

Hungarian Minister of Agriculture and Food visits

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan met with Dr. Paul Romany, Minister of Agriculture and Food for Hungary on October 17. Dr. Romany was in Canada to discuss areas of mutual interest with Canadian agriculture officials and to tour agricultural facilities in Ontario, Quebec and Manitoba.

Dr. Romany and Mr. Whelan signed a memorandum of understanding to promote mutual co-operation in veterinary sciences, including the establishment of a joint committee, and the exchange of veterinarians and scientific information relating to cattle import and export. In 1976, Canada exported almost \$6-million worth of products to Hungary, of which more than \$2 million were agricultural items.

Discussions also included the trade in Holstein cattle currently carried on between Canada and Hungary.

While in Ottawa, Dr. Romany visited the Greenbelt Farm of Agriculture Canada's Animal Research Institute and the Animal Diseases Research Institute. In Winnipeg he met with officers of the Canadian Wheat Board before touring several cattle farms and farm machinery industries. He also visited the Narrow Research Station in Ontario.

Canada-Romania sign nuclear co-operation pact

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, signed an agreement in Ottawa on October 24 with Ambassador Barbu Popescu of Romania allowing nuclear co-operation and trade between the two countries.

The accord contains binding assurances that any nuclear material, equipment and technology transferred subject to the agreement may only be used for peaceful, non-explosive purposes. The safeguards commitments in the agreement, including the application of the verification and inspection system of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), represent juridical undertakings of a high order which fully meet international standards and Canadian safeguards policy.

The agreement provides that any future exports of nuclear material, equip-

ment and technology shall only be authorized on the undertaking between the two governments that:

(1) the items which may be supplied or items produced with these, including subsequent generations of nuclear material, will not be used to produce nuclear weapons or other nuclear explosive devices;

(2) the retransfer of items will only be permitted with the prior consent of both parties;

(3) the enrichment and reprocessing of any nuclear material supplied, or nuclear material produced with items supplied, will only be done with the prior consent of both parties;

(4) adequate measures for the physical security of materials will be taken to protect the supplied items from the threat of diversion;

(5) the IAEA safeguards system and, for aspects of guarantees where the IAEA system is not applicable, other mechanisms of bilateral verification will be applied to ensure compliance with the agreement, for the useful life of all items subject to the agreement.

Amateur athletes take part in Grey Cup show

Fitness, recreation and amateur sport will be the theme of the pre-game and half-time shows at the 1977 Grey Cup Game to be played in Montreal's Olympic Stadium on November 27. Hugo de Pot, who was responsible for the staging of the opening and closing ceremonies at the 1976 Olympic Games, has been named director and choreographer.

The shows will cover the complete spectrum of recreation, fitness, team and participant sports; the 2,000 men, women and children on the field will represent Canadians of all ages and from every walk of life.

With the installation of additional seats in the stadium, a Grey Cup attendance record of more than 70,000 is expected to be set. In addition, an estimated seven million Canadians will see the game and parts of the half-time spectacle through the facilities of the CBC and CTV television networks.

The show will be co-sponsored by the Fitness and Amateur Sport Branch of Health and Welfare and the Canadian Football League.

Guaranteed income recommended

The following is reprinted from The Labour Gazette, September 1977.

The National Council of Welfare says the most urgently needed step to help the working poor is an income-supplementation program that will guarantee each of them "at least a poverty-level income". The council, a citizens' advisory body to the Minister of National Health and Welfare, takes this stand in a 38-page report released recently under the title, *Jobs and Poverty*.

"Including the 513,400 wage-earners who are family heads, the total number of Canadians in working poor families is close to one and a half million," the report says. It finds the working poor are part of a "marginal" labour market of small employers with rules and structures different from those of the normal labour market in which better-off workers are hired. In the marginal market, wages are low, layoffs are frequent and opportunities for promotion almost non-existent.

Nor are these workers adequately protected by minimum-wage laws: "As vital as such legislation is to prevent the exploitation of low-income workers, it can never solve the income problems of all working families, particularly since they have, on the average, more children than non-poor families and are more likely to experience part-time or part-year unemployment." Any measurement of poverty must take family size into account, the council observes.

The council also recommends that the Canada and Quebec pension plans be improved to guarantee a secure retirement to all workers, that labour standards legislation be strengthened and enforced more strictly, and that direct job-creating programs be redesigned. Such programs have a "significant potential", according to the report, but their greatest present short-coming is "the relegation of these jobs to a temporary, second-class status because of the insistence that they pay minimal wages and not compete with the private sector".

The report also calls on governments, unions and employers to explore ways of reorganizing jobs in the marginal labour market. And it notes that federal and provincial governments have been discussing income supplements to the working poor for four years. "It is time for talk to cease and action to begin," the council pleads.