

FITNESS FILMS ABROAD

Four films produced for the Department of National Health and Welfare have been chosen by the National Film Board of Canada for distribution abroad.

The Drag, which was used for the Department's smoking and health programme, was nominated in 1966 for an Academy Award and won a prize at the Tokyo Film Festival in 1967. The film will be dubbed into Japanese, German, Finnish and Portuguese.

Dubbed into Japanese will be *Family Camping* and *Lacrosse*, both of which were made for use by the Fitness and Amateur Sport Directorate of the Department, and *Shyness*, a film produced for the Mental Health Division.

SHEEP REPORT '67

Registration of pure-bred sheep in Canada increased in 1967 for the second year in succession. Pure-bred registrations of 18 breeds rose from 8,622 head in 1966 to 9,526 last year. A decline had occurred from 11,152 in 1960 to 8,017 in 1965.

The federal Department of Agriculture, attributes higher registration partly to the increased incentives in the prize lists of agricultural fairs introduced three years ago and partly to the greater interest in pure-breds that can be used for economic production of lamb meat through the "three-way cross" programme.

This meat, says Livestock Division Director Ralph Bennett, is in demand by many new Canadians at Easter.

To produce three-way cross commercial market lambs, two white-faced pure-breds are crossed first. The resulting hybrid ewes form the basic flock and are mated with a third pure-bred to produce the market lamb. It is important to market all the progeny and not to retain any for breeding. Fleeces from the basic flock are free from coloured fibres and therefore are not discounted. The ram of the third pure-bred can be either white or coloured, since all its progeny are to be slaughtered as soon as they reach market weight.

The total number of sheep declined again last year from 1,006,000 on Canadian farms by the middle of 1966 to 962,000 - but lamb slaughter was only slightly down. Carcasses graded in federally-inspected and approved packing plants totalled 333,657, some 3,000 fewer than in 1966.

Live imports from the U.S. were 23,038 head compared to 18,872 in 1966.

WORKERS BASE-RATES

The federal Department of Labour has just released the results of a study of wage developments under major collective-bargaining agreements in force in 1967. The 514 agreements studied covered about a million workers, in major negotiating units of 500 or more employees in industries other than construction.

During the year, the average straight-time hourly wage-rate for unskilled or semi-skilled workers (that is, the base-rate) provided in these agreements rose by 15.3 cents, or 7.5 per cent. In some cases these increases resulted from wage settlements made in 1967, but more frequently they represented deferred increases that were negotiated in previous years. During 1966, by comparison, the average hourly base-rate increase was 12.8 cents, or 6.5 per cent. (The base-rate is defined as the straight-time hourly wage rate for an unskilled or semi-skilled occupational group in a negotiating unit.)

The consumer price index rose 4.5 per cent in 1967 and 3.4 per cent in 1966. Thus, in real terms, the average hourly base-rate increased by about 3 per cent both in 1966 and 1967.

SETTLEMENTS IN 1967

Of the 514 major agreements in force on December 30, 1967, approximately 36 per cent, or 186 agreements, were new or renegotiated during 1967 and covered nearly 400,000 workers. About 17 per cent of these 1967 settlements are of one-year duration (6-17 months), 50 per cent are of two-year duration (18-29 months), and the remaining 33 per cent are of three-year duration (30 months and over).

The one-year agreements settled in 1967 provide a 9.7 percent increase in their base-rate during their one year. The two-year 1967 settlements provide increases of 11.9 and 6.9 per cent for their first and second years respectively. The three-year 1967 settlements provide increases of 9.0 per cent, 7.9 per cent, and 5.1 per cent respectively for their first, second, and third years.

CORRIGENDUM: On Page 1 of the April 24 issue of the Canadian Weekly Bulletin, the date of appointment of Mr. Sharp, and the date of all other Cabinet changes, should be corrected to read April 20, 1968.