

Mr. Jamieson's visit to Latin America (Continued from P. 2)

gram for forest development and the lumber industry in Peru; the rationalization of the administration of transport systems and railway costs; technical assistance to the state telecommunications company of Peru (Entel-Peru); the study and implementation of the sectorial system of statistical information; and advisory services to the higher administration of the Ministry and Tourism in the development of the national iron and steel industry.

The above-named projects will be implemented immediately, some of them already being in the initial stages of implementation.

At present, the Canadian Government is also involved in technical co-operation projects together with official Peruvian entities for an over-all sum of some \$20 million.

Mr. Jamieson also announced that Canada had granted to Peru two lines of credit totalling \$8 million for feasibility studies and for institutional support.

In addition, stated Mr. Jamieson, Canada would lend Peru \$28.32 million, arising out of the agreement in September 1975 by the Export Development Corporation for projects up to a value of \$30 million.

Colombia

On the last leg of his trip to Latin America, Mr. Jamieson spent five days in Colombia, where he was guest of honour at a dinner given by the President-designate and Minister of Foreign Affairs Dr. Indalecio Lievano Aguirre on January 24.

The two foreign ministers exchanged instruments of ratification of the Colombian-Canadian Commercial Agreement signed by the two countries

in November 1971.

The joint *communiqué* notes that:

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"The ministers discussed the present technical and financial co-operation program being carried out with CIDA, and through funds in trust administered by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and observed that 26 projects were or are being executed in the sectors of hydro-electricity, rural development, food technology, forestry, fisheries, technical education in the mining, fishing and forestry industries. They noted that those projects are worth Canadian \$132.7 million of which Canadian \$53.3 million were provided by Canada through CIDA directly or through IDB and the rest, Canadian \$79.5 million by Colombia.

"The ministers also observed that a substantial amount of Canadian co-operation is performed through the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), which has its regional office for Latin America in Bogota, and noted that IDRC has provided Canadian \$6.4 million to Colombia for 20 research projects mainly for tropical agriculture research at the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) and for rural development research, and that the Canadian non-governmental organizations jointly with CIDA had contributed another Canadian \$1.3 million for different development projects in Colombia.

New agreements

"The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Director of the National Planning Department of Colombia, Dr. Miguel Urrutia, signed three new subsidiary agreements for technical co-operation with CIDA for an amount of Canadian \$8.7 million, of which Canadian \$5.9 million will be provided by Canada and Canadian \$2.8 will be provided by Colombia.

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"The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Finance, Dr. Abdon Espinosa Valderrama, signed a letter of intent to initiate negotiations with the aim of providing Colombia a Canadian \$5-million loan with a repayment period of 30 years including seven years of grace and with an interest of 3 per cent per annum."

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News briefs

■ At a news conference on January 26, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau stated that New York financiers should continue to invest in Quebec and in Canada "because separation is not going to take place." Mr. Trudeau was referring to Premier Lévesque's contention before an audience at the Economic Club of New York the previous evening that the independence of Quebec was inevitable. Mr. Trudeau said he was surprised by Mr. Lévesque's speech, since the Parti Québécois had run its election campaign on a platform of good government and was now emphasizing independence. Asked to comment on Mr. Lévesque's tendency to talk about a referendum to determine whether the people of Quebec wanted independence "taking place more towards the end of his five-year mandate rather than the two-year time frame that he was talking about originally", Mr. Trudeau replied: "I suppose if he is thinking of retarding the date of the referendum, he is beginning to realize that it is going to be a tougher and longer process than he had bargained for to convince Quebecers to vote for independence, and I suppose that confirms my view that Quebecers will not be easily moved to vote for independence...."

■ Canada will provide emergency exports of natural gas and heavy fuel oil to the United States to help alleviate a shortage due to record cold weather, in addition to previously licensed amounts of Canadian fuels flowing southward. The National Energy Board has issued an order to Trans-Canada Pipelines allowing the emergency export of 15 billion cubic feet of natural gas at a rate of 250 million cubic feet a day for 60 days, beginning January 19, to the Columbia Gas System of Delaware, which serves a wide area including Ohio, Kentucky, West Virginia, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania, Virginia and the District of Columbia. In addition, 50,000 barrels of heavy fuel oil was to be delivered to Detroit Edison before the end of January, and Canadian electric power utilities were authorized to extend assistance to all the U.S. utilities with which they were inter-connected. For many years, assistance in both directions has been practised regularly whenever the need arose.

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