

NAFO meetings in Toronto

Fishermen on Canada's Atlantic coast stand to benefit as a result of decisions reached by the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries Organization (NAFO) at special meetings which concluded recently in Toronto.

In the cod fishery on the southern Grand Banks (NAFO divisions 3N0), which straddles Canada's 200-mile exclusive fishing zone, NAFO established a total allowable catch (TAC) of 26,000 metric tons for 1980. Of this total, Canada was allocated 9,800 metric tons, with the remainder divided variously among foreign countries which traditionally fish in the area, including France (St. Pierre and Miquelon), Portugal, Spain and the U.S.S.R.

It had been decided at the NAFO annual meeting last June that as a conservation measure there should be no directed fishery for cod on the southern Grand Banks. However, subsequent scientific assessments have indicated an improvement in the state of the stock and a TAC of 26,000 metric tons was suggested. Supporting the recommendation, Canadian officials pointed out that the revised TAC would include about 10,000 metric tons of cod which would have been taken as by-catches (i.e. while fishing other species) even without a directed fishery for the 3N0 stock.

In the squid (*illex*) fishery off the Canadian Atlantic coast, which occurs almost entirely within Canada's 200-mile fishing zone, a TAC of 150,000 metric tons was established for 1980. Of this amount, 14,250 metric tons was allocated to foreign fishing fleets, with the remaining 135,750 metric tons to be managed by Canada, (which will include certain allocations to foreign countries under bilateral agreements).

In view of the continued depressed state of the capelin stocks, NAFO agreed that there would be no offshore fishing for this species off Canada's Atlantic coast in 1980. The only capelin taken will be that fished by Canada's inshore fishermen.

At the conclusion of the NAFO meeting, Canadian officials also announced that they had successfully negotiated a six-month fisheries agreement with Spain.

The agreement includes cod fishing privileges for Spain within the Canadian 200-mile zone.

Former high commissioner lauded



Former Canadian High Commissioner in London, Paul Martin, who studied at Cambridge more than 50 years ago, will receive an honorary doctor of law degree from the university during ceremonies in early June. Cambridge awards about eight honorary degrees each year. "The recipients aren't necessarily Cambridge grads but generally people who have contributed to the academic or intellectual life of the world," said Geoff Skelsey, assistant to the vice-chancellor.

Human rights report presented

Canada's report on its observance of the principles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights was presented to the Human Rights Committee at the Office of the United Nations in Geneva on March 25.

Canada initially submitted its report to the United Nations Secretary General last spring. The report was then translated into the United Nations' languages and given to all members of the United Nations Committee which is constituted under the Covenant. Now, in line with the procedures followed by all states party to the Covenant, Canada will be represented in Geneva by a delegation to introduce the report and answer any questions Committee members may have on its content.

Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan recalled that Canada be-

came a party to the Covenant in May 1976, following extensive consultations between the federal and provincial governments. He noted that the composition of the Canadian delegation appearing before the Committee is symbolic of the federal-provincial co-operation which the preparation of the 480-page report entailed. It reflects the commitment of federal and provincial governments to Canada's responsibilities as a party to the Covenant, Dr. MacGuigan said.

Canadian foreign service reorganization begins

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has announced that a reorganization of Canada's foreign service has been started.

For the three departments involved, External Affairs, Industry, Trade and Commerce, and Employment and Immigration, it will mean a full integration into External Affairs of their foreign service officers at the senior executive level.

For foreign service personnel at the operational level below the executive group, management control will be divided between the departments of External Affairs and Industry, Trade and Commerce. This will preserve the independent identity of the Trade Commissioner Service at the operating level. Immigration operations abroad, however, will be merged into those of External Affairs.

Foreign operations personnel of the Canadian Government Office of Tourism will be integrated into the Trade Commissioner Service, with some career safeguards for officers who do not have experience with the full range of foreign service responsibilities.

The Prime Minister also announced that he plans to commission a special study on the terms and conditions of foreign service from the point of view of foreign service officers and their families.

Some 1,300 public servants are classified as foreign service officers, divided approximately 750 in External Affairs, 300 in the Trade Commissioner Service of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and 250 in Immigration.

Another 150 are also involved in foreign service work, mostly in the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and the Office of Tourism, plus a few officers from other departments on foreign assignments.