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HOSPITAL CARE IN CANADA

In an address to the 62nd Annual Meeting of the American Hospital Association at San Francisco on August 31, Canada's Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, said that, when he referred to a "Canadian approach to hospital care", it was "fair to assume that I am implying that there is something unique about what we have done in this field." The speaker proceeded to elaborate this statement as follows:

DECENTRALIZATION

"...For example, Canada has always maintained the principle of decentralization of hospital services. Like yours, our hospitals have been owned and controlled by municipalities, voluntary groups, and religious orders. The main burden of financing construction and other capital items has been carried at the community level. Where financial aid has been provided by the senior levels of government, every effort has been made to guard against centralized control.

"Our aim has been to preserve the independence of hospitals and to see that responsibility for their well-being remains as far as possible in the hands of those they serve directly. I believe this principle is of fundamental importance and would point out that it has been followed in implementing what is without doubt the most far-reaching development in the hospital field in our history. I refer to the recently introduced programme of public insurance covering basic hospital care and diagnostic services.

"I intend to discuss this programme in some detail but before doing so I would like to give you some of the background factors which led up to this great social experiment.

RISING COSTS

"Probably the most important single impetus behind Canada's adoption of a public system of hospital insurance and diagnostic services was the continuing climb in hospital costs. This was due to the convergence of a number of related factors. There was, of course, the matter of inflation which affected Canada as it has other countries of the Western World in the postwar period. In fact, it has been estimated that in Canada inflation accounted for fully 40 per cent of the increase in hospital operating costs between 1948 and 1958. These costs, incidentally, more than tripled in that decade -- rising from \$208 million to nearly \$620 million annually.

"A further 25 per cent of the overall increase was due to population growth and an additional similar percentage to internal changes in the quality, organization and amount of hospital services rendered. The latter sprang, of course, largely from medical progress, which has multiplied the number of services necessary for skilled diagnosis and treatment while at the same time increasing the dependence of the physician and the patient on hospitals to provide these services.

"Less than 10 per cent of the rise in operating costs between 1948-58 was associated with increases in the rate at which people use

(Over)

hospitals, although these were substantial. For example, the rate for hospitals other than mental and tuberculosis institutions went up over the ten-year period from 1,371 to 1,684 days for every thousand population.

"Looking at the picture as a whole then, we find a sharp rise in hospital operating costs. On a *per capita* basis, the net national average for hospitals excluding mental and tuberculosis facilities had, in fact, more than doubled, going up from \$10.19 to \$26.51. Just how serious their situation had become was evident in the fact that over the same 10-year period, the total operating deficits for the classes of hospitals I have mentioned increased thirteen-fold.

COST TO PATIENTS

"If the situation was serious for hospitals, the mounting costs of care also worked hardship on consumers of their services. There had, of course, been a considerable development in the field of voluntary and commercial hospital insurance plans but these had definite drawbacks. There were, for example, difficulties with respect to covering different segments of the population such as farmers, older people and those in lower income brackets. In addition, the plans contained limitations in relation to such matters as pre-existing conditions and catastrophic illness which made them less than adequate in many cases.

"A further positive factor in the picture was the existence of various types of public insurance plans in certain Canadian provinces. These ranged from a scheme covering residents in the outports of Newfoundland to province-wide programmes in Saskatchewan and British Columbia. The operation of such programmes also gave impetus to effective action being taken on a national basis....

"To sum up then, our hospital insurance and diagnostic services programme was developed to meet the problem of rising costs of hospital care with its twin implications for hospital financing and for the economic situation of patients. Closely related, of course, was the need for maintaining and improving the standard of hospital care itself.

"How should this be done? Obviously it represented a very complicated problem. Action by the Federal Government was necessary from the financial viewpoint and also in order to ensure a degree of uniformity and a high quality of insured services available to Canadians in all parts of the country. At the same time, it was vital to preserve as much decentralization of activity as possible -- in so far as the 10 provinces were concerned which under our constitution have primary responsibility for health matters, and also with regard to hospitals whose independence and autonomy was a long-standing tradition. How could these various objectives be met simultaneously?

"Fortunately we did not have to tackle the job completely from scratch. Back in 1948,

what was then described as a first step towards hospital insurance had been initiated in the form of a joint federal-provincial programme of health grants. These covered a wide range of services and were designed primarily to strengthen efforts in such fields as hospital construction, professional training, general public health, public health research, mental health, cancer and tuberculosis control.

"...The results of these national health grants -- which initially involved annual federal allocations of \$30 million and which now amount to almost double that figure -- have been most encouraging. As far as hospitals are concerned, the grants have helped provide some 83,000 new adult patient beds. The majority of these have been in general and chronic hospitals, the bed-population ratio of which has been raised from 4.7 to 5.7 per thousand. In addition, the grants have aided in doubling the number of trained full-time hospital personnel and there has also been a tremendous improvement and expansion with respect to hospital equipment....

VOLUNTARY EFFORTS NOT CURTAILED

"When it came to implementing hospital insurance, the basic tools were, therefore, already in our hands. What was done was quite simple in principle. The system of voluntary hospitals developed over the years by community and religious groups was left intact. Government did not take over ownership or control of these institutions. At the same time, public support of their services was provided through joint federal-provincial contributions as had been done in the case of certain of the national health grants. No overall single programme was enforced across the country. Instead, provinces were free to develop their own programmes in line with their own particular circumstances, provided that these programmes came within the scope of the broad framework set up by the Federal Parliament. What is more, the task of administration was left to the provinces and this included the ways and means by which their share of costs would be raised.

"This is the basic structure which emerged and which I believe justified my reference to it as being unique. In no other country to my knowledge, has the conception of voluntary hospitals been so combined with public financial support. In no other country with a federal system of government has responsibility been so apportioned as, on the one hand to preserve a fundamental degree of decentralization, and on the other to ensure a large measure of uniformity throughout a dozen separate jurisdictions....

"As far as the programme itself is concerned, there are many aspects which should be mentioned. In fact, there are too many for any one speech, because, while the principle behind it is relatively simple, the actual details are quite complicated. Certain points, however, are of outstanding importance. One is the

WINNIPEG SATELLITE AIRPORT

Purchase negotiations for the land to be used for a "satellite" airport for Winnipeg have now been completed, it was announced on August 26 by the Minister of Transport, Mr. George Hees.

The transaction involved dealing with some 20 property owners and the transfer of title for approximately 1,000 acres. The site is the junction of highways 8 and 8A in St. Andrews municipality, 11 miles north of Winnipeg.

The purpose of the airport is to provide suitable facilities for light-aircraft operations, clear of the growing volume of traffic at Winnipeg's busy main airport.

The initial phase calls for an all-way grass area, drainage and maintenance building. The Department plans to undertake this during the coming fiscal year if funds are made available. Any further developments, such as landing strips and additional buildings, would be wholly dependent upon the future needs of this secondary airport, it was stated.

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HOG PREMIUMS

Agriculture Minister Douglas S. Harkness announced recently that, effective for hogs slaughtered on and after October 3, the quality premiums would be \$3.00 a hog for carcasses grading Canada Grade A, instead of the present \$2.00 for Grade A and \$1.00 for Grade B.

Mr. Harkness pointed out that this is in line with a statement he made in connection with the change in national grade standards for hog carcasses, which went into effect October 5 last year.

At that time, he said that, in view of the importance of encouraging the highest possible percentage of Grade A hogs, it was proposed to devote the quality premium entirely to hogs of that grade, starting the latter part of 1960.

QUALITY IMPROVEMENT NEEDED

Mr. Harkness emphasized the need for improvement in quality if the Canadian hog industry is to maintain its rightful position in the domestic and export markets. A higher proportion of lean, meaty carcasses is necessary to sustain and increase consumer preference for pork products in the face of strong competition from other foods.

There has been some improvement in the percentage of Grade A hogs since the revision in carcass grades, and the Minister hoped the adjustment in quality premiums would provide added incentive. During the first half of this year, 30.1 per cent of hog carcasses qualified as Grade A.

It would be profitable for producers to increase the percentage of Grade A's, he said, and, judging from past performance of individual producers and communities, it would seem that they could easily double the present figure.

SECRETARY OF AUTO COMMISSION

Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced on August 26 the appointment of Miss J. Elizabeth Leitch, economist, as Secretary of the Royal Commission on the Automobile Industry. For the past ten years Miss Leitch has been employed in the Department of Trade and Commerce in Ottawa, where she has participated in a variety of economic and statistical studies. Since 1953 she has been Assistant to the Director of the Economics Branch of that Department.

Miss Leitch will retain her connection with the Department of Trade and Commerce; the service with the Royal Commission is, of course, only for the duration of the inquiry.

* * * *

CANADA LENDS TEACHERS

The Department of External Affairs has announced that fourteen Canadian teachers will shortly be leaving Canada to take up assignments abroad under Canadian foreign aid programmes. This is a result of one of the decisions taken at the Commonwealth Education Conference held at Oxford in 1959, when Canada offered certain assistance designed to help other Commonwealth countries in the training of teachers. The fourteen teachers are: Mr. G. Wayne Hall, Secretary of the Institute of Education at Macdonald College, and Mr. J.G. Egnatoff of the Teachers' College, Saskatoon, both of whom are going to the Teachers' College at Lagos, Nigeria; Mr. J.I.F. Levaque, Supervisor of the Industrial Arts Department for the Ottawa Separate School Board, who is going to Uganda in Africa; Mrs. M.M. McDonald of the Eston High School, Saskatchewan, Mr. J.C. Jensen, Superintendent of Schools for the city of Drumheller, Alberta, Mr. F.L. Bates of the Teachers' College, Regina, Saskatchewan, Mr. R.V. Whiteley, Head of the Science Department of the Seaforth High School in Ontario, Mr. R. B. Gould, Superintendent of Schools for the city of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, and Mr. C.A.E. Hensley, Head of the Schools Science Centre at Winnipeg, Manitoba, all of whom are going to the West Indies; Mr. D.M. Collacott of the Community Planning Branch, Department of Education for the Province of Ontario, who is going to North Borneo; Mr. C.S. Carroll, Head of the Mathematics Department of North Vancouver High School, and Mr. W.G. Wedder, Assistant Principal of Hardisty Junior High School, at Edmonton, who are going to the Teachers' College in Singapore; and Mr. and Mrs. C.H. Smith, both teacher counsellors of the Victoria School District in British Columbia, who are going together to Kanowit in Sarawak.

Eleven of the fourteen teachers were in Ottawa from August 24 to 26, where they attended lectures and talks on the under-developed countries and their problems, with special emphasis on education, and were shown appropriate films.

1960 TYRONE GUTHRIE AWARDS

Five individuals connected with the Stratford Shakespearean Festival were recently announced as the recipients of the 1960 Tyrone Guthrie Awards.

In a ceremony held on August 24 in the rehearsal hall of the Festival Theatre, the five awards, ranging in value from \$100 to \$1,500, were presented by Dr. Guthrie himself to Al Kozlik, Dan McDonald, Cynthia McLennan, Fred Nihda and Sheila Macdonald.

William Needles, chairman of the award committee and a leading member of the Festival company, pointed out that the Tyrone Guthrie awards were established in 1953 when the first Festival company wished to show its appreciation of the contribution to Canadian theatre and the guidance of Dr. Guthrie, the Festival's first artistic director.

Rather than have the money spent on a gift, Dr. Guthrie suggested that a fund be established to provide scholarships for the development of theatre in Canada. The money, Mr. Needles explained, is raised through a benefit matinee performance each year, for which the actors volunteer their services. The fund is administered by the Festival management on instructions from the company itself and the awards are in the hands of a selection committee consisting of Mr. Needles, Mervyn Blake, Jack Hutt, Max Helpmann, Michael Langham and Tom Patterson.

1960 WINNERS:

Al Kozlik, of Vancouver, winner of the Dominion Drama Festival best-actor award for his performance as Eddie Carbone in Arthur Miller's "A View From the Bridge," and at present appearing in "Romeo and Juliet" at the Stratford Festival. Mr. Kozlik was awarded \$1,500 to provide means for a year's study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in London, England.

Dan McDonald, of Pictou, Nova Scotia, a 1959 apprentice at the Stratford Festival, who returned this year to appear in all three plays of the 1960 season, was awarded \$1,500 to provide means for a year's study at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in London.

Cynthia McLennan, of London, Ontario, Festival wardrobe worker for the past three years and wardrobe cutter for the National Ballet company, received \$1,000 to study theatrical arts abroad.

Fred Nihda, of Toronto, a member of the Festival Theatre's properties department for the past two seasons, and responsible this season for the manufacture of costume jewelry, was awarded \$1,000 to further his studies abroad.

Sheila Macdonald, of Toronto, a T. Eaton Co. scholarship-winner from the Ontario College of Art, and this year in the costume-painting and properties department of the Festival, received a \$100 travel grant to assist in

obtaining passage to England in order that she might qualify for her scholarship.

In addition to these awards, the Selection Committee set aside \$3,500 to bring instructors in voice, diction and body movement to Stratford for the 1961 Festival season.

* * * *

NATIONAL THEATRE SCHOOL

A dream of seven years has come true at last; on 2 November, the National Theatre School of Canada (Ecole Nationale de Théâtre du Canada) will begin operations. Inspired by the internationally famous teacher-director Michel St. Denis, who has agreed to serve as artistic adviser, the Canadian Theatre Centre has spent the past year launching the long-awaited venture.

Each year, from November until June, the School will operate in Montreal, and during July and August it will occupy the Stratford Collegiate Institute, in Stratford, Ontario.

PROGRAMME

The National Theatre School of Canada will train actors, directors, designers and technicians for the professional theatre. It will teach French and English speaking students under the same roof, but in their own respective traditions. In some courses, such as fencing, acrobatics and movement, the courses will combine. The training for actors will be a full three-year course, followed, it is hoped, by several months of practical experience in a small touring company of the School. The acting course begins in November.

For directors, designers and technicians, the first year will consist of elementary technical training, after which the best students will be encouraged to take two years of advanced training, specializing in direction, design (costumes and scenery), and production management, (stage directors, lighting and sound directors, company and business managers). The production course will begin in November 1961.

Enrolment will be limited in order to provide the maximum of personal attention to carefully-selected students. The basis of acceptance will be talent alone, and it is hoped that a system of scholarships and bursaries can be instituted to ensure that no student of talent need be denied admission for financial reasons. For the first year of the National Theatre School only the acting course will be presented. Enrolment will be limited to thirty students, appropriately divided between the two language groups; they must be between the ages of 17 and 24 years. No academic qualifications are necessary.

Auditions for acting for potential students will be conducted in the major cities across Canada during July and early August by the directors of the School, M. Jean Gascon and Mr. Powys Thomas.

HOSPITAL CARE IN CANADA

(Continued from p.2)

method of financing which is embodied in a formula contained in the Federal Act.

FINANCING

"Here two factors had to be considered. First there was the wide variation in per capita hospital costs among the provinces. Second, there was the fact that per capita income was quite different in various parts of the country. In order to allow for these factors, a new departure was initiated in federal grants-in-aid. Under the national health grants, for example, little provision is made for relating federal contributions to provincial costs and fiscal needs. What is used there is basically a flat grant system. Under the hospital insurance programme, however, this system was set aside and one involving variable grants introduced....

VARIATION IN FEDERAL SHARE

"With all provinces participating, federal payments would represent about 50 per cent of national shareable costs. On a province-by-province basis, however, the proportion of shareable costs met by the Federal Treasury would vary considerably. For example, a low-cost province like Newfoundland might receive up to 62 per cent of its shareable costs, while a high-cost province like Saskatchewan might receive as low as 43 per cent of its shareable costs....

"While a high-cost province receives less than 50 per cent of its shareable costs, and a low-cost province receives more than 50 per cent of its shareable costs, the high-cost province will receive a higher per capita payment than does a low-cost province. For example, using the same provinces I have just mentioned, federal payments to Newfoundland might amount to \$10.25 an insured person as against \$14.70 in Saskatchewan....

SCOPE OF SERVICES

"I hope you have followed me through this rather complicated labyrinth. There are other aspects of the programme's financing which I want to mention but I will give you a break and leave these for a moment. Let us look at the scope of services covered by the programme. These embody both inpatient and outpatient care. A complete range of inpatient services must be provided by any province participating in the plan and these include: accommodation and meals at the standard ward level; necessary nursing services; laboratory, radiological and other diagnostic procedures together with necessary interpretations; drugs when administered in hospital; routine surgical supplies; the use of operating-room, case-room and anaesthetic facilities; and the use of radiotherapy and physiotherapy facilities where available.

"In effect, the only hospital bill an insured patient receives is for semi-private

or private accommodation where these are not medically necessary.

"The range of outpatient services covered by the Federal Act is equally comprehensive and includes all those I have just listed for inpatients. The fact is, however, that the outpatient sector is not mandatory for provincial programmes. Rather it is optional, with the provinces themselves deciding how far they wish to go in this direction. Whatever they do, the Federal Government stands ready to support them in the same way as in the case of inpatient services....

"Quite apart from the medical advantages, of course, the more outpatient services which are made available on an insured basis, the greater the impact will be in preventing unnecessary use of inpatient facilities. Admittedly the provinces do face problems in this respect, but on the basis of recent developments I am optimistic about further progress being made in this very important field.

TYPES OF HOSPITAL

"While I am on the subject of services, I should indicate the types of hospital which are covered by the federal-provincial programme. These include active-treatment, chronic and convalescent institutions....

"You may have noticed that I did not mention mental and tuberculosis hospitals as coming within the insurance programme. These were, in fact, excluded from the federal offer to the provinces but, in the case of the Province of Ontario, they have been brought under its programme, with the cost being financed solely out of provincial revenues.

"There were a number of considerations which led to the exclusion of these institutions from the joint programme. For one thing, the insurance plan was designed to assist individual Canadians in financing the cost of hospital care. In the case of mental and tuberculosis hospitals, these costs were already being carried by the provinces rather than by individuals. Then too, the whole future of the form of this specialized type of care was and continues to be somewhat uncertain. Tuberculosis sanatoria usage has been declining steadily with more and more beds being left empty. As for mental illness, there has been a considerable growth of psychiatric wings in general hospitals. Both of these trends were given recognition in the Federal Act which covers mental and tuberculosis care when furnished in general hospitals.

"Now to get back to the matter of financing. The federal contribution -- which at the moment would amount to something over \$225 million annually with all provinces participating -- is derived from the general revenues of the Dominion Government. There are no premiums or ear-marked taxes at the federal level. As for the provinces, their share can be raised from any source which they see fit to utilize. Some provinces rely on general revenues as the sole or principal source of funds. Others levy property taxes, sales taxes, co-insurance charges or premiums. In

Ontario, for example, the premium system is used with monthly charges amounting to \$2.10 for a single person and \$4.20 for a married person with dependents. In most provinces, coverage is mandatory but in Ontario it is compulsory only for employees working in groups of 15 or more, and voluntary for other residents of the province. Even so, with this voluntary element present, well over 90 per cent of Ontario residents are covered by the plan...

"A number of other facts about Canada's insurance programme should probably be mentioned to round out the picture. By next January, it will have achieved truly nation-wide scope. The one remaining province, Quebec, expects to be ready to participate at that time and this will climax a process which began back in July, 1958, when the first five provinces got this historic measure under way. I might add that, besides our ten provinces, Canada's two territories -- the Yukon and the Northwest Territories -- are also participating in the plan, thereby bringing benefits of the programme within the reach of Canadians even in our remote Arctic.

"Another significant point is the fact that under the federal legislation it is required that every resident of a participating province be eligible for benefits on uniform terms and conditions. Matters of age, health and economic circumstances are wholly irrelevant. Moreover, coverage is effective for stay in hospital for any length of time specified as medically necessary. Because of variations between provincial programmes regarding entitlement to benefits, arrangements have been worked out to ensure against loss of protection for people leaving one province to live in another. Incidentally, Canadians visiting the United States carry their coverage with them in certain circumstances and particularly in the event of a sudden illness.

TECHNICAL AID

"Finally, the Federal Government not only provides financial assistance to provincial programmes but also furnishes, through my Department, technical aid in such matters as efficiency of operation, maintenance and improvement of standards of hospital care, and research activities related to the improvement of hospital services. This technical assistance takes the form both of advisory services by our consultants and of financial help through the national health grants.

"The whole programme obviously involves close liaison between the two levels of government, and it is here, as I pointed out earlier, that we have been most fortunate in already having developed the necessary network of communication and co-operation. Building on the precedents of the past, the medium of federal-provincial technical conferences was instituted at an early stage in the programme's development. This has recently been formalized into a permanent Advisory Committee

to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. This Committee, together with a number of technical sub-committees, is now the basic vehicle of federal-provincial consultation. Its main job is to work out ways and means of operating efficient and economic programmes which will at the same time provide the highest possible standards of care...."

* * * *

AID DIRECTOR APPOINTED

Prime Minister Diefenbaker recently issued the following statement:

"In recent years the responsibilities for Canada's economic assistance has been divided between the Department of External Affairs and the Department of Trade and Commerce, with co-operation by the Department of Finance.

"Recently the idea of economic assistance to under-developed countries has acquired a new significance and attraction for a lengthening list of prospective recipients and potential donors.

"It has been decided that the administration and operation of aid programmes, in the interests of efficient and expeditious administration and to assure a sound and productive use of the aid programmes, should be placed under one head. An external-aid office will be established in charge of an officer to be known as Director-General of External Aid Programmes. Under the direction of the Secretary of State for External Affairs, his responsibilities will be as follows:

(a) The operation and administration of Canada's assistance programmes covered by the general aid votes of the Department of External Affairs;

(b) To keep these programmes under constant review and, as appropriate, to prepare recommendations on them and related matters to Cabinet; to prepare submissions to Treasury Board on financial questions relating to economic assistance;

(c) To ensure co-ordination in the operations of other Departments and agencies of government concerned with various aspects of economic assistance programmes;

(d) To consult and co-operate as appropriate with international organizations and agencies;

(e) To consult and co-operate as appropriate with Canadian voluntary agencies active in under-developed countries;

(f) To co-ordinate Canadian efforts to provide emergency assistance in the case of disasters abroad; for this purpose to achieve the necessary liaison with the Canadian Red Cross Society and other appropriate Canadian organizations;

(g) To be responsible for the internal administration of the External Aid office; and

(h) To perform such other duties as may be required in relation to Canada's external assistance programme.

It has been decided to appoint Mr. H.O. Moran, recently High Commissioner to Pakistan, as Director-General in the External Aid Office, with effect from September 1st.

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SALUTE TO ECUADOR PRESIDENT

Mr. Jean Morin, Canadian Ambassador to Colombia, attended, as Special Ambassador of Canada to Ecuador, the inauguration of President José Maria Velasco Ibarra of Ecuador for a fourth term of office. The inaugural ceremonies were held at Quito from August 29 to September 5. Mr. Morin gave President Velasco Ibarra a message from Canada's Governor General, extending his personal congratulations and greetings to the people of Ecuador on behalf of the people of Canada.

* * * *

TO ATTEND PURE FOOD

Dr. C.A. Morrell, head of the Food and Drug Directorate in the Department of National Health and Welfare, will be a speaker when the centenary of the British Pure Foods Law is celebrated in London, England, September 19 to 24. This legislation represented the first general law of its kind at a national level. Representatives from the Commonwealth and the United States will attend the sessions, which are being sponsored by the British Ministry of Health, other government departments and various pure food bodies.

Dr. Morrell will trace the development of the Food and Drug Act in Canada since its inception in 1874. Coming only 14 years after the trail-breaking British legislation, it was the first national pure food law in the Americas.

Following the London meeting, Dr. Morrell will visit Europe to attend World Health Organization Special sessions in Geneva and Copenhagen as a consultant.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes showed mixed results during June and July 1960, as five of the ten regional city indexes were lower, four were higher, and one remained unchanged. Decreases ranged from 0.5 per cent in both Halifax and Montreal to 0.1 per cent in Toronto, while increases ranged narrowly from 0.2 per cent in Saskatoon-Regina to 0.3 per cent in St. John's, Winnipeg and Edmonton-Calgary.

Food indexes were lower in six cities and higher in the other four regional cities. Shelter indexes rose in six cities, declined in three and were unchanged in the remaining city. Clothing indexes were quite steady as they remained unchanged at June levels in five cities, declined in three and increased in two. Household-operation indexes showed mixed re-

sults, with indexes down in three cities, up in four and unchanged in three. "Other" commodities and services indexes increased in three regional cities, decreased in six and remained unchanged in the other regional city.

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NEW 2 I/C FOR CANADA HOUSE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, recently announced the appointment of Mr. Benjamin Rogers, at present Ambassador to Turkey, as Deputy High Commissioner in London, to succeed Mr. George Ignatieff, who will be returning to Canada in November to assume the position of Assistant Under-Secretary in the Department of External Affairs. The appointment of Mr. Rogers' successor in Ankara will be announced later.

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AIR-DEFENCE EXERCISE

Mr. George Hees, Minister of Transport, recently announced that an Air Navigation Order was being issued to restrict civil aviation in Canadian air-space during the hours from 2.00 a.m. to 8.00 a.m. EDT, on Saturday, September 10.

This Order is being issued in the interests of safety consequent upon the decision of the Governments of Canada and the United States to authorize an air-defence exercise at that time as announced on July 25 by NORAD headquarters.

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ENVOY TO CONGO

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, announced on August 26 that the Canadian Consulate General in Leopoldville had begun operations. Mr. W.M. Wood, an officer of the Department of External Affairs, recently arrived in the Congo, has been named Acting Consul General.

* * * *

NEW DWELLINGS IN JULY

Starts on the construction of new dwelling units in urban centres of 5,000 population and over in July dropped to 8,966 units from 11,305 in the same month last year, according to advance figures that will be contained in the July issue of "New Residential Construction". This brought starts in the January 1-July 31 period to 38,521 units versus 56,539 in the corresponding 1959 period.

Completions in these centres declined in July to 6,564 units from 8,774 a year earlier and in the January 1-July 31 period to 49,987 units from 55,353. Units in various stages of construction at the end of July numbered 48,266 units, compared to 63,326 at July 31 last year.

YUKON PARADISE

Teslin Lake in the Yukon is 85 miles long; hence its name, from the local Indian word meaning "long waters". One's first glimpse of the lake is obtained as one approaches Mile 802 on the Alaska Highway. The region is filled with long, sparkling fjord-like lakes and the snow-capped peaks of the Coast Range. This wilderness area is teeming with wildlife and the lakes have a bountiful supply of lake trout.

The original Indian village at Teslin is on the shore of Nisutlin Bay; the name "Nisutlin" means "quiet waters". This delightful native village is an excellent subject for photographers, with the homes and the old church built of logs. The food-caches are high off the ground on stilt-like bases. Brightly-coloured wild flowers and a beautiful view of the lake complete the picture.

At Mile 804 is the growing community of Teslin, with its trading-post store, telephone, telegraph and post office, the Teslin Lake motel and coffee shop and Teslin Motors. A trailer court, campground and lodge are being constructed further along the lake shore at Mile 806.

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GUIDE TO ATLANTIC SEA SHELLS

A 72-page illustrated guide to 150 kinds of sea shells found along Canada's Atlantic coasts has been prepared by Dr. E.L. Bousfield, zoologist of the National Museum of Canada.

The book is intended to serve as a reference for both amateur and professional shell collectors. Through illustrations keyed to the text, sea shells can be identified and their normal environment located.

"Canadian Atlantic Sea Shells" is one of the first sea-shell guides published in North America that provides accurate pictorial descriptions, up-to-date information and a comprehensive coverage of the sea shells of a particular region in an inexpensive format. Advice is also given on collecting shells.

Copies of Dr. Bousfield's book are available from the Queen's Printer at \$1.00.

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PROVINCIAL FUNDED DEBT

Direct funded debt, less sinking funds, for all provinces at March 31 this year was estimated at \$2,909 million, an increase of \$123 million from the corresponding total a year earlier, according to the annual interim report on direct and indirect funded debt for provincial governments by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. Total indirect funded debt (guaranteed bonds or debentures), less sinking funds, rose by \$410 million to \$2,937 million at the close of the fiscal year.

Gross bonded debt (direct) in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1960, declined from a

year earlier in Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia and rose in the remaining provinces. All provincial governments except Newfoundland retired bonds during the year to the value of \$255 million, including \$84 million which was called or cancelled prior to maturity by four provinces. All provinces except Alberta and British Columbia floated new bond issues, of which 27.8 per cent were sold outside Canada as compared to 42.5 per cent in the previous fiscal year.

The amount of guaranteed bonds was greater in the fiscal year ended March 31, 1960, than a year earlier in all provinces except Nova Scotia and Saskatchewan. Indirect debt consists mainly of bonds issued by municipalities and schools, and various private authorities.

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NEW CANADA-NEW ZEALAND TIE

The following is the text of an exchange of messages between Prime Minister Diefenbaker of Canada and Prime Minister Walter Nash of New Zealand on the occasion of the opening of commercial traffic on International Telex between Canada and New Zealand, September 1, 1960:

"Here in New Zealand today we are opening for commercial traffic for the first time International Telex. This modern, new service links our country with yours and is a further communications link to bind more strongly together our two countries.

"Thus, on the first day this new service operates I am sending you over International Telex from a machine in the Parliament Buildings this message of friendly greetings on behalf of the people of New Zealand.

"May this service foster to even greater strength the cordial relations between our two countries, and may it, too serve as a means of fostering greater trade and commerce between us.

"Later this year the Telex service will be further strengthened when we together open two New Zealand-Vancouver radio Telex channels.

"Further strengthening of our overall communication links will come when the Trans-Pacific telephone cable is opened in 1964 and we here in New Zealand look forward to that event.

"Please accept my warmest personal regards and my very best wishes.

Walter Nash, Prime Minister."

"I acknowledge with pleasure your message sent over the new International Telex Service linking our two countries.

"In thanking you for your friendly greetings on behalf of the people of New Zealand I wish to reciprocate them and extend sincere good wishes on behalf of the Canadian people.

"I look forward to a strengthening of the already close and friendly relationships between New Zealand and Canada through this new means of communication, which I am sure will prove of great benefit to both our countries.

"With warmest personal regards.

John G. Diefenbaker."