

## RESEARCH GRANTS TO UNIVERSITIES

Mines and Technical Surveys Minister William Benidickson announced recently that grants amounting to \$35,000 had been awarded to five Canadian universities - McGill, Queen's, Toronto, Western Ontario and Alberta - for graduate research in rock mechanics and mineral processing. Investigations in these fields may lead to more effective mining operations and to improved and cheaper methods of extracting and processing ores and minerals, thus improving Canada's competitive position in world markets.

Rock mechanics is the study of the strength and deformation of rock under pressure and stress; it has a direct bearing on problems associated with mining, mine safety and special engineering projects. The field instruments and techniques developed for these studies may also aid the geologist and the geophysicist.

Grants for rock-mechanics research are made by the Department's Mines Branch on the advice of a newly-formed committee of representatives from universities, industry and the Branch itself. The committee hopes in addition to serve as liaison between other groups in Canada and elsewhere who are interested in this work, and to initiate co-operative research projects.

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## ST. LAWRENCE SEAWAY TRAFFIC

By the end of October, Seaway cargo traffic between Montreal and Lake Ontario had already exceeded the total for the entire navigation season of 1962, and a record year for traffic was assured, the Canadian and United States St. Lawrence Seaway entities announced recently.

October's traffic of 4,100,000 tons brings this year's cumulative total to the end of that month to 25,733,000. Last year's final total, itself a record, was 25,593,000 tons.

## WELLAND CANAL

This year's cumulative total on the Welland Canal to the end of October is 34,192,000 tons, an increase of 12.4 per cent over the comparable period of 1962. This is only 1,200,000 tons short of the 1962 season total for the Welland Canal, with the traffic of a month and a half still to be added. In October, this year, 5,257,000 tons of cargo were carried through this section of the Seaway.

October is the third month this year in which traffic on the Montreal-Lake Ontario section exceeded 1,000,000 tons; June and July were the other peak months. October's figure is 220,000 tons (5.6 per cent) greater than for the same month in 1962.

For the current navigation season, the cumulative total on this section is 17.7 per cent above that for the corresponding period in 1962. Upbound movement increased by 1,994,000 tons (19.7 per cent) and downbound by 1,885,000 tons (16.1 per cent). Bulk cargo, particularly grain and iron ore, accounted for 90.8 per cent of the total.

Traffic on the Welland Canal increased in both directions, both for the month and for the season so far.

## NATIONAL PARKS CONFERENCE

More parks of all kinds are an "essential and urgent need" in Canada, the Federal-Provincial Parks Conference reported at its Ottawa meeting, November 21 and 22. Delegates representing the national and provincial park systems joined in recommending to Canadian governments at all levels the need to establish more parks and further a development of existing parks.

The park officials believe that surveys of potential park areas, whether for national, provincial or regional parks, should be started immediately, either by individual or co-operative effort.

The conference discussed at some length the problems of financing parks. In particular, the collection of uniform fees at federal and provincial parks for camping and similar services was considered.

It was recommended that a central park-information exchange centre should be set up within the National Parks Branch headquarters at Ottawa. The centre would give provincial and federal park administrators access to all available information on park design, planning, construction and other technical and administrative subjects.

## NEW PARK CLASSIFICATION

The conference also agreed to begin classifying the national and provincial parks of Canada in six classes and three types. The new classes are wilderness, historical, prehistoric, man-made and natural areas, unique natural area, natural environment recreation area, specialized outdoor recreation area, and parkway. The areas would be further classified into three types, according to the degree of protection given the land and its resources and the relation between its use for outdoor recreation and other resource uses.

Park agencies will try to classify and inventory existing parks by March 31, 1964, and the federal Parks Branch agreed to assemble the information for national use.

The conference was preceded by three days of technical sessions attended by some 40 park administrators from the federal and provincial park systems. The technical sessions will be held again next year, possibly in late September or early October, at Victoria, British Columbia, with the provincial Department of Conservation and Recreation acting as host. The conference itself will meet in 1965.

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## JAPANESE TOBACCO MISSION

Three officials of the Japan Monopoly Corporation arrived in London, Ontario, on November 18 for a week-long visit of Southern Ontario and the cities of Ottawa and Montreal. The visit was sponsored and organized by the Canadian Department of Trade and Commerce. The visitors were Kyoichi Kariya, Director of the Tobacco Sales Department, Futoshi Hoshiko, Director, Tobacco Manufacturing Division, and Hajime Goto, a Monopoly representative in Raleigh, North Carolina, U.S.A.

The Japan Monopoly Corporation is the Japanese government agency that controls tobacco trade and manufacturing. Japan is itself an important producer

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