

LOAN FOR JAMAICAN SCHOOLS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, and the acting Prime Minister of Jamaica, Mr. Donald B. Sangster, recently signed a loan agreement which will make \$600,000 available for the expansion of the Jamaican school system.

The interest-free loan will be used for the purchase of Canadian equipment and services in the construction of about 40 small pre-fabricated primary schools and teacherages in rural areas. Each school will accommodate between 100 and 200 children.

This is the third such loan to be signed with Jamaica under the special development loan programme administered by the External Aid Office. The first two agreements, made in September 1965, provided funds for the construction of a new bridge across the Johnson River and for services in connection with a low-cost housing project near Kingston.

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FOOD-LABELLING MEET IN OTTAWA

A committee of the United Nations Codex Alimentarius Commission, the Codex Committee on Food Labelling, met recently in Ottawa. Delegates and observers from 11 nations convened in the West Block on Parliament Hill to study specific problems assigned to the Committee by its parent body. As its name implies, the Committee is concerned with international agreement on a uniform system of food labelling.

Recalling the failure of past efforts to set up a uniform labelling programme, Dr. S.C. Barry, Canada's Deputy Minister of Agriculture, said the Committee provided a vehicle by which this might be accomplished. "If there are any prospects of getting together on this important matter, this is the type of organization to get it done", Dr. Barry told the delegates. Food labelling was one area, he added, in which "it should be possible to make progress and see our way clear to sort out our difficulties".

FORMATION OF CCFL

The Codex Alimentarius Commission, jointly sponsored by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization and World Health Organization, was established in 1962. Meeting in Geneva two years ago, it accepted Canada's offer to assume responsibility for the Committee on Food Labelling, which met for the first time last year.

The nations represented at the meeting included, besides Canada, Australia, Belgium, Britain, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, Israel, the Netherlands, Poland, Switzerland and the United States.

The objectives of the Codex Commission are to promote and strengthen international trade in raw, semi-processed and processed foods, to promote fair trade practices, to ensure that consumers in any country of the world are supplied with safe, wholesome food of acceptable quality, and to ensure that all foods are properly labelled and presented so that all elements of fraud and deception are removed.

TERRITORIAL BANK OF CUBA

On May 6, the Department of External Affairs drew attention to an official announcement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Cuba, dated March 15, giving notice of the liquidation of the Territorial Bank of Cuba. On August 9, the Department called attention to a second Cuban announcement dated June 15, concerning the liquidation of the Territorial Bank, giving notice that the deadline, which had been June 15, for the submission of claims against the Bank, had been extended for 90 days to September 12, 1966, after which any legal action would be considered to have lapsed and all rights the claimants might have would be regarded as waived.

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NORAD AWARD TO COAST GUARD

Captain George S. Burdock of the ice-breaking cable-repair ship CCGS *John Cabot*, recently received a special award from the North American Air Defence Command in a ceremony on board his ship in the Port of Montreal. The award, called the "Shield of Freedom", was presented by NORAD in recognition of services rendered by Captain Burdock to the United States Government when he and his crew repaired, under extremely adverse conditions, an Arctic submarine cable.

Transport Minister J.W. Pickersgill was represented at the ceremony by Mr. John Turner, Minister without Portfolio. The U.S. Consul General in Montreal, Richard H. Hawkins, was in attendance, as well as the Assistant Deputy Minister, Marine, G.W. Stead, the Director of Marine Operations of the Department of Transport, A.H.G. Storrs, and the president of the Canadian Overseas Telecommunication Corporation, D.F. Bowie. The presentation was made by Mr. Turner. The incident that won Captain Burdock his award occurred in November 1965. A break in a submarine cable southwest of Thule, Greenland, in Baffin Bay, had been reported and the *John Cabot* was called on to repair it. The Coast Guard had never had to carry out such work in the Arctic so late in the year.

The cable-repair ship arrived at the scene of the break early in November and its crew set to work. Current-driven ice and violent winds made the job extremely difficult. On November 5, however, one end of the broken cable was raised. The ice again got the upper hand, and it was decided to abandon the work temporarily and to call for ice-breaker assistance. "We had buoys fixed to the ends of the cable," Captain Burdock later stated, "but they were torn away by the ice".

Answering the call of the cable-repair ship, the Canadian Coast Guard ice-breaker *d'Iberville* and the American ice-breaker *Westwind* headed north.

When work could be resumed, it took the crew of the *John Cabot* only 12 hours to repair the break. The *d'Iberville* and the *Westwind*, using football tactics, pushed aside the floating ice masses while the work continued, most of the time by the light of projectors because the Arctic night, in winter, lasts