

ARCTIC ISLANDS - NORTH OF 70°

The extra time and cost involved in Arctic exploration and development are recognized by other new provisions that apply to the far north. These are:

The maximum life of exploration permits have been extended from nine to twelve years.

The first three-year permit term has been doubled with no increase in deposit. For the first three-year term of a six-year permit deposits remain at 5 cents an acre, rising to 25 cents an acre for the second three years. For each renewal of a six-year permit deposits start at 30 cents an acre; rise to 40 cents for the second renewal; 50 cents for each added renewal to a limit of six. Exploration expenditures of \$3.00 an acre will be required over a twelve-year period.

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VETERAN SHIPS RETIRED

Five old ships of the Transport Department's Canadian Marine Service have been declared surplus and will be disposed of by Crown Assets Disposal Corporation.

Ranging in ages from the 33-year-old "Alberni" to the 58-year-old "Lady Laurier," these ships, with the exception of one, have been replaced by new and modern craft, as part of the Department's fleet modernization and expansion programme to meet increasing requirements of shipping in Canadian waters.

The "Alberni" was retired in the course of general expansion and reorganization of the West Coast fleet. New ships added to the West Coast this year include the CMS "Camsell" and the CMS "Simon Fraser."

On the East Coast the CMS "Sir William Alexander" replaces the "Lady Laurier". The other retired ships are the "Argenteuil" (Sorel, P.Q.), replaced by CMS "Verendrye"; the "St. Heliers" (Parry Sound, Ont.), by CMS "Alexander Henry"; and the "Bernier" (Halifax), whose duties are at present being performed by the CMS "Brant". The "Brant" was transferred from Charlottetown when the new CMS "Tupper" went into operation from that base.

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CANADIAN ROOM FOR WMO

A bit of Canada will be embodied in the first home of the World Meteorological Organization, being built in Geneva, Switzerland. Canada, a member of the WMO, chose as her contribution the furnishing of the President's office.

The President's desk, a three-door cabinet, a telephone stand, end-tables and a coffee table are of oiled Canadian walnut. A carving in Canadian butternut, closely following the meteorological symbolism on the postage stamp issued by the Swiss Government and the WMO,

is mounted on the front of the desk. The meteorological motifs mounted on the doors of the cabinet are also carved in butternut.

Highlight of the gift is the wooden paneling behind the President's desk. Again of butternut, sixteen feet by more than eight feet, it is hand-carved to show in relief North America and parts of other continents, significant of the universal character of the WMO. Motifs characteristic of the areas shown have been carved across the face of the map.

The four chairs and settee are upholstered in top-grain cowhide dyed a soft rust. They are an exact replica of the chairs used by Queen Elizabeth and Vice-President Nixon when they opened the St. Lawrence power plant at Comwall, Ontario, last year. Drapes of Canadian design and weave, in tones of egg-shell and beige to deep tan, are a Canadian design award winner.

A Georgian Bay scene by the well-known Canadian artist, A. J. Casson, a former President of the Royal Canadian Academy of Arts, will hang on the wall and three table lamps of turned Canadian wood are painted silver grey to match the frame of the picture.

Both Dr. Andrew Thomson, who retired last year as Director of Canada's Meteorological Services, and his successor, P. D. McTaggart-Cowan, took a very personal and active interest in the designing and manufacturing of this distinctive Canadian gift to the WMO.

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RCAF OVERSEAS DONATES BLOOD

An urgent appeal for blood from the Moselle Blood Transfusion Centre was enthusiastically supported recently by officers, airmen, airwomen, and Canadian and French civilians of the Air Division Headquarters, Metz, France.

Starting early in the morning and continuing through the next hour, a steady procession of volunteer donors filed into RCAF recreation centre, where the Moselle Service of the French Red Cross had installed a modern blood-donor clinic.

Dr. Bernard Noel, Director of the Moselle Transfusion Centre, and his staff arrived at Division Headquarters with nearly 60 pint bottles they hoped to fill; by 11 a.m., they had to send for more, as prospective donors outnumbered their supply.

In all, 128 donations were received, 78 of which were given by RCAF personnel with the balance being donated by French and Canadian civilian employees and one New Zealander.

Dr. Noel said the Canadian blood will be stored by the French Red Cross and sent out to hospitals in the area as the need arises. Usually the blood is kept for a period of 21 days after which it is turned into blood plasma. "However", Dr. Noel added, "we don't often turn the blood into plasma because at the end of the 21-day period there is usually none left as the demand for whole blood always is very high".