

**Shipbuilding Construction Assistance.**—During 1966, the Federal Government continued its program of encouraging a self-sustaining and efficient shipbuilding industry. The program included examination of financial measures in support of shipbuilding and the application of general assistance plans administered by the Department of Industry.

The industry responded effectively during the year to the policy of national competition for government shipbuilding requirements. Similarly, the industry made active use of the subsidy program for commercial vessels which provides a subsidy rate of 25 p.c. for vessels, other than fishing trawlers, for the period 1966-69, after which time it will be reduced by 2 p.c. each year until a rate of 17 p.c. is reached in 1972. The current subsidy rate of 50 p.c. for fishing trawlers is being continued.

**Industrial Missions.**—Industrial missions concerning wood components, structural ceramics and prefabricated and pre-cast concrete were recently organized to visit industrial establishments in the United States and Europe. The purpose of these missions is to enable Canadian business men to examine and assess the latest technological developments taking place outside Canada in their particular industries. The information gained is prepared in report form and circulated to Canadian industry.

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