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Thursday, July 7, 1949.

Commonwealth Finance Conference: The Prime Minister, Mr. St. Laurent, on July 6, issued the following statement:

The Minister of Finance, Mr. Abbott, is leaving by air today (July 6) for London for informal talks with United Kingdom and United States authorities and, subsequently, to represent the Government at the Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers. The date on which the meeting will begin is now fixed for July 13.

Mr. M. W. Mackenzie, Deputy Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Dr. G. S. H. Barton, Special Assistant to the Minister of Agriculture, are flying to the United Kingdom at the same time as Mr. Abbott. They are both members of the United Kingdom-Canada Continuing Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs. The other two Canadian members of the Committee, Dr. W. C. Clark, Deputy Minister of Finance, and Mr. Dana Wilgress, High Commissioner for Canada, are already in London.

It will be remembered that this Committee was formed following the visit of Sir Stafford Cripps to Canada last September and held its first meeting last January. It was established as a means of ensuring continuity and close liaison between official representatives of the two countries.

The presence of these Canadian officials in London will afford opportunity for contacts and conversations with the United Kingdom members of the Committee. The extent of these conversations will naturally depend on circumstances as they develop.

International Fisheries: Government fisheries officials of both Canada and the United States will meet in Ottawa Thursday and Friday for routine discussions on administration of two West Coast international treaties, the Fisheries Department announced on July 6.

The discussions, which will deal with the operations of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission and the International Halibut Commission, are a continuation of exchange of views between Canadian and United States government administrators which began last year when the two Commissions met simultaneously for the first time at Ottawa.

Described as "strictly informal" the deliberations will be under the chairmanship of Stewart Bates, federal Deputy Minister of Fisheries. Attending the discussions will be officials of the Department of Fisheries and the Department of External Affairs; Dr. W. M. Chapman, of the U. S. State Department and officials of the U. S. Fish and Wild Life Service.

Britons Study Canadian Army: A close study of the Canadian Army and its place in the community life of Canada will be made by two British officers who will tour military installations and bases this month. They are Brig. G. D. G. Heyman, CBE, and Col. R. P. de Winton, CBE, both of the British Joint Services Mission (Army Staff) in Washington.

Scheduled to arrive in Canada on July 10 and remain until July 24, the two officers will visit such places as Montreal, Winnipeg, Fort Churchill, Edmonton, Whitehorse, Chilliwack and Vancouver, Army Headquarters announced on July 7.

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