

NEW SPORT AND FITNESS GRANTS

Action on a number of recommendations of the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport was announced recently by Miss Judy LaMarsh, the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Grants totalling \$540,396 have been provided to help expand the programmes of 37 national associations concerned with sports and the development of fitness. The total awarded to national sports-governing bodies and similar groups since the Fitness and Amateur Sport Act came into effect two years ago is now almost \$1,700,000.

TRAINING OF LEADERS ENCOURAGED

In considering applications for assistance, the National Advisory Council gave priority to projects featuring leadership training. This emphasis is reflected in the provision of major grants to agencies such as the Canadian Amateur Hockey Association and l'Association Canadienne des Centres de Loisirs. The Hockey Association receives \$50,000 to operate "coaching clinics" across Canada, and the French-speaking recreationists receive \$42,000 for training courses for directors and activity leaders from community centres.

The Royal Canadian Legion's national track and field clinic, which was hailed last year as a breakthrough in Canadian sports, will be held again this year with federal assistance. This year the Legion receives \$51,133 for an expanded programme that will include coaching clinics in every Canadian province.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION

Grants to broaden the scope of national championships and to increase Canadian representation at international sports events will be used for a wide variety of sports, from snowshoeing to badminton. The largest amounts for championship competition go to the Amateur Athletic Union of Canada, which receives \$38,713 for this purpose, and the Canadian Olympic Association, which receives \$30,000.

Several proposals to promote individual sports, especially through the training of coaches, are still under consideration by the National Advisory Council. A special Council committee will consult national agencies seeking assistance for basketball, junior baseball, soccer, volleyball, and Canadian football at the intercollegiate level.

CONSOLIDATE SERVICE FOOD SUPPLY

The Royal Canadian Army Service Corps has assumed responsibility for the wholesale supply of bulk food to the Royal Canadian Navy, effective April 1. This move to consolidate the supply of foodstuffs for the Armed Forces is the result of recommendations made by a tri-service committee under the chairmanship of Commodore D. McClure, Director-General Naval Supply.

The shift in responsibility is an extension of supply methods in operation since 1955, whereby the

Army has been providing food in bulk to naval establishments in Montreal and to naval radio stations at Gloucester, Ontario, Churchill, Manitoba, Inuvik, Northwest Territories, and Aldergrove, British Columbia.

Under the new arrangement, the Army will provide bulk food based on actual requirements evaluated by the RCN. The Navy will continue to control the quantities of foods required.

On the Pacific Coast, the RCASC will take over operation of the RCN central victualling depot at HMC Dockyard, Esquimalt. The Navy depot in Esquimalt has adequate storage facilities to meet the integrated Navy-Army requirement. In Halifax, extra facilities have been prepared by the RCASC to accommodate the Navy's needs.

WHOLESALE TRADE

Canada's wholesalers proper had sales in 1963 valued at an estimated \$10,181,600,000, an increase of 5.6 per cent from the revised 1962 total of \$9,640,500,000. December 1963 sales were up 10.8 per cent from those in December 1962, at \$881,216,000 versus \$795,559,000.

Of the 18 specified kinds of business, 16 posted greater sales in 1963 compared to 1962; the year's sales of meat and dairy products were down by 0.5 per cent from a year earlier, at \$172,600,000, and hardware by 0.4 per cent at \$355,700,000.

The year's sales of the 16 kinds of business posting gains were, in millions (percentage increases from 1962 in brackets): fresh fruits and vegetables, \$323.0 (4.8 per cent); groceries and food specialties, \$1,987.0 (6.7 per cent); clothing and furnishings, \$105.0 (2.1 per cent); footwear, \$41.7 (1.0 per cent); other textile and clothing accessories, \$212.7 (2.3 per cent); coal and coke, \$151.0 (8.0 per cent); drugs and drug sundries, \$258.2 (4.2 per cent); newsprint, paper and paper products, \$325.0 (5.2 per cent); tobacco, confectionery and soft drinks, \$800.2 (0.5 per cent); automotive parts and accessories, \$457.0 (3.5 per cent); commercial, institutional and service equipment and supplies, \$140.9 (1.1 per cent); electrical wiring supplies, construction materials, apparatus and equipment, \$190.6 (9.2 per cent); other construction materials and supplies, including lumber, \$830.8 (6.5 per cent); farm machinery, \$84.9 (19.6 per cent); household electrical appliances, \$218.5 (3.8 per cent); and industrial and transportation equipment and supplies, \$828.0 (6.6 per cent).

BEAM-THERAPY UNITS FOR INDIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, has announced that three cobalt beam-therapy units and two replacement sources have been contributed through the External Aid Office to India under Canada's Colombo Plan programme to assist in the fight against cancer.

(Over)