

Canada, are but one of the ways in which Parks Canada commemorates our country's history. We have a system of 52 national historic parks spread across Canada and there are two fine examples right here in Quebec City. I'm speaking of Artillery Park and Cartier-Brébeuf Park. Together, these two national historic parks were visited by almost 80,000 people this year and the public interest is growing every year...."

Mr. Marchand stated that only the universities of Lima, Mexico and Harvard were older than Laval, the origins of which, he said, dated from 1663. That year Monseigneur François de Laval, first bishop of New France, founded the Seminary of Quebec, which received a royal charter in 1852 giving it the status of a university. With the acquisition of an area of over 400 acres in 1948 on the borders of three cities — Quebec, Sillery and Ste. Foy — a new phase of expansion began for the university which today is attended by over 19,000 full-time students.

Bikeway design contest

A competition on the design of bicycle routes, the "Canadian Urban Bikeway Design Contest", which is part of a research project headed by the forestry faculty of the University of Toronto and a group called the Ontario Bikeway Coalition, is nearing completion, with the receipt of more than 60 entries from individuals, citizens' groups, professional urban-planners, municipalities and provinces.

The Ministry of State for Urban Affairs has contributed \$26,000 to the project for the preparation of a "Canadian Bicycle Facilities Planning Compendium". The compendium will include entries from the competition with evaluations, case studies of

bicycle-path networks in Toronto, Ottawa, Edmonton and Vancouver and a bikeway-design manual recommending ways and means to plan bikeways in urban areas. The compendium, to be submitted to the Ministry of State for Urban Affairs, will identify problems in planning and implementation and will suggest approaches to urban bikeways.

Cycling on the increase

One of the major observations by the researchers is that large urban areas have begun to consider bicycling as a means of transportation with significant potential. According to the researchers, this is due largely to the efforts of many environment-conscious groups and others in their participation in the early stages of bikeway planning. Despite the increasing consideration given by urban planners to bicycling facilities, the researchers noted a lack of data regarding street bicycling facilities compared to those on recreational lands. The lack of data, they said, discouraged municipalities and provinces from making financial commitments to the implementation of bicycle routes. The compendium will contain material that will help make up for the lack of information.

In consultation with groups involved in the promotion of bicycling, the researchers hope to provide governments with suggested ways of responding to the increasing number of bicycle users in the most economical way.

Consumer price movements

The consumer price index (CPI) for Canada (1971=100) advanced 0.9 per cent to 142.8 in October from 141.5 in September with higher charges for housing accounting for half of the increase. The food index rose 0.4 per cent, while the index for all items excluding food moved up 1.1 per cent. In the 12 months from October 1974 to October 1975, the total CPI increased 10.6 per cent.

Higher beef prices and, to a lesser extent, those for pork, were major contributing factors to the 0.4 per cent rise in the food index. Increases in the price of fresh vegetables, coffee, canned salmon and restaurant meals also contributed to this advance.

Seasonally lower quotations for fresh fruit partly offset these rises, as did lower prices for sugar. Fats and oils products, including margarine, declined in price for the sixth consecutive month.

Higher home-ownership charges, largely owing to an average rise of over 13 per cent in annual residential property taxes, were mainly responsible for the 1.1 per cent increase in the index for all items excluding food. Other notable contributors to this advance included increased local transit fares in Montreal, higher water rates in several municipalities and increased charges for dental care. The price of alcoholic beverages for home consumption was also higher in a number of provinces.

In terms of goods and services, the price level of goods was up 0.3 per cent while that for services increased 2.0 per cent. On a seasonally-adjusted basis, the all-items CPI advanced 1.1 per cent from September to October. This comprised a 1.4 per cent increase in the food index, substantially higher than its 0.4 per cent rise on the unadjusted basis, and a 1.0 per cent advance for all items excluding food.

In October, the current annual rate of change in the CPI based on the seasonally-adjusted movement since three months earlier, was 10.7 per cent, which was slightly higher than the September percentage.

Strike pay for postal workers

The Canadian Union of Postal Workers announced on November 17 that it would give its 22,000 members strike pay of \$40 a week beginning November 21, the thirty-second day of the work stoppage. Although there have been other strikes since the union was formed in 1968 (1968, 1970 and 1974), this is the first time members have received strike pay.

The Commons held an emergency debate, November 16, but is reluctant to legislate employees back to work. On November 17, an estimated 1,500 postal workers had returned to the job at 115 post offices — mainly in small centres.

The union is seeking \$2.73 an hour increase over 27 months. The Government has offered \$1.70 an hour more over 30 months. The top rate at present is \$4.59.

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