

FEAR WHOOPERS NOT NESTING

The trumpet-like call of the whooping crane, sometimes heard over great distances before the high-flying big white birds can be seen, may become even rarer. "For the second year in a row" reports Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing, "the whoopers are apparently not nesting, and the number of wild birds has decreased from 38 to 28 in just over a year. We are hoping that this abrupt decrease is not the beginning of the end for the wild population of these beautiful birds."

A Canadian Wildlife Service aerial survey on June 27 of the nesting grounds in Wood Buffalo Park, some 500 miles north of Edmonton, revealed only one single bird and two pair, with no evidence of nesting.

Six whoopers are captive in the Audubon Park Zoo in New Orleans, and one lives in the San Antonio (Texas) Zoo.

In the spring of 1962, 38 birds left their wintering grounds in the Aransas Refuge in Texas for the 2,500-mile flight north. They did not nest and only 32 completed the southward migration in the autumn. Only 28 whoopers were sighted on the Aransas Refuge by United States wildlife officials in March 1963, just before the birds migrated north.

HAZARDS TO SURVIVAL

Though whooping cranes are protected by law in Canada and the United States, they are in real danger on their long flights. There are natural hazards, such as bad weather; but of most concern is the possibility that the very low population might be further reduced by accidental shooting by waterfowl hunters. Sportsmen's organizations and other citizens' groups have been of great assistance in protecting the birds, but now, wildlife officials caution, even greater vigilance is called for.

Whooping cranes stand five feet tall. They are snowy white with red-crowned heads, and their black-tipped wings spread seven feet in flight.

FIRST CIA FELLOWSHIP

The Canadian Institute of International Affairs has announced the grant of its first research fellowship to Mr. Christopher Dagg of Vancouver, British Columbia. Mr. Dagg will spend the coming academic year in Ottawa on a study of the Canadian participation in the International Control Commissions in Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, the result of which will form part of a volume, sponsored by the CIA and edited by Professor Alastair Taylor of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, entitled *The Canadian Experience in Truce Control*. This project is one of those made possible by a recent grant of \$40,000 a year from the Ford Foundation to the CIA for research and policy studies of contemporary international issues. The purpose is not only to record the unique Canadian experience in peace-keeping operations in Indochina, the Middle East, the Congo, etc., but also to analyze the lessons of this experience for the benefit of the international community.

It is intended to grant a CIA Research fellowship from time to time for work on studies in the programme under the Ford Foundation grant. The amount of the award to Mr. Dagg is \$2,500.

Mr. Dagg, who was born in Vancouver in 1940, attended schools in Montreal, Port Credit, and Vancouver and was President of the Students' Council of the University of British Columbia before graduating with first-class honours in political science in 1962. In that year he received a Canada Council scholarship with which he pursued post-graduate studies in international politics and international organization and administration at Queen's University.

MARITIME FORESTRY PACT

Forestry Minister John R. Nicholson has announced the renewal of a special forestry agreement with the Province of Nova Scotia providing for the employment of Cape Breton Island miners displaced by the closing of coal mines. The federal contribution for the present fiscal year has been set at \$210,000.

Some 75 or more miners are expected to be employed this year in forest stand-improvement projects under the agreement. The work will be directed by the Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forests, but the workmen will be hired through the National Employment Service.

"The federal Department of Forestry believes this cost-sharing programme with the province of Nova Scotia has highly beneficial effects by improving forest stands in that province, while at the same time providing much needed employment and woods training for a group of former miners", Mr. Nicholson said.

PROJECTS

The proposed work includes: the removal and disposal of dead and damaged trees to improve tree growth and stand quality; the clearing and disposal of brush, slash and debris from roadsides to reduce the fire hazard; the cleaning of forest stands by disposing of undesirable and non-merchantable species; thinning and pruning operations to increase tree growth and quality; the clearing and cleaning of streams in forested areas for the conservation of water; and operations necessary to control forest insects, diseases and rodents.

Under the agreement, the Federal Government undertakes to pay 80 per cent of the miners' salaries and wages, and 50 per cent of all other expenses in respect of the stand improvement projects, up to a total of \$210,000. The remaining costs are assumed by the Province of Nova Scotia.

MANUFACTURERS SHIPMENTS, ETC.

Manufacturers shipments in April were valued at an estimated \$2,320.5 million, up 2.3 per cent from the revised estimate of \$2,268.3 million for March and up 8.4 per cent from last year's April value of

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