

The Canada Council Medal, awarded for outstanding achievement over a span of time in the arts, humanities and social sciences, is one of Canada's highest tokens of recognition. The Medal, which was designed by the Canadian artist Dora de Pedery Hunt, of Toronto, is cast in bronze. Last year's winners were novelist Morley Callaghan, economist W.A. Mackintosh, film-maker Norman McLaren and painter Jean-Paul Riopelle.

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ON THE RUN

Dave Thompson, an employee of Du Pont of Canada, has more than passed his goal of running one mile for every year of Canada's existence as a nation. Dave, who is taking part in the 100-mile centennial run of the YWCA-YMCA in Brockville, Ontario, had completed 150 miles by mid-October and will continue running until December 31.

His timing was perfect for Canada's hundredth birthday, July 1, when he finished exactly 100 miles. Two days later the chairman of the Y programme committee presented him with a specially-designed spoon as the first participant to complete a "century" of running begun on May 23.

A cross-country veteran in his native England, Dave Thompson notes that there the climate is more favourable for the sport. He comments: "Three miles here in Canada feel more like a six-mile run in England."

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CN CONTAINER STUDY

Canadian National Railways has established a special task unit to study the co-ordinated use of cargo containers on an international basis.

In its recent announcement of the study, the company indicated that it had been keeping up with developments in "containerization", watching the increased activity both in Canada and abroad, which now calls for a complete co-ordinated appraisal of container operations by railways and other forms of transportation.

"LAND-BRIDGE" POSSIBILITY

The role Canadian National might play in a transcontinental "land-bridge" service will be included in the study. The "land-bridge", which is already operating experimentally in the United States, speeds containers from the Far East to Europe, moving by rail from the West coast docks to East coast docks and then by ship across the Atlantic. The method avoids the long, slow ocean haul through the Panama Canal.

Another study will be made of the movement of containers from the Far East and European locations to points in inland Canada and return, as well as traffic that might originate or terminate in the United States but enters or leaves the continent through a Canadian port.

Canadian National has been one of the leaders in container-shipping. More than 1,000 containers, (large boxes, eight by eight by 20) are already in use across the CN system. In many cases, they are carried by specially-designed equipment that allows fast and easy transfer from rail-cars to road vehicles. By their use, door-to-door transportation is possible from one shipper to the other. Physical handling of individual items is reduced, breakage and pilferage almost eliminated, and inland-to-inland customs inspections possible, thus relieving pressures on port operations.

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ISLAND NOT FOR SALE

An 11-year-old Lancaster, Ohio, boy has written to the Department of Transport, Ottawa, offering \$7,270 for Sable Island, a DOT outpost 200 miles off the Nova Scotia coast.

Tom Gander, in a letter that came to the attention of W.F. Whitman, General Manager of the Real Estate Branch, said that, while he couldn't afford to buy Sable Island for several years and though he wasn't sure of the price, he thought "you might sell it for \$7,270 under special terms".

The terms were set out as:

- (1) Residents of the island to remain and live as usual;
- (2) food to be brought to the ponies every winter;
- (3) life-saving stations to be kept in use, repaired and improved if necessary;
- (4) improvements to be made to the island;
- (5) a new lighthouse to be built;
- (6) Canada's government boats to continue visiting the island.

Mr. Whitman, in declining the offer, said that though the island was not for sale now, Tom would be kept in mind in case it became surplus to requirements and could be sold in future.

LAND OF LITTLE VALUE

According to the Real Estate Branch, Sable Island, 25 miles long and one mile wide, is of little value. Known as the "Graveyard of the Atlantic" because of the number of ships that foundered on or near it, the island is inhabited by a few DOT personnel in its two light-stations and solitary weather-station, and about 200 wild ponies, which roam its desert-like wastes.

INTEREST AND PRICE TAG

"I first became interested in buying an island," Tom Gander wrote, "when I decided I would like to design machines and buildings as Tom Swift, the story character, does. I would want an island with little or no population."

The boy said he wanted to find out the area of the island in acres so he divided and multiplied to change miles to acres. As he was going to pay \$5 an acre he multiplied \$5 by the number of acres. He did not know the price of lighthouses and was therefore not sure if his offering price was right.