

Ottawa Improvement Commission. The National Capital Commission is served by a full-time paid chairman and 19 unpaid commissioners representative of every province of Canada. The staff, operating under a general manager, numbers 550.

The major projects under the Master Plan have all been commenced during the past decade. They are concerned with the development of open space, the relocation of railways, the decentralization of government buildings, the provision of a green belt and the development of Gatineau Park.

By the end of 1959, over 4,000 acres of open space had been added to the urban area by the acquisition of land along both shores of the Ottawa River and by the provision of exceptionally wide rights-of-way for parkways throughout Ottawa and to a lesser extent in Hull. In co-operation with the Canadian National Railway System and the Canadian Pacific Railway, the task of removing, by stages, most of the rail lines from the centre of the metropolitan area continues. The program, scheduled for completion by 1965, involves the elimination of 19 miles of track and 27 level crossings together with the acquisition of 449 acres of land for redevelopment. New freight express and passenger terminals will eventually be constructed several miles from the city centre. Toward implementing the plan of decentralizing government services, four large areas have been established for new buildings, well away from central Ottawa—the Montreal Road area, Rideau Heights, Pinecrest and Tunney's Pasture. The Plan calls for the establishment of a green belt about two and a half miles wide to surround the urban zone at an average distance of nine miles from the city centre, requiring the acquisition of about 37,000 acres of land. By the end of 1959, \$20,000,000 had been expended on green-belt purchase and by the end of March 1961 most of the land should be under Commission ownership.

The development of Gatineau Park, a wilderness area triangular in shape with its apex in the heart of Hull and stretching 35 miles northwest into the Laurentian Hills, has proceeded rapidly. By the end of March 1961, 60,000 of the projected 75,000 acres for park use will have been acquired. The Park is now traversed by a scenic parkway which will be extended gradually. Altogether the Commission has completed 26 miles of parkway in Ottawa and 15 miles in Hull and its environs. Another 40 miles are projected. The Commission maintains the grounds of 125 government buildings in the National Capital region and gives assistance to municipal projects that enhance the attractiveness of the area, such as the provision of land and landscaping for the 12-mile Queensway under construction through Ottawa. Planning advice is also offered to other municipalities in the National Capital region.

An Advisory Committee on Design passes on the siting and exterior appearance of all Federal Government buildings in the region and a Historical Advisory Committee advises on the marking and preserving of historic sites.

Estimated expenditure on Commission projects for the year ending Mar. 31, 1961 totals \$17,000,000—\$2,000,000 for administration, operation and maintenance, \$4,000,000 for construction and \$11,000,000 for property acquisition.

Section 3.—Wildlife Resources and Conservation

A series of special articles relating to the wildlife resources of Canada has been carried in previous editions of the Year Book. Articles on Migratory Bird Protection in Canada, Game Fish in Canada's National Parks, The Barren-Ground Caribou, Migratory Bird Legislation, Scientific Management of Game Fish in Canada's National Parks, and The Musk-ox were carried in the 1951, 1952-53, 1954, 1955, 1956 and 1957-58 editions, respectively. A short article on the fur industry appears in the 1959 edition at pp. 603-604.