

including literature, services, research and consultation, as well as training programmes, survey-research and special projects. The Institute will be located at York University, Toronto.

### VISIT OF IMCO OFFICIAL

The Secretary-General of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization, Colin Goad, visited Ottawa recently to discuss the current review of the work of this United Nations Specialized Agency. During his visit he was entertained by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at a lunch, where he met senior public servants concerned with maritime and UN affairs, including Mr. J.W. Pickersgill, President of the Canadian Transport Commission.

The 70 member states of IMCO, which is dedicated to the safety and facilitation of international shipping, own and operate more than 90 per cent of the world's ocean-going tonnage.

Mr. Goad, whose headquarters are in London, was in North America also to confer with U Thant, Secretary-General of the United Nations, and to visit government officials in Washington.

According to Mr. Goad, Canada is making exceptional contributions to IMCO through its provision of professional expertise and wise counsel. Canadian representation is provided largely by the federal Department of Transport, which has permanent representation under the guidance of G.W. Stead, Assistant Deputy Minister of Marine Services. Mr. Stead is heading a study group to prepare guide-lines for developing further services to member states and to recommend organizational changes for increased efficiency.

The main operating agreement of the organization is the Safety of Life at Sea Convention, which sets internationally-accepted standards which are administered through national laws. Other agreements include the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution of the Sea by Oil, the Convention on the Facilitation of International Maritime Traffic and the International Convention of Load Lines.

### SERVICE TO ISOLATED SCHOOLS

The Northland School Division of the Alberta Department of Education was formed in 1961 to serve the educational needs of the Indian and Métis population of northern Alberta. The Division, which was established by order of the Minister of the Alberta Department of Education, now comprises some 35 schools too isolated to be included in other divisions which serve student bodies very different from those of other schools.

Schools in the Northland School Division lie roughly within the area bounded by the Athabasca and Peace Rivers, the Mackenzie Highway and Lesser Slave Lake. However, one is within 50 miles of Jasper Park, another is within 50 miles of the North-

west Territories and two are within 15 miles of the Saskatchewan border. To visit each school by air in one continuous flight and by the shortest possible route, a plane would have to fly 1,900 miles.

### FORESTRY COURSE AVAILABLE

Operating within the framework of the Northland Division are junior high schools, senior high schools and a vocational-technical school, which offers special training at Grouard. A highlight of the vocational programme at Grouard is a three-year forestry course offering students basic instruction in logging and sawmill operations.

The Division pays tuition and boarding allowances for students to attend other schools should appropriate courses not be available in Divisional schools.

At Fort McMurray, Northland operates two large schools with a total enrolment of 900 students. The academic programme established in this fast-developing community includes Grades 1 to 12. In this town is the Division's only high school offering a senior matriculation programme for students. In 1962, Northland employed four teachers in Fort McMurray. Now, with increasing population requiring construction of new school facilities, the Division employs 38 teachers.

The establishment of the Northland School Division by the Alberta Department of Education has done much to improve the standard of educational services available in the isolated areas of northern Alberta. A fleet of modern school buses bring pupils from home to school, which has greatly improved attendance. At present, there are some 3,200 pupils attending larger and better equipped schools and the Grouard Vocational School continues to expand its programme of pre-employment vocational courses.

### NATIONAL FORCES BAND

A Canadian naval officer was recently appointed director of music for the newly-created national band of the Canadian Armed Forces.

Lieutenant-Commander William J. Gordon assumed direction of the band this autumn just before its first overseas tour, during which it performed at Canadian military bases and took part in the NATO music festival.

During his career Lieutenant-Commander Gordon has been chief instructor at the Canadian Forces School of Music, Esquimalt, British Columbia, director of music Naden Band, Esquimalt, staff officer (bands) Naval Divisions, Hamilton, Ontario, director of music HMCS Stradacona Band, Halifax, and later, assistant supervisor of music for the Canadian Armed Forces in Ottawa.

Although the national band of the Canadian Armed Forces has performed overseas and at a few functions in Ottawa, the 90 musicians are preparing at Canadian Forces Base Rockliffe for their first official public appearance in Canada tentatively scheduled for Ottawa this month.