$13,300 has been approved to support a YMCA project at St. Thomas, Ontario. Employment for six people will be provided in refurbishing and redecorating the YMCA building.

The Indian and Metis Tenants' Association of Winnipeg, Manitoba, will receive up to \$19,655 to employ six people in assisting Indian and Metis living in Winnipeg in dealing with housing, tenancy and welfare problems.

The Saskatchewan Council for Crippled Children

and Adults will receive up to \$22,246 to employ ten handicapped people in addressing about 240,000 mailings by the association to its contributors.

"This sample of projects gives some indication of the range of activities being generated in communities across Canada," Mr. Prud'homme said. "The number and quality of applications so far indicate that the program will not be able to support all projects that meet the minimum criteria published when the program was announced. The aim of the program is to distribute available funds as broadly as possible and to encourage development of services and facilities additional to those which might otherwise have been developed in the community. However, the program will exclude projects for work on educational institutions and their grounds, hospitals and hospital grounds and subway and other transportation systems," he said.

APPLES TO SOUTH AFRICA

Mr. H.A. (Bud) Olson, the Minister of Agriculture, announced recently that the Republic of South Africa had granted access to Canadian apples. The agreement is the result of meetings held in Pretoria in November between the Canadian Government Technical Apple Mission and officials of the Department of Agricultural Technical Services of the Republic of South Africa.

Canadian apples have not been exported to South Africa since 1966, when the Government of that country refused to admit them because of insect problems. South Africa agreed to readmit Canadian apples as a result of the mission's evidence that a fumigation method against mites and other insects before shipment, developed by the Canada Department of Agriculture, is now available for the treatment of Canadian apples.

A Canadian scientist will go to South Africa to co-operate with officials there in the inspection of the first shipment of apples from Canada.

EDUCATORS' NATIONALITIES

Canadians hold 61.8 per cent of all teaching and administration posts in Canadian universities and colleges, though the proportions range from 50.5 per cent in languages and literature to 70.8 per cent in the biological sciences and 88 per cent in administration. United States citizens hold 15.2 per cent of all faculty positions, those from Britain represent 10.2 per cent, from France 2.9 per cent and all others 10.2 per cent. Federal Government grants and payments to Canadian educational and non-profit institutions for scientific purposes have increased from \$25.9 million in 1963-64 to \$143.1 million for the present academic year.