

The visitors will look at all phases of the subject, including forest-fire prevention, detection, suppression and planning; but their main interest will be in the training of fire-fighting personnel. They will undergo actual training and use the experience gained to develop the organization and conduct of training in their respective countries.

The study tour will be conducted in Ontario and Quebec from August 8 to 22, 1964, under the joint sponsorship of the North American Forestry Commission (FAO), the federal Department of Forestry and the two provincial Departments of Lands and Forests. It will follow a five-week study tour in the United States. The list of participating countries is not complete, but representation is expected to be world-wide.

NEW ISRAELI ENVOY

On December 6, His Excellency Gershon Avner presented to the Governor General his letter of credence as Ambassador of Israel in a ceremony which took place at Government House.

Mr. Avner was born in 1919. He is a graduate of the Hebrew Secondary School in Haifa, Palestine, and attended Oxford University, where he received Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees in Political and Economic Sciences. From 1942 to 1948, Mr. Avner held important positions with the Jewish Agency for Palestine in London and in Jerusalem. Since joining the diplomatic service, he has served in Budapest, Sofia and London. Between these postings, Mr. Avner was, in turn, Director of the West-European and of the United States of America Divisions of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 1961 he was attached to the Israeli Delegation to the United Nations General Assembly and in 1962 was appointed Ambassador of Israel to Norway.

HEAVY-WATER PLANT FOR CANADA

Mr. C.M. Drury, the Minister of Industry, announced recently that the Government had approved the acceptance of the proposal submitted by Deuterium of Canada Limited to construct and operate a plant to produce heavy water in Canada. In its proposal, submitted to Atomic Energy of Canada Limited prior to May 31, 1963, the closing date for receipt of proposals, Deuterium of Canada Limited made an unconditional offer to produce heavy water in Canada for sale at a price considerably lower than that of other bidders who fulfilled the conditions established by the Government. The proposal contained a commitment that Deuterium would have a substantial degree of Canadian equity participation. The company agreed to use the maximum possible quantities of Canadian materials and equipment in the construction of the proposed plant.

Deuterium of Canada plans to construct its plant in Cape Breton. The plant will provide an assured market for Nova Scotia coal in Nova Scotia.

AN IMPORTANT STEP

The production of heavy water is a further important step in Canada's programme of developing nuclear sources of energy. The facilities of the new plant will be available to supply the requirements of heavy water in Canadian-designed reactor stations in Canada and abroad. Under the new arrangement, Deuterium of Canada will produce not less than 200 tons of heavy water a year for the first five years of production. The sale of this quantity will be underwritten by the Government of Canada. In view, however, of the keen interest at home and abroad, in the Canadian reactor programme, the prospects for the sale of heavy water appear most promising.