

CANADIAN SMOKING HABITS

Fewer than half of Canada's population 20 years of age and over (44 per cent) smoke cigarettes, it was revealed recently by Miss Judy LaMarsh, Minister of National Health and Welfare, announcing the first official survey of the situation. The project, carried out for the Health Department by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics in August 1964, is part of a nation-wide Smoking and Health Programme, which combines health education and the promotion of research into the extent and nature of smoking habits in Canada.

A report on the results of the survey is under preparation. In releasing the basic findings, Miss LaMarsh said she felt it would be immediately useful in view of public interest in the cigarette-smoking problem and the possibility that Canadians were under the impression that the habit was more prevalent than it in fact, was.

MEN, WOMEN AND ADOLESCENTS

The cigarette habit, defined as "usually smoking cigarettes every day", was admitted to by 56 per cent of the men interviewed and 32 per cent of the women. The survey included those 15 to 19 years old, but it is believed that the reported frequency of cigarette smoking in this age-group may be somewhat low owing to the fact that informants were not always aware of their smoking habits.

Cigarette smoking was found to be most common between ages 20 and 44. Approximately half the persons in this age group have the habit of smoking every day.

The following breakdown shows the proportions of the various age groups who were reported to smoke cigarettes every day: 15 to 19 years - 27 per cent; 20 to 24 years - 50 per cent; 25 to 44 years - 51 per cent; 45 to 64 years - 43 per cent; 65 and over - 19 per cent.

LABOUR RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS

Beginning next year, the Department of Labour, in co-operation with the International Labour Organization, will award fellowships for research on labour problems at the International Institute of Labour Studies in Geneva. The fellowships of up to \$5,000 each will be awarded to Canadian senior scholars wishing to undertake research on manpower, industrial relations and general labour problems whose projects can be undertaken with advantage in Europe.

Applications have been solicited from qualified candidates in universities, industry, labour, government and elsewhere, who must be Canadian citizens or permanent residents of Canada.

The amount of the grants will vary with the duration of the fellowships. Up to \$5,000 will be granted for a full year, with additional financial assistance for travel and research. Grants will not normally be made for periods of less than four months.

The new research fellowships are in addition to those granted every year since 1951 under the Labour Department's university research programme, for Canadian labour-research projects.

NEW NAVAL MEMORIAL

A new naval memorial near Fort Henry, Ontario, will honour the officers and seamen who fought on Lake Ontario during the War of 1812. It will be erected near the new Fort Henry Information Bureau by the National Parks Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Close by, the old memorial adjacent to the Fort's entrance road from Highway No. 2 will be demolished to make room for development of the entrance.

BUILDING PERMITS

Building permits issued by Canadian municipalities in August covered construction estimated at \$276,378,000, a rise of 6.7 per cent from the August 1963 total of \$259,116,000. Permits issued for residential construction in the month rose by 13.1 per cent, to \$137,171,000 from \$121,237,000 a year earlier, and for non-residential construction by 1.0 per cent, to \$139,207,000 from \$137,879,000.

In the January-August period, permits issued covered construction valued at \$1,923,704,000, up by 6.3 per cent from the corresponding 1963 total of \$1,810,246,000. The value of residential construction increased 5.1 per cent in the eight months, to \$962,973,000 from \$916,195,000, and non-residential construction rose 7.5 per cent, to \$960,731,000 from \$894,051,000 a year ago.

PROVINCIAL VALUES

The values of building permits issued by individual provinces in August were (in thousands): Newfoundland \$1,141 (\$1,056 in August 1963); Prince Edward Island, \$226 (\$149); Nova Scotia, \$25,031, due mainly to a sharp rise in industrial building, (\$9,257); New Brunswick, \$4,996 (\$7,130); Quebec, \$57,656 (\$66,686); Ontario \$114,146 (\$110,807); Manitoba, \$11,037 (\$16,666); Saskatchewan, \$8,194 (\$7,483); Alberta, \$20,848 (\$22,691); and British Columbia, \$33,103 (\$17,191).

A NEW CONCEPTION OF RURAL

DEVELOPMENT IN CANADA

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required. Secondly, there are many areas which are primarily agricultural but which do not, under present conditions, sustain a viable system of commercial farms. These areas require rural development and adjustment programmes. And thirdly, there are many areas which are not primarily agricultural, which are plagued by relative diminishment of earning power. These areas require special ARDA programmes no less than do the mainly agricultural areas.

Now we are all aware that the ARDA programme is a federal-provincial one, in which the initiative for all projects except research rests with the province. I have said often, and with complete sincerity, that I do not intend that ARDA will be misused to exert pressure on provincial governments in respect of matters which are under provincial jurisdiction.

(Over)