

AID TO PAKISTAN: Representing Canada on a team of dairy experts including representatives from Australia, The Netherlands, Denmark and the United States, D.B. Goodwillie, Dairy Products Division, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, leaves by air for Pakistan this month.

The purpose of the team's visit to Pakistan, arranged under the Food and Agriculture Organization at the request of the Pakistan Government, is to prepare a detailed improvement programme in consultation with the Pakistan authorities, for development of the dairy industry in the cities of Karachi and Lahore.

At the request of the Food and Agriculture Organization the team of dairy experts will provide that body with estimates of the total costs of separate programmes for each of the two cities. These will be divided into local costs, external costs, and technical assistance, and suggest the amount and type of local and external finance needed in each phase of the development programmes. The team is asked to suggest legislative, administrative and educational action that should be taken by the Government of Pakistan and local authorities to ensure an effective and permanent Central Milk Authority and what part international co-operative action and assistance might play in the development of dairy plants that can be operated on a technically and economically sound commercial basis.

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NEW USE OF LIGNIN: Experiments by Canadian Government and private research agencies have shown that lignin - the substance that nature produces to hold wood fibres together - can be used to give longer life to tires, particularly the large-diameter tires used in military vehicles, the National Research Council has announced.

In exhaustive road tests these tires, having synthetic rubber treads reinforced with lignin, showed 15 per cent more resistance to wear than conventional tires.

Under present conditions, the larger the tire, the more natural rubber must be used in its construction because synthetic rubber becomes too hot at high speeds. However, in laboratory tests synthetic rubber reinforced with lignin develops less heat than conventional synthetic rubber, and the success of these experiments suggests that an all-synthetic large-diameter tire may eventually be made through the use of lignin.

The lignin used in these tests is a by-product of alkaline pulp manufacture, and as such, it was noted in the report, "has a production potential in North America of 8,000,000 tons a year".

Since Canada manufactures synthetic rubber as well as paper, this industrial application of lignin is aimed at making Canada, in case of war, virtually independent of outside sources for raw materials in tires.

CD HEAD RETIRES: Canada's "Mr. Civil Defence", Major-General F.F. Worthington, retired September 17 from his post as federal civil defence co-ordinator. The announcement was made by the Hon. J. Waldo Monteith, federal cabinet minister responsible for civil defence, and confirmed by General Worthington. Retirement brought to a close a continuous period of public service in military and civilian fields, totalling forty-three years in all, extending without interruption from the outbreak of World War I in 1914 to the present time.

Among the many major accomplishments conceived and brought into operation during General Worthington's term of office as federal civil defence co-ordinator was the "No Border" agreement worked out with the United States which provided for co-ordination of Canadian and United States civil defence activities during an emergency "as if no border existed". He was also instrumental in obtaining federal financial support for provincial programmes for standardizing fire hose couplings, making it possible for the first time for many communities to interchange and supplement each other's fire-fighting equipment. He successfully advocated the establishment of the federal Civil Defence College at Arnprior, now accepted internationally as one of the finest in the world, which has graduated more than 8,000 trained civil defence workers. By his tireless efforts, he was instrumental in convincing most of the Canadian provinces of the need for an active civil defence programme, as well as formal legislation, on which to base their activities. He planned and carried into operation a programme of federal-provincial compensation agreements under which volunteers are protected in the event of injury during civil defence training or operations.

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NEW RESEARCH LABORATORY: A new research laboratory of the Petawawa Forest Experiment Station was opened to-day by Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

The laboratory is considered to be one of the finest research laboratories of its kind in the world. Together with the adjoining administration building and staff house, it provides ample space and facilities for the research, administration, and accommodation needs of the Forest Experiment Station, oldest and largest of the five forest research stations operated by the federal Forestry Branch.

More than 100 representatives of the federal and provincial governments, research organizations, forest industries, forestry trade and professional associations, and university forestry faculties attended the opening ceremony and were taken on a tour of the new laboratory and some of the research projects.