FEDERAL FUNDS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK AND NEWFOUNDLAND

Regional Economic Expansion Minister Jean Marchand has announced the signing of economic-development agreements with the governments of New Brunswick and Newfoundland, which provide for "100 percent federal financing of a wide range of infrastructure projects" which the two provinces cannot afford to carry out themselves. These include water and sewer systems, industrial parks, the servicing of residential land, schools and roads. Federal grants will also be provided for "the construction of important sections of provincial highways".

In his statement to the House of Commons, Mr. Marchand said:

In the case of Newfoundland, the federal funds committed for the current fiscal year are \$41.2 million, of which \$31 million is in grants and \$10.2 million in loans. The projects covered by the agreements are all to be started this year, but much of the work will be continuing next year. The ceiling for total federal expenditures on the projects is \$82 million.

In the case of New Brunswick, the funds committed for the present fiscal year total \$32.5 million, of which \$22.7 million is in grants and \$9.8 million

in loans. The ceiling for federal expenditures to complete the projects is \$62 million.

I should point out that these are not my Department's only expenditures in the two provinces. In both provinces there is the ARDA program, and in Newfoundland there is also our assistance to the resettlement program. Our industrial incentives are available in both provinces but are at present more heavily utilized in New Brunswick than in Newfoundland. Also, we have in New Brunswick the two FRED plans. Thus the totals of my Department's expenditures in the two provinces in the fiscal year will be very similar.

It should be said that these agreements are very different from, say, ARDA or FRED agreements. They are not concerned just with the principles of programs, leaving projects to be worked out later. The agreements themselves list the projects in some detail, so that work can be undertaken promptly....

It can be said that never before has federal development assistance been provided on such a scale. I believe it will make an important contribution to the improvement of employment and earnings opportunities and to the lessening of regional inequalities in Canada.

HILL CEREMONIES TAKE SHAPE

The Changing of the Guard ceremonies held annually in Ottawa will begin this year on June 29 and will continue daily to Labour Day, September 7.

No regular soldiers will take part in the ceremonies this summer, all 120 guardsmen being drawn from two military units — the Governor-General's Foot Guards and the Grenadier Guards.

Last summer for the first time, reserve soldiers, mainly university students specially recruited for duty on Parliament Hill, successfully supplemented regulars. About two-thirds of the guard was militia.

The regulars were from the 2nd battalion of the Canadian Guards which, in July, will become the 3rd battalion of the Royal Canadian Regiment. The reserves will take over the entire public duty themselves, assisted by a small training staff of regular force soldiers.

Both the Governor-General's Foot Guards and the Grenadier Guards have recruited a full complement of reservists, including backup — about 90 for each unit. Again, most are university students, but this year there will be no high-school students. The majority of last year's university students will again be on duty.

The reserve soldiers started a month's training at Canadian Forces Base Petawawa on May 19. On June 15 they will move to CFB Uplands to concentrate on practice for the Parliament Hill ceremony with the National Band of the Canadian Armed Forces.

TIME FOR A CHANGE

A radio announcement familiar to most Canadians has a new format.

"The Dominion Observatory official timesignal" — first broadcast in 1923 — has become "The National Research Council official timesignal." This 1 p.m. EST official time signal — broadcast daily by the English and French networks of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation is used to set timepieces in tens of thousands of Canadian homes and is used widely in business and industry.

The change took place with the merger recently of the Time Service of Canada of the Astronomy Division of the Dominion Observatory with NRC. Canada's time service now is the responsibility of the new Time and Frequency Section of NRC's Division of Physics.

The merger was also accompanied by the consolidation under NRC of federal research in astronomy.

The Time and Frequency Section now houses and maintains all Canada's time and frequency standards. The section is responsible for the operation of three short-wave transmitters which broadcast Canada's official time signal to all parts of the world. The stations make an English and French voice announcement of the time every minute on the minute.

The merging of the two laboratories into the new section with increased staff and facilities will form a solid base for improving Canada's time service.