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CONTENTS

Fairs in Accra, Lagos	1	Film on Mining Careers	4
More Films for Stratford	2	Canada-Soviet Trade Talks	4
Provincial Funded Debt	2	Novel Artistic Use of Glass	4
Ice Observers Cover Arctic	2	Wheat Supply and Export	5
Government Finances	3	Fourth Vancouver Festival	5
Klondike Festival, 1962	3	Trade Analyses Accelerated	5
New Book on Resources	3	New Northern Ferry	6
Passage for Pleasure Craft	3	Mail-Handling Experiment	6
Town at Frobisher	3		

FAIRS IN ACCRA, LAGOS

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced recently that considerable interest had been shown by Canadian exporters in the trade fairs being held in Nigeria and Ghana early next year. Some 80 firms are participating with the Department of Trade and Commerce, and will display their products in 100 booths. Their presentation to prospective purchasers will resemble that at the Canadian trade fairs held in Jamaica and Trinidad two years ago.

The trade fair in Nigeria will be held January 17-28 in the Nigeria Exhibition Grounds on Victoria Island, a suburb of Lagos. The complete display will be moved from there to Ghana, for presentation from February 14 to 24 on the Old Polo Grounds in Accra, where a geodesic dome will form the central section of the exhibition. There will be a government display and information centre, as well as booths for the exhibiting exporters to show their products, to distribute samples and to sell goods on their respective stands.

NIGERIAN MISSION

Mr. Hees said that useful discussions were held with members of a 23-member Nigerian Trade and Economic Mission, which visited Ottawa, Toronto and Montreal from July 12 to 15. Three federal ministers, three regional ministers, government officials and businessmen from this new member of the Commonwealth were favourably impressed with what they had seen in Canada, and said they welcomed the interest

in Nigeria shown by the Canadian Government and businessmen in this country, many of whom will visit Lagos during the trade fair in an effort to stimulate interest in their products on display.

Canada's sales to Nigeria in 1960 amounted to \$2,305,000, compared with \$938,000 in the previous year. Flour was the principal export, followed by passenger automobiles and shoe machinery. Imports, on the other hand, had a value of \$4,358,000 in 1960, compared with \$3,084,000 in 1959. The principal item consisted of cocoa beans, followed by crude rubber and tropical woods.

TRADE WITH GHANA

Canadian exports to Ghana in 1960 were valued at \$3.9 million, as compared with \$3.8 million in 1959. Flour was the principal item, followed by passenger automobiles, aluminum and bookkeeping machines. Purchases from Ghana last year were valued at \$3.1 million, of which cocoa beans, manganese ore and mahogany were the principal items.

Canadian firms participating in the trade fairs at Lagos and Accra are classified under seven headings, as follows:

- (a) Textiles and shoes -- Five firms will display dresses, maternity wear, lingerie, various textiles, men's, women's and children's footwear.
- (b) Food and beverages -- Twelve firms will display wheat flour, canned food, pickles, beer, whisky and young chickens.
- (c) Household appliances -- Eight firms will display refrigerators and ranges, electric freezers,

lanterns and stoves, floor polishers, clocks and watches.

- (d) Chemicals and pharmaceuticals -- Nine firms will display paint, plastic resins, protective coatings, floor waxes, packaged cheesecloth, autobody and marine patching compound, ammunition, polio vaccine, antibiotics, adhesives, and printed film.
- (e) Electrical equipment -- Four firms will display switches, lamps and lamp shades, communication equipment and welding transformers.
- (f) Industrial equipment -- Twenty-nine firms will display aluminum products, arborite, lumber dry kiln equipment, Coblat 60 teletherapy units, building products, prefabricated houses, scoops for shovels, chains, dough mixers, saws, wood processing equipment, X-ray equipment, steel and plastic furniture, power-saw chain, steel products, hammer mills, a machine for tying tobacco, vulcanizing equipment, sawmill equipment, diamond drills, air-conditioning equipment, high-speed blenders and mixers, oil purifiers, concrete-block mixing machines, switchgears and office furniture.
- (g) Transportation equipment -- Twelve firms will display automobiles, outboard engines, bicycles, models of aircraft, pallet trucks, agricultural tractors and equipment, brake linings, clutch facings and hydraulic brake fluid.

MORE FILMS FOR STRATFORD

"Hollywood: The Golden Years", a documentary of the silent motion picture era, is one of the latest feature films to be added to the programme of the Stratford Film Festival of 1961. The film, to be shown on September 2, contains scenes from more than 20 of the classics of the silent screen. Such personalities as Clara Bow, Rudolph Valentino, Greta Garbo, Douglas Fairbanks and Charlie Chaplin appear in sequences from screen classics of the past.

Several countries have contributed a second entry. Israel has sent "They Were Ten," the story of the first refugee pioneers in Palestine during the the 1890's. From Ireland comes "Home is the Hero," with Arthur Kennedy and a supporting cast of Abbey Theatre players. The second entry from Greece is "The Young Lady's Fool," a tale of an arrogant young woman and the efforts she makes to buy the silence of one of her father's employees.

Indonesia's entry is "Three Virgins," while Poland has contributed "See You Tomorrow," described as a cinematic fairy tale, dealing with a romance between a diplomat's daughter and a student theatre director.

For the special children's film showing on August 26, the Festival has selected "Johnny on the Run," feature from England directed by Lewis Gilbert.

The Film Festival opens on August 21 with a showing of Czechoslovakia's "Romeo, Juliet and Darkness," and continues daily thereafter (with the exception of Sundays) until September 2. Showings, after the opening night, are at 2:30 P.M. and 8:30

P.M. with special children's morning shows on Saturday, August 26, and Saturday, September 2, at 10:30 a.m. Short subjects are included on all programmes.

PROVINCIAL FUNDED DEBT

The total direct gross bonded debt at March 31, 1961, was \$3,705 million, an increase of 8.5 per cent or \$291 million over that at the end of the preceding fiscal year. All provinces except Alberta and British Columbia floated new bond issues, totalling \$459 million (including an issue of \$9 million, the equivalent of 40 million Swiss francs, by Saskatchewan in Switzerland), and all provinces except Newfoundland retired bonded debt totalling \$168 million.

With the exception of New Brunswick, Alberta and British Columbia, all provinces showed increases over the preceding fiscal year in direct gross bonded debt outstanding. Based on par values, the average interest rate continued to rise and the average term of issue to decline, maintaining a trend which commenced in 1955-56. The proportion of the total payable only in Canada increased to over 73 per cent from nearly 70 per cent at March 31, 1960, indicating that provinces were not going abroad to the same extent as in prior years to finance their requirements.

Guaranteed bonds (indirect debt) increased in all provinces except Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan, which showed decreases, and amounted to \$3,353 million at March 31, 1961. This was 11.9 per cent more than the \$2,996 million at the end of the preceding fiscal year. These guarantees consists mainly of bonds issued by government enterprises.

ICE OBSERVERS COVER ARCTIC

Ice observers of the Department of Transport are reporting on Arctic ice conditions from four northern field locations and eight Canadian Marine Service icebreakers this summer, the Meteorological Branch announced recently.

Their observations provide tactical support to Arctic supply ships, DOT icebreakers and commercial vessels using the shipping lanes to Churchill, Manitoba. Their reports also add to the store of knowledge about northern ice necessary in the development of the Canadian north.

Ice observations made on board and by helicopter from eight DOT icebreakers are supplementing aerial reconnaissance carried out from field units at Frobisher Bay, Churchill, Cambridge Bay and Resolute Bay. Some of the field units will operate until mid-November.

Besides reports on the actual presence of ice, thirty-day, five-day and one-to-two-day predictions are provided by ice-forecast offices at Cambridge Bay and Frobisher Bay and by the Ice Forecast Central at Halifax.

Ice information is broadcast at scheduled times by the Department's marine radio stations and is also available on request.

Ice charts are broadcast regularly in radio facsimile form from Halifax and Frobisher Bay.

GOVERNMENT FINANCES

Mr. Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, released on July 28 the regular monthly statement of the Government's financial operations for June, 1961, and the first three months of the current fiscal year.

For June, budgetary revenues were \$458.7 million, expenditures were \$513.6 million and there was a deficit of \$54.9 million. For June 1960, revenues were \$470.3 million, expenditures were \$463.2 million and there was a surplus of \$7.1 million.

For the first three months of the current fiscal year, budgetary revenues were \$1,330.9 million, expenditures were \$1,328 million and there was a surplus of \$2.9 million. For the same period last year, revenues were \$1,332.4 million, expenditures were \$1,176.2 million and there was a surplus of \$156.2 million.

Operations of the Old Age Security Fund, which are not included in budgetary transactions, resulted in a deficit of \$2.8 million for June 1961, and an accumulated surplus of \$20.7 million for the three months to June 30, 1961. Last year, for the three months to June 30, there was an accumulated surplus of \$11.9 million.

KLONDIKE FESTIVAL, 1962

Dawson City, one of the most famous frontier mining towns in the world, is busy preparing for the "Gold Rush Festival" in 1962. Landmarks and buildings are being restored to their appearance during the Gold Rush of '98.

Several modern motels will help accommodate visitors, who may, if they prefer, pitch their tents in the campgrounds that lie in and around Dawson.

Among the many attractions of the Festival will be "Klondike Nights", a production of the Klondike Visitors Association, which will feature "The Shooting of Dan McGrew". A cruise aboard the "Bonanza Belle", last of the paddlewheel river-steamers of the Gold Rush era, will also appeal to many visitors.

A few of the places to be visited are the "Dome", the Bonanza, Hunker and Dominion creeks, where gold was panned, and, above all, the cabin in which the "sourdough" poet Robert W. Service lived.

NEW BOOK ON RESOURCES

A most striking contribution to the co-ordinated development of Canada's renewable resources is just off the press. The text of "Resources For Tomorrow" background papers in two printed volumes is now available to the public.

The two books contain 80 papers by eminent resources specialists on agriculture, water, regional development, forestry, wildlife, recreation and fisheries. These papers, featuring research, jurisdictional and administrative problems as well as public education, will provide basic information for discussions at the "Resources For Tomorrow" Conference to be held in Montreal from October 23 to 28.

Never before has such a comprehensive approach been made to the proper evaluation of the manage-

marketing and use of our country's renewable natural resources. The presentation, graphs, illustrations and modern cover design combine to make this production of the Queen's Printer an outstanding achievement.

Mr. Dinsdale, the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, referred to the volumes as "a monumental effort, the result of extensive co-operation of Canada's governments, industries and universities." "The future well-being of every Canadian," he said, "will depend on the wise use made of the knowledge and views contained in this collection of vitally important papers".

PASSAGE FOR PLEASURE CRAFT

Arrangements have been completed to enable small pleasure craft to use the portals of the Iroquois Dam for passage up and down stream.

The dam sluices are numbered 1 to 32 from the U.S.A. side to the Canadian side. Sluice No. 30 has been marked for upstream passage and sluice No. 28 for downstream passage. The gates for sluices No. 28 and No. 30 have been raised so as to provide a clearance of 8½ feet at maximum steady-state river level.

The piers for No. 30 sluice are painted with the standard red and black channel markings on the downstream side only and No. 28 sluice is similarly marked on the upstream side only. Signs have been erected at the sluices, each side 4 feet x 8 feet in dimension, reading "Minimum clearance 8 feet 6 inches".

TOWN AT FROBISHER

A major development in Arctic town planning will enter the construction stage this year when preliminary work begins on the permanent town at Frobisher Bay, it was announced recently by Mr. Walter Dinsdale, the Minister of Northern Affairs, and National Resources.

Frobisher Bay, southern Baffin Island, some 1300 miles north of Montreal, is the main centre for transportation, population, Eskimo education and health and welfare in the eastern Arctic. It has a permanent population of about 1,500, some 650 of whom are Eskimos. In the busy summer months, when the supply ships come in and outdoor construction is at its height, the population doubles. Even in the Arctic, communities can show signs of bursting at the seams. Frobisher Bay has been showing them for some time now.

PHASED CONSTRUCTION

Construction of the permanent town to replace present temporary buildings will be phased over a 4-year period, with priority given to buildings for which there is the most urgent need--a 20-bed hospital, a 16-room school and students' residence, and an apartment building with space for 120 occupants. The work will be carried out for the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources by the Department of Public Works at an estimated cost of \$12.5 million.

"High-rise", pre-cast concrete structures, some 7 storeys high, will set a new pattern in Arctic construction for Canada. Unlike the site of the western

Arctic town of Inuvik, where engineers were confronted by a major problem in the unstable soils of the Mackenzie Delta, the site selected for Frobisher Bay provides a natural rock base.

Building on solid rock can be substantially cheaper than building on the permafrost that underlies the tundra. The use of relatively high pre-cast concrete structures on a rock base, coupled with the shortest practical sewer and water lines, not only lowers initial costs but substantially reduces operating and maintenance costs and gives virtual freedom from fire hazard. Fire is a continuing threat in all types of Arctic construction since water is almost always in short supply.

NOVEL DESIGN

The new units will be linked by covered passages, pipes will be carried by a system of utilidor, and buildings heated from a central plant. This design is something of a departure from conventional construction practices followed by government agencies in the North and offers a pattern that some may wish to follow.

When communities are spread over bigger areas (in some locations this is unavoidable), a result can be extremely high costs for the installation and maintenance of water, sewer, heating and other services. Relatively tall buildings cut down the ground area required by a town and create a corresponding reduction in service costs. Capital costs and maintenance also tend to be lower.

Preliminary work on the site will start this autumn. Later construction will go on throughout the year with interior work proceeding when weather is too bad for outdoor operations.

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FILM ON MINING CAREERS

Production of a 30-minute color film as part of a nation-wide programme to interest senior high-school students in careers in the mineral industry and sciences is being sponsored by the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys and nine provincial mining departments. Mr. Comtois, the Minister of Mines and Technical Survey, said the Federal Government would underwrite 40 per cent of the production cost.

Tentatively entitled, "The Nation Builders", the 16mm film will have both English and French dialogue and narration and will stress not only the wide scope of opportunity for the student seeking an interesting and rewarding career, but also the importance of the mining industry and mineral sciences to Canada.

Agreement on production details of the film was reached at the Provincial Mines Ministers Conference at Quebec last year. The film, which is expected to be completed and ready for release before the end of the year, includes sequences in mines located over a large part of Canada, from the United States border to the Yukon Territory and from Newfoundland to the Pacific Ocean.

It follows the career of a student and his classmates through each of the four years of university courses in geology and geophysics, mining, electrical and mechanical engineering, and metallurgy. Students are shown at summer work at various mining sites

engaged in a variety of jobs designed to provide them with the experience and training required for more responsible work after graduation from university.

Underground and surface filming at mining operations will be carried out during the next few months and most of the university sequences will be shot in September.

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CANADA-SOVIET TRADE TALKS

On July 31, Mr. George Hees, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced the conclusion of consultations between the U.S.S.R. and Canadian trade officials held in accordance with the exchange of letters that accompanied the Protocol signed in Moscow on April 18, 1960, renewing the Canada-U.S.S.R. Trade Agreement of 1956. These letters call for annual examination of trade results achieved. The Soviet delegation was headed by V.A. Kamensky, Adviser to the Minister of Foreign Trade, and included A.I. Ivanov and M.A. Davidov of the Ministry of Foreign Trade of the U.S.S.R. and V.N. Platonov, Commercial Counsellor of the U.S.S.R. Embassy in Ottawa.

The representatives of the two countries noted that there had been an increase in trade in both directions over the past year, and it was recognized that there were possibilities for further expansion on a mutually advantageous basis. The U.S.S.R. delegation announced the Soviet intention of taking part in the Montreal International Trade Fair with a wide range of Soviet goods. The Canadian delegation welcomed this initiative to expand trade between the countries.

This first annual consultation permitted representatives to examine various ways in which exports of the two countries might be developed under the terms of the current trade agreement. It was agreed that the discussions had been useful and had contributed to a better understanding of commercial relations between Canada and the U.S.S.R.

Mr. Hees received the Soviet delegation briefly before their departure from Ottawa on a short tour of industrial centres in southwestern Ontario. They were accompanied by W. Van Vliet, Canadian Commercial Counsellor in Moscow.

The three visiting members of the delegation are returning to Moscow tomorrow.

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NOVEL ARTISTIC USE OF GLASS

An enamel-on-glass screen in which a common industrial process has been used in an unusual way for artistic expression has been installed at Halifax International Airport, the Department of Transport announced recently. The work of Canadian sculptor Alfred B. Cox, ARCA, the screen is made of 3/8-inch plate glass on which colorful enamels have been fused at very high temperatures. Called "Wings and Fins" and showing fish and sea birds, the screen divides the mezzanine of the Department's new terminal building into more intimate waiting areas.

The screen is 36 feet long and 92 inches high. Since it depends for effect on light passing through it, it has been placed between large windows facing east and west. As sunlight moves across it, it changes

its aspect throughout the day and reveals yet a different quality at night.

Although fish, flying fish and birds are recognizable, "Wings and Fins" is not an encyclopedic representation of the fauna of sea and air. His purpose, says sculptor Cox, is merely "to delight the eye and stir the imagination."

For his Halifax screen, Cox, adapted a common industrial technique used to temper glass. It required the furnaces and equipment "as well as the forbearance of the staff" of Duplate of Canada at Oshawa.

E.B. Cox is best known as a sculptor in stone, wood and metal. He has recently executed commissions in stone for the women's residence of Victoria College in Toronto and the students' centre of McMaster University at Hamilton.

It is the Department of Transport's policy to include works by Canadian artists in its new air terminals. Thus a mural for the one at Gander was executed by Regina artist Ken Lochhead, while Montreal sculptor Louis Archambault was commissioned to provide metal sculptures for the Ottawa terminal.

WHEAT SUPPLY AND EXPORT

Supplies of wheat remaining on or about June 1 this year in the four major wheat-exporting countries for export and for carryover at the end of their respective crop years amounted to 2,236.5 million bushels, 3 per cent above the year-earlier total of 2,166.3 million bushels, June 1 supplies, in millions of bushels, were as follows: United States, 1,463.5 (1,356.3 a year ago); Canada, 589.9 (579.5); Argentina, 36.0 (104.5); and Australia, 147.1 (126.0).

Total exports of wheat and wheat flour, in terms of wheat, from the four major wheat-exporting countries during the first 10 months (August-May) of the current Canadian crop year amounted to 1,056.3 million bushels, some 29 per cent greater than the 816.0 million bushels exported in the same months of 1959-60.

Total world wheat exports, including products in grain equivalent, are expected to reach an all-time record of some 1,500 million bushels in the 1960-61 July-June crop year. This quantity is more than 12 per cent greater than the total 1959-60 world wheat shipments of 1,327 million bushels. These estimates of total world wheat trade include large volumes exported under various government-assisted programmes, with a substantial proportion of wheat shipments from the United States moving under such arrangements.

CANADIAN EXPORTS

The movement of Canadian wheat and flour exports has accelerated rapidly in recent months, with clearances of wheat alone reaching an all-time high of 42.2 million bushels for the month of May. Cumulative exports of wheat and flour during the first 10 months of the current crop year amounted to 287 million bushels, compared to 235 million bushels in the like 1959-60 period. Should the trend continue, exports of Canadian wheat and flour in 1960-61 will represent one of the highest levels on record.

While Canada stands second to the United States in terms of total wheat and flour exports, it is by far the largest seller in the world commercial market. In

1959-60, more than 95 per cent, or some 264 million bushels, of Canada's wheat exports were sold on normal commercial terms. Little more than half this quantity, or 135 million bushels, were sold by the United States for dollars.

Wheat and flour exports in the August-May period, including those under government programmes, were larger this year than last for the United States, Canada and Australia and smaller for Argentina. Ten-month totals were: United States, 564.0 million bushels (426.5 million a year earlier); Canada, 287.3 (235.4); Argentina, 59.2 (61.3); and Australia, 145.8 (92.8).

FOURTH VANCOUVER FESTIVAL

From July 10 to 22 Vancouver was a centre for films, film-makers and film-fans of all ages and nationalities during the fourth International Film Festival.

Special fringe events and children's showings widened the scope this year beyond the normal showing of features and short subjects from over 30 countries.

Films for the younger set included a serial from Britain called "Ali and The Camel", the story of a young Libyan boy, his talking camel and their adventures in search of stolen jewels. Accompanying each episode of the serial were short subjects from the United States, Poland, Rumania, Japan, Canada, Hungary and Great Britain.

Festival awards were presented Thursday, July 20, in the form of wood-carved plaques with a West-Indian motive designed by Canadian artist Bill Reid.

A new feature was an independent critics' jury composed of all the film critics present. On the closing night of the Festival the jury announced its awards for feature films, together with the Canadian Federation of Film Societies award.

Film lectures during the festival included Norman McLaren's "Aspects on Animation", illustrated by showings of his world-famous films, and Herman Weinberg's introduction to his retrospective showings, "The Golden Age of Classics." A seminar entitled "Film and the Critic" was also held on a seaside estate, followed by an outdoor evening screening.

TRADE ANALYSES ACCELERATED

A new trade analysis, one of a group designed to assist in the development of uniform trade standards and to bring about greater mobility and flexibility of Canada's labour force, has recently been released.

The publication, entitled "An Analysis of the Refrigeration and Air Conditioning Trade", is seven-teenth in a series being prepared by a group of national committees appointed by the Department of Labour, in co-operation with provincial apprenticeship authorities and trade associations.

The analyses list the essential operations a qualified journeyman should be able to perform as well as the related theoretical knowledge he should master to be fully competent in his trade. They can be used as the basis for courses of instruction in schools and

other institutions, as well as in industry for training on the job, and are a means of evaluating a person's previous experience in a trade.

REASON FOR HASTE

A stepped-up programme to analyse trades has been implemented to coincide with the increased emphasis on vocational and technical training, which will see the expenditure this fiscal year by the Federal Government of more than \$45 million for new and expanded training facilities and in support of various training programmes and other projects being implemented by the provinces.

Work is well advanced on the analysis of the lineman's trade (electric power utility). A committee has been selected and the study is expected to be completed early in 1962. Revisions of three other trade analyses are being made - machinist, motor vehicle repair, (mechanical) and carpentry. These will be completed by late fall. Work on the preparation of teaching aids is progressing. Thirty-two information sheets on the plumbing trade have already been finished and circulated and an additional 34 will be published shortly. This project, sponsored by the Master Plumbers' Association, is being carried out in co-operation with provincial and federal training officials. The possibility of preparing similar information sheets for the air-conditioning and refrigeration trade and the motor-vehicle repair trade is being studied.

Trades covered in the series of analyses to date are: bricklaying; carpentry; cooking (commercial); electrical (construction); heavy-duty equipment repair (body); motor-vehicle repair (mechanical); painting and decorating; plastering; plumbing; radio and television repair; sheet metal; steamfitting; toolmaking; and welding (gas and arc).

In addition to their use in Canada, certain trade analyses are being used in Japan, Formosa, China, the Philippines, Malaya, Burma, Hong Kong, Ceylon, India, Pakistan and sections of the United States.

NEW NORTHERN FERRY

Northern Affairs Minister Walter Dinsdale announced in Edmonton on August 3 that a 60-ton steel ferry, the "Johnny Berens", would go into service next day across the Mackenzie River at Fort Providence, Northwest Territories.

Ferry service completes the 683-mile Mackenzie Highway System from Grimshaw, Alberta, to Yellowknife, gold capital of the Northwest Territories, a vital link between southern Canada and the north.

"The new ferry" Mr. Dinsdale said, "will improve service to all travellers over the Mackenzie Highway system and reduce the traffic bottleneck that has existed since the Highway was opened. I am happy that it should have been named after the famous river pilot, Johnny Berens."

Mr. Berens, for 47 of his 83 years, was a river pilot for the Hudson's Bay Company and piloted such well-known ships as the "Wrigley II", "Mackenzie River", and "Distributor" on the 1250-mile run from Fort Smith to Aklavik. Berens was born at Fort Simpson, the son of a company employee, and one of his sons, Frederick, followed in his footsteps as a river pilot. Many of Berens's descendants still live in the Territories, where he died in 1954.

The Mackenzie Highway system within the Northwest Territories comprises the Mackenzie Highway from the Alberta border to Fort Providence, the Hay River Highway from Hay River to Enterprise, and the Great Slave Highway from Fort Providence to Yellowknife, as well as a number of secondary access roads connected to these main highways. The Great Slave Highway, 163 miles in length, has been used by traffic since the fall of 1960, and the "Johnny Berens" replaces the MV "Snare" which has been providing temporary ferry service at Fort Providence.

The ferry was designed by a naval architect, Robert Allan, of Vancouver, and built in Hay River by Rimmer & Sons Construction, of Edmonton, for the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

MAIL-HANDLING EXPERIMENT

Sweeping changes in methods of handling newspapers and magazines are under study in an important experiment being carried out by the Post Office Department in co-operation with major Canadian publishers, it was announced recently by Postmaster General William Hamilton.

The experiment, at present confined to major publishers in Montreal and Toronto, is expected to result in savings in mail handling costs estimated at up to a million dollars a year. It is also expected to produce improvements in the speed of handling newspapers by mail. Canadian publishers, Mr. Hamilton said, were enthusiastic about the test and were offering their fullest co-operation.

In the experimental operation, newspapers will no longer be weighed and rated at the Post Office before being sorted for onward transmission. Instead, postage rates will be calculated from the publishers records which will be audited by the Post Office Financial Branch.

Cutting out the weighing operation will save hundreds of thousands of man-hours at major Post Office terminals, Mr. Hamilton said, and will permit newspaper publishers to meet mail despatch deadlines which were formerly impossible. In addition, he noted, the Post Office will have a more accurate record of newspaper mailings and postal revenues will be more closely protected.

Mr. Hamilton said that the experiment could eventually be extended to all holders of second-class mailing privileges in Canada.