

NATIONAL MUSEUM ENRICHED

Resources Minister Alvin Hamilton has announced the acquisition by the National Museum of Canada of a valuable collection of 800 animal skeletons from the Wistar Institute of Anatomy and Biology, Philadelphia.

Many kinds of animals from North America, Africa, Asia, South America, and the Antipodes are represented in the collection. They range in size from a mouse to a rhinoceros and include such unusual creatures as a three-eyed lizard from New Zealand, a sea cow from the Indian Ocean, a weird tarsier from Borneo, and various sloths and armadillos from Mexico and South America. There are also a large number of bird skeletons and a variety of specimens of rare apes, monkeys, and chimpanzees, alligators and crocodiles, a camel, a lama, a cheetah, and a koala bear.

Dr. L.S. Russell, director of the museum's natural history branch, said the collection is one of the finest of its kind anywhere on the continent. The bones, most of which are not assembled as complete skeletons, will provide valuable references for general studies in biology and aid the identification of fossils

TRANS-CANADA HIGHWAY: The Saskatchewan portion of the Trans-Canada Highway, the first to be completed, has been officially opened.

Completion of the 405.9 mile section is expected to play a major role in increasing the number of visitors to Saskatchewan from the United States and the other Canadian provinces. With the exception of a 50-mile section in Newfoundland motorists can now cross Canada from coast to coast using provincial highway systems, which for the most part follow the Trans-Canada route.

ELDERLY PERSONS HOUSING: Public Works Minister Howard Green has announced a Federal Government loan of \$87,800 for the construction of a 24-unit, low-rental housing project for elderly persons at Vancouver, British Columbia.

The loan, which is being provided under the limited-dividend section of the National Housing Act, will be made to the Vancouver East Lions Society, sponsored by the Vancouver East Lions Club. Repayable over a period of 40 years, the loan will bear interest at the rate of 4-1/4 per cent per annum.

A two-storey apartment building, the project will consist of 12 bachelor and 12 one-bedroom units. The apartments will be provided with range, refrigerator and laundry facilities. Heat, domestic hot-water and janitor service will also be supplied. Rents will range from \$30 per month for a bachelor unit to \$40 for a one-bedroom apartment, with the maximum income of the tenant families set at \$2160 and \$2880 per annum, respectively.

found by museum palaeontologists. The bird skeletons will be valuable for identifying birds and archaeologists will use the collection to identify bones found in excavations. Bones from such animals as camels and crocodiles which once inhabited North America but now are found on other continents will aid in the recording of prehistoric life in Canada.

Dr. Russell said the collection will be integrated with the growing collection of North American mammals that the National Museum is assembling. It was acquired because the Wistar Institute, originally founded in 1892 to carry out anatomical research and biological studies, is now concerned principally with applied human biology and does not need its animal anatomical research material. The Institute was established in honour of Dr. Caspar Wistar, the great Philadelphia anatomist who was the first U.S. Palaeontologist and a president of the American Philosophical Society. Wistaria, the tree that displays pale purple flowers, is named after Dr. Wistar, who died in 1818.

Section 16 of the National Housing Act provides for loans by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation to limited-dividend companies undertaking the construction of low-rental housing projects. The loan may be up to 90 per cent of the lending value of the project and dividends of the company are limited to five per cent or less of the paid up share capital.

TRADE WITH MALAYA: Underlining the importance of Canada's trade ties with the Federation of Malaya and Singapore, the Department of Trade and Commerce publication "Foreign Trade" notes that last year Canada bought over \$28 million worth of goods from Malaya and Singapore (\$22 million worth of rubber, \$2.9 million tin, \$2.7 million palm and palm kernel oil).

In the same year, Canada sold to Malaya and Singapore \$3.9 million worth of goods, with flour of wheat (\$890 thousand), gas engines and parts (\$785 thousand), automobiles (\$652 thousand) and trucks (\$247 thousand) well in the lead.

TO NATO COLLEGE: One officer of the Canadian Army and two Royal Canadian Navy officers are attending the 12th session of the NATO Defence College in Paris.

Col. G.M.C. Sprung, 44, of Ottawa, Military Attache to Sweden and Finland, Cdr. L.B. Jensen, 36, of Calgary and Ottawa, formerly Commanding Officer of HMCS Micmac (destroyer escort), and Lt.-Cdr. (SB) J.W. Scott, 35, of Halifax and Ottawa, who has been Deputy Judge Advocate General (B.C.).