

### Canada/U.S. discuss tanker traffic

United States and Canadian officials met in Ottawa on August 29, to discuss the problems raised by the transport of Alaska oil by tanker to the U.S. West Coast.

The delegations discussed various concerns which fell within four subject areas:

(1) possible alternative means of supply to the refineries of the Pacific Northwest of the U.S.;

(2) co-operative research programs designed to achieve a better understanding of the physical and biological environment of the area;

(3) compensation procedures, including those under the TAPS legislation, for damages and clean-up costs;

(4) co-operative traffic-management systems to lessen the danger of oil spills occurring.

Examination of a number of technical aspects of these problems will continue between the agencies concerned, and both sides agreed to meet again, in Washington, early in November.

### CN team to help reorganize rail management in E. Africa

Six officials of Canadian National have arrived in Nairobi, Kenya, to help manage the 3,600-mile East African Railway System. This is the latest project of Canac Consultants Ltd, the international consulting service of CN and Air Canada.

They will prepare recommendations for a management contract that includes reorganizing the railway's management structure.

The railway serves three independent nations in Africa — Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania — and links inland areas with the Indian ocean ports of Mombasa, Dar-es-Salaam and Tanga. It operates ferries and other vessels on lakes Victoria and Tanganyika and provides bus and road transport services over another 2,500 route miles in the East African community.

Since its incorporation three years ago, Canac has undertaken 30 projects in Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and North and South America.

### IDRC annual report highlights encouraging crop research results

Encouraging results from research carried out during the last three years on crops grown in the areas of the world most threatened by famine are described in the 1973-74 annual report of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), released on September 18.

The Centre, established in 1970 by the Canadian Parliament, almost doubled the size and scope of its operations in developing countries and Canada during this latest year. By March 1974 it was supporting 180 research projects which required a total \$28 million in Canadian funds; a year previously, 99 projects had been begun which involved a commitment of \$13.4 million.

The introduction to the report gives details of how the Centre has set out to make its work relevant to "some basic issues of world development that have been weighing most heavily on people's minds during this period: the twin problem of food production in developing countries to meet the needs of increasing populations".

### Renaude Lapointe becomes Speaker of the Senate

After only two years and ten months as a senator, Renaude Lapointe has been appointed by the Prime Minister as Speaker of the Senate, succeeding Muriel McQueen Fergusson, who held the position since December 1972.

Miss Lapointe, who was a leading Quebec journalist, is the second woman in Canadian history to become Speaker of the Upper House.

From 1939 to 1959, Miss Lapointe was a reporter for *Le Soleil* of Quebec City. She was also correspondent for the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, International Service and *Time* and *Life* magazines during 1953 to 1957. In 1959 she joined the reporting staff of *La Presse* in Montreal and remained with that newspaper until 1970 except for a brief period in 1961-1962 with *le Nouveau Journal*, when she won a Bowater Prize in journalism for her articles on Msgr. Charbonneau, former Archbishop of Montreal. In 1965 she became the first woman to be appointed to the editorial Board of *La Presse*.

In 1970 Senator Lapointe joined the Department of Indian Affairs and

Northern Development. She was a member of the Canadian delegation to the United Nations in 1970, 1971 and 1972. In the Senate, she has served on the External Affairs Committee and the Committee on Legal and Constitutional Affairs.



Renaude Lapointe

### Success of triticale

It says: "Particularly encouraging results have come from the research in Mexico and in Manitoba to develop triticale as a cereal crop in areas where wheat cannot thrive." Early problems of fertility and grain-shrivelling have been "largely overcome" in this man-made hybrid that is produced by crossing wheat and rye, and the most productive triticales are out-yielding the best wheat varieties at research stations in both countries, as well as proving superior to wheat in field trials in Ethiopia and East Africa.

Of crops that are staple foods for millions in the semi-arid tropics, sorghum and millet, the report says that a network of research has now been organized across Africa and Asia. At the same time, studies that have begun at Laval University, Quebec, and the University of Saskatchewan, into the resistance or tolerance of sorghum to drought stress "should prove of importance to the peoples of Africa who face the bleak prospect of recurring years of drought, for they desperately