

BUOY-SHIP FOR MACKENZIE RIVER

A shallow-draft buoy vessel, designed to meet the peculiar needs of buoy-tending operations on the Mackenzie River system, was launched on April 15 at Vancouver, the Department of Transport announces. The CMS "Eckaloo" will help to meet the growing task of buoy tending and related duties imposed by increasing navigation on the Mackenzie system. It will operate from the Transport Department Marine Agency at Fort Smith, Northwest Territories.

The vessel, which is 84 feet long, was designed in Montreal by a firm of naval architects, and was planned to cope with the special requirements of the Mackenzie River's currents and shallows. It has a draft, fully loaded, of only four feet and is a twin-screw vessel, which provides the manoeuvrability needed in the waters where it will be in service.

The vessel was constructed to meet the requirements of the Department of Transport Board of Steamship Inspection by Allied Builders Limited, Vancouver, and is the third craft of its type to be built for the department for the Mackenzie River system.

CMS "Eckaloo" is powered with two eight-cylinder Rolls Royce turbo-charge marine engines, each rated at 350 RHP at 1,800 RPM. The twin screws operate in propeller tunnels. Four rudders provide steering control.

The craft is fitted with the most modern navigational devices, including radar, radio telephone, depth sounder, gyro compass and other necessary equipment. A 4,000-pound hydraulic buoy crane is located on the forward deck.

Following its sea trials, the vessel will be transported by rail to Hay River, Alberta, in "knocked down" fashion and will be reassembled there for duties in the Fort Smith agency during the coming navigation season.

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TUNISIAN ENVOY INSTALLED

His Excellency Habib Bourguiba, Junior, presented his Letters of Credence on April 18 as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Tunisia to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House. The Chief of Protocol, Mr. Henry F. Davis, presented the Ambassador to the Governor-General. Mr. G.P. de T. Glazebrook, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Esmond Butler, Secretary to the Governor-General, were in attendance on the Governor-General.

Mr. Bourguiba, born in 1927, is the son of the President of Tunisia. He has served recently as Tunisian Ambassador to France and is at present Ambassador to the United States of America.

TRADE AND INDUSTRY MEET

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce, recently announced that a Trade and Industrial Promotion Conference had been arranged under the joint auspices of the Canadian Manufacturers' Association, the Chamber of Commerce, the Federal Department of Trade and Commerce and the Alberta Provincial Department of Industry and Development.

The conference will be held in Calgary on May 16, and will be divided into two sessions, one on domestic commerce and the other on export trade.

Businessmen and manufacturers in both primary and secondary industries will be invited to meet with senior officials of the Federal Department of Trade and Commerce and the Provincial Department of Industry and Development to discuss the promotion of trade in export and domestic markets. Business organizations will be requested to give consideration to their ability to enter the export field or to expand the value of their sales at home and abroad.

The services available within the Department of Trade and Commerce designed to assist domestic industries to develop and expand will be discussed at this Conference. The discussion of these services will include such topics as assistance to small business, notably guaranteed bank loans for small business enterprises, accelerated capital cost allowances available for assets to produce new products, federal-provincial programmes to assist in industrial expansion, the manufacture of products in Canada under licensing arrangements with foreign manufacturers, the importance of industrial design as a factor in the competitiveness of Canadian products, industrial standards, and the objectives and programmes of the National Productivity Council.

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WHEAT FOR INDONESIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, announced on April 19 that agreement had been reached with the Government of Indonesia for the provision of \$350,000-worth of Canadian wheat flour under Canada's Colombo Plan programme. The Government of Indonesia has undertaken to set aside funds in Indonesian currency in an amount equivalent to the grant, to be used in Indonesia for economic development purposes to be agreed between the two governments.

The present grant raises to \$1,200,000 the value of Canadian foodstuffs that have been made available to Indonesia during the past three years under the Canadian Colombo Plan programme.