

Canada is the first of the 20 signatory countries to have deposited its Instrument of Ratification. It is expected that ratification procedures in the other signatory countries will be completed by autumn, when the OECD will take over from the Organization for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC).

The prompt ratification of the Convention by Canada is an indication of the importance attached by the Canadian Government to the new organization for Western economic co-operation and to the attainment of its three basic objectives: the achievement of a high rate of economic growth in member countries, the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis, and the sound economic expansion of less-developed countries throughout the world.

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### FREIGHT INCREASE SUSPENDED

Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced on March 30 that the Government had taken action to suspend the going into effect of Order No. 103860 of the Board of Transport Commissioners, dated February 23, 1961, which would permit an increase in freight rates on shipments of bulk grain for export from Georgian Bay and related ports to Montreal, Sorel, Three Rivers, Quebec, Saint John, West Saint John and Halifax, and from Kingston, Prescott, Montreal, Sorel, Three Rivers and Quebec to Saint John, West Saint John and Halifax. The Order was to have gone into effect on April 1.

Operation of this Order is to be suspended for a period of 90 days so that consideration can be given to the report just issued by the Royal Commission on Transportation, and also to permit consideration of such additional representations as may be made.

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### ARCTIC ART TOUR

Art dealers and representatives of some of Canada's leading galleries may be wearing parkas and mukluks this summer, and Eskimo graphic artists, creators of the Cape Dorset prints, may have an opportunity to meet some of the people who are buying their work.

The Department of Northern Affairs is planning one or more art tours to Cape Dorset, probably in August, to bring artist members of the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative and buyers together. Planned primarily for art-dealers and galleries, it will be open to art-lovers who merely wish to visit the Cape Dorset Craft Centre, watch the artists at work, visit them in their homes, and spend a fascinating six days a long way north of more formal showrooms and galleries.

### LIVES OF ARTISTS UNFAMILIAR

Recognition has come so fast to Eskimo graphic art (demand for prints this year soon outran even a greatly enlarged supply) that

those who are selling the prints have had little time to learn much about the artists. Dealers and galleries now find themselves at a disadvantage faced by questions such as: Where and how do the Eskimos do their work? What kind of people can live so far from the world of art yet gain recognition so quickly? What sort of place is Cape Dorset? How hard is it to get to? How much would such a trip cost? How would the Eskimos feel about strangers coming there to watch them work?

The idea of offering an Arctic art tour has been in the minds of Northern Affairs and the Eskimo Co-operative for some time. Cape Dorset is growing used to visitors. The Eskimo artists are pleased, though not carried away, by their fame. They form a small and talented community enjoying its success and glad to see visitors.

Travel in the Arctic is expensive. But this tour will have some unusual attractions to offer. The greatest may be an opportunity to acquire an exclusive "Dorset Issue" from a few complete sets of prints held in the community and not for sale outside. Apart from the graphic art, some of the finest Eskimo handicrafts are always to be found at the Craft Centre. And it is not every art tour that includes the chance to cruise the Arctic fiords in a Peterhead and watch Eskimos hunt the silver jar and bearded seal.

Cape Dorset is situated on a small island off the south coast of Baffin Island in Hudson Strait. It lies about 1300 miles north of Montreal, 1450 miles north of Toronto, and 1600 miles north of New York. Two-way radio maintains communication between Cape Dorset and southern Canada and the United States through Frobisher Bay, main transportation and communications centre in the Eastern Arctic, some 250 miles to the West.

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### SAFETY EXPERTS TO MEET

Canada's top authorities on highway safety are to gather in Montreal on May 1, 2 and 3, for the annual conference of the Canadian Highway Safety Council. Teen-age drivers and their education in driving attitudes and techniques will be among the subjects dealt with. Committee and general sessions will also be concerned with such topics as emergency brakes, pedestrian control, bicycle safety, women's activities in road safety, signalling equipment on cars and trucks, school bus operation, police warnings, and transportation of explosives.

During the conference, citation awards will go to Canadian cities with outstanding traffic safety records, and the winners of the Council's Carol Lane Awards for 1960 will be presented with their trophies. A feature of the programme will be a special youth dinner on May 2, and the Province of Quebec Safety League will hold its annual Fleet Driver Award dinner in connection with the Conference. More than 400 are expected to attend.