

British MPs see telecast of Alberta government in action

A television film of the Alberta Legislature in action was screened in July for an audience of British Members of Parliament.

The film was requested by British MP Cyril Whitehead, of the Parliamentary Services Committee, who urgently requested film or tape extracts of TV coverage of the Alberta Legislature. CFRM-TV supplied the film of the question period, which was transmitted *via* the London office of the Department of Industry and Commerce.

It is believed that the Alberta Legislature is the only parliamentary assembly comparable to the British Parliament that has been televised. The film will help the Parliamentary Services Committee decide whether or not television cameras will be allowed in the British Parliament.

McGill to teach tourism

"The tourist specialist today must understand the fundamental principles of tourism development related to the natural environment, locational aspects, accessibility, economic relationships, social and cultural implications as well as the whole marketing spectrum" — is the rationale behind a new course being offered this autumn by McGill University, Montreal.

The Diploma in Management (Tourism), to be given by the university's Centre for Continuing Education, will provide the means for formally educated people to become qualified to fill managerial positions in the various parts of the rapidly growing tourism industry (travel agencies, tour companies and wholesalers, air, sea, rail and bus carriers, tourist councils, visitors' bureaux as well as federal and provincial government departments). The object is to develop professional managers, educated in the fundamental areas of business management, but oriented towards the travel and tourism related industries.

The Centre believes that the Diploma in Management (Tourism) will appeal to university graduates who have majored in geography, journalism, modern languages, political and social sciences, economics or general arts as it

will allow them to pursue more specific career opportunities.

Candidates for the two-year program, who may register should preferably have had experience in tourism, but aspire to managerial positions; or have reached management positions, but desire a means of formalizing their knowledge and experience to improve their performance; or have attained a level of maturity and specialization in their current endeavours and are now seeking an opportunity of broadening their interests to the field of tourism.

Public finance study under way

Initiation of a Task Force on Public Finance was announced last month by the co-chairman of the national tri-level conference, Ron Basford, Minister of State for Urban Affairs, Everett Wood, Saskatchewan Minister of Municipal Affairs, and Winnipeg Councillor Bernie Wolfe, president of the Canadian Federation of Mayors and Municipalities.

Members of the task force held their first meeting in Ottawa to discuss the program for a fact-finding study which will examine the approaches to public finance of Canada's three levels of government. The study will produce a common set of facts on the financial situation of each level of government, with the aim of creating a comparative data base acceptable to all three levels.

The task force, which was proposed at the national tri-level conference in Edmonton last October, finally won approval at a meeting of the tri-level co-chairmen in Winnipeg on June 3. The task force is composed of 15 members; two representatives of the Federal Government; ten provincial representatives; and three municipal representatives.

Manitoba sells buckwheat to Japan

The Manitoba Minister of Agriculture, Sam Uskiw, recently announced the sale of 1,500 tons of buckwheat, valued at \$500,000, to Japan. Mr. Uskiw said that the provincial government acted as guarantor of the agreement reached between the Japanese Buckwheat Millers' Association and a group of Manitoba buckwheat producers.

The minister noted that this was the first time the provincial government had acted as guarantor of buckwheat-export sales. It was also the first time that Manitoba buckwheat farmers had sold their crop directly to overseas millers. Export sales of buckwheat, he said, were usually carried out by large commercial grain firms.

"Our intent is to bring the grower into closer contact with his buyer and through this closer contact receive a higher price for the grower," said Mr. Uskiw.

The contract is a sample shipment to try out the new contracting system. "We are hopeful that it will be the first of many direct sales between Manitoba's buckwheat farmers and the Japanese millers," he said.

To make the sale possible, about 40 farmers formed the Buckwheat Grower's Co-operative of Manitoba. Each farmer will grow about 100 acres of buckwheat to fill the sale. The contract was negotiated by the marketing branch of the Department of Agriculture acting on behalf of the Manitoba growers.

The initial price to growers is eight cents a pound. Transportation charges from the elevator to Japan are not deducted from the growers' price.

Manitoba grows about 75 per cent of all the buckwheat produced in Canada. The Japanese, who process the buckwheat flour into noodles and other traditional dishes, are the largest single buyers of buckwheat in the world.

Ban on shipboard transport of horses

Following representation by humane societies and investigations by the Ministry of Transport, which indicate that horses cannot be carried in large numbers aboard ship without undue suffering, Canada banned their transportation by ship, effective July 1.

This ban will apply to all horses with the exception of certified pedigree stock and special consignments not exceeding 50 head in number, whose transportation arrangements have been approved by the Ministry of Transport.

No horses will be permitted to be shipped from Canadian ports for any purpose during the late autumn and winter from November 1 to March 31 inclusive because of normally heavy weather conditions at sea in the northern hemisphere.