

CANADIAN CENTENARY COUNCIL

The Canadian Centenary Council is a national non-governmental organization organized in May 1960 after two previous conferences involving representatives of more than 100 national organizations.

The Council was established to provide expression and involvement at a national level by voluntary non-governmental organizations in planning for the anniversary of Confederation in 1967. It developed from a belief that early and effective planning for the celebrations would provide for wide participation by Canadians in this unique undertaking.

Since it was established, the provisional executive committee has considered the suggestions of the May meeting in preparing a new draft of the constitution, undertaken the task of action as a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers and members for the executive committee, and interviewed a possible executive director. At the same time they have prepared and submitted to the Prime Minister, a brief outlining purpose and function and expressing the Council's wish to co-operate with the Government body when it is set up.

Within the next four months a general meeting of the Council will be called to act on the recommendations of the provisional executive committee.

POLYMER IN EUROPE

Mr. Raymond O'Hurley, Minister of Defence Production, recently announced the formation of Polymer Corporation (SAF) for the purpose of construction and operating a speciality-rubber plant in Le Wantzenau near Strasbourg, France. Polymer Corporation (SAF) was organized by the Canadian Crown Company, Polymer Corporation Limited, of Sarnia, in partnership with the Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, to carry out the project with an estimated capital requirement of about \$12 million.

Details of the project were made public at a luncheon in Strasbourg given by Dr. E.R. Rowzee, president and managing director of Polymer Corporation Limited. Pierre Dupuy, Canadian Ambassador to France, was guest of honour at the luncheon, attended by French Government officials and business leaders of the cities of Le Wantzenau and Strasbourg.

OFFICERS OF NEW COMPANY

Dr. Rowzee will be chairman of the board of the French subsidiary company, and R.E. Hatch, vice-president of sales of Polymer Corporation, will be president, in addition to his present responsibilities. Other directors will be J.P. Fontaine, Banque de Paris et des Pays-Bas, F. Vernhes, Society Française Polysar, and S. Wilk, vice-president, finance, of Polymer Corporation Limited.

Mr. O'Hurley referred to the important position that Polymer Corporation occupies in

the world synthetic-rubber industry and its need to sustain growth in the years ahead. More capacity is needed to meet the strong demands for special types of rubbers, particularly as a result of the overall industrial growth in Europe, and especially within the European Common Market. The Strasbourg site is well suited to serving the European market advantageously; it is centrally located with respect to the rubber-consuming areas of the Common Market; it is on the Rhine, which will facilitate water transportation, and is on the route of the crude-oil pipeline from the Mediterranean to the refineries that will be located in the area. He pointed out that the output of the 10,000-ton plant in Strasbourg would augment and not replace Sarnia production, and would be marketed by Polymer Corporation Limited.

Mr. O'Hurley stated that the French speciality-rubber plant was an integral part of an expansion programme that would strengthen Polymer's position in the industry, and was expected to lead to further growth of Polymer at home and abroad.

ONTARIO FLOOD CONTROL PROJECT

An agreement providing federal financial assistance to the construction of a \$9,640,500 flood-control and water-conservation project in the Upper Thames River basin of western Ontario was signed near London recently by representatives of the Federal and Ontario Governments. Federal Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale and Ontario Minister J.P. Robarts signed the agreement in the board-room of the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority at the Fanshawe Dam, four miles from London.

Other Federal Cabinet Ministers attending the ceremony were Mr. G.E. Halpenny, Minister without Portfolio, and Mr. Waldo Monteith, Minister of National Health and Welfare. Federal M.P.'s and provincial M.P.P.'s from Western Ontario constituencies and members of the Conservation Authority were also present.

FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS

Under the agreement, made possible through the Canada Water Conservation Assistance Act, the Federal Government will pay 37½ per cent of the estimated cost of the works or a maximum of \$3,615,200. The government of Ontario will pay an equal portion, leaving 25 per cent to be paid by the Upper Thames River Conservation Authority, a group of 31 municipalities.

Five dams and three channel-improvement schemes will be included in the project, which will be completed by 1970. The remedial works will control floods and raise river levels during the summer throughout the 1,325 square-mile area of the Upper Thames watershed.

The work will be spaced out over a ten-year period. Under the Canada Water Conservation Assistance Act, the Federal Government participated in large flood-control and water-con-