

for the United States.

Before construction begins, a study will be made on possible effects on the environment, and appropriate follow-up public meetings will be held.

This program will provide an improved and safer road from Haines, Alaska, the northern terminus of the Alaska Ferry System, to the Yukon-Alaska border, which will be accessible to United States, as well as to Canadian traffic. The total highway distance involved is 322 miles, with 52 miles of the Haines Road in British Columbia, 65 miles in the Yukon plus 205 miles of the Alaska Highway between Haines Junction and the Alaska-Yukon border.

CMHC scholarship program

Urban Affairs Minister André Ouellet recently announced approval of the Federal Government's scholarship program in housing and related fields for the 1977-78 academic year.

The program, administered by the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, will aid students in their study of the social, physical, economic and management aspects of housing. As much as \$1,185,470 will be provided for up to 125 scholarships to be awarded this year. Arrangements will also include the renewal of current CMHC scholarships.

The graduate scholarships are primarily for study in Canadian universities, although a limited number will be reserved for Canadians who wish to study in universities outside Canada. Applicants must be following a program of studies directly related to housing. Additional scholarships will be awarded to individuals who have a demonstrated commitment to housing in their career plans, and will be following individual programs of study in areas of immediate concern to CMHC.

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Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.

News briefs

■ Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson confirmed on February 18 that the United States State Department sent a note to the Canadian Embassy in Washington which stated that no further action would be taken on the Lonetree reservoir until the International Joint Commission report was released and both governments had an opportunity for consultation.

■ Energy Minister Alastair Gillespie has outlined an \$80-million program to help cut fuel costs for Nova Scotians. The program, which will get \$63 million from the Federal Government and \$17 million from the province, is to provide grants and loans to help homeowners improve insulation.

■ Canada has won its bid to become involved in European space telecommunications, Communications Jeanne Sauve said on February 17, in announcing that the European space agency had agreed to allow Canada to buy some of its research programs on space technology. Full participation in the agency would cost about \$6 million a year. Previously Canada had not paid the agency any money and had only observer status.

■ Jean-Pierre Goyer, Minister of Supply and Services announced the signing on February 18 of an \$87.9-million contract with Diesel Division of General Motors of Canada for 350 armoured vehicles for the Canadian Armed Forces. The vehicles, designed in Switzerland, will be built in Canada under license from Mowag Motor Wagon Fabrique A.G. of Switzerland. Deliveries are expected to begin in September 1978 and continue until April 1981. Of special interest is that the armoured plate used in the construction was developed in Canada and MOWAG will, in future, use Canadian armoured plate in vehicles they produce in Switzerland.

■ Allocations to federal constituencies totalling \$60 million for the first phase of the \$200-million Canada Works Program were announced recently by Manpower and Immigration Minister Bud Cullen.

■ According to the chairman of the board of governors of the Canadian Petroleum Association, the outlook for petroleum exploration in the West is improving.

■ Average weekly wages rose during

October to \$234.27 from \$232.49 a month earlier.

■ Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation recently announced the final figure of 273,203 housing starts in Canada in 1976. The figure surpasses the previous record of 268,529 starts reached in 1973. Earlier, CMHC reported preliminary year-end figures which indicated the number of starts in 1976 would be close to 270,000. All dwelling types, except apartments, experienced record starts in 1976.

■ Finance Minister Donald Macdonald has outlined the priorities of the next federal budget, which he said would be tabled in the Commons "some time between the end of February and the beginning of June." Speaking to provincial finance ministers during a two-day federal-provincial meeting, last month, he said the priorities proposed in choosing measures to stimulate the economy were: to encourage investment; to promote further improvement in the balance-of-payments deficit; to generate downward pressures on prices; to relieve areas and sectors of high unemployment. Mr. Macdonald also stated that the 1977-78 economic situation looked relatively favourable for ending wage and price controls. He cautioned, however, that there were conditions that argued strongly for a gradual phaseout.

■ The University of Alberta's General Faculties Council is calling for students to "demonstrate acceptable competence in English" in an entrance exam as part of the university's admission requirements.

■ Keith Spicer, Commissioner of Official Languages, has called for broader use of French as a language of work in Air Canada and Canadian National Railways. He has just released 176 recommendations — all but 30 of them for Air Canada — on extending the use of French in the two crown corporations.

■ The Council of Maritime Premiers, at the close of a two-day session, affirmed that it was in favour of an early federal-provincial conference to bring the Constitution from Britain. The premiers also agreed in principle to form a Maritime energy corporation, and heard a delegation of heads of universities in the Atlantic provinces plead for a 12.5 percent increase in government grants.