

SKILLED GARDENERS SCHOOL

One of Canada's most unique schools is located just outside Niagara Falls, along the scenic Niagara Parkway. Since 1936 when it was conceived, the Niagara Parks School of Gardening, has graduated over 100 students who today hold a variety of important jobs. The school is administered by Ontario's Niagara Parks Commission offering a three-year course in practical gardening and general horticulture. The school provides its students with a well-rounded education which is gained fifty per cent of the time in the classroom and the other half of the time on the 75-acre school grounds, and throughout the Niagara Parks which stretch 35 miles along the Niagara River from Fort Erie to Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Students not only receive an education which fits them well for a wide range of jobs, but they are also paid a nominal weekly wage. Freshmen receive \$12.80 per week, sophomores get \$13.80 a week and senior students receive \$14.80 a week. The original aim in establishing the school was to provide skilled gardeners to carry out the exacting work of maintaining the more than 3,000 acres administered by the Niagara Parks Commission. However, there is not the same shortage of skilled gardeners for the Parks System today, and although some of the School's graduates are retained by the Commission, the majority have taken other jobs and are located across Canada and also in the United States. Several graduates are employed as parks superintendents in many of the larger cities. Others are serving as arborists in some of the larger centres. One graduate is a horticulturalist at one of the larger American universities and another is grounds superintendent at Queen's University in Kingston. Some are employed by leading florists' shops across the country. Another graduate is a flower propagator at the famous Royal Botanical Gardens in Hamilton. Still another graduate is superintendent of horticulture for the Niagara Parks Commission and today is responsible for co-ordinating the activities of the School from which he graduated.

The academic courses taught at the School of Gardening include a comprehensive study of such subjects as botany, floriculture, fruit and vegetable gardening, landscape art, arboriculture (the study of native and exotic trees and shrubs), plant pathology, soils and manures, and horticulture. Throughout the history of the school, the curriculum has been constantly revised and elaborated on to fill the increasing needs of its graduates. An innovation at the school this year has been a course in tree work and care.

Besides the expert training they receive in the practical and academic aspects of gardening and horticulture, students of the School of Gardening are required to take mathematics and English, including public speaking.

As residents on the beautiful 75-acre school site, students take great pride in maintaining the acres of flower beds, which as one of the highlights of the entire Niagara Parks System, annually attract thousands of people. A particular pride of the students is an elaborate arboretum in which they attempt to grow seeds, shrubs and trees obtained from all over the world. Each is labelled and proves of great interest to the public. Largely self-sufficient, the students grow their own vegetables and fruit and raise chickens and ducks.

JET-AGE "AEROQUAY" SYSTEM

A subway system of passenger access from the terminal building to "island" gate positions, each capable of handling traffic to and from four aircraft at the same time, is being incorporated into construction of the new Department of Transport Air Terminal at Montreal's Dorval Airport, it is announced by Mr. George Hees, Minister of Transport.

The use of the "island" or aeroquay system was decided upon after careful further study of the needs of jet-age aircraft and consultation with T.C.A. It will enable jet powered transports to land and disembark passengers more speedily than at conventional airport establishments, where movement of such planes is restricted when close to buildings because of the blast from the motors.

WILL SPEED SERVICE

There will be four aeroquays at the new Dorval terminal, set out at a distance from the main building. Passengers will reach them via underground passages and then will have to walk only a few steps to board their planes. The loading and unloading process will be much faster than at existing airports and the "turn-around" time of each aircraft reduced accordingly.

The new system is endorsed by airlines, whose aircraft are becoming ever larger and faster. It will provide benefits for the public using the terminal building, since the noise of aircraft motors will be at a distance from the waiting rooms. In addition, the aeroquay plan will permit level and enclosed access for the passenger to the aircraft in the not too distant future when the airlines use covered loading bridges, connected to the building, to eliminate the steps at the aircraft.

EASIER MAINTENANCE

The new system will mean greatly simplified "housekeeping" problems for the Department of Transport in matters such as snow removal and installation of underground services for gasoline, jet fuel, de-mineralized water for jet engines, electrical power and other services. It will also mean that variations in the wing-