

FOREST-PRODUCTS SHOW IN TEXAS

Canada's forest and wood-building industries will be shown in a colourful exhibit at the National Association of Home Builders Convention in Houston, Texas, from January 13 to 17.

Sponsored by the federal Departments of Industry and Trade and Commerce, the 1,600-square-foot area will display the various wood-building products available in Canada. Included in the exhibit are western hemlock, eastern white spruce, Douglas fir, lodge-pole pine and white pine. Knotty white pine and a wide variety of western red cedar shingles and sidings will also be exhibited.

Birch and maple for strip and parquet floors, and various grades of construction plywoods produced from Douglas fir and poplar will also be shown. Parts of the Canadian exhibit will be lined with pre-finished decorative plywood panels and roofed-in sections featuring shingle samples.

Canada's vast forest resources and the forest industry generally will be illustrated by stylized trees, and two modernistic wood-sculptures, one of finished lumber, the other of natural logs, will convey the versatility of Canadian wood products.

One wall of the exhibit will be devoted to enlarged photographs of houses under construction, and a multi-tiered wooden rack will contain a large selection of literature on the building industry and the use of Canadian wood products. The pamphlets and brochures are supplied by the Canadian forestry, lumbering and manufacturing associations.

RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT REPORT

The Department of Industry's first annual report on the Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act programme (IRDIA) shows that, as of June 30 this year, the Department had received 574 applications for grants totalling more than \$40 million. Of this number, 106 applications for grants amounting to nearly \$2.5 million had already been reviewed and approved.

The IRDIA programme, introduced in March 1967, provides Canadian industry with direct financial incentives for research and development, replacing Section 72A of the Income Tax Act, under which a corporation was given an additional tax deduction for increased expenditures on research and development.

The primary object of IRDIA is to induce Canadian corporations to expand scientific research and development that is likely to benefit the nation.

The report of the Department of Industry states that the 462 firms that applied for grants for their 1967 fiscal year expanded their Canadian research and development expenditures by \$97 million over their average for the preceding five years and, in addition, invested \$35 million in new research and development facilities in Canada.

CORNERSTONE OF PROGRAMME

"The Industrial Research and Development Incentives Act is the cornerstone of the Department of

Industry's programmes to encourage and assist Canadian industry to expand its research and development activities," the report declares. "The legislation is exerting a substantial influence on industry's plans for increasing research and development in Canada, and for exploiting the resulting new and improved products in both Canadian and export markets."

IRDIA grants equal 25 per cent of capital expenditures made by an applicant for scientific research and development carried out in Canada in the year, and 25 per cent of the eligible current expenditures made by the applicant in Canada in excess of the average of such expenditures in a base period consisting of the five immediately preceding years.

CANADA COUNCIL MEDAL AWARDS

Five Canadians were awarded the Canada Council Medal recently for "outstanding cultural achievement". Recipients are Eric Arthur, architect; Earle Birney, poet; Gabrielle Roy, novelist; A.J.M. Smith, poet; and Jacques de Tonnancour, painter. A cash prize of \$2,500 was also awarded to each of the medallists.

The bronze Canada Council Medal, one of Canada's highest tokens of excellence, was designed by the Toronto artist Dora de Pedery Hunt. Its winners last year were Wallace K. Ferguson, historian; H. Northrop Frye, literary scholar; Jean-Paul Lemieux, painter; and Frank H. Underhill, social critic and historian.

LANGUAGE LABORATORY

A remarkable language-teaching system, designed and produced in Canada, is now in use in the United States, and is attracting attention throughout the world.

The outstanding feature of the White Laboratory (made by White Electronic Development Corporation (1966) Ltd., Rexdale, Ontario) is an exclusive "memory unit". Part of a seven-step learning process, it provides instantaneous automatic playback of a student's voice after he has repeated a phrase or sentence heard through a head-set. Thus the student can compare his pronunciation with his teacher's while it is still fresh in his mind.

The teacher, too, can flip a small coloured switch on his desk panel and address a single pupil or the entire class. No booths are needed - merely head-sets with microphones attached - and there are no switches to distract the student, who can therefore concentrate on the lesson material. No special furniture is needed except a teacher's desk with a simple colour-coded control-panel.

UN INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

The first installation outside Canada is in the United Nations International School in New York, most of whose 650 students are children of UN personnel from 77 countries. English, French,