

CANADIANS AT WHO ASSEMBLY

Canadian delegates were in attendance when the sixteenth assembly of the World Health Organization met in Geneva on May 7. Heading the delegation to the sessions, which run from May 7 to 24, is Dr. B.D.B. Layton, Principal Medical Officer, International Health, for the Department of National Health and Welfare. S.F. Rae, Permanent Representative for Canada at the UN European Office in Geneva, is the alternative head. The third delegate is Dr. Arthur D. Kelly, General Secretary of the Canadian Medical Association.

Following the Assembly, Dr. Layton, as Canadian representative, will attend the thirty-second session of the Board, May 27-29.

BIGGEST BUDGET

The largest budget in WHO history, proposed by the Director-General and recommended by the WHO executive board for its 1964 programme, will be considered by the Assembly. Of the \$33,716,000 total, Canada's share will be \$985,000. Among the global activities planned by the Organization are the continuation of malaria eradication, assistance to newly-independent states and activities conducted jointly with the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other Specialized Agencies.

NEW ESCORT LAUNCHED

HMCS "Yukon", third of Canada's "Mackenzie"-class destroyer escorts, will be commissioned into the Royal Canadian Navy on May 25 at Vancouver, British Columbia. Three other "Mackenzies" are being built in shipyards at Lauzon, Quebec, Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Sorel, Quebec. One of these ships is scheduled to join the fleet in September. The other two will join in 1964.

HMCS "Yukon" will be the first RCN ship to be named after the great northern river. It has an overall length of 366 feet, a beam of 42 feet and a mean draught of 13.5. Its displacement is 2,900 tons (full load).

A SHOWCASE OF PAINTERS

The National Gallery of Canada has released the names of the artists who will be represented in the Fifth Biennial of Canadian Painting scheduled to

open at the Commonwealth Institute, London, in June. The 78 artists are to be represented by 86 works. Eight will be represented by two works apiece. The exhibition, which consists wholly of works in oil and related media executed during the past two years, constitutes an international showcase of current Canadian painting.

A departure from the usual method of choosing the works for the Fifth Biennial was that J. Russell Harper, curator of Canadian art at the National Gallery of Canada, made the preliminary selection by visiting studios from Newfoundland to British Columbia. The artists visited were suggested by an honorary advisory committee set up by the National Gallery. From his selection of 300 works, the final choice of 86 was made by senior members of the Gallery's curatorial staff and members of the Board of Trustees. In previous Biennials, artists were invited to submit, or regional committees made the selections.

The Fifth Biennial will open at the National Gallery late in September where it will be shown for approximately one month before touring art centers across Canada.

FUR FARMS IN 1961

The number of ranch-raised fur-bearing animals pelted in 1961 was 1,285,822, an increase of 5.5 per cent from the preceding year's 1,218,639. By principal species the number pelted in 1961 was as follows: mink, 1,269,050 (1,203,853 in 1960); fox; 1,815 (2,034); chinchilla, 10,975 (9,564); and nutria, 3,896 (3,124).

The number of fur farms in Canada in 1961 declined to 2,173 from 2,331 in the preceding year. Fox farms decreased to 61 from 76, mink to 1,578 from 1,616, chinchilla to 440 from 531 and nutria to 119 from 158. There were 566,190 fur-bearing animals on farms at December 31, 1961, compared to 554,514 at the beginning of the year.

The estimated value of mink, fox and chinchilla pelts produced in 1961 increased to \$18,571,869 from \$17,027,042 in 1960. The volume of production of mink pelts advanced 5.4 per cent, while the value climbed by 9.0 per cent.

Imports of undressed pelts, including Persian Lamb, were valued at \$17,952,801 in 1961, compared to \$18,663,582 in the preceding year. Exports amounted to \$23,948,634 in 1961 versus \$23,160,714 in 1960.