

Stamp honours Royal Canadian Legion

A new 8-cent stamp, issued November 10, designed by Rudy Kovach of Vancouver, British Columbia, commemorates the Royal Canadian Legion. In red, gold and grey with black lettering, it measures 40 mm by 24 mm.



The Royal Canadian Legion, an organization dedicated to the welfare of war veterans and their dependants, was formed after a unity convention of smaller veterans' groups in Winnipeg, Manitoba, in 1925. Most of them merged to form the Canadian Legion which, in 1960, became the Royal Canadian Legion by royal assent.

Work of the Legion

Money from the sale of poppies, worn by many people each year on November 11, Remembrance Day, is given by the Legion to needy veterans and their dependants.

The organization has helped thousands to press claims for government benefits and has lobbied for improved veterans' legislation. As early as April 1926, the group sought amendments to the Pensions Act, the Soldier Settlement Act, and the Civil Service Superannuation Act. Such efforts procured assistance, unheard of following the First World War, for people being discharged after the Second.

During the Second World War, Can-

adian Legion War Services provided members of the Forces with recreation, personal guidance and opportunities for education.

More recently, the group has sought reform in various fields and has provided many community services; there are, for instance, many places in Canada where the Legion Hall is the only social centre.

Ocean dumping controlled by new law

It is now illegal to dump any substance at sea without a permit, and one will not be granted to dump substances known to cause harm to the marine environment.

The Ocean Dumping Act, which has received Royal assent, also covers disposal of wastes on ice and incineration at sea. Permits may be issued to allow dumping under controlled conditions of substances not deemed too hazardous, and annexes to the Act cover specific substances in "prohibited" and "restricted" categories.

Environment Minister Jeanne Sauvé commented: "This Act and the London Convention on the Dumping of Wastes and Other Matter, are needed to protect Canadian fisheries, recreational areas and coastal waters from dumping by ships plying Canadian waters. Contamination of ocean waters anywhere in the world has to be prevented, and Canadian vessels will have to conform with the Act wherever they may be. Foreign vessels will be subject to its provisions while in Canadian waters."

The London Convention, which Canada and some 80 other nations signed in 1972, covers marine waste disposal throughout the world and will come into force automatically as soon as 15 nations have ratified it. Thirteen have already done so.

"Within 90 days of the convention coming into force," said Mrs. Sauvé, "the ratifying nations will meet to shape future development of the convention. I have been anxious to see our ocean-dumping legislation passed because it is important that Canada be represented at that meeting."

The Act, which provides penalties of up to \$100,000, applies to deliberate dumping by ships, aircraft and from platforms at sea. Discharges incidental to normal operations are not

offences under the Act. Also, the Act does not apply to discharges that result from exploration for seabed mineral resources and their exploitation.

Alberta University scholarship for British students

A two-year post graduate study seat at the University of Alberta has been established for British students.

The scholarship, presented as a gift from the province of Alberta, will provide for study at the masters or doctoral level in petroleum engineering. It provides the candidate with \$5,000 for tuition and return air fare, and will be available every two years to a British student nominated by his government. The first scholarship will be for the academic year 1976-77.

Quebec's controversial language law

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cent speak French at home.

Parents in St. Leonard kept some 100 students out of schools while they protested and the regulations are being challenged in the courts on constitutional grounds by individuals and groups.

The quotas were raised to accommodate the protesting students and Jérôme Choquette, Quebec Minister of Education, resigned rather than go along with this conciliatory policy of Premier Robert Bourassa.

An English-language radio station conducted a four-day broadcast against the language bill and enlisted half a million signatures on a protest petition. This campaign has been condemned as racist and extremist. In a counter move, *Le Journal de Montreal* sent Premier Bourassa a petition with 100,000 names asking him to stand firm.

Other aspects of the law under attack include the use of French in air-traffic control at some airports, which English-speaking pilots say is a safety hazard, and the requirement that business in Quebec must be conducted in French.

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