

Judaism they stand guard over the Dead Sea Scrolls to keep photographers with flash cameras from disturbing the delicately-controlled light around the precious documents. They also act as ushers at the pavilions of the Indians of Canada, Mauritius and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

The Service Corps programme was designed to give each scout a well-balanced week at Expo: a third of the day for service, a third to demonstrate scout skills at the centre and a third to see the Exhibition on his own time.

Scout activities at Expo will be climaxed by the observance of International Boy Scout Day on July 28, when between 20,000 and 30,000 Scouts are expected to attend ceremonies at the Place des Nations. The special guest will be Lady Baden-Powell, widow of the founder of the 11-million member scout movement.

CANADA PENSION PLAN FUNDS

Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Finance, recently released details of the amounts that had become available to the provinces and to Canada during the second quarter of 1967 from the operations of the Canada Pension Plan.

Under the Plan, all funds received but not required to meet expenses and pay benefits during the following three months are transferred to the Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund for the purchase of provincial or federal securities. These are special non-marketable securities, with terms of up to 20 years, bearing interest based on the yields of comparable Government of Canada marketable bonds.

The allotment of funds to provinces is proportional to the cumulative total of contributions paid in each province. The amounts available to Quebec, which has its own pension plan, relate only to the contributions of some federal employees in that province, such as Armed Services personnel, who are not included in the Quebec Plan but were brought into the Canada Pension Plan by special legislation during 1966. Any balance not borrowed by the provinces, together with funds collected in the Yukon and Northwest Territories, must be taken up by the Federal Government.

INTEREST RATE INCREASED

The provinces used the whole of their allotment in the second quarter of 1967 and they, or their Crown agencies, issued their special securities to the Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund in exchange for the funds made available to them. The Government of Canada issued identical securities in exchange for the net amounts generated in the Yukon and the Northwest Territories.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS

The distribution of funds to the provinces and the Federal Government by the Canada Pension Plan Investment Fund during the second quarter of 1967, was (in thousands of dollars): British Columbia, 26,965; Alberta, 16,311; Saskatchewan, 7,940; Manitoba, 11,185; Ontario, 105,571; Quebec, 495; New Brunswick, 5,379; Nova Scotia, 6,901; Prince Edward Island, 612; Newfoundland, 3,543; Canada, 594; for a total of \$185,496.

MAY FOREST FIRES

The Department of Forestry and Rural Development estimates that during May some 105,000 acres were attacked by 1,323 fires across Canada. Seven of these fires occurred in the Yukon and Northwest Territories but no damage was reported to have been caused by them. Last year's figures for the same month were much lower, with an estimated 19,000 acres affected by 1,008 fires, 19 of which occurred in the Yukon and Northwest Territories with no resultant damage.

YEAR TOTAL

This brings the 1967 total acreage affected by fire across Canada to the end of May to 106,000, caused by some 1,514 fires. Seven of these were in the Yukon and Northwest Territories but caused no damage.

Figures for the same period last year were 1,687 fires affecting 29,000 acres across Canada and 19 of these fires were reported from the Yukon and Northwest Territories where there was no acreage loss.

Last month, an estimated 1,500 acres were damaged by 191 fires across Canada, with no fires occurring in the Yukon and Northwest Territories.

THE REPORT ON CHAMBERLAIN WATERWAY
Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that Canada and the United States recently released the text of a report of the International Joint Commission dated April 7 regarding the improvement of the international Champlain Waterway for commercial navigation. The report was tabled in the House of Commons on July 7 by Mr. Martin.