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THE NATIONAL FITNESS PROGRAMME

The following is a partial text of the speech by the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. J. Waldo Monteith, to the National Advisory Council on Fitness and Amateur Sport in Ottawa on April 16:

"...As you are probably aware, we in the Department have been extremely busy with the new Fitness and Amateur Sport Programme since you last convened. I want to tell you of some of these activities but first I would like to thank the Council for its co-operation in connection with consideration of the additional grants to national organizations which I announced a week ago today...."

"Here, I would mention particularly the work of the Committee appointed to study the various urgent requests which we felt had to be dealt with prior to your second meeting. Its members... did an outstanding job in developing recommendations which I am happy to say were approved by the majority of the Council in a mail vote. It is perhaps unfortunate that this particular procedure was necessary but I can assure you we very much appreciated your co-operation in making it feasible and effective."

GRANTS TO PROVINCES

"I will have more to say about grants to national organizations in a moment, but I want to mention now what has undoubtedly been the most important development at the federal level since you last met. This is the announcement of federal grants to the provinces, which in 1962-63 will amount to one-half of the Fitness and Amateur Sport Fund or \$2,500,000. As I indicated in Parliament last Monday, this division of the fund is in line with Section 5 of the federal Act and indicates the important role which the Dominion Government feels the provinces can play in this

undertaking. I believe it is also the only real way to achieve the objective many members of the Council supported so strongly in your initial discussions — namely, that the main emphasis of the Programme should be at the community level. At the moment, of course, this division of the fund is still at the proposal stage, but, from the impressions we received at our meeting with provincial ministers, I am optimistic that it will be generally acceptable to the provinces.

"I might point out that this amount is being provided to assist provincial programmes designed to encourage, promote, and develop fitness and amateur sport pending the negotiation of agreements as called for under the federal Act. ... We propose to allocate it on the basis of a flat rate of \$50,000 a province, with the balance of the \$2,500,000 provincial share being provided on a *per capita* basis. I shall not take time to indicate how this formula would effect each province individually, since you have the list before you. I might say, however, that I believe it does represent a fair method of distribution, having in mind the variation in conditions from province to province.

"Quite apart from the \$2,500,000 provision for 1962-63, the Government has also offered the provinces \$250,000 in grants for planning and organization. This is to come out of the Programme's allocation for 1961-62 and will be distributed on the basis of a flat rate of \$15,000 a province, with the remainder being provided on a *per capita* basis. The need for such immediate assistance was clearly evident in our discussions with provincial ministers, and we hope that all the provinces will go along with this additional offer so that no time will be lost in developing their part of a comprehensive, nationwide effort.

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"I was tremendously encouraged by the enthusiastic response of provincial ministers to the idea of a truly national Programme, in which each province developed and played the role most fitted to it. This appeared to stem not so much from the money involved but from the fact that, while provincial needs and desires were being recognized, the Programme held out promise of providing a distinctive Canadian approach to national and international fitness and amateur sport activities. This seemed to have wide appeal, with the provinces being unanimous in their expression of support and co-operation. Frankly, I can think of no more favourable atmosphere for the future success of this undertaking....

"I have already referred to the additional grants to national organizations which have been dealt with since your last meeting.... They total \$142,800. When you add in the \$15,285 approved as a result of your initial recommendations as well as the \$30,000 grant provided to the British Empire and Commonwealth Games Association, it will be seen that total federal contributions to national organizations for 1961-62 amounted to nearly \$190,000. When the proposed \$250,000 in planning and organization grants for the provinces and the \$35,000 grant allocated to the Calgary Olympic Development Association are also taken into account, total assistance provided during the last fiscal year under the Fitness and Amateur Sport Act comes to \$437,085. I think you will agree that it is not a bad record for a programme of such recent origin and of such complexity.

BID FOR WINTER OLYMPICS

"Having mentioned the \$35,000 grant to CODA, I might add that this was provided as a result of extensive study of the situation involving the effort being made to have Banff approved as the site for the 1968 Winter Olympic Games. In addition to this assistance, of course, substantial funds will be necessary for the construction work in Banff National Park, which has to be completed before the formal bid can be submitted next year. We expect final approval in this regard very shortly with the necessary monies being charged to the budget of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. We also hope that there will be widespread citizen participation in the holding of the Games if the application is accepted.

"Further, on the subject of grants to national organizations, Mr. Famer will be filling you in on the Committee's deliberations which led to the recommendations for the expenditure of an additional amount of \$142,800 for 1961-62. Like the previous grants, these were made on an *ad hoc* basis to meet urgent requirements of various groups entering representatives in international competitions, as well as for certain immediate projects in the field of fitness and amateur sport. There were other requests for assistance which the Committee felt should be held for discussion by the Council, and still others which the Committee considered should not be approved in any case....

PERSPECTIVE ON AMATEUR SPORT

"I think about the only comment I would have in this general area is that experience to date has shown

that requests for assistance in the sports field are normally more obvious and clear-cut than those in connection with fitness. To my mind, it is vital that we make progress in this area as quickly as possible. I say this particularly because of the impression which seems to have got abroad that too much emphasis has been given amateur sport in the Programme's operations to date. This has concerned me sufficiently that I devoted a fair part of a recent speech at the Carleton University in an effort to put amateur sport in its proper perspective as one means of achieving fitness. As I said on that occasion: 'Our basic aim is to improve the well-being of all Canadians through encouraging greater participation by all Canadians in vigorous physical activities. Certainly, competitive sport will be given its full due, but it cannot be permitted to dominate the Programme.'

From various indications I have received, the speech did have some effect but, of course, the best antidote to this impression is specific action in promoting fitness. In this connection, I think the announcement of grants to the provinces should be helpful in the sense of indicating our intention to reach down to the grass-roots level.

"...Before I finish... I feel I should at least touch on a number of further important recommendations which emerged from your last meeting.

ACADEMIC AWARDS

"There is, for example, the matter of a bursary-scholarship-fellowship programme. Your suggestions in this regard have, I can assure you, been receiving thorough study. The matter was also discussed at the meeting with provincial ministers. However, before final consideration is given to this subject, there are a number of aspects relating to the arrangements necessary for carrying out the Programme on which I should appreciate having the views of members of a small committee of the Council. Accordingly, I have asked the Chairman to place this item on the agenda in the hope that once we have received your further advice, it will be possible to make a definite announcement within a short time.

"On the matter of research, work has been going forward and I have every hope that an announcement will be forthcoming, probably in conjunction with the one on bursaries, scholarships and fellowships. I might add that we have also been investigating the possibility of holding a conference on the subject of research, with a view to establishing criteria to govern the making of grants. However, in this as in other areas, we propose to start off on an *ad hoc* basis in order to meet urgent requests.

"We hope to convene another conference before long in line with your suggestion for a meeting with the operating agencies and other groups active in non-competitive sport. In fact, one of the first tasks of the National Director - whom we hope the Civil Service Commission will be in a position to select shortly - will be to work out the necessary arrangements for this conference.

"While I would not want to give the impression that we intend to operate this Programme on a 'conference basis', I must tell you we are also giving consideration to the holding of a meeting on mass media.

FORT GARRY HISTORIC PARK

"Work will be started this year on a new museum building for Lower Fort Garry", the Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources, Mr. Walter Dinsdale, announced recently in Winnipeg. "The museum's theme will be the fur trade's contribution to the development of Canada. It will feature the famous Hudson's Bay Company collection, which for many years was displayed in the Company's Winnipeg department store."

The collection, which the Company recently gave to the government of Manitoba on permanent loan, will be made available to the National Historic Sites Division for the new development programme at Lower Fort Garry.

In paying tribute to the Company and the Manitoba government, Mr. Dinsdale said that "the co-operation of the Hudson's Bay Company and of the government of Manitoba in this important project is greatly appreciated. Co-operation of this kind by all levels of government and all community groups is required for the proper development of Canada's rich historic heritage."

MUSEUM SITE

The museum will be contained in a reconstructed outward replica of the Lumber Retail Store that stood just west of the Fur Loft and Trading Building. "Inside will be a modern museum, but the building will duplicate the outward appearance of the original", said Mr. Dinsdale. Other plans include refurbishing of all existing historical structures and the creation of the living atmosphere of the mid-nineteenth century.

Lower Fort Garry, constructed between 1831 and 1839, contains some of the oldest buildings standing west of the Great Lakes, and was one of three stone forts constructed by the Hudson's Bay Company. Closed in 1911, it was leased in 1913 to the Motor Country Club. "We are grateful to the Club for the excellent care they gave the buildings over the years," said Mr. Dinsdale. "When the Company turned the Fort over to the Federal Government, we assumed an obligation to turn it some day into a full-fledged national historic park. The Motor Club always kept this objective in mind during the years it managed the Fort."

With interest in history burgeoning in Canada, and the country's Centennial only five years away, the time had come, Mr. Dinsdale went on, to make the Fort available as an historic park. Last year more than 50,000 people visited it. The museum, together with the living history to be portrayed in the other buildings, will undoubtedly make Lower Fort Garry one of the great historical attractions in Canada.

SCIENTISTS STUDY BAFFIN ISLAND

A 25-man team of scientists and assistants from the federal Department of Mines and Technical Surveys left Ottawa last week to make an extensive gravity and geographical study of the practically unexplored northern half of Baffin Island. The party comprises scientists from the Department's Gravity Division of the Dominion Observatories, geographers from its Geographical Branch, and two topographical engineers to establish position.

This year's project is part two of a two-part operation begun in 1961. Studies were made at that time of the southern half of the island.

In making the announcement of the 1962 survey, Mines and Technical Surveys Minister Jacques Flynn said: "Little is known of this rugged island with its extremely mountainous terrain. Its strategic position on the threshold to the High Arctic makes it vitally important to obtain information about its physical and other features. The studies we are making will supply much needed basic information on the island."

GRAVITY STUDIES

The gravity studies will consist of a regional survey of the entire north half of the island and detailed gravity surveys of the Penny and Barnes icecaps. The project's gravimetrists expect to establish some 2,200 gravity stations in all, which will bring to 4,400 the total number of gravity stations established on the island.

Geographical studies will comprise investigations of terrain conditions and land forms throughout the northern half of the island and an intensive study and analysis of the two icecaps already mentioned and surrounding areas. Geographers will pay particular attention to the effect of glaciation on land forms and the nourishment and mass balance of the icecaps themselves.

AIR TRANSPORT

A large part of the operation will necessarily be airborne, entailing the constant services of two helicopters and a fixed-wing aircraft. Because of the extreme ruggedness of the island, the regional gravity survey will be done by helicopter. Other fixed-wing aircraft will transport the parties and equipment to and from the island and from campsite to campsite. The main base camp will be at the northwest margin of the Barnes icecap.

REGIONAL PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes declined in five of the ten regional cities during February and March 1962, increased in three and remained unchanged in two. Decreases ranged from 0.1 per cent both in Saint John and Edmonton-Calgary to 0.4 per cent in Vancouver. Increases of 0.1 per cent occurred in St. John's and Saskatoon-Regina, and 0.2 per cent in Winnipeg.

Food indexes declined in eight cities and increased in two. Shelter indexes were unchanged in six cities, decreased in three and increased in one. Clothing indexes were up in all cities. Household-operation indexes rose in seven cities, were unchanged in two and declined in the remaining city. Indexes for "other-commodities-and-services" were unchanged in six cities, declined in two and rose in the other two.

St. John's - The total index rose 0.1 per cent from 116.6 to 116.7 as a result of increases in the food, clothing, and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes. Both the shelter and household-operation indexes were unchanged.

Halifax - The total index declined 0.2 per cent from 129.6 to 129.4 as a result of a drop in the food

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index which offset increases in both the clothing and household-operation indexes. Both the shelter, and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes were unchanged.

Saint John - The total index declined 0.1 per cent from 130.7 to 130.6 due to a decrease in the food index which more than balanced increases in the clothing and household-operation indexes. The shelter and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes were unchanged.

Montreal - The total index was unchanged at 130.1 as a decrease in foods balanced increases in the clothing and household-operation indexes. The shelter and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes were unchanged.

Ottawa - The total decrease 0.2 per cent from 131.0 to 130.7 as decreases for both food, and "other-commodities-and-services" more than balanced increases for shelter, clothing, and household-operation indexes.

Toronto - The total index was unchanged at 131.7 as a decrease in foods offset increases for clothing, household operation, and "other-commodities-and-services". The shelter index was unchanged.

Winnipeg - The total index increased 0.2 per cent from 128.1 to 128.3 as increases occurred in the food, clothing and household-operation indexes. The shelter index declined, while the "other-commodities-and-services" index was unchanged.

Saskatoon-Regina - The total index rose 0.1 per cent from 126.7 to 126.8 as an increase in the clothing index outweighed decreases in the food, shelter and household-operation indexes. The "other-commodities-and-services" index was unchanged.

Edmonton-Calgary - The total index declined 0.1 per cent from 125.1 to 125.0 as a result of decreases in the food and shelter indexes, which outweighed an increase in the clothing index. The household-operation and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes were unchanged.

Vancouver - The total index declined 0.4 per cent from 129.6 to 129.1 as decreases in the food and "other-commodities-and-services" indexes outweighed increases in the clothing and household-operation indexes. The shelter index was unchanged.

NATURE PHOTO COLLECTION

National Wildlife Week, April 9-15, was chosen by Resources Minister Walter Dinsdale as a fitting time to announce the sponsorship by the Canadian Wildlife Service and the National Museum of Canada of a National Collection of Nature Photographs. "I hope" he said, "that something of the thrill and pleasure that comes from close contact with nature and from unexpected glimpses of wildlife will be shared among Canadians through the National Collection".

The Collection will include outstanding photographs of Canadian wild flora and fauna. Professional and amateur photographer-naturalists are being invited to submit their work for consideration. Besides

current photographs, the Collection will include pictures that cannot be duplicated today of vanished or diminished species.

The first deadline for entries is September 30, 1962, at which time a selection committee of experts will select the photographs that meet the high standard that has been set. Scrolls will be presented to those whose work has been selected for the National Selection.

Although the Collection will be resident in the National Museum in Ottawa, plans are being made for extensive use of the photographs in travelling exhibitions and in publications devoted to science, conservation, and nature photography. It was emphasized by Mr. Dinsdale that the photographer's name would appear with his work whenever it was exhibited or published.

Mr. Dinsdale said that, in view of the important influence of wildlife on the exploration and settlement of Canada, he was hopeful that a book of high quality reproductions from the Collection would be published in time for the Centennial of Confederation in 1967.

An information brochure has been printed that has a cover photograph in colour of a group of cliff-nesting sea-birds and contains the full story of the Collection. The photograph is from the Canadian Wildlife Service monograph "The Murres", which has proved unusually popular with scientists and laymen and recently won the Wildlife Society Terrestrial Publication Award.

THE NATIONAL FITNESS PROGRAMME (Continued from P. 2)

And while I am on the subject of information and publicity, I might add that we are hopeful that you will be able to come up with some definite recommendations in this regard at your current session...

"As far as a National Sports Festival is concerned, I am sure you have all been gratified at the very favourable reception your suggestions have met with on all sides. If you look at the agenda, you will see that there has been another proposal... concerning a National Fitness Festival. No doubt this will also be of interest to you and I hope that both projects will be given serious thought in the course of your discussions.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROGRESS

"By way of footnote, I am happy to be able to report encouraging progress in the development of our administrative structure at the federal level. As I said, we hope for the appointment of a National Director in the near future. A number of other positions have been authorized and are in the process of being filled or advertised. In this connection, I might say that our departmental budget, as outlined in the Estimates for 1962-63, contains an item totalling \$102,000 to cover federal administrative costs including salaries, travel and other expenses. This, of course, is in addition to and above the statutory provision of \$5 million for the Programme as such..."