

ments in Ottawa and from the Permanent Mission in Geneva.

The Conference in Question has been convened by the Secretary-General following upon a resolution of the General Assembly of the United Nations at its eleventh session. The purpose of the Conference is "to examine the law of the sea, taking account not only of the legal but also the technical, biological, economic and political aspects of the problem, and to embody the results of its work in one or more inter-national conventions or such other instruments as it may deem appropriate". It is also proposed that the Conference should study the question of free access to the sea of landlocked countries, as established by international practice or treaties.

\* \* \* \*

### COMPETITION FOR AIR SERVICES

(Continued from Page 2)

economic burden for T.C.A. since the passengers at these points may not be enough to pay for the cost of T.C.A. service. It is reasonable to expect that private airlines also if granted the advantage of competition should in future assume greater responsibilities for service to points which need air service, but are not self-sustaining. The Air Transport Board will bear these considerations in mind in dealing with applications.

"Also, while competition is something which will effect T.C.A. as the biggest airline operator in Canada, the principle will, of course, apply to any scheduled route. In any case where economic conditions warrant competition on a route now served by a private airline, the door will be equally open for a competitive application to the Board by either T.C.A. or a second private airline."

\* \* \* \*

### CHRISTMAS TREE GRADING

The Christmas tree industry of Canada has taken initial steps to establish national grading standards for Christmas trees. At a meeting in Ottawa a committee representing the industry, federal and provincial governments, and related agencies, and convened by the federal Department of Trade and Commerce, reached agreement on the grades to be adopted and on ways and means to bring these grades into use.

The annual production of Canadian Christmas trees is valued at more than \$8 million and annual exports at over \$6 million. As the bulk of Canadian production is marketed in the United States, the Committee adopted a system of standard grades similar to that recently established in that country. It was agreed that the application of these grades should be voluntary. Since the grading of individual trees will, therefore, be carried out by producers, dealers, shippers or others in the

trade, the Committee decided to prepare a manual on grading. This manual will be supplemented by practical training in the field provided by qualified instructors.

The Committee recommended the establishment of a national Christmas Tree Association to include all persons having an interest in this unique Canadian business.

\* \* \* \*

### MAJOR EVENTS IN 1958

Visitors to Canada this year will find a multitude of major events planned in towns, cities and populated sections all across the country. Feature attractions will include the Nova Scotia Gaelic Mod, at St. Ann's, August 5-10; opening of the 300th anniversary celebrations at Ste. Anne de Beaupré, Québec, May 4; Calgary Stampede and Exhibition at Calgary, Alberta, July 7-12; Frontier Days Rodeo at Swift Current, Saskatchewan, June 30-July 2; Canadian National Sportsmen's Show at Toronto, Ontario, March 14-22; and the Manitoba Provincial Exhibition at Brandon, June 30-July 4.

Apart from the host of other activities planned for Quebec province, this year, French Canada's capital city of Quebec will celebrate its 350th anniversary. There will be year-round festivities in the city to honour the great French explorer Samuel de Champlain who erected the first settlement in 1608.

British Columbia, too, is celebrating its 100th birthday in 1958, and every community in the province will share in the fun. Among the festivities will be an Indian Potlatch at Port Alberni on May 19, a vintage car race at Victoria and a fishing derby at Nanaimo on May 24, and a \$50,000 Centennial Open Golf Tournament at Vancouver from August 27 to September 1.

\* \* \* \*

### NATIONAL PARKS VISITORS

The National Parks of Canada broke all previous attendance records in 1957 when a grand total of 4,045,766 people visited the scenic and national historic parks during the period April 1 to December 31. This was an increase of 400,035 more visitors than were recorded during 1956.

Parks making the largest gains were Banff National Park, Alberta, with an increase of 72,894; Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta with a gain of 56,406; Jasper National Park, Alberta with a gain of 54,728, and Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba, an increase of 52,905 visitors.

Banff National Park, Alberta, led all other parks in attendance with 712,338 visitors recorded, followed by Riding Mountain National Park, Manitoba with 587,276 and Point Pelee National Park, Ontario, with 557,859.

Total attendance at the National Historic parks during the period was 318,536.