

The Canadian Ministry of Transport and the United States Coast Guard will administer and maintain the plan which will provide for co-operation with respect to the use of equipment and for co-ordination of personnel in responding to accidents that may occur in waters included in the agreement.

### Queen Mother visits

Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, was in Canada from June 25 to July 1 to present new colours to the Toronto Scottish and the Black Watch Regiments, both of which she is Colonel-in-Chief. Included in her itinerary was attendance at the one-hundred-and-fifteenth running of the Queen's Plate.

Before leaving Canada on July 1, Her Majesty joined some 6,000 people on the lawn of Ontario's government buildings at Queen's Park, Toronto, for Canada Day celebrations. She was welcomed at the Legislature by Premier William Davis and Lieutenant-Governor Pauline McGibbon of Ontario.

"Visiting your country after an absence of seven years has been a source of real joy.... Thank you — happy birthday," the Queen Mother said, in her last public address before her departure at 11.15 a.m.

### Farm labour agreement with Mexico

"The agreement covering the entry of Mexican agricultural workers into Canada this summer will help assure an adequate labour supply for our farmers," Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan said recently.

Mr. Whelan was commenting on the recent agreement with Mexico to provide for the admission of seasonal agricultural workers from that country into Canada.

"The Mexican program, together with the Caribbean Seasonal Workers Program, will tie in with the newly established Farm Labour Pools to ensure an adequate agricultural labour force," Mr. Whelan stated.

The Farm Labour Pools will be responsible for determining the farm labour requirements in their areas. Canadian workers will be hired first, workers from programs like the Mexican and Caribbean agreements second, and individual foreign workers third.

### Swiss orchestra to perform in Ottawa

L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande will be among the visiting ensembles to the National Arts Centre during the 1974-75 season, the group's first appearance in Ottawa, and its only engagement in Canada during a 13-city tour of North America in October and early November. The orchestra will also play in major cities of the north-eastern United States, including Washington, New York and Boston. The internationally-acclaimed group of 115 musicians, under the baton of its distinguished conductor Wolfgang Sawallisch will perform on November 9 and 10; the soloist will be the Israeli pianist, Ilana Vered.

L'Orchestre de la Suisse Romande was founded by the late Ernest Ansermet in 1918, when he persuaded the Swiss Radio to join with local authorities of the cantons and towns of Geneva, Lausanne and Vaud to finance a symphony orchestra to serve "La Suisse Romande", that part of Switzerland that is French-speaking, performing for opera, the radio, and in symphony concerts. During the 50 years of Ernest Ansermet's leadership it went from success to success, and became one of the leading ensembles of Europe, well known not only through its tours but because of its large number of recordings. Wolfgang Sawallisch was named music director one year after Ansermet's death in 1970, after a brief period when the orchestra was conducted by Paul Klecki.

### RCMP souvenir record

A special souvenir record was recently released in honour of the hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the North-West Mounted Police in Alberta. The record, from the album *Scarlet and Gold*, produced by Edmonton songwriter Doug Hutton, features two songs: *The Brave Men*, which deals with the march West of 300 young North-West Mounted Police; and *Wild Rose Country*, named for Alberta's provincial emblem.

The record jacket features three coloured paintings commissioned by the Horsemen's Hall of Fame and a photo of a modern RCMP constable in the familiar scarlet tunic.

### January-April trade

Exports to the United States rose 18 per cent to \$6,434 million from January to April this year compared to those of the same period in 1973. Larger increases, between 37 per cent and 50 per cent, occurred in exports to Japan, the six EEC countries and Latin America.

In the first four months of 1974, the value of both imports and exports of crude petroleum doubled compared to those of the same period of 1973, representing increases of over \$400 million in each case. Exports of industrial materials (particularly pulp, newsprint, lumber and metals) increased to all countries, except for shipments of metals to Japan and of lumber to the U.S., where there has been a decrease in construction activity. Exports of wheat were up \$191 million. Imports of automotive parts from the U.S. continued to increase but exports were down \$138 million.

The increase of 28 per cent in imports from the U.S. included a sharp rise in machinery and equipment purchases, in response to increased capital expenditures by Canadian industry. Imports from overseas countries rose more rapidly than from the U.S. because of increases in the prices of crude petroleum and other commodities.

### Quarterly report on job vacancies

In the first quarter of the year, there were 80,000 vacancies for full-time jobs in Canada, an increase of 2,600, or 3.4 per cent, from those in the last quarter of 1973 and 13,500, or 20.3 per cent, from those in the first quarter a year ago.

Three economic regions showed increases from the previous quarter: Ontario, up 1,300, the Prairies, up 2,400, and the Pacific, up 1,200. These increases were partially offset by decreases in the Atlantic region, down 1,100, and Quebec, down 1,300. In the year-to-year comparison, all regions showed increases in vacancies for full-time jobs. Three regions accounted for 96 per cent of the total increase: Ontario led with an increase of 6,900, followed by the Prairie region, up 4,000, and the Pacific region, up 2,000.