

## VETERANS NEW HOSPITAL

Construction of a new 680-bed chronic-care hospital and remodelling of the existing 290-bed mental infirmary at the Department of Veterans Affairs hospital in Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue, Quebec, will produce the largest and most modern institution of its kind in Canada, Mr. Roger Teillet, Veterans Affairs Minister announced at the ceremony formally starting construction on June 6.

The new Ste. Anne Hospital will form a complete chronic-care and psychiatric facility. It is expected that the 13-storey steel and concrete structure will be completed by the winter of 1971. It will consist of a large two-storey base surmounted by an 11-storey tower with four wings. The existing hospital buildings were built as temporary facilities during the First World War and from 1917 to the end of the war, it served as a military hospital for the Montreal district. All the present accommodation, with the exception of the Psychiatric Infirmary will be demolished when the new building has been completed and the area landscaped.

The base unit of the new hospital will contain all support services, while the first floor of the tower section will contain most of the administrative services and the remaining ten floors will contain two 16-bed wards and two 18-bed wards each, for a total of 680 beds. The building has been designed specifically for the care and treatment of chronic and long-term patients, and the architects have incorporated many new features related to the treatment of this type of patient.

The new air-conditioned building will be connected directly to the Mental Infirmary, which was built in 1945 as the need for added bed accommodation for Second World War casualties became apparent.

## AIR MAIL GOLDEN JUBILEE

Two special Post Office cancellation dies (one in English and one in French) are being used to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the first air-mail flight in Canada.

On June 24, 1918, a *Curtis JN-4* biplane piloted by Captain Brian Peck of the Royal Flying Corps, took off from Montreal and, after two stops for refuelling, landed at Leaside, Ontario, six hours and 43 minutes later, carrying a bag of mail containing about 120 envelopes.

In 1958, to commemorate the historic flight, a plaque was unveiled on the lawn of a block of apartments on Eglinton Avenue East in Toronto, the site of the Leaside Aerodrome 40 years earlier.

The mail bag used on the first flight, and an envelope sent by Captain Peck, are on view at the National War Museum in Ottawa. It is not known how many of the envelopes that were carried on that first air-mail flight are still in existence; one was found recently that had lain in a safety deposit box since 1925. It is hoped that more will eventually be discovered.

## N.W.T. ADMINISTRATIVE CHANGES

Mr. Arthur Laing, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, has announced the implementation of the second phase of plans for the development of government in the Northwest Territories.

"By April 1, 1969," the Minister said, "we shall transfer to territorial administration responsibility for such major services as education, welfare, municipal services and the development of local government in the Mackenzie District. One year later, in April of 1970, the transfer of responsibility for such services in the Arctic District will be made." Mr. Laing noted that these services were now being performed by officials of the Northern Administration Branch of his Department.

Mr. Laing also announced approval of the organization and structure of an expanded territorial administration required to assume these responsibilities. A corresponding reduction will be made in the federal staff of the Northern Administration Branch.

The territorial field organization approved by the Minister provides for consolidation of three regions into two and the transfer to Fort Smith of the regional headquarters functions, which were formerly located at Yellowknife. This will reduce to marginal proportions the impact upon Fort Smith, which could have resulted from the choice of Yellowknife as a capital.

## PRIZES AT ENGRAVING SHOW

Two Canadian artists won major prizes in the third American Biennial of Modern Engraving held in Santiago, Chile, this spring. Jerry Santbergen won the Braniff International Prize of \$500 for an untitled screen print on plastic, and Gordon Smith was awarded the Inchalam prize of \$200 for his screen print, *Blue Presence*.

The exhibition, which has been held every two years since 1964, displays the work of print-makers from all North and South American countries. Despite the title of the exhibition, entries are not limited to engravings but include all types of reproductive media from the more traditional etching and engraving techniques to recent photo-lithographic techniques, or embossed plastics.

This year's exhibition, which opened on April 16, has now closed. According to observers, there was more interest and attendance this year than on any of the previous occasions.

## CHILDREN'S MOBILE THEATRE

Special projects for children loom large among the plans of the National Arts Centre. Jean-Marie Beaudet, the Centre's director of music, and Jean-Guy Sabourin, who will form and direct the resident French-language theatre troupe, have said that concerts and plays for children will play an important part in their programmes, and the committee that is planning the programmes and the opening of the