

NODC LOANS TO AID TRANSPORTATION IN NORTHERN ONTARIO

Northern Ontario Development Corporation loans totalling \$631,000 will provide funds towards the cost of establishing a complete servicing facility for commercial and private aircraft in Northern Ontario.

In accordance with the Ontario Government's desire to improve transportation in the North, Industry and Tourism Minister Claude F. Bennett has announced that White River Air Services Limited will receive a \$315,500 NODC performance loan and a repayable term loan in an equal amount to establish new facilities at the Timmins Airport for aircraft maintenance operations.

White River Air Services began commercial operations with one aircraft in 1951 and now operates 25 single and multi-engine planes with bases at Wawa, White River, Chapleau, Sault Ste Marie, Kapuskasing, Moosonee and Sudbury. It provides scheduled commercial flights and commercial charters and operates tourist outfitting services and meteorological stations. The company's scheduled air services include "NorOntair" flights, operated for the Government of Ontario.

The premises at Timmins Airport will consist of an aircraft hanger, a fully equipped general airframe overhaul and maintenance shop, an engine overhaul shop, an accessories overhaul shop, an avionics maintenance facility, a parts supply depot and a flight simulator. Many of the services to be provided are not now available in Northeastern Ontario.

The new facility will provide employment for 19 people in the first year.

ONTARIO GRANTS FREE PARK ENTRY TO CANADIAN SENIOR CITIZENS

Effective this park season, Canadian senior citizens will be allowed free day use and camping privileges in Ontario Provincial Parks, natural resources minister, Leo Bernier, has announced.

"I am hopeful this new policy will make our parks more available to senior citizens, many of whom have fixed or restricted incomes," Mr. Bernier said.

Canadian resident senior citizens will obtain free entry upon presentation of either a current driver's licence, birth certificate or other official document which shows proof of age.

- A Canadian resident is one who spends at

least seven months of the year in Canada.

- Only persons 65 years or over qualify as senior citizens.

Where senior citizens are accompanied by anyone else in the same vehicle, free entry for day use applies to the whole group. Free entry for camping, however, applies only to spouses and persons under the age of 18.

APPEAL SYSTEM

Ontario's Workmen's Compensation program provides the province's workers with what is recognized world-wide as one of the most comprehensive protective packages of its kind. In addition, the overall system furnishes built-in safeguards to ensure injured workmen receive their full and proper entitlement under the Act.

The safeguards lie in the Ontario Workmen's Compensation Board's unique, three-level appeal system. Under it, both workers and employers are able to take their personal appeal of a decision on any claim for benefits all the way to the Board.

The opportunity to have the decision on their individual case studied by a Review Committee, an Appeal Tribunal, or as a final step by the three members of the Workmen's Compensation Board itself, is designed to ensure that all aspects and all information on any doubtful claim are given full consideration. As in all facets of dealing with claims, the approach at any given level of the appeal system is one of inquiry, with the sole objective being to present the true facts of the case under question.

At both the Appeal Tribunal and in cases which are taken before the Board itself, the workman or the employer involved makes a personal appearance to present his information. He may, of course, be assisted by counsel or any other competent advisor. Workmen, for example, are frequently accompanied by a union officer or a member of Parliament or the Provincial Legislature.

Of the claim appeals handled by the Review Committee during 1972, a total of 885 resulted in changes in the initial decision. Of the appeals turned down by the Review Committee, 1,418 were subsequently taken to the Appeal Tribunal where 745, about half, were successful.

There were 285 appeals to the Board itself; of which, once again, about half were successful.