

LOAN TO JAMAICA

A water-distribution scheme and a series of pre-investment and feasibility studies are to be carried out in Jamaica under the terms of two development-loan agreements worth over \$2 million, which were signed recently by the Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. C.M. Drury and Mr. E.A. Seaga, Minister of Finance, Development and Welfare of Jamaica.

WATER SUPPLY

A loan of \$1,200,000 will be used to provide pipes, fittings, pumps, motors and related material for the construction of a water-supply system in the eastern portion of the Parish of St. Mary, in the northeastern part of the island. The scheme will assist in the development of commercial and industrial activity on the main road between Kingston and Ocho Rios, a major tourist centre. Located there are the Parish headquarters of Jamaica's Banana Board and all the staff of the Government's agricultural and social welfare extension.

The project will help increase agricultural output by attracting more farmers, eliminating the time lost carrying water from as far as three miles from homes, and providing water for livestock. At present, about a third of the poultry die during the three-month drought each year.

Health standards will be improved in the area by the reduction of disease from impure water.

FEASIBILITY STUDIES

The pre-investment and feasibility studies loan of \$1 million will be used to finance studies by Canadian individuals and firms mainly in the industrial sector and in fisheries, agriculture and other natural resources development. By providing this assistance, Canada will contribute to the preparation of Jamaica's second Five-Year Development Plan and will help ensure that project proposals submitted for aid financing have been thoroughly studied. The loan is similar to loans already signed with Mexico, Paraguay, Argentina and Peru.

CANADA COUNCIL ARTS GRANTS

Grants worth over \$2 million to 23 Canadian arts organizations were announced recently by the Canada Council.

Orchestras receiving grants are the Montreal Symphony, the Toronto Symphony, Les Jeunesses Musicales du Canada, the Vancouver Symphony, the Winnipeg Symphony, l'Orchestre Symphonique de Québec, the Halifax Symphony, the National Youth Orchestra of Toronto and the Baroque Trio of Montreal.

OPERA, BALLET AND THEATRE

The Vancouver Opera Association, the Edmonton Opera Association and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet are to receive grants, as well as the following theatre companies: Le Théâtre du Nouveau Monde and Le

Théâtre du Rideau Vert, Montreal; the Manitoba Theatre Centre; the Canadian Crest Players Theatre Foundation; the Neptune Theatre, Halifax; the Canadian Theatre Centre, Toronto; Le Théâtre de l'Estoc, Quebec; and the Young People's Theatre of Toronto.

The Dominion Drama Festival will receive a Canada Council grant to help provide professional personnel to work with amateur groups outside Ontario and to permit winners of regional competitions to travel to the Drama Festival finals to be held next spring in Windsor, Ontario. This grant will also provide prizes for new Canadian plays.

The Canadian Conference of the Arts, Toronto, and La Cinémathèque canadienne, Montreal, are also to receive grants.

CAPITAL-SPENDING INCREASE

Trade and Commerce Minister Winters has released a report entitled *Private and Public Investment in Canada - Outlook 1967 - Mid-Year Review*, which contains the results of a recent survey of capital-investment intentions.

Present plans for both private and public investment in Canada in 1967 involve total outlays of \$15,520 million - 4 percent more than the \$14,897 million spent for capital purposes in 1966. Mr. Winters stated that the programme for 1967 also involved a filling-out and strengthening in investment plans since the previous survey made at the beginning of the year, which suggested plans for a capital programme totalling \$15,103 million. Revised investment plans involved he pointed out, capital outlays for construction of \$9,712 million and for machinery of \$5,808 million. These amounts would be 4 per cent and 5 per cent respectively, above those of the previous year.

FUEL AND POWER SECTOR

Business investment as a whole in 1967 is now expected to exceed that of 1966 by \$282 million, or 3 per cent. The most important revisions occurred in the fuel and power sector and, in particular, in those industries engaged in the production, processing and distribution of petroleum and natural gas. The capital programme planned by the fuel and power sector as a whole involves an increase of 19 per cent from outlays made in 1966, and is 8 percent greater than envisaged earlier. In other major areas of business investment, spending intentions have been revised moderately upward.

Also contributing to the strengthening in capital-spending plans are expanded programmes by governments and house-builders. Capital outlays by all levels of government are now expected to exceed those of 1966 by 5 per cent. Outlays for new residential construction are estimated at nearly \$2.3 billion, or 4 percent more than those of last year. The earlier spending plans of institutions have been revised slightly downward but still involve a 15 percent rise from the 1966 level.