



CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 16 No. 11

March 15, 1961

CONTENTS

Art from the Arctic	1
Yugoslav Statistics	2
Cultural Department for Quebec	3
Winter Works Goal Reached	3
Exercise "Tocsin 1961"	3
January Imports	3
Federal-Provincial Relations	4
Record Arctic Project	4

Consumer Price Index	4
New Hospital at Inuvik	5
Employment in December	5
Eskimos to Study Diesels	5
Visit by Mr. Macmillan	5
Capital Cost Allowances	6
Canadian Exhibit in London	6

ART FROM THE ARCTIC

The following is an address by Mr. Walter Dinsdale, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, on February 28, at the opening in Ottawa of the 1960 exhibition of Canadian Eskimo graphic art:

"This is, I think you will agree, an event of national historical importance. We have been invited by a group of world-renowned artists to attend the first showing of their 1960 collection of graphic art. All of them are Canadian Eskimos. Their studios are in snow houses and canvas tents on the beautiful arctic tundra of South Baffin Island. Few of these artists have ever seen an art gallery; indeed, most have not been outside the Arctic. Yet tomorrow similar exhibitions will open in many cities across Canada and in the United States.

"Most of these original sketches are done in camps, away from the main settlement of Cape Dorset. Most of the sealskin, stencils and stone blocks from which the limited edition of prints is taken are worked on by the light of flickering seal-oil lamps in snow houses or by natural sunlight in the summer tents. The printing is done at Cape Dorset by highly-skilled Eskimo artisans who work in close consultation with the artists. Yet, even though it is only a little more than a year since Cape Dorset stone-cut and sealskin-stencil prints were first shown to the world outside, these artists have brought great fame and honour to our country.

"The renown of these artists did not begin with their graphic art. Like Eskimos in many

other communities, they have long carved in stone, and are continuing to execute work of undiminished quality. Their carvings have been shown in all the leading galleries of North America and Europe, and have raised Canada's reputation in the world of art. The graphic arts are but one new outlet for their extraordinary artistic talents.

GROWING REPUTATION OF ESKIMO PRINTS

"During this past year their works have been acquired for the permanent collections of some of the world's most renowned art galleries and museums, including our own National Gallery, and the Museum of Modern Art in New York. The prints have found their way into the homes of discriminating private collectors. Widely respected critics on this continent and in Europe have been excited and impressed with this art. This has happened not because of a paternalistic sentimentality toward the Eskimos, but because their work is recognized internationally as the vital visual expression of a highly artistic people. Art galleries do not traffic in sympathy or in paternalism when they add to their permanent collections. Neither do private collectors. The background of the artist can have little bearing on the selection of works to be added to their collections. This Eskimo art has reached beyond the boundaries of our nation, because it is recognized by connoisseurs as an important new art form. For that our whole nation can be grateful; we can all take pride that inter-

(Over)

national honour has come to this group of Canadians.

"Beyond the work you will see this evening there have been other achievements: commissions from leading publications, and for works to be exhibited permanently abroad. There is another milestone, too. The Cape Dorset Eskimo Co-operative has recently employed a Vancouver artist, a graduate of the Ontario College of Art, to serve as its business manager in Cape Dorset. This is an important economic development, for it means that the Eskimos are moving towards economic independence, a step essential to the success of the Government's programme of Northern development now under way. In all this my own Department has had a close and happy association with the Cape Dorset artists. It has arranged for exhibitions of their works, has handled sales to galleries and museums in this country and abroad, and has met countless requests for information on the artists, their community and their work.

CRITICISM ANSWERED

"There has been one note of criticism of this commercial aspect of the Cape Dorset Art. Some persons - and I am happy to say they are very few in number - see the sale of Eskimo art leading to a perversion of the talents of the artists. I feel that the reverse is true, that this artistic achievement is making a large contribution in building up the self-confidence and independence of our Northern Canadians as they mingle more and more with the world of the twentieth century. After all, we must remember that they are moving from Stone Age culture to modern civilization almost in the short space of one generation.

"We make no apology for attempting to ensure that the Cape Dorset artists receive a fair return for their work. In assessing its value we are guided by the decisions of an advisory group, composed of interested and informed citizens in the art world outside my own Department. In this way we feel that the best possible assistance is being given to the Eskimo in the development of his art. The advisory group has made available to us their professional advice and guidance in the pricing, sale and exhibition of Cape Dorset graphics. To these advisors I extend sincere gratitude on behalf of the Department and the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative....

"To those who see danger in the exchange of money between art collector and the Eskimo artists, might I point out that the Cape Dorset artists are people of the land. Their lives are often difficult and fraught with economic insecurity. It is their wish and their desire to remain as people of the North. They are not professional artists. The financial returns from the sale of their art will help to make their lives in the North easier. For example, hunters who are artists are buying better equipment for life as hunters,

which helps to remove much of the physical hardship which they have endured in the past. This they are doing on their own, without dependence on government or other outside help. Indeed, they are paying their way and accepting responsibilities as citizens of Canada in the fullest sense.

"The close association that exists between the Department of Northern Affairs and these artists is a source of real satisfaction to us. I am honoured by the West Baffin Eskimo Co-operative to be invited to open the 1960 exhibition of their graphic art tonight...."

* * * * *

YUGOSLAV FOREIGN MINISTER

Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that His Excellency Koca Popovic, Foreign Minister of Yugoslavia, accompanied by Mrs. Popovic, will pay an official visit to Ottawa on March 27 and 28. The Foreign Minister, who is leading the Yugoslav Delegation to the resumed session of the United Nations General Assembly, will fly from New York as the guest of the Government of Canada for consultations with the Prime Minister, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, and other Canadian ministers, on international problems of mutual concern.

On March 27, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and Mrs. Green will give a dinner for the visitors, who will, in turn, be hosts the following night at a dinner in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Green at the Yugoslav Embassy.

* * * * *

CANAL STATISTICS

Navigation through the Sault Ste. Marie locks was officially closed for the year 1960 on December 12, the Welland Ship Canal on December 15 and the St. Lawrence system on November 30, although the last vessel downbound on the St. Lawrence system passed through on December 3. This was no earlier than in the previous year, but total freight cleared through Canadian canals in December dropped sharply (41 per cent) to 489,489 tons from 829,440 in the like 1959 month. Vessel passages decreased to 430 from 583, and the registered net tonnage to 492,247 tons from 873,879.

With a complete stoppage of iron-ore shipments, freight transported through the combined Canada-U.S. Sault Ste. Marie canals in December was down to 860,679 tons from 5,021,154 in December 1959; lockages through the Canadian canal amounted to 21,523 tons against 31,431. Freight cleared through the Welland Ship Canal in the month was down to 408,154 tons from 699,849 a year earlier, and the volume locked through the St. Lawrence system was down to 22,033 tons from 70,754.

CULTURAL DEPARTMENT FOR QUEBEC

A bill now before the Quebec Legislature provides for the establishment of a Department of Cultural Affairs. The new department will include a French Language Office, a division concerned with relations with French-language groups in other provinces and in the United States, a Provincial Arts Council, and a Commission on Historic Monuments.

Explaining that the government aimed at making the Province of Quebec a centre for the preservation of the French culture of North America, Premier Jean Lesage emphasized the importance of this culture in maintaining Canada's national identity. He noted that there were 2,000,000 persons of French-Canadian extraction outside Quebec of whom, 478,000 lived in Ontario and 340,000 in the State of Massachusetts.

WINTER WORKS GOAL REACHED

Mr. Michael Starr, the Minister of Labour, recently announced that the objective of the Municipal Winter Works Incentive Programme, the providing of 100,000 "on-site" jobs, had been realized two months before the termination of the Programme. The estimate of the number of jobs filled was made by more than 1,800 municipalities where winter works projects are under way. It is further estimated that the Programme will provide 4,500,000 man-days of work this winter. The projects are widely distributed throughout the ten provinces, the Yukon and Northwest Territories, and Indian reservations.

In addition to the jobs provided directly on projects approved under the Programme, at least an equal number of jobs are provided indirectly in the industries that manufacture, sell, and transport the materials used on these jobs. It is thus estimated that some 200,000 jobs have been provided by the Programme to date.

At the equivalent point of last year's Programme the number of "on-site" jobs had not yet reached 50,000, the Minister said.

NEW PROGRAMME MORE INCLUSIVE

This year, the Programme started on October 15, 1960, six weeks earlier than a year before, and had been broadened to cover new classes of projects, including, for the first time, the construction and repair of municipal buildings, as well as other projects such as street lighting, water and sewage treatment plants and pumping stations. The success of this year's Programme could be attributed to these factors, the Minister said, and also to the efforts made by provincial and municipal governments to use the plan to the best effect in stimulating employment in their communities in the winter months.

At the beginning of March, 5,800 municipal projects had been approved by provincial gov-

ernments and accepted by the Federal Government. The estimated total cost of these projects was more than a quarter of a billion dollars. Total direct payroll costs would amount to an estimated \$80 million, of which over \$60 million would be spent during the six and a half months of the Programme. The federal winter incentive payments will amount to approximately half of the latter figure.

EXERCISE "TOCSIN 1961"

Prime Minister Diefenbaker recently announced the second in a series of annual exercises to test and practice emergency measures. The exercise, to be known as "Tocsin 1961" will be held early in May. It will be organized by the Emergency Measures Organization.

The aim of this series of exercises is to practise those emergency measures necessary for national survival and the continuity of all levels of government; to test those measures for which preparations have been made and to direct attention to whatever gaps in planning and preparation still exist.

In the first Exercise "Tocsin" last May emphasis was placed on practising the manning of emergency-government facilities, use of emergency communications and the national survival attack-warning system, not including sirens. This year the emphasis will be on problems of government organization and operation in emergency facilities as well as the warning system including sirens and emergency broadcasting.

The exercise also will include work on some problems of government to be solved following an attack.

The exercise will be based on an assumed nuclear attack on Canada by a force consisting mainly of manned aircraft, as did last year's exercise. In the last exercise each of the ten provincial governments, over three hundred municipalities, the Army and the Federal Government participated.

JANUARY IMPORTS

With increases from the preceding year from leading trading areas, the total value of imports in January this year reached an estimated \$433 million, up 8.4 per cent from last year's revised total of \$399,500,000 and down from the peak January total of \$451,600,000 set in 1957, according to advance figures that will be contained in the January issue of "Imports for Consumption" (Dominion Bureau of Statistics).

The value of January imports from the United States rose 5.6 per cent to an estimated \$299,100,000 from \$283,200,000 in January last year, and the total from the United Kingdom advanced 16.6 per cent to \$47,700,000 from \$40,900,000. The months, imports from other

Commonwealth countries were up sharply (nearly 53 per cent), to \$18,800,000 from \$12,300,000, while the total from all other countries as a group increased 6.8 per cent, to \$67,400,000 from \$63,100,000.

* * * *

FEDERAL-PROVINCIAL RELATIONS

A provincial Department of Federal-Provincial Affairs is provided for in a bill recently presented to the Quebec Legislature. According to Premier Jean Lesage, the new department is designed to safeguard provincial autonomy and facilitate Quebec's collaboration with the federal and the other provincial governments. It will work towards the establishment of a more formal procedure for the calling of inter-provincial conferences to discuss problems of common interest.

* * * *

RECORD ARCTIC PROJECT

Canada's continuing programme of scientific research in its polar regions in 1961 will cost an estimated \$1,500,000, will involve some 70 scientific and supporting personnel in the largest field project ever undertaken by a Canadian government service, and will be supported by the largest airlift of its kind ever known in Canada.

The first group of the scientific team of the Polar Continental Shelf Project left Ottawa on March 6 for Isachsen, on the rim of the polar basin. The group included the co-ordinator of the project, Dr. Ernest Frederick Roots.

"This is our third and largest expedition into the polar basin", said Mr. Comtois, the Minister of Mines and Technical Surveys. "The Arctic has become a vital factor in our lives today and we have no time to lose in overcoming our ignorance of our polar regions both for resource assessment and defence purposes."

The 1961 expedition comprises oceanographers, topographers, geologists, geophysicists, and geographers. They will continue the project's closely-integrated study of Canada's polar continental shelf and its northern archipelago and adjacent waters.

USE OF AIRCRAFT

In the field, the expedition will be supported by three fixed-wing aircraft and four helicopters, to enable its various scientific groups to perform tests and investigations out on the ice of the shelf and inland within the 150-mile radius of base camp at Isachsen, the proposed field of work this year. A number of the scientists also plan to make traverses west of Isachsen as far as Banks Island. A fourth fixed-wing aircraft will be required for the low-level aeromagnetic survey planned for the region inland from Isachsen.

The more than 700 tons of equipment and

supplies required to support the expedition, from food and gas and everyday needs to the most delicate scientific apparatus, will be flown in by three freighter aircraft from Edmonton and Churchill. The expedition's helicopters will be loaded and flown in from Montreal.

The proposed aeromagnetic survey will comprise 200 hours flying time and cover the islands and intervening channels in the region, with special closely-spaced flights over critical geological features, such as the gypsum domes that are of such interest because of their petroleum potential.

VARIETY OF SCIENTIFIC ACTIVITIES

Submarine geologists will continue their investigation of the materials on the sea floor. This phase of the research will be emphasized to facilitate the correlation of the geology of the shelf with that of the emerged coast.

Seismologists will continue to study the structures of the continental shelf. They hope to make marked progress on the successful start they made last year in outlining the outer edge of the Sverdrup Basin, which is of such interest to the oil industry.

The oceanographers will work mainly in the western end of Peary Channel and will investigate water structures in critical areas within the Sverdrup Islands. Hydrographers plan to extend bathymetric observations at least 175 miles out to sea, over the whole area from Meighen Island and over Prince Gustaf Adolf Sea.

Geophysicists hope to complete gravity and magnetic studies over the region. To measure gravity on sea ice, they will use special instruments, now ready for field trial, that have been developed by the Dominion Observatories.

Geographers will complete the study of Ellef Ringnes Island and make a comparative study of nearby Borden Island. They will continue their systematic studies of sea ice and study of the ice cap on Meighen Island.

Topographers will extend survey control for mapping southwestward across Patrick Island to Banks Island and, if possible, to Melville Island.

The expedition will be in the field until early September.

* * * *

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The February consumer price index registered a decline of 0.2 per cent, from 129.2 to 128.9, from the January level. A year ago the index was 127.2. The current decrease resulted entirely from a drop of 0.8 per cent in the food index, as the other four component indexes were unchanged.

Lower prices for citrus fruits, fresh tomatoes, eggs, lettuce and beef outweighed price increases for other meats, apples and

some fresh vegetables and the food index moved from 124.4 to 123.4. The shelter index was unchanged at 144.7, with the rent component continuing at the January level while minor price changes within the home-ownership component were offsetting.

The clothing index remained at 11.6, as price increases in women's wear were offset by lower prices for men's and children's wear, and footwear. Higher prices for fuel and textiles balanced lower prices for furniture, floor coverings, some utensils and household supplies and the household operation index was unchanged at 123.3. The index for "other" commodities and services, unchanged at 138.3, reflected price increases for transportation, recreation and tobacco, which were offset by lower prices for pharmaceuticals and personal care items.

* * * *

NEW HOSPITAL AT INUVIK

A 120-bed hospital, constructed at a cost of \$2 million to serve 370,000 square miles of the Northwest Territories and the Western Arctic, has just been opened at Inuvik, N.W.T. Beds are available both for TB treatment and for general medical and surgical cases.

The hospital will be staffed by three medical officers, 25 registered nurses and 20 auxiliary nurses, as well as 60 other persons, provided by the Indian and Northern Health Services of the Department of National Health and Welfare. An INHS official described it as "comparable in services and facilities to many southern Canadian hospitals." "We must be equipped for most emergencies, working as we do in isolation," he added. Facilities include modern operating and case rooms, a blood bank, nursery, laboratory and pharmacy.

When specialist medical-surgical treatments are called for, patients will be transferred to hospitals in the south with requisite facilities.

The area served by the Inuvik General Hospital includes Old Crow and Herschel Island in the Yukon, seven health districts in the Northwest Territories covering the lower Mackenzie and the Western Arctic, including the Western Arctic Islands. The population of this area is estimated at about 5,500. The hospital will receive patients referred from nursing stations at Coppermine, Tuktoyaktuk, Fort McPherson, Fort Good Hope, Fort Norman and some DEW Line stations.

* * * *

EMPLOYMENT IN DECEMBER

Canada's industrial composite-index number of employment for December 1960 was 115.0 (1949=100), down 3.9 per cent from 119.7 for November and down 2.6 per cent from 118.1 for December 1959. Month-to-month reductions were recorded for all provinces and for all in-

dustry divisions except trade. Seasonal influences were the main factor in the employment declines, although reductions in a number of industries were somewhat greater than seasonal.

Average weekly wages and salaries declined considerably as usual during November and December, the composite figure falling to \$78.18 from \$76.43. Many workers were laid off part way through the pay periods for which data were collected, or were on unpaid leave for some days during the holiday season. The composite-payroll index was 202.7 for December, down 5.5 per cent from November and up 1.4 per cent from December 1959.

* * * *

ESKIMOS TO STUDY DIESELS

The first of 15 Eskimo men to take a diesel-operating course in Barriefield Camp, Ontario, arrived recently in Montreal. The group, sponsored by the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources, will attend classes at the Royal Canadian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers School. Their course will last four months, beginning March 27.

The success of a similar project last year involving 20 Eskimos who trained as power-plant operators led to the decision to repeat the operation.

The trainees come from various settlements in the Eastern Arctic. At Barriefield they will learn how to operate and maintain the diesel lighting plants used at their settlements. To help them in their work at Barriefield and when they return home, the men will receive operators handbooks written in Eskimo syllabics. Most of their training period will be spent on the actual operation of machinery. The course will also include basic English lessons.

While at Barriefield, the men will live in army dormitories and make use of army facilities, although they will, of course, remain civilians. A programme has been arranged to help them adjust to the "southern" way of living. This includes sports activities, visits to nearby communities and field trips to local industries, farms and schools.

Of the 15 men who are taking part in the training course, nine are married. While the trainees are south, maintenance allowances will be provided for wives and children.

* * * *

VISIT BY MR. MACMILLAN

Mr. Howard Green, the Secretary of State for External Affairs and Acting Prime Minister, has announced that the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, accompanied by Lady Dorothy Macmillan, will arrive in Ottawa late on April 8, and will depart on Wednesday morning, April 12. It had previously been announced that Mr. Macmillan would arrive in

Ottawa on the evening of April 7 for a stay of less than 24 hours. However, as a result of his conversations in London with Mr. Diefenbaker, the longer visit has been arranged.

Mr. Macmillan and Lady Dorothy will be the guests of the Governor-General and Madame Vanier during their stay in Ottawa. After a quiet weekend, Prime Minister Macmillan will spend the two following days in talks with Canadian ministers on international problems of mutual concern.

* * * *

CAPITAL COST ALLOWANCES

Mr. George Hees, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, recently announced that regulations providing for special capital-cost allowances for assets to produce new products were in effect. The regulations themselves and explanatory material are being circulated to industry across Canada.

Companies may qualify for the special capital-cost allowances on assets acquired after December 31, 1960, in either one of two ways under this programme. The first involves the manufacture of products that will be new to Canada, while the other involves the manufacture of products that will be new to a particular surplus-manpower area or locality. If an industrial project is not eligible under the first part of the programme (that is, if the products cannot be considered as new to this country), the company could qualify by locating its plant in a surplus-manpower area where the products are not produced at the present time.

Surplus-manpower areas and localities will be designated by the Government from time to time, following application from the appropriate municipal authorities, and provided that the towns or areas qualify under condi-

* * * *

tions announced by the Minister of Labour in the House of Commons. The Department of Labour will receive submissions and inquiries from municipal authorities concerning the designation of their regions or towns as surplus-manpower areas or localities.

* * * *

CANADIAN EXHIBIT IN LONDON

Canada will be the largest overseas exhibitor at the 1961 Daily Mail Ideal Home Exhibition in London, the Department of Trade and Commerce reported recently in releasing a four-colour folder on Canada's participation. The publication is designed for distribution at the exhibition, which runs from March 7 to April 3 and is expected to attract over 1,500,000 visitors.

The folder traces the dynamic growth of the Canadian economy in the twentieth century, and lists the 98 firms displaying their products in the Canadian exhibit organized by the Department. The large number of exhibitors reflects the enthusiasm with which the British Government's recent trade-liberalization measures were greeted by Canadian businessmen from coast to coast, and their determination to expand Canada's exports.

Canadian exporters are now able to offer a full range of products in the United Kingdom market, and the Canadian exhibit features such consumer goods as appliances, clothing, footwear, furniture, tools, sporting goods and toys, as well as a wide variety of foods and beverages.

The Canadian exhibit also includes a large demonstration area where such products as fashions and do-it-yourself moccasin kits will be highlighted. Visitors will also see a selection of films of Canada and Canadian products.

When you visit the Canadian exhibit in London, you will see a wide variety of products from Canada. The exhibit is organized by the Department of Trade and Commerce. It features a large demonstration area where such products as fashions and do-it-yourself moccasin kits will be highlighted. Visitors will also see a selection of films of Canada and Canadian products.

EMPLOYMENT IN THE NORTH

Canada's employment in the north has increased since 1950. The number of jobs in the north has grown from 10,000 in 1950 to 15,000 in 1960. This increase is due to the development of the oil and gas industry in the north. The government has also invested in infrastructure projects in the north, such as roads and airports. These investments have created jobs and improved the quality of life in the north.