

(C.W.B. May 17, 1967)

The Government also intends to seek approval for a substantial increase in the external aid programme, as a further step towards the aid target of one per cent of national income.

External aid, trade and the activities of a host of international agencies today bind the peoples of the world more closely together than ever before in human history. There is an international flavour to modern life that was unknown to all but a select few in years past, but which will become commonplace for people generally in the years ahead.

CENTENNIAL ACTIVITIES

All this is dramatically demonstrated by Expo '67, which recently opened in Montreal, and by the Pan-American Games to take place in Winnipeg this summer. These are features of our centennial party, to which the whole world has been invited. Expo provides an extraordinary opportunity to extend hospitality to those who join with us in celebrating the one hundredth anniversary of Confederation. It is attracting visitors to Canada in greater numbers than ever before, and provides us with an unprecedented opportunity to display our achievements to the rest of mankind. Our country will also be receiving an increasing flow of people who will remain with us, to add to the variety and strength of our country. You will be asked to consider a complete revision of our immigration legislation....

DEVELOPMENT AID TO CEYLON

Under an agreement with the Canadian Government, Ceylon has been assured a continued supply of Canadian asbestos fibre for its high-priority building programme.

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced recently that Ceylon would receive an interest-free 50-year development loan of \$500,000 and \$150,000 in grant aid for the purchase of asbestos. This will bring the total of Canadian aid to Ceylon during the fiscal year 1966-67 to \$4,441,000.

Ceylon purchased \$1-million worth of Canadian asbestos with a loan made under the 1965-66 programme; delivery of this order will be completed this spring.

ROYAL VISIT STAMP

Postmaster General Jean-Pierre Côté has announced that a special stamp would be released by the Canada Post Office on June 30 to commemorate the visit in centennial year of Queen Elizabeth.

The stamp will go on sale on the eve of Canada's hundredth birthday, July 1, when the Queen, accompanied by the Duke of Edinburgh, will take part in centennial ceremonies in Ottawa. On July 3, the royal couple will visit Expo '67 in Montreal; later the same day they will sail the St. Lawrence Seaway

aboard the royal yacht *Britannia* for an overnight anchorage near Kingston, Ontario. Later in the month, the Duke will visit Winnipeg to open the Pan-American Games.

The centennial royal visit stamp is of medium size and horizontal in format. To the right, in purple, it features an engraving of the Queen's likeness from a photographic portrait secured by Anthony Buckley of London, England; to the left, also in purple, appears Canada's official symbol and the dates 1867-1967. The rest of the design, including a symbolic branch of laurel leaves framing the royal image, are printed in gold on a lighter gold background.

JAPAN LARGEST WHEAT CUSTOMER

The principal importer of Canadian wheat in January was Japan with 6,600,000 bushels, the Canadian Board of Grain Commissioners reported recently. Communist China was second on the list, with 6,400,000 bushels; Britain third with 5,200,000; and the Soviet Union fourth, with 4,900,000.

The report showed that overseas wheat clearances totalled 27,700,000 bushels - 4,200,000 over the 1966 figures for the same month.

WHOOPEE CONSERVATION PLAN

If enough whooping cranes fly north this year, the Canadian Government will gather some eggs and fly them to an American Government hatchery in an effort to build a breeding flock of the rare birds. Mr. Arthur Laing, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, told a Victoria audience recently that the Canadian Wildlife Service had been waiting for a wet year, when the survival rate of naturally-hatched birds is poor, to make the try. "It now seems that this is the wet year," he said.

NUMBERS DWINDLING

The Minister said that there were now only about 50 whooping cranes left. In 1964, he noted, his Department had made an agreement with the United States Department of the Interior to build up a captive flock for breeding purposes. "It has been discovered," Mr. Laing said, "that, in very wet years, very few of the immature birds survived." As 1967 is expected to be such a year, the Wildlife Service plans to collect up to six eggs from the nests and will fly them, packed in portable incubators and accompanied by a biologist-aviculturist to a specially-prepared propagation station in the U.S.

It is hoped that this breeding flock can be built up to ten captive pairs that will produce at least 100 whoopers a year for release to the wilds. One wild pair does not hatch more than two eggs and of all those that hatch only five reach the wintering ground in Texas.