

## CANADA-VENEZUELA VISA PACT

Negotiations between the Venezuelan and Canadian Governments for an agreement modifying the requirements for entry into the two countries were concluded with Dr. Ignacio Luis Arcaya, Foreign Minister of Venezuela, during his recent visit to Ottawa. The agreement, which is in the form of an exchange of notes, comes into force on November 1, 1959. Dr. Arcaya signed a note dated October 5, 1959, on behalf of his Government, and the Prime Minister, in his capacity as acting Secretary of State for External Affairs, signed a note on behalf of the Canadian Government dated October 8, 1959. The formal exchange of notes took place in Ottawa on October 20.

Under the terms of the agreement, Canadian citizens intending to visit Venezuela will be granted multi-entry visas valid for one year at a fee of 10 bolivars (\$2.85) which is one-half the normal fee of 20 bolivars. Canadian citizens proceeding to Venezuela as tourists for a period of up to six months will be granted tourist cards, free of charge. Venezuelan citizens intending to visit Canada will be granted gratis multi-entry visas valid for one year. However, those Venezuelan citizens who do not now require visas, will continue to be admissible without visas. Entry to either country remains subject to the laws and regulations of the country concerned.

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## CANADA'S NEW RADIO TELESCOPE

Astronomers of the Dominion Observatories will soon be able to study aspects of matter in outer space which have hitherto been beyond the scope of their optical telescopes.

The Federal radio-astronomy station at Penticton, British Columbia, under construction since February, is taking definite shape and will soon be obtaining greater knowledge of the distribution of neutral hydrogen (which forms the bulk of matter in outer space) among our own and neighboring galaxies.

Construction of the new radio telescope is expected to be completed by the end of the year. The 84-foot-diameter, parabolic, dish-shaped antenna has been hoisted into place on top of a 50-foot supporting tower. Two giant cranes swung the massive, circular mass of structural aluminum alloy to the position where it will sweep the sky, day and night, tracking down and studying radio signals from outer space.

The great advantage of radio astronomy is its ability to pierce the vast dust clouds that obscure huge portions of space from the gaze of conventional telescopes, and the magnified increase it offers in effective range of study over that of optical astronomy. It is also capable of receiving signals during the hours of daylight and through overcast weather conditions.

Just north of the Penticton telescope is the office and control building from which the antenna will be operated. Other buildings which will form part of the radio-astronomy station are a workshop, caretaker's house and a seismographic vault which will be built into the bedrock of a nearby hillock. The station will be served by a new gravel road branching from the public road between nearby White Lake and Kaleden.

The site was chosen primarily for the surrounding hills that shelter the station from other man-made radio waves that would interfere with its operation. Other deciding factors were the site's light snowfall, infrequent storms, and its proximity to the conveniences of a suitable city.

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## SIX MILLION PLUS IN ONTARIO

Prime Minister Leslie M. Frost announces that Ontario has passed a major milestone in its history--it now has over six million people. Just six years ago the province's population was five million, and 14 years ago it was four million. The six million mark has been reached as a result of an average annual growth of 167,000 in the past six years, and of 125,000 in the preceding eight years. From 1953 to 1959, the population increased at the spectacular annual average rate of 3.2 per cent--one of the world's highest.

Ontario's rate of population growth has been more rapid than that for Canada as a whole. While Ontario's population has been increasing at 3.2 per cent per annum during the past six years, the rate for the rest of Canada has been 2.5 per cent. The province has accounted for 1,000,000 of the net growth of 2,600,000 in Canada since 1953, and 2,000,000 of the 5,200,000 net Canadian growth since 1945.

Births have been the major source of Ontario's population increase. Since 1945 more than one and three-quarter million babies have been born in the province. In the first six months of 1959, Ontario's births were at a rate of 27 per 1,000 of population--the highest in the province's history. It is anticipated that the number of births in 1959 will approximate 160,000 or 7,000 more than last year.

While Ontario's birth rate has been rising, its death rate has been declining. Since 1949 Ontario's rate of deaths per thousand population has dropped from 10.0 to 8.4.

The other major source of Ontario's population increase has been immigration. In the last 14 years over one million immigrants have come to Ontario from outside our Canadian boundaries. Ontario has also enjoyed a net migration of 10,000 annually from other provinces.