

nation, was completed at the end of 1948. A preliminary report by Jacques Greber, of Paris, noted French city planner and consultant to the Canadian Government on the project, was forwarded to the Government through the National Capital Planning Committee and the Federal District Commission and tabled in the House of Commons on Apr. 30, 1949.

In addition to meeting the present and future needs of a National Capital with its governmental, diplomatic, cultural and tourist requirements, the Master Plan provides a solution to the present town-planning problems of Ottawa which, with Hull, is the centre of an urban area of approximately 250,000 inhabitants. The plan makes provision for an ultimate maximum population of between 500,000 and 600,000 within a five-mile radius of the Parliament Buildings.

The Plan proposes that the ultimate limits of the urban area be surrounded by a "green belt", a strip of land three to five miles wide zoned for agricultural use and as permanent open space. In addition to preventing uncontrolled, uneconomic expansion and undesirable ribbon development along highways, the green belt will provide a lasting source of farm and market-garden produce close to the urban population.

Careful consideration is given to the expanding needs of government, and sites are proposed for future public buildings and institutions. These include a National Institute of Fine Arts to re-house the National Gallery and provide space for a national theatre, national botanical and zoological gardens, a national sports centre, an auditorium capable of seating 10,000 persons and suitable for national and international gatherings, and a national library. New buildings on appropriate sites are proposed for the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the Government Printing Bureau, the National Film Board and the Department of National Defence. Where practical, new departmental buildings are located away from the centre of the city to avoid traffic congestion and to enable government employees to live near their work.

The development of downtown Wellington Street on which the Parliament Buildings are located is given particular attention, and the siting and architectural style of new buildings is designed to enhance the magnificent panoramic view of the skyline of the Capital which is obtained from the Quebec side of the Ottawa River.

The Plan proposes extensive development of the National Capital District, 536 square miles of which lie in the Province of Quebec and 364 square miles in the Province of Ontario. Long known as the summer and winter playground of the Capital, the District (particularly the Gatineau region of Quebec) is one of the most attractive tourist areas on the continent.

After nearly 100 years of uncontrolled industrial, commercial, transportation and residential development without regard for economic expansion or future needs, or for its requirements as a capital, the Capital's basic planning problems are to be solved by a series of comprehensive, long-range re-planning projects. The most important of these is the relocation of railways and industries. The present network of railway lines with their attendant yards and services, which now occupies valuable downtown land, interferes with the free flow of traffic and has caused the development of blighted and depressed areas throughout the city, is to be relocated in a belt around the south and east edges of Ottawa and north and west sides of Hull. New and established industries requiring rail services which are now scattered throughout the built-up areas with no room for