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NEW SESSION OF NORTHWEST TERRITORIES COUNCIL

Opening the twenty-seventh session of the Council of the Northwest Territories in Ottawa on June 1, the Commissioner, Mr. B.G. Sivertz, had the following to say about the development of the Territorial Government:

...The Northwest Territories and its antecedent Repertsland have been an imagination-stirring feature of Canada for three centuries. It still is. The Council of the Northwest Territories is more recent — but it nevertheless dates from 1875. It will not be far behind the oldest provincial governments in celebrating its centennial — and considerably ahead of some.

Though the Government of the Northwest Territories had had a long life, it has not had a placid one. Changes have been many and radical. In 1898, the Northwest Territories was diminished by splitting off Yukon to be a territory by itself. In 1905, it was further diminished by splitting off Alberta and Saskatchewan to become provinces. In 1912, the District of Ungava, i.e., what is now called New Quebec, was cut out from the Northwest Territories and made part of the Province of Quebec.

In consequence of these and several other less extensive changes, the Government of the Northwest Territories has been altered in form and function more than once. After creation of Alberta and Saskatchewan in 1905, there was legislative authority for a Council, but none was appointed until 1921. The Commissioner governed in autocratic isolation. It would appear that preservation of law and order was almost the extent of government activity. The Council appointed in 1921 consisted entirely of

federal officials and it remained so until 1951 (except for the appointment of a lone N.W.T. resident in 1946). The first real change toward representative government came in 1951, when three constituencies were created — and increased to four in 1954. The number series by which this session is designated the twenty-seventh dates from 1951, when elected Council Members reappeared after there had been none for 46 years. There was reason for the Right Honourable Louis St. Laurent saying, when he introduced the Northern Affairs and National Resources Act on December 3, 1953, that Canada had administered these vast regions of the north in a continual state of absence of mind.

Since 1951, however, there has been very real growth. Members meeting today form a legislative assembly with a history meriting respect. Many distinguished members have served. They have moulded it into a jurisdiction analogous to that of a province. The Northwest Territories body of law stands reasonably adequate beside counterpart provincial legislation. Works enlarge each year. Perhaps it is worth noting that the Territorial expenditure in 1952-53 was \$433,762. This year it is estimated at \$8,900,000.

The main difference in jurisdiction between the Territories and a province is in the matter of natural resources. Whereas provinces own their land and what is on and under it, the Territories do not. The Federal Government retains control of the land, and responsibility for resource development, as it did in respect of the land of Alberta and Saskatchewan for 25 years after those provinces were created in 1905, i.e., until the Transfer of Resources Act was

(Over)

passed in 1930. The main difference constitutionally is that a province is sovereign within the functions assigned by the constitution. The government of the Territories is not sovereign - it was created by federal legislation and the Commissioner, as the chief executive, can be required to act under federal instructions. This distinction, however, is in practice more apparent than real; you of the Council establish the legislation which I cannot override or amend and which indeed is binding on all persons in the Territories. Beyond this, you control the territorial purse; I can spend nothing from territorial funds without your concurrence and consent in advance. Indeed the most significant responsibility facing you during this, the first session of the new Council, is the consideration of the financial appropriations for the current fiscal year....

MASSEY TO PRESIDE AT EDUCATION MEET

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, recently announced that Canada's former Governor General, Vincent Massey, would serve as President of the Third Commonwealth Education Conference, which is to be held in Ottawa from August 21 to September 4, 1964, on the invitation of the Canadian Government.

This conference is the third in a series which have been convened primarily for the purpose of discussing governmental programmes of educational co-operation within the Commonwealth, not education in the Commonwealth as such. At the first conference, held in Oxford in 1959, four types of co-operation were recommended - a Commonwealth scholarship and fellowship plan, the training of teachers, the supply of teachers for service in other Commonwealth countries, and technical education. Developments in these schemes were reviewed and new areas of co-operation examined at a second conference, held in New Delhi in January 1962.

OTTAWA AGENDA

Delegates to the Ottawa conference will study progress made since the New Delhi conference in present areas of co-operation, including the provision of textbooks, rural education and the holding of conferences of experts. Among the new topics which will be discussed are the use of mass media in education, co-operative arrangements for the planning and development of educational institutions, and the problems of adult illiteracy.

AN APPROPRIATE CHOICE

The appointment of Mr. Massey to the Presidency of the Third Commonwealth Education Conference is particularly appropriate, in view of his personal contributions both to the evolution of the Commonwealth idea and to education and culture in Canada. Before 1920, Canada had no independent diplomatic representative abroad, though, as early as 1920, it was agreed by the British and Commonwealth Governments, and by the United States, that a Dominion Minister could be appointed to Washington. Mr. Massey

was designated as Minister in 1926 and the first Canadian legation was opened in Washington early in 1927. Mr. Massey remained as Canadian Minister to the United States until 1930 and, was subsequently, Canadian High Commissioner to Britain from 1935 to 1946. In 1952, Mr. Massey became the first Canadian-born Governor General. In 1962, he was the Chairman of the Duke of Edinburgh's second Commonwealth Study Conference, which was held in Canada.

In 1949, Mr. Massey was appointed Chairman of the Royal Commission on National Development in the Arts, Letters and Sciences, which led to the establishment of the Canada Council in 1957. He served as Chancellor of the University of Toronto from 1947 to 1953, during which time he directed the building of Hart House and established the new Massey College at that university.

SURVEY OF MACKENZIE DELTA

Early last week, two forest-management officers of the federal Department of Forestry, Ottawa, left Fort Nelson, British Columbia, in a 28-foot jet-propelled boat, on the first leg of a 1,200-mile trip down the Mackenzie River system to the Mackenzie Delta in the Arctic Circle. The trip is the first step in a summer-long forest survey - the most northerly ever undertaken by the Department. The region of the survey is a 12,000-square-mile portion of the vast Mackenzie Delta - a strange, flat country interlaced with innumerable lakes and ponds.

The purpose of the survey, which is being carried out in co-operation with the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, is to assess the quality and quantity of timber in that area of the Delta mouth. The entire region lies inside the Arctic Circle.

AN IDEAL SURVEY BOAT

Because of the complicated system of waterways in the area, the survey boat is a key piece of equipment. It is a composite of many special features, the most important being its marine jet-propulsion unit. This unit has no projections beneath the hull, a great asset in exploring unfamiliar waters and travelling shallows. The turbine unit takes in water through a grill in the bottom of the boat and achieves thrust by discharging this water rearward.

The boat carries sufficient equipment to support a prolonged survey of this type. The officers conducting the survey communicate with Inuvik, Aklavik and Fort McPherson by wireless radio throughout the summer, and additional supplies will be provided by aircraft when necessary.

With the jet boat as their sole means of transportation, the party is conducting an intensive forest survey of approximately 1,200 square miles of the Delta. They will also carry out a reconnaissance survey as far up the Peel and Arctic Red Rivers as they can navigate and conduct an aerial reconnaissance survey of an additional 10,000-square-mile area.

NATO BRIGADE TRAINS IN GERMANY

Units of Canada's NATO brigade in West Germany have moved from their permanent camp-sites to the sprawling 250-square-mile training complex at Sennelager, Germany.

During three weeks under canvas on the training ranges, the brigade will conduct exercises testing the fighting ability of armor, infantry and artillery units, as well as giving the "service" units practice in repairs, transport, casualty treatment and food supply.

Over 1,100 vehicles travelled recently to the training area by road convoy. The 56-ton "Centurion" tanks of the Fort Garry Horse went by rail.

Sennelager is a former German Army training-school now administered by the British Army. There are 30 training ranges, large enough for five firing exercises involving 2,500 troops. All infantry small arms can be fired on the ranges, and large areas with abandoned villages provide excellent training ground for tactical exercises.

The inhabitants of the Sennelager area, accustomed to the familiar bush clothing and battle-dress, may not recognize the Canadians in their new combat clothing. Designed in Canada for service under a wide range of weather conditions, the new suits and boots will get a severe wet-weather test if the area has its usual heavy rainfall.

PROVINCIAL LABOUR STANDARDS

A new edition of the Department of Labour's annual bulletin *Provincial Labour Standards* is now available, setting out the standards in force in December 1963 under various provincial labour laws. The subjects covered include child labour, holidays, hours of work, minimum wages, equal pay, fair-employment practices, weekly rest-day and workmen's compensation.

The more important changes in 1963 concerned minimum-wage rates and workmen's compensation.

MINIMUM WAGES

Increases in minimum-wage rates were brought into effect in almost all provinces. Developments in this field included the setting of rates for men for the first time in Ontario and Prince Edward Island. Rates under general orders were raised in Manitoba and Newfoundland.

As the first stage of a new minimum-wage programme applying to both sexes in Ontario, wage scales were set for the Toronto-Hamilton-Oshawa area. These orders set a minimum rate of \$1.25 an hour for construction workers, \$1 an hour for male workers in other industries, and a rate of 85 cents an hour escalating to \$1 on March 31, 1964, for women. The new general order for men in Prince Edward Island set a minimum wage of 90 cents an hour, increasing in two stages to \$1 an hour on May 1, 1964. The new general rates in Manitoba are 75 cents an hour in urban centres and 70 cents in rural areas. In Newfoundland, new rates of 70 cents an hour for men and 50 cents an hour for women went into effect. In British Columbia, revised orders for

offices and laundries set a minimum rate of \$1 an hour, the minimum rate in effect for the majority of workers in the province.

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION

Benefits under workmen's compensation laws were increased in several provinces. Of special importance were changes with regard to the age to which children's allowances are payable. In Quebec, a child is now eligible for allowance as long as he is in regular attendance at school. A child not attending school receives compensation to the age of 18. In Prince Edward Island, payments may now be made at the Workmen's Compensation Board's discretion to a child who is continuing his studies up to the age of 21.

ARCHAEOLOGISTS TO UNCOVER OLD FORT

The most westerly British military outpost in North America was Fort St. Joseph, on St. Joseph's Island near Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. Built about 1799, it was the assembly point for the successful British attack in 1812 on the American Fort Michilimackinac. After the capture of the latter, Fort St. Joseph was practically abandoned. In 1814 it was burned by an American force. The location of the old fort has been preserved by the National Parks Branch of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources as a national historic site. The basis for its reconstruction will, it is hoped, be provided by information obtained by an archaeological party from the anthropology department of the University of Toronto, which will excavate the area this summer under the sponsorship of the parks Branch. The job of the 15 students who will do the digging will be to locate, map and define the structural features of Fort St. Joseph.

P.O. TO HONOUR FAMOUS UNITS

The Post Office Department will participate in celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of two of Canada's most famous army regiments. Postmaster-General Nicholson recently announced that special dies marking the regimental anniversaries would be to cancel mail in major cities that have been closely associated with the Royal Twenty-Second Regiment and Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry.

Victoria, Edmonton, Calgary, Winnipeg and Ottawa are the cities in which special cancellation marks honouring the "Princess Pat's" will appear. The inscription of these dies will carry the words "P.P.-C.L.I. Jubilee, 1914 - 1964". They will be used from August 1 until August 31.

The cancelling dies honouring the Royal 22nd will read: "Royal 22e Regiment, 1914 - 1964, 50e Anniversaire".

They will be used on mail processed in Montreal, Quebec City, Sherbrooke, Three Rivers, St. Jean and Ottawa, Mr. Nicholson said, and will appear from September 15 until October 15.

CANADA-INDIA ZINC PLANT

A sale of Canadian capital equipment and engineering services for the construction of a zinc smelter and associated sulphuric-acid plant near Cochin, Kerala State, India, was announced recently by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Trade and Commerce. The buyer is Cominco Binani Zinc Limited, Calcutta, a joint-venture company set up by The Consolidated Mining and Smelting Company of Canada Limited, Montreal, and its associate, Metal Distributors Limited, Calcutta.

The Export Credits Insurance Corporation, Ottawa, will lend \$1,600,000 to cover part of the foreign-exchange costs of the \$12-million project. Repayment of the loan will be made over ten years following a five-year period of grace. The interest rate is 6 per cent.

Consolidated Mining, one of the world's largest producers of metallic zinc, has made a direct investment in the venture of almost \$2 million, part of which will be used to cover Canadian and other foreign purchases. It will also supply technical knowledge and design to the Indian enterprise. The remainder of the financing will be shared by Metal Distributors Limited, the Indian Government through its Industrial Finance Corporation, the Indian State of Kerala, and by the Indian public through a share issue.

The ECIC loan is being made out of the special credits committed by Canada under its contribution to the World Bank Aid India Consortium. This project has a very high priority in India's current Five-Year Plan, and will enable India to further its programme of increasing production and processing of non-ferrous metals.

TYPE OF EQUIPMENT

The Canadian equipment to be installed consists of all handling and processing equipment necessary for such individual operations as drying and roasting zinc concentrates, leaching the calcine, thickening the residue and filtering and purifying the solution, manufacturing cathodic zinc and cadmium by way of the electrolytic process, manufacturing by-product sulphuric acid from roaster gases, and casting of slabs of zinc and cadmium by melting cathodes, together with all ancillary equipment necessary,

including transformers, rectifiers, and waste-gas treatment facilities.

"On-site" work on the project has already commenced, and the completion target date is mid-1966. The plant will have a capacity for the production of 20,000 tons of zinc a year and 125 tons of sulphuric acid a day. The market for zinc in India is at present more than 60,000 tons a year, and this amount will have increased to over 100,000 tons by the time Cominco Binani is operating. The sulphuric-acid by-product will supply part of the demand of the large fertilizer plants at present in production or to be built shortly in India.

BUILDING PERMITS

Canadian municipalities issued building permits in March to cover construction estimated at \$205,645,000, an increase of 12.6 per cent from last year's March total of \$182,669,000. Following increases in January and February, the value of permits issued in the January-March period advanced 11.7 per cent, to \$490,083,000 from \$438,693,000 in the first quarter of 1963.

The value of residential construction covered by building permits issued in March rose 5.0 per cent, to \$97,942,000 from \$93,269,000 a year earlier, bringing the January-March total to \$232,046,000, up by 8.3 per cent from the corresponding 1963 total of \$214,246,000. Non-residential construction climbed 20.5 per cent in the month, to \$107,703,000 from \$89,400,000, and 15.0 per cent in the quarter, to \$258,037,000 from \$224,447,000.

PERMITS BY PROVINCE

The value of building permits issued in March was up in five provinces and down in five, compared to a year earlier. The month's totals (in thousands) were: Newfoundland, \$116 (\$272 in March 1963); Prince Edward Island, \$35 (\$72); Nova Scotia, \$1,222 (\$1,383); New Brunswick, \$1,890 (\$1,063); Quebec, \$45,127 (\$42,723); Ontario, \$103,749 (\$74,681); Manitoba, \$6,297 (\$6,538); Saskatchewan, \$3,688 (3,307); Alberta, \$23,066 (\$16,840); and British Columbia, \$20,455 (\$24,790).
