

Ocean canyon named for hydrographer

Clifford Smith Canyon, a new name that will appear soon on Canadian charts of the Atlantic coastal area marking an irregular-shaped depression on the ocean floor on the eastern edge of Grand Bank, Newfoundland, honours distinguished Canadian hydrographer F. Clifford Smith, retired head of the Canadian Hydrographic Service. (The Canadian Hydrographic Service is now part of the Fisheries and Marine Service, Department of Fisheries and Environment.)

The canyon, about 2,500 metres in depth at its deepest point and 45 kilometres long, is approximately 380 kilometres southeast of Cape Race, Newfoundland. It is situated between two other oceanographic features that commemorate Canadians – Lilly Canyon and Kettle Canyon.*

Mr. Smith, now 84, joined the Canadian Hydrographic Service (then known as the Hydrographic Survey) in 1914 after completing an engineering course at Acadia University, Nova Scotia. During the First World War he worked with the hydrographic department of the British Admiralty where he was engaged in charting operations and surveying minefields.

On his return to Canada in 1919 he became involved in intensive surveying of coastal and inland waters, ranging from the Gulf of St. Lawrence to the Pacific Coast, and including Hamilton Inlet, Churchill, Great Slave Lake, the Saguenay, Hudson Bay and Hudson Strait. He compiled the first and second editions of *Sailing Directions* for the Hudson Bay route, published in 1932 and 1940. He was superintendent of charts from 1938 until he became Dominion Hydrographer in 1952.

Among the major projects Smith initiated as Dominion Hydrographer were surveys of the shoal-ridden waters of Newfoundland and the construction of the Dartmouth-based *CSS Baffin*, which was launched in 1957, the year of his retirement.

* Lilly Canyon was named for the late Hugh Dalrymple Lilly, of St. John's, Newfoundland, a Memorial University geology professor whose aqualung descent to the Virgin Rocks in 1964 earned him the distinction of being the first man to stand on the Grand Banks; Kettle Canyon was named for the late Captain W.N. Kettle, a Newfoundlander who served as master of the Canadian research/survey vessels *Acadia*, *Baffin* and *Hudson*.

Passport business booming



Since the Passport Office of the Department of External Affairs began its decentralization program six years ago, six regional offices have been opened across Canada. The first three were in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver in 1970 and following success of the initial program, three others were established in Edmonton, Winnipeg and Halifax. From a modest 100,000 passports issued in 1970, regional offices are expected to produce some 300,000 this year – about 50 per cent of the total. The regional offices, which have been

extremely well received by the public, are all centrally located and were purposely situated close to travel offices. A 72-hour service is provided by staff which assists applicants in the requirements of the regulations and advises on complex cases. An emergency service is also available in each of the areas.

The Director of the Passport Office and his advisers meet annually in Ottawa with Regional Directors of Passport Office across Canada (above) to review the past year's operations and plan for the coming year's business.

More money plea for Palestine refugees

Speaking on behalf of Canada in the UN Special Political Committee on the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) Robert Stanbury called for UN members to be more generous in their support of UNRWA. He said that the work of UNRWA, which was basically humanitarian, was therefore the responsibility of the whole international community. Pledging continued Canadian support he called on countries that support UNRWA to increase their contributions and at the same time urged those not supporting UNRWA at present to do so.

Noting UNRWA had existed for 27 years, Mr. Stanbury said the Canadian Government believed UNRWA continued to be necessary because the problem for which it was established had not been resolved. Mr. Stanbury called for the parties concerned in the Middle

East to abandon extreme positions and to examine all reasonable solutions in their search for a settlement. He also linked the resolution of the Palestinian-refugee issue to an eventual peaceful settlement of the Middle East conflict.

The Canadian delegate expressed concern about the continuing financial problems facing UNRWA reiterating the need for an adequate solution to UNRWA's financing during the current session of the General Assembly. He noted also Canada's deep concern with the disruptive effects of the Lebanese civil war on UNRWA's operations and discussed briefly the destruction of shelters in Israeli occupied territory.

In outlining the essential services provided by UNRWA to the Palestinian refugees, Mr. Stanbury emphasized that the international community must ensure that the Agency could continue to provide them.