

## FITNESS GRANTS

Mr. Allan MacEachen, Minister of National Health and Welfare, recently announced grants totalling nearly \$400,000 to national sports organizations under the Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme.

About a third of the total will help the various sports-governing bodies conduct regional, travelling and national leadership clinics for athletes, coaches and officials. Another \$100,000 will assist such bodies in holding national championships throughout the country and most of the remainder will be used to assist Canadian athletes competing in international competitions throughout the world.

## ORGANIZATIONS INVOLVED

The Royal Canadian Legion has been awarded \$65,352 to continue its track and field programme by conducting an advanced coaching clinic, an advanced athletes' clinic and holding regional clinics across the country.

The Canadian Amateur Ski Association will receive \$62,646 to assist in staging Canadian alpine, cross country and jumping championships, and to help meet the costs of training the national ski teams and sending competitors to the World Championships in Europe. Part of the money is to be used to help cover the cost of conducting regional and travelling coaches' clinics during the current ski season. This brings up to more than \$80,000 the federal funds made available to the Canadian Amateur Ski Association to carry out its 1965-66 programme.

The Canadian Amateur Hockey Association has been granted \$52,450, of which \$48,950 is to be used for forming, training and sending the national hockey team to the World Championships in Yugoslavia in March.

The Canadian Amateur Basketball Association will receive \$31,740 to stage the Junior Canadian Championships, and to help hold the Senior Women's Championship and the Senior Men's Canadian Championships.

A grant of \$26,698 was made to the Canadian Yachting Association to help send crews to international championship sailing regattas in 1966 in preparation for the Pan-American Games and the 1968 Olympics. The grant will also go toward staging the National Championships in Quebec, and a national seminar for instructors and conducting a national instructional regatta.

The Canadian Figure Skating Association will receive a grant of \$14,576 to help cover the costs of the Canadian Championships in Peterborough and help send a team to the World Championships in Switzerland.

A total of \$82,403 was granted to the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada for various trials, championships, clinics, seminars and to assist teams competing in international competitions of the sports that come under the jurisdiction of the AAU of C. These include boxing, fencing, gymnastics, handball, track and field, weight-lifting and wrestling.

The Shooting Federation of Canada will receive \$9,457 to help towards the cost of holding trials for

World Championships and British Empire Games, and to help send teams to the World Trap-Shooting Tournament in Chile, and to the World Championships in Germany.

Other organizations receiving grants under the Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme include the Boys Clubs of Canada, the Canadian Swimming Association, the Canadian Archery Association, the Canadian Camping Association, the Canadian Lawn Bowling Council, the Canadian Table Tennis Association, the Canadian Women's Field Hockey Association, the Royal Canadian Golf Union, and the Rugby Union of Canada.

The total of the 18 grants announced by the Minister recently was \$388,404. This is the first group of federal grants to help sports-governing bodies in conducting their 1966 programmes.

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## MONTREAL SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, announced recently that the Montreal Symphony Orchestra would give a series of concerts in France, Belgium and Switzerland in October. This tour will form part of the Canadian Government's programme of cultural exchanges with French-speaking countries. Among the places the orchestra will visit are Paris, Bordeaux, Marseilles, Berne and Brussels, where Canada has diplomatic or consular missions.

Mr. Martin expressed confidence that the visit of this important Canadian musical group to the three countries mentioned, just before the centenary of Confederation and the World Exhibition in Montreal would help draw the attention of the European public to these forthcoming major Canadian events.

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## CENTENNIAL INTER-FAITH PROGRAMME

The Canadian Inter-Faith Conference has become an active member of the planning force for centennial celebrations. The Conference, first proposed at the autumn meeting in 1964 of the National Conference on the Centennial, brings together 28 denominations for the purpose of planning religious participation in the 1967 observances.

As a result of a first meeting of a representative group of religious leaders in Ottawa in July 1965, the Inter-Faith Conference has established a secretariat that will be supported over the next two fiscal years by an administrative grant of \$60,000 from the Centennial Commission. The secretariat will be responsible for co-ordinating and implementing religious activities for the centennial.

Governor-General and Madame Vanier have agreed to act as honorary patrons of the Canadian Inter-Faith Conference. A board of directors of 19 members and its executive committee are working out the details of the programme for 1967. Ten of the directors are official representatives of the