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REPORT ON NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

In his opening address to the sixteenth session of the Council of the Northwest Territories, Mr. Gordon Robertson, Commissioner of the Northwest Territories, reported on various measures which were being taken to solve the problem caused by the marked decline in the numbers of caribou, upon which the Eskimos have traditionally depended for a livelihood.

Mr. Robertson said:

"First, every effort will be made to keep in contact with the people who live off the land in the District of Keewatin so that the possibility of serious emergencies developing without access to outside help will be kept to a very minimum. At Churchill, the R.C.M. Police has arranged for a second aircraft and the Department of Northern Affairs are sending in a second Northern Service Officer so that patrol work can be intensified. Regular patrols will also be sent out from Baker Lake and Rankin Inlet to all camps within ground reach. Co-ordination between the Mounted Police and the Department of Northern Affairs has been worked out with great care so as to ensure the most effective use of the limited man-power available in the vast Keewatin area.

"Secondly, there is the Keewatin Re-establishment Project which has been set up about one mile from Rankin Inlet. This was referred to in my last opening address as the Tavani project but circumstances made it impossible to set it up at that particular point. Already at the new location near Rankin, some seventy

Eskimos have been re-settled. An airlift is now in progress to move an additional seventy persons from Garry Lake and the surrounding region. This latter group includes Eskimos from the most inaccessible areas or from among those in most straitened circumstances. Many of these Eskimos, we hope will be able to make the adjustment to a sea economy which can, with effective methods of exploitation, sustain many more than now rely on it. Some will be encouraged to follow handicraft production, while others will be trained to enter wage employment. Still others may be settled elsewhere in the Arctic to follow their traditional hunting way of life.

"Finally, as a supplementary measure, arrangements are underway for the establishment of an Emergency Camp Unit at a suitable point on a trial basis. This will consist of a small building, emergency food supplies, a radio transmitter and a medical kit. The unit will be inspected regularly by the Northern Service Officer in the course of his patrol and supplies replenished as required. Experience this winter will determine whether additional units might profitably be established at other locations.

"As a result of these various measures, it is our hope that a substantial number of Eskimos will not only be protected against hardship and starvation but that they can gradually be introduced to new ways of earning a livelihood.

"Meanwhile, there have been other encouraging developments. Wage employment of Eskimos at the North Rankin Nickel Mines has proved most successful and the management is well satisfied with the work of the some 100 Eskimos employed in the mining operation. At Frobisher Bay, commercial char fishing which was begun last summer on an experimental small-scale basis will be expanded next season. Market research is continuing in an effort to enlarge the demand for Eskimo handicrafts and stone carvings. The Eskimo Rehabilitation Project at Frobisher Bay is also developing along very satisfactory lines and should assist an increasing number of Eskimos in preparing for employment and other income opportunities."

Mr. Robertson went on to speak about education in the Territories which, he said, was one of the keys for all our northern people, of whatever blood.

He continued:

"Last September I had the pleasure of opening the new High and Vocational School and hostel at Yellowknife. These institutions have since been named after two men whose exploits are part of the early history of the Yellowknife area - Sir John Franklin and his Indian colleague, Akaitcho. Anyone who has seen this fine modern school and hostel would find it difficult to believe that a short dozen years ago there was not a single government school anywhere in the Northwest Territories.

"Today, there are no less than 48 government operated schools containing 140 classrooms serving the Northwest Territories and the Eskimo population of northern Quebec. There are also 6 non-government schools with 36 classrooms in which children of the Northwest Territories are educated. In addition, there are 22 part-time mission schools.

"While government participation is a post-war development, education in the Northwest Territories is as old as Canada itself. The first school - a mission residential school staffed by the Grey Nuns of Montreal - opened its doors at Fort Providence in the year of confederation, 1867. In the Eastern Arctic the first mission day school was established at Little Whale River in 1876 by an Anglican missionary who a few years later started another school at Blacklead Island. Sixty years later, in 1939, a handful of southerners, who had settled in Yellowknife during the two previous years, established their own school district, exercising a right which had existed since 1870 but had not been exercised in the Territories since 1905, that is, not since Alberta and Saskatchewan "seceded" and the Territories assumed their present dimensions.

"Tribute should be paid to the churches who introduced and maintained education during the long period when there was no interest on the part of either the federal or the territorial government. Limited by dollars but unlimited

in devotion, the churches did a magnificent job within the extent of their resources and pioneered the way for the developments that were to follow many years later.

"There was a time when education did not seem to be important to the lives of the native peoples of the North. Nearly all of them were able to earn their livelihood by hunting, fishing and trapping; and there did not appear to be good reason to think that they could not continue to do so. Furthermore, there did not for many years seem to be much prospect that other ways of living, for which education would equip them, would be available for more than a very few.

"The fact is, however, that from the first introduction of fire-arms, which unbalanced the delicate equilibrium between man and nature, a gradual but inexorable change has been taking place. The very work of the churches themselves - which has done so much to prevent suffering and death by fostering principles of Christian charity - has had a profound effect on the native peoples of the North. For better or for worse, the coming of the white man and the impact of his ways have altered for all time to come the pattern of life for the men and women who were the original inhabitants of the Canadian North. They have made necessary a reorientation to completely changed circumstances.

"During the past few years, the process of change has been greatly accelerated. The rate of population growth among the Eskimos and Indian people has gone up substantially - largely as the result of improved health care and the effect of family allowances in providing the children with a more stable supply of food and clothing. The population increase has placed a greater demand on the supply of game and fur-bearing animals, making it increasingly difficult for the native peoples to earn a livelihood in their accustomed way. At the same time, the sharp decline in fur prices and in the volume of the catch have further aggravated the situation.

"Fortunately, at the very time when changing conditions were making it progressively harder for the native populations to rely on their traditional ways of life, other sources of income were becoming available - but only for those individuals equipped to take advantage of them. Increased defence activity and more intensive economic development offered opportunities for employment of Indians and Eskimos. The declining life on the land made action imperative - and the new developments provided new prospects. The clear requirement was for action by government to carry over into a new era the work of the churches in providing education and to make a start in the field of vocational training.

"It was not until 1946 that an Order-in-Council (P.C. 2993 of July 18, 1946) was passed designating education as a subject within the legislative authority of the Com-

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MAJOR HYDRO-ELECTRIC EXPANSION

Canada recorded her greatest annual increase in hydro-electric generating capacity in 1958, Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, has reported in his annual statement on Hydro-Electric Progress in Canada. The year's net total reached the commanding figure of nearly two and a half million horse-power, more than half a million horsepower greater than the previous record year in 1954, and nearly one million horse-power above last year's total. Installations under construction forecast the addition of about two million horse-power in 1959 and upwards of two and a half million in succeeding years. The total installed capacity is now 22,376,048 h.p., which is about a quarter of the feasible turbine installation based on Canada's estimated water-power resources.

The St. Lawrence River power development produced the largest installation at a single development and gave Ontario the biggest annual increase among the provinces. The bringing into operation of the first nine units of the Robert H. Saunders-St. Lawrence Generating Station at Barnhart Island added 675,000 h.p. to the Canadian total, and it was followed closely by Quebec's contribution of 450,000 h.p. by the completion of the final three units of the Bersimis 1 development of the Quebec Hydro-Electric Commission.

There was increased activity in the building of new thermal-electric plants and extensions to existing plants in nine of the ten provinces and in Yukon Territory and the Northwest Territories. Work was resumed at Ontario's 20,000-kw, nuclear-electric generating station near Des Joachims on the Ottawa River, after a halt had been called to make changes in the design of the reactor.

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GOVERNMENT FINANCES

Mr. Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance, has released the regular monthly statement of the Government's financial operations for December 1, 1958 and the first nine months of the current fiscal year.

For December, budgetary revenues were \$506.5 million, expenditures were \$453.4 million and there was a surplus of \$53.1 million. For December 1957, revenues were \$451 million, expenditures were \$422.4 million and there was a surplus of \$28.6 million.

For the first nine months of the current fiscal year, budgetary revenues were \$3,452.5 million, expenditures were \$3,573.4 million and there was a deficit of \$120.9 million. For the same nine-month period a year ago, revenues were \$3,755.8 million, expenditures (which included \$100 million to the Canada

Council) were \$3,468.1 million and there was a surplus of \$287.7 million.

Mr. Fleming pointed out that while budgetary expenditures of the Department of National Defence for the nine months to December 31, 1958, were \$950.1 million compared with \$1,172.3 million for the same nine-month period last year, \$174.3 million was also disbursed during the nine months to December 31, 1958 from the special defence accounts, reflecting the decision to liquidate the National Defence equipment account during the course of the current fiscal year.

Operations of the old age security fund, which are not included in budgetary transactions, resulted in a deficit of \$19.2 million for December 1958, and an accumulated deficit of \$147.2 million for the nine months to December 31, 1958. Last year for the nine months to December 31, 1957 there was an accumulated deficit of \$65.4 million. These deficits were covered by temporary loans by the Minister under the terms of the Old Age Security Act.

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METEOROLOGY DEPARTMENT AT MCGILL

Canada's first Department of Meteorology will be established at McGill University, Dr. F. Cyril James, Principal and Vice-Chancellor, announced recently. Candidates will be prepared for an honours B.Sc. degree and for M.-Sc. and Ph.D. degrees in the Faculty of Graduate Studies and Research. Meteorological study is not new at McGill. The establishment of a separate department, however, will enable the university to train senior undergraduates and to strengthen and extend its research activities.

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WAR ACE RELICS AT MUSEUM

The exploits of Canada's heroic Great War pilots are recalled in a new exhibit at the Canadian War Museum. Relics of three famed pilots, each a winner of the Victoria Cross, are being displayed this year to coincide with the celebration of the 50th anniversary of powered flight in Canada.

Air Marshal W.A. Bishop, V.C., D.S.O. and Bar, M.C., D.F.C. and numerous other Allied decorations, and Lieut.-Col. W.G. Barker, V.C., D.S.O. and Bar, M.C. and two Bars, were the best-known of the intrepid fliers who fired the imagination of Canadians with their daring victories in the air over France, and led Canada into the age of aviation. Souvenirs of their fighting days and of Lieut. A.A. MacLeod, who was awarded the V.C. at the age of 18 for his outstanding bravery in an action in which his bomber was attacked and shot down by the German ace, Hans Kirschstein, form the new exhibit.

PRIVATE INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

Industrial research programmes costing \$149,144,079 were undertaken by 455 firms in Canada during 1957, according to a recent survey by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, and indications are that similar expenditures by these firms will exceed \$160,000,000 this year.

Of the total sum spent in 1957, \$87,498,276 was derived from private enterprise, and the balance of \$61,645,803 was composed of \$49,564,516 paid by the Government on prime contracts for research development and \$12,081,287 for research-development paid as part of procurement contracts.

Excluding the amount paid by the Government for prime contracts on research-development, these firms spent \$99,579,563 on research, approximately 50 per cent more than the \$66,000,000 spent by 377 firms in 1955 shown in the first Bureau survey of research-development expenditures which covered almost 2,500 firms. Data on government research-development prime contracts were not collected in the 1955 survey. Both surveys covered firms with 100 or more employees.

Of total research expenditures, 65 per cent was spent in the engineering fields; chemistry and physics made up 20 per cent and the balance was spread among metallurgy, geology, geophysics and other earth sciences, medicine, and agriculture. As in 1955, total research-development expenditures were highest in the transportation equipment, electrical apparatus and supplies, and chemical products industries. Transportation equipment, which includes aircraft manufacture, accounted for about \$73,000,000, or almost half of the total for all industries.

Capital investment in research-development facilities during 1957 increased \$12,782,707 and this sum was more than 20 per cent of the total value of all research facilities existing at the end of 1955 when they totalled \$59,000,000. Reporting organizations spent \$125,533,888 for research within their own companies; \$3,782,341 with other firms in Canada; and \$19,827,850 outside of the country.

The direct cost of research in 1957 equalled 0.92 per cent of sales by all groups reporting and this was almost double the 0.5 per cent established in 1955. The highest percentage of 4.47 was recorded by the transportation equipment group followed by electrical apparatus and supplies with 1.56 per cent, and chemical products with 1.26 per cent.

The equivalent of 4,448 professionally trained scientists and engineers were employed in research-development by the reporting companies in 1957. Of these, 3,433 held bachelor's degrees, 429 master's degrees and 586 doctor's degrees. The majority were located in the transportation equipment,

electrical apparatus and supplies, and the chemical products industries. There were 7,263 supporting personnel, of whom 3,737 were research-development technicians, and 802 were skilled craftsmen.

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MODERN CONVENIENCES INCREASE

Proportions of Canadian households equipped with electrical and other modern conveniences increased again in 1958, according to advance figures from the Dominion Bureau of Statistics' annual survey of household facilities and equipment released recently. The printed report on the survey, with details by provinces, will be available in early February. The survey shows that all but about 4 per cent of all households were served with electricity and all but a small number had radios. More than four-fifths had washing machines and mechanical refrigeration, and close to four-fifths had telephones.

Heading the list in the rate of increase over 1957 were television receivers with sets now in use close to 70 per cent of the estimated 4,173,000 households, versus 63 per cent in 1957. Some 96 per cent of households had radios in both years and nearly 79 per cent had telephones versus 76 per cent in 1957. More than 96 per cent of households were served with electricity as compared with just under that figure in the preceding year.

Furnaces were used for heating some 61 per cent of households in 1958, up from 59 per cent in 1957, those using other types of equipment falling to 39 per cent from 41 per cent. More households used oil and gas for heating purposes but fewer used coal and coke. Making up the proportion with furnaces, 34 per cent of total households used oil in 1958 (32 per cent in 1957), 13 per cent coal or coke (16 per cent), 10 per cent used gas (7 per cent), and 4 per cent used wood (unchanged from 1957).

Electricity was used for cooking purposes in close to 50 per cent of Canadian households in 1958, up about 1 per cent from 1957. Fewer households used wood and coal for this purpose (22 per cent versus 25 per cent), but more used gas (22 per cent versus 20 per cent).

Mechanical refrigerators were used in more than 86 per cent of households as compared with 83 per cent in the preceding year, and some 8 per cent had home freezers versus 7 per cent. Some 87 per cent of households had washing machines versus 86 per cent, 61 per cent had vacuum cleaners versus 58 per cent, and 68 per cent had sewing machines versus 67 per cent.

Sixty-three per cent of households had automobiles as compared with 60 per cent in the preceding year, of which 57 per cent had one automobile versus 55 per cent, and 7 per cent had two or more versus 6 per cent.

REPORT ON THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

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missioner in Council of the Northwest Territories. Since then, the education of white children and children of mixed blood has been the responsibility of the Territorial Government. By agreement, however, the actual administration of education in the Territories is discharged by the Department of Northern Affairs. The Department is responsible for the education of Eskimos wherever they may be, and by agreement with the Department of Citizenship and Immigration, for the education of Indians in the Northwest Territories. The Territorial Government makes a financial contribution proportionate to the attendance of children other than Indians and Eskimos.

"Also in 1946, the first government educational organization for the Territories was set up with the appointment of an Inspector of Schools for the Mackenzie District, and the creation of an Education Division in what is now the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Since then, the educational establishment for the Northwest Territories and for Eskimos in northern Quebec has steadily expanded. By 1950, the total staff of the Education Division, including teachers, caretakers and Headquarters administrative staff, totalled 60. By 1956, it had more than doubled to 125. Today it stands at 271 and next year a further increase is planned to bring the total to 350.

"The problem of expanding school facilities has been made more difficult by the scattered nature of the Eskimo and Indian population which has meant that residential facilities for many of the children attending school have had to be provided. In the past four years, hostels have been built by the Government at Fort McPherson, Yellowknife and Fort Smith to accommodate 400 children. By agreement, these hostels, intended primarily for Eskimo and Indian children, are operated on the Government's behalf by the Roman Catholic and Anglican churches. At Yellowknife, the Akaitcho Hostel designed to accommodate children from outlying parts who attend the Sir John Franklin School is operated by the Government itself.

"Along with the expansion in physical facilities, there has been built up a teaching staff of the very finest quality. I am told that the educational qualifications of territorial teachers are the highest in Canada, that a larger proportion hold university degrees than in any province, and that, in spite of the sometimes difficult living conditions, the turnover is the lowest in Canada. On behalf of this Council, I should like to pay public tribute to the dedicated men and women who are engaged in this challenging and rewarding work.

"During the past five years, greatly increased emphasis has been placed on vocational

training and nearly 700 persons have been trained in forty different fields, ranging all the way from carpentry, welding and mechanics to hairdressing and nurses aides. Almost half of the trainees have been Eskimos with the balance fairly evenly divided between Indians and whites.

"In spite of all that I have said about the rapid educational progress of the postwar years, the sober fact remains that we are still a long way from making educational opportunity universally available to every child in the Territories. Even in the Mackenzie District, the most easily accessible and most densely settled part of the Territories, one school age child in ten is without educational facilities. In the Keewatin District, two out of three children of school age are without schools, while in the District of Franklin only one child in five has a school to attend. And although the 49 additional classrooms planned for next year will accommodate from 800 to 900 children, this will do little more than meet the natural increase in children of school age. In short, we have made enormous progress in the last few years, but there is still a great deal to be done.

"Today we are at a midway point in the developing educational programme for the Territories. A dozen years ago there were government schools for no one; a dozen years from now there should be schools for everyone; schools where they can receive the knowledge and skills required for a satisfying, meaningful and productive life in Canada's changing North".

Turning to other matters, Mr. Robertson said:

"I am happy to report to Council that the Northwest Territories will be honoured by a visit to Yellowknife on Monday, July 20 by Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth and His Royal Highness, The Prince Philip, during their forthcoming tour of Canada. The Territories have before played host to Prince Philip and to His Excellency, the Governor-General, and I am sure that next summer the Royal Couple will be heartened by the warm and friendly welcome they will undoubtedly receive from the people of Yellowknife and the surrounding area.

"In my opening address at our last meeting, I referred to the decision of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation to effect a very substantial expansion and improvement in the radio service available to the people of Northern Canada. Already the 'Voice of the Golden North', CFYK Yellowknife, has been taken over by the C.B.C. and is now providing regular service under the direction of its new Manager, Mr. A.J. Stewart, formerly a C.B.C. producer in Toronto. A license has been requested for a new station at Fort Smith where studio space has been provided in the basement of the new school. These are but the first

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steps in a long-range programme that will eventually extend to other stations such as CFHR, Hay River and CHAK, Aklavik. Meanwhile, tapes of recorded C.B.C. programmes are being provided on a regular basis to Resolute and Alert. I understand that the C.B.C. is also considering the possibility of establishing a station at Frobisher Bay.

"Work on the Enterprise-Yellowknife Road is proceeding satisfactorily and the target date for completion is the fall of 1960. Although some delays were experienced as the result of rainy weather towards the end of the summer, the road has been completed and gravelled to a point 32 miles north of Fort Providence. From the Yellowknife end, approximately 21 miles have been completed and the balance of the clearing to Fort Rae will be done this year as part of the winter work programme. On the Marian Lake Road, 18 miles of clearing will be carried out this winter by Indian labour. The balance of the clearing on the Peace Point-Wood Buffalo Park Road will also be completed in the coming months as part of the winter work programme.

"The programme of the Federal Government for 'Roads to Resources' in the provinces will be of benefit in the future to certain parts of the Northwest Territories. Of the projects under that programme, the re-construction of the Alberta portion of the Mackenzie Highway and the Uranium City road in Saskatchewan will be of particular interest.

"In the fields of air and water transportation, a number of developments of interest to the Northwest Territories are also occurring. Operation of the air field at Cambridge Bay will be assumed by the Department of Transport next summer. The system of air strips in northern Canada is being steadily expanded by financial contributions for strips needed for individual developments such as mines. In addition, aids to navigation, docks and transshipment facilities on the water system are being improved; for example, at the port of Tuktoyaktuk docks have now been completed for the improved supply of the Western Arctic - including the DEW line stations - by the Mackenzie River water system.

"In my previous address, I spoke of the plans of the Northern Canada Power Commission to produce at a new site on the Snare River to be developed approximately ten miles downstream from the Commission's existing plant. I can now report that orders have been placed for major equipment and that the general construction contract has been let. It is hoped that the plant will be in operation by the fall of 1960.

"At Inuvik, work is progressing very satisfactorily. 1958 was an exceptionally good construction season with no time lost because of bad weather. A good airport capable of handling multi-engined aircraft is now in operation. A large school and two hostels will

be ready by next fall. The power, heat, water and sewage plant commenced supplying electricity in November and work is proceeding to ensure that it will be in full operation by next summer.

"To the east, at Frobisher Bay, a new town-site about a mile from the airport has been selected and approved by the federal Cabinet. Frobisher Bay continues to develop as an important civilian airport serving military air requirements as well.

"Mineral exploration and development in the Northwest Territories are continuing at a good level. Once again I can report that the major emphasis is on oil and gas. During 1958, oil and gas exploration permits issued covered a record 32,000,000 acres of northern Canada - of which area about two-thirds is in the Northwest Territories. This is the highest total for a single year since active interest in oil began in 1952. There has also been considerable activity in exploration for gold in the Yellowknife Mining District and for iron on Baffin Island and some of the islands of Hudson Bay.

"As requested at the last Council session, the question of public hospital insurance for the people of the Territories has been investigated. A paper dealing with the implications of such a programme will be presented for your consideration. If, after that consideration, it is the view of the Council that the administration should proceed with detailed arrangements and discussions with the Federal Government looking toward a definite agreement, I would hope that it might be possible to have specific proposals for action at the next session of the Council...."

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LONDON APPOINTMENT

The appointment has been announced of Mr. B.C. Butler as Minister (Commercial) at the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada to the United Kingdom, in London, England. Mr. Butler succeeds Mr. H. Leslie Brown who was appointed Assistant Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, (Trade Commissioner Service) late in June.

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SKI CHAMPION

Miss Anne Heggveit, of Ottawa, has brought skiing honours to Canada for the second year by winning the two-stage International White Ribbon Tournament at St. Moritz, Switzerland, on January 23 and 24. She came first in the slalom race and fourth in the downhill run.

Although the White Ribbon tournament is not among the top ski events, it is often a preliminary for them and it puts the winner among the world's best skiers.