

TRADE MISSION TO UK: It was announced October 17 that Mr. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce, will head a trade mission to the United Kingdom next month. The mission will arrive in the UK on November 22 and will visit industries and interview business executives until December 18.

Mr. James S. Duncan, Ontario Hydro Commission chairman, will be deputy leader of the mission, whose membership will comprise some 50 persons representing labour, business, agriculture and other primary production.

Object of the mission is to explore means whereby Canada can make more of its overseas purchases in the United Kingdom.

BRIEF VISIT: Prime Minister Harold Macmillan of the United Kingdom will spend a few hours in Ottawa October 25 on his return from Washington, where he will hold talks with President Eisenhower. Mr. Macmillan will fly to Washington on October 22.

POPULATION GROWTH: Canada's population increased at a record rate in the first eight months of this year, rising 401,000 to an estimated 16,745,000 at September 1 from 16,344,000 at the start of the year, according to the Dominion Bureau of Statistics quarterly estimate. This compares with a January-August increase of 274,000 in 1956, 268,000 in 1955, and 304,000 in 1954.

Over the 12 months (September 1, 1956 to September 1, 1957), Canada's estimated population growth was the largest ever at 552,000 (3.41 per cent), comparing with 390,000 (2.47 per cent) in the 1955-56 period, 394,000 (2.56 per cent) in the 1954-55 period, 443,000 (2.96 per cent) in the 1953-54 period, and 398,000 (2.73 per cent) in the 1952-53 period. The population growth was 664,000 from the 1956 Census total of 16,081,000, and 2,736,000 from the 1951 Census count of 14,009,000.

EUROPEAN MIGRANT RATE: Delegates to a recent session of the Intergovernmental Committee for European Migration were told that ICEM had enabled 148,566 persons to migrate during the first eight months of this year, as compared to 172,172 for all of 1956. This brings the grand total of ICEM movements since its founding in 1952 to 717,918.

While the Migration Committee was originally set up to assist "normal" overseas migration from overpopulated European countries, it also moved 59,018 refugees under special programmes during the eight month period: 53,646 Hungarian escapees (chiefly from Austria and Yugoslavia), 3,799 Jewish, Italian and Greek refugees from the Middle East, and 1,573 refugees of European origin from Hong Kong.

Commenting on ICEM's role in the Hungarian crisis, Dr. B.W. Haveman, Chief of the Netherlands Delegation, said: "It would have been impossible to keep this emergency situation in hand if ICEM had not existed. From the political point of view it has prevented confusion, and operations have been carried on at the lowest possible cost. ICEM, by writing this chapter in its history, has proved that it possesses a unique value for countries of the free world".

Among receiving countries during 1957, Canada led with 42,922; Australia was next with 29,976, followed by the United States with 23,057. The leading Latin American immigration countries during the period reported were: Argentina, 12,577; Brazil, 7,208; and Venezuela, 5,663. The Committee also assisted in the movement of 8,657 refugees to Israel, most of them from the Middle East.

DELEGATION TO GATT: The Canadian Delegation to the Twelfth Session of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, which opened in Geneva October 17, is headed by Mr. L.D. Wilgress, Canadian Permanent Representative to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Organization for European Economic Co-operation in Paris.

The twelfth session is one of the regular sessions of GATT which are held annually to administer the Agreement and to seek solutions to particular trading difficulties between member countries.

At their current session, in accordance with the provisions of the General Agreement, the contracting parties will also be considering the treaty for the establishment of a European Economic community - the Common Market Treaty. This treaty has been signed by Belgium, France, the Federal Republic of Germany, Italy, Luxembourg and The Netherlands and is expected to be ratified by all of the six countries and to come into effect by early next year.

Mr. C.M. Isbister of the Department of Trade and Commerce, is Vice-Chairman of the Canadian Delegation to the Twelfth Session of GATT, and will be replaced as Vice-Chairman during the Session by Mr. S.S. Reisman of the Department of Finance. Other officials of the Departments of Trade and Commerce, Finance, External Affairs, National Revenue and Agriculture are included in the delegation.

FRUIT CROPS LARGER: Larger crops of all fruits this year, except pears and strawberries, are indicated in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics third estimate of commercial fruit production. Output in Nova Scotia was smaller for all fruits except raspberries, which were unchanged from last year, while in New Brunswick output of apples was larger but production of strawberries and raspberries was smaller. A larger raspberry crop was indicated in