

tions over the other's lines. Authorized travel agents will also be able to sell rail transportation and accommodation over CN and Amtrak lines.

The railway officers described the agreement to facilitate and encourage train travel and tourism between the U.S. and Canada as an important step in preparing for next year's American bicentennial and the Olympic activities being held in Canada.

Canadian National serves Canada with its network of intercity and trans-continental passenger trains, buses in Newfoundland and operates ferry services on the East Coast. Amtrak trains provide direct service to Montreal and to Vancouver, while Amtrak travellers to Port Huron or Detroit, Michigan, can cross the border to connect with Canadian National trains at Sarnia and Windsor respectively.

Governments help find soapstone

Eskimo sculptors in the Eastern Arctic are faced with a shortage of the types of stone suitable for their carvings, which provide a major source of income in many northern communities.

Indian and Northern Affairs Minister Judd Buchanan said recently that his department would help the Government of the Northwest Territories, which is hiring student geologists and native summer students to search for the needed stone. A graduate geologist from Indian and Northern Affairs will supervise the work of the students.

The settlements most affected by the shortage are Igloolik, Pelly Bay, Baker Lake, Pangnirtung and Cape Dorset. The search will, therefore, concentrate in these locations.

Good, carvable stone (commonly called *soapstone*) varies in geological features from one community to another. This gives each area its own distinctive carvings in varying colours and textures.

Native carvings are sold mainly through Canadian Arctic Producers, a wholesale marketing agency soon to be controlled by the Eskimo co-operatives.

"The popularity of Inuit sculptures is just exhausting existing supplies of stone," Mr. Buchanan said. "A systematic search is needed to find new deposits, otherwise the Inuit carvers might lose their means of livelihood."

Forage-fed beef could answer shortage of world food

Cattlemen, consumers and the world at large could benefit substantially if domestic beef cattle were fed less grain and more processed forage, suggests a background study released recently by the Food Prices Review Board.

The study, first in a series related to the Board's work on food policy, was prepared for internal consideration and is being released to the public as a means of stimulating discussion.

The document argues that world hunger is not the result of physical food shortages. Instead, the authors say that the world can and does produce enough food for everyone and will continue to do so into the immediate future.

Results of study

The reason for their conclusion is that livestock inefficiently convert grain into meat. Each 100 pounds of grain fed to animals yields no more than 40 pounds, and in many instances, as little as six pounds of additional food for human consumption. Total food supply, then, is reduced as more grain is fed to animals. By feeding animals forage, rather than grain, much more food would be made available for human consumption, provided the land used to grow the forage is not suited to growing grain. Internationally, for instance, the move to greater meat consumption has meant that as much as one third of all grain produced is used as animal feed, an amount sufficient to supply the current food requirements of China and India combined.

The authors do not suggest that beef or meat consumption be reduced. Rather, they argue that supply of both

meat and grain for human consumption could increase if animals were fed forage, particularly processed forage, since forage can be grown on land not suitable for grain crops.

For cattlemen, a switch to processed forage feeding could substantially cut the current high cost of feeding grain to animals. For consumers, the move would mean little, if any, change in the taste of beef and could mean an improvement in nutritional standards. Forage-fed beef has lower saturated fat and higher vitamin A content.

The research results cited in the report demonstrate that appropriate grinding of grasses and legumes substantially enhances their value as feed rations. Ground forage has a much greater surface area, which allows it to be digested faster and more efficiently than its unprocessed equivalent. Weight gains of more than two pounds a day are clearly possible.

Government direction needed

Although forage production and feeding research indicates that it would be technically feasible, the study says a major conversion to forage feeding hinges on future market conditions and the direction of government policies.

Governments could enhance the move to substitution in a number of ways: by increasing support for agricultural research into forage production and feeding; by eliminating fat colour as a grade determinant for beef, a move which would end the current discrimination against the yellow fat produced by forage-fed beef; by removing any financial disincentives to the production of forage-fed animals.

Dawson City's Palace Grand still going strong

The Palace Grand Theatre in downtown Dawson in Canada's Yukon Territory is an exact copy of the original building opened by Arizona Charlie Meadows on a memorable July night in 1899. Charlie packed in 2,000 patrons that night and left 500 more clamouring outside.

For the next 60 years, the Grand was many things, including a community

centre and a religious meeting hall, but its audience was steadily diminishing. In 1961, it was evaluated, sketched, photographed and structurally memorized by the Federal Government's National Historic Sites Branch, torn down before it fell down and totally rebuilt right down to the kitchen chairs that served as seats in the days of Arizona Charlie.