

FIFTH WINTER WORKS PROGRAMME

With 1,450 applications from municipalities already approved by opening day, the Federal-Provincial Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programme, which runs from October 15 to April 30, 1963, is off to a good start, according to Labour Minister Michael Starr. "The large volume of applications received at this early date would indicate that this winter's campaign will be even more successful than last year's," Mr. Starr said.

All provinces are co-operating, and have already submitted applications for projects from their municipalities. The Programme also covers the Northwest Territories and the Yukon, as well as Indian bands.

The number of projects so far approved is expected to provide "on-site" employment for 30,500 men for an estimated 1,650,000 man-days of work, compared to 27,300 new jobs and 1,500,000 man-days of work at the same time last year.

The estimated cost of this year's applications approved up to October 16 is \$116 million, \$30 million more than last year. The payroll costs of the projects so far approved are estimated at \$25 million compared to \$20,800,000 last year. Under the terms of the Programme, the Federal Government contributes half the direct payroll expenses of a municipality, or its contractors or sub-contractors, on projects approved.

Municipalities are now familiar with the Programme, the Minister said, and keep its possibilities in mind in planning their public-works activities. They have found it a most effective way of providing more winter employment, while at the same time carrying out needed public-works projects.

The Programme, now in its fifth winter, has been broadened and extended in past years and includes nearly every capital undertaking of a municipality.

AGRICULTURAL TRAINING MEET

Canada's first national conference on agricultural training was held in Ottawa last week. The two-day meeting, on October 17 and 18, brought together representatives of federal departments, provincial government agencies, farm organizations, educational institutions and other groups interested in training for Canada's rural population.

The conference, convened by the federal Department of Labour, tried to identify the needs and problems existing in technical and vocational education for rural people and considered measures required to meet these problems.

TOPICS DISCUSSED

About 125 delegates discussed and made recommendations on the following topics:

- (1) Education and training needs for young farm people still in school;
- (2) Continuing education and training needs for farm adults;
- (3) Education and training needs for agricultural teachers and farm extension leaders;
- (4) Training for technical vocations in industries allied to and providing services to agriculture.

Mr. Michael Starr, Minister of Labour and Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture, welcomed delegates. On the opening day an address was given by Dr. J.R. Weir, Dean of Agriculture and Home Economics, University of Manitoba. The remainder of the two-day conference was taken up mainly with discussions by working groups. Recommendations and final reports were presented at the conclusion of the conference on October 18.

NEW RCAF JET FOR NATO

The first of 200 Canadian-built CF-104 "Super Starfighters" was transported to Europe by air recently. The sleek supersonic jet left Cartierville Airport outside Montreal on October 11, destined for 3 Fighter Wing, Zweibrucken, Germany, where the first of eight strike-reconnaissance squadrons is forming.

The first CF-104 rolled off the assembly line at Canadair Limited in March 1961. Since then, the aircraft has been thoroughly test flown by the Royal Canadian Air Force and a number are now in service at 6 Strike-Reconnaissance Operational Training Unit, Cold Lake, Alberta.

The "Super Starfighter" will replace the F-86 "Sabre" in eight of the 12 squadrons of Canada's NATO Air Division. The four CF-100 squadrons will be disbanded on January 1, 1963.

For the flight to Europe in an RCAF C-130B "Hercules" of Air Transport Command, the CF-104 was partially dismantled. After a refuelling stop at Gander, Newfoundland, the flight continued non-stop to Germany. The flight time was about 15 hours.

ICELAND-CANADA VISA PACT

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Howard Green, and the Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Mr. Richard A. Bell, announced on October 17 that negotiations between the Canadian and Icelandic Governments for an agreement abolishing the non-immigrant visa requirement for short-term visits by citizens of either country to the other country had been concluded during the recent visit to Iceland of the Canadian Ambassador to Iceland, Mr. J.L.E. Couillard, who was stationed in Oslo, Norway. The agreement, which is the form of an exchange of notes, was signed on October 17 at Reykjavik, Iceland, by Mr. Couillard on behalf of the Government of Canada, and by Mr. Gudmundur I. Gudmundsson, Foreign Minister of Iceland, on behalf of his Government.

Under the terms of the agreement, which comes into effect on November 1, 1962, citizens of Canada and Iceland who are *bona fide* non-immigrants (visitors not seeking employment or permanent residence) and who possess valid national passports may enter the other country without visas for periods not exceeding three consecutive months, provided these citizens meet the normal laws and regulations governing non-immigrant entry into the country concerned.

(Continued on P. 6)