

# PRESS RELEASE



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The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, announced today that the Honourable W. Ross MacDonald, Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the Government in the Senate, will officiate in Port of Spain on January 24 at the formal unveiling ceremonies which will mark the opening of the University residence to be known as "Canada Hall". The Pro Vice-Chancellor of the University of the West Indies, Dr. H.D. Huggins, will lead the academic procession and preside over the ceremonies.

"Canada Hall" consists of two separate three-story dormitories and a single-story service block. Each of the dormitory buildings contains 96 single bedrooms which have been provided with built-in furniture. The service block comprises caretaking, storage, laundry and other related services. All the electrical and plumbing equipment as well as the built-in furniture in "Canada Hall" were supplied from Canadian sources. The cost to Canada for this University residence and its furnishing was \$700,000.

The building of "Canada Hall" is one of a number of capital assistance projects undertaken by Canada in the Caribbean area under its \$10 million Commonwealth Caribbean Assistance Programme. In September 1958, Canada began this five-year Assistance Programme for the Commonwealth islands in the West Indies. Canada is continuing this 1958-63 Caribbean Assistance Programme during the present fiscal year with a further contribution of \$2.1 million. The capital

assistance projects which have been or are in process of being carried out with Canadian funds include, in addition to the building and furnishing of "Canada Hall", the provision of two ships designed and built in Canada for inter-island traffic in the Caribbean; the construction of a deep-water wharf and harbour facilities at St. Vincent; the taking of a forestry inventory in Dominica; the supply of school buildings and equipment in St. Kitts, Grenada, Antigua and Dominica; the development of fresh water supplies in St. Kitts, Nevis, Anguilla and Montserrat; the provision of warehouses in St. Kitts and St. Lucia; supplying port handling equipment to a number of West Indian islands; providing a pilot launch for Barbados and a fishing research vessel for Jamaica; and installing an aircraft landing system in Trinidad. Canada's Caribbean Assistance Programme has also provided a substantial amount of technical aid involving the training of West Indian students in Canada and the supply of Canadian advisers or teachers to a number of the territories in the area. In its recent announcement about an expanded aid programme in the years 1964-65, the Government of Canada made clear that this would permit a more comprehensive and sizeable programme for the Commonwealth countries of the Caribbean with which Canada has had a long and historical association.