

CANADA COUNCIL APPOINTEES

Prime Minister Louis St. Laurent announced April 15 a number of appointments to the Canada Council which was established to encourage the arts, humanities and social sciences through scholarships, grants, and assistance to universities in order to accelerate the cultural and intellectual growth of the nation.

The Hon. Brooke Claxton and the Most Rev. Georges-Henri Levesque, O.P., were named Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council, respectively.

Nineteen prominent Canadians were appointed members of the Council for terms of two,

three, or four years.

Dr. A.W. Trueman and Mr. E. Bussière, of Ottawa, were appointed as Director and Associate Director, respectively.

Under the provisions of the Act, the membership of the Investment Committee consists of the Chairman of the Council, a Member of the Council designated by the Council and three other persons appointed by the Governor-in-Council.

Mr. Graham Towers, Ottawa, Mr. James Muir, Montreal, and Mr. J. Hungerford, Toronto, were appointed as Members of the Investment Committee by the Governor-in-Council.

* * * *

NEW DOLLAR: A new Canadian silver dollar, showing a totem pole in bold relief, will commemorate British Columbia's centennial in 1958. It will mark the 100th anniversary of the creation of B.C. as a Crown colony, and the 1858 gold rush.

The reverse impression of the coin will show a large totem pole against a background of mountains, and the words "Canada" and "British Columbia" will follow the curve of the coin's rim.

Design for the new dollar was created by sculptor Stephen Trenka of Thornhill, Ont.

* * * *

NATIONAL HOSPITAL INSURANCE: The Province of Prince Edward Island announced on April 16 its willingness to enter the proposed National Hospital Insurance scheme. The federal proposal for a cost-sharing agreement with the provinces for the provision of hospital insurance developed out of protracted federal-provincial discussion and negotiation and was based on the entry of a minimum of 6 provinces representing more than half the Canadian population.

Prior to the Prince Edward Island decision to enter the scheme, Ontario, Saskatchewan, Alberta, British Columbia and Newfoundland had indicated their willingness to take part in the insurance plan.

Health Minister Paul Martin issued the following statement in Ottawa, April 16:

"We will now proceed immediately to bring federal hospital insurance legislation into force by proclamation and to take whatever further steps may be required to help in bringing hospital insurance to the people of the participating provinces at the earliest possible date."

Under the scheme, the central administration will share with the provinces roughly on a fifty-fifty basis the cost of launching insurance covering standard hospital care and diagnostic services.

The overall scheme may go into effect by January 1959 or perhaps a bit earlier, depend-

ing on how soon the provinces can get their plans into operation.

While agreements with the provinces may be signed within a few months, it may actually take many months, perhaps more than a year, to get the national plan into operation.

The signing of agreements must be followed by the passage of enabling legislation in the provinces which have not already done so. Then administrative machinery must be organized.

* * * *

NIMBLE BAT III: No. 440 All-Weather Fighter Squadron, the RCAF's third CF-100 squadron to leave Canada for NATO duty with the Air Division in Europe, is scheduled to make its overseas move during May, it has been announced by Air Force Headquarters.

Based at RCAF Station Bagotville, Quebec, north of Quebec City, No. 440 Squadron will fly its jet interceptors across the Atlantic in what will be known as Operation Nimble Bat III and will be based at No. 3 Fighter Wing, Zweibrucken, Germany.

Following the pattern laid by the two previous "Nimble Bats", carried out last November and February, the aircraft will cross the northern Atlantic by way of Goose Bay, Bluie West One in Greenland, Keflavik in Iceland, Kinloss in Scotland and from there to the continental base.

The first of the four scheduled Nimble Bat Operations took place last November when No. 445 Squadron flew its CF-100s from RCAF Station Uplands, Ontario, to their new base at Marville in France, the RCAF's No. 1 Fighter Wing. Nimble Bat II saw No. 423 Squadron's CF's bridge the Atlantic from their base at RCAF Station St. Hubert, Quebec, to No. 2 Fighter Wing, Grostenquin, France.

The 440 flight will be supported by Air Transport Command, who take over the responsibility of the trans-ocean journey from Air Defence Command, posting aircraft known as "Duckbutts" along the route which are used for "homing" purposes.