

CANADA'S VIEWS ON RHODESIA

The following statement was made by Prime Minister Pearson on the declaration of unilateral independence by the Government of Rhodesia, on November 11:

I have learned with deep disappointment and regret of the decision of the Government of Rhodesia to declare its independence. This action has been taken in the face of numerous warnings by the British, Canadian and other governments. Prime Minister Wilson has announced that this is an unconstitutional act, amounting, in fact, to rebellion.

At and after the Commonwealth heads of government conference of July 1964, I make it plain that Canada would not recognize a unilateral declaration of independence by the Rhodesian Government. I now confirm that we do not recognize the unilateral declaration of independence by the Government of Mr. Smith in Rhodesia, or the independent state of Rhodesia which he claims now exists, or the Smith Government itself in Rhodesia.

In view of the action of Mr. Smith's Government, we are withdrawing the Canadian Trade Commissioner in Salisbury. We are recommending immediately to the Governor in Council the withdrawal of the preferential tariff treatment Rhodesian goods have enjoyed

in Canada. Imports from Rhodesia will no longer be accorded the British preferential tariff, nor will they be entitled to the rates in the most-favoured-nation tariff. Instead, they will be subject to the much higher rates in the general tariff. We are also bringing into effect immediately a complete arms embargo. The export of all arms, military equipment and ammunition to Rhodesia will be banned, and there will be no new aid and financing agreements.

The situation which has arisen in Rhodesia is particularly serious because of its potentially divisive effect on the Commonwealth and on race relations, which are so important to co-operation and development in Africa. We are engaged in continuing and close consultations with African and other Commonwealth Governments about the consequences of this most regrettable Rhodesian action.

The action of Mr. Smith's Government is in defiance of unanimous Commonwealth opinion expressed at the meetings of Commonwealth heads of government in 1964 and 1965. The United Nations General Assembly has also expressed clearly its opposition to such a unilateral declaration of independence. The Canadian measures I have described which reflect our disapproval of the Rhodesian decision are, therefore, also in accord with Commonwealth and world opinion.

CANADIAN POSTAGE STAMPS 1966

Mr. René Tremblay, Postmaster General, announced recently that the stamp programme for 1966 had been revised to allow for the addition of two new stamps to the philatelic schedule.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association will be honoured on a stamp, to be released early in September, that will mark the opening of the twelfth general conference. Canada is to be host to the countries attending this conference.

On June 30, the floral-emblem series, begun in 1964, will be completed by a stamp featuring the Canadian coat-of-arms and a maple leaf. The date of issue was chosen to coincide as closely as possible with Dominion Day, July 1. This stamp will be similar in size and format to the floral-emblem and armorial-bearing stamps of each of the ten provinces and the Northern Territories.

STAMP SCHEDULE

Mr. Tremblay listed the revised stamp schedule as follows: Space research (following launching of the *Alouette* satellite); Alberta floral, Saskatchewan floral, January 19; Newfoundland floral, February 23; Yukon floral, Northwest Territories floral, March 23; three-hundredth anniversary of La Salle's arrival in Canada, April 13; highway safety, May 2; London Conference, May 26; Canada coat-of-arms (floral series), June 30; Peaceful uses of atomic energy, July 27; Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Conference, early September; Christmas 5 cent and 3 cent, October 12.

All stamps, except the 3-cent Christmas, will be of the 5-cent denomination.

Mr. Tremblay remarked that this record number of new stamp issues is a direct reflection of the encouraging public interest in recent Canadian postage stamps.

INCO BUYS U.S. NICKEL

The International Nickel Company recently signed an agreement with the General Services Administration of the United States Government to purchase 14,000,000 pounds of surplus electrolytic nickel a year over a five-year period. To provide appropriate flexibility, the company has an option to accelerate its purchases.

This agreement is part of an orderly programme adopted by the General Services Administration to dispose of surplus nickel. Previous disposals had been at the rate of 25,000,000 pounds a year.

The new U.S. disposal programme was developed in consultation with industry representatives. With free-world nickel consumption running at a high level, it is not expected to cause any disruption of normal markets.

In co-operating to facilitate stockpile liquidation, International Nickel had in earlier years purchased from the United States Government more than 127,000,000 pounds of surplus nickel.