

CANADIAN ROUNDUP

Increase in Exports

Canada recorded a 20 percent increase in the value of its exports in 1970 compared with the previous year, outpacing all other industrialized countries, figures released by the IMF showed on March 1. The Fund said the value of exports in all world trade outside the Soviet Bloc rose by 14.2 percent in 1970 to an estimated US \$278,000 million. Canada's trade in 1970 was worth \$17,354 million, compared with \$14,390 million in 1969.

International Treaty on Drugs

An International Treaty on Mindbending Drugs, signed February 21 in Vienna was tabled on March 1 in the House of Commons by Health Minister John Munro. Canada did not sign the document in keeping with the Federal commitment to Parliament to take no action until the final report of the LeDain Royal Commission on the Non-Medical Drug Use is received. The Treaty prohibits use of such drugs as tetrahydrocannabinols—regarded as the active ingredient of marijuana and hashish—and LSD except for scientific and medical purposes. About 20 countries among the 71 that participated in the international negotiations signed the document.

Davis: New Ontario Premier

William Davis was sworn in on March 1 as Premier of Ontario with a Cabinet which included seven new members and gave the major portfolio of Attorney-General to Allan Lawrence, who failed by 44 votes to beat Mr. Davis for the Party's leadership last month. Arthur Wishart, former Attorney-General, became Minister of Financial and Commercial Affairs.

International Award for NFB

For the second consecutive year, the National Film Board of Canada will be presented with the Robert Flaherty Award by the British Society of Film and TV Arts, it was announced on March 1. The winning film is a one hour feature entitled "Sad Song of Yellow Skin." It tells the story of the Vietnamese citizens of Saigon and how 30 years of war has affected their lives.

Prime Minister Trudeau Marries

Prime Minister Trudeau married Margaret Sinclair on March 4. Mrs. Tru-

deau is the daughter of James Sinclair, a Privy Councillor and former Liberal Fisheries Minister. He was a Liberal Member of Parliament for 17 years. Only the immediate family attended the wedding and there was no announcement until after the ceremony. Mr. Trudeau met his wife three years ago while both were vacationing in Tahiti. Mrs. Trudeau is a university graduate in Political Science and Sociology. They honeymooned for several days in the ski country of Garibaldi Park, near Vancouver, before taking up residence in Ottawa.

Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative Party Leadership

John Buchanan, former Fisheries and Public Works Minister under Premier G. I. Smith, was chosen as the new leader of the Nova Scotia Progressive Conservative Party at a convention on March 6. The 39 year old Spryfield lawyer got second-ballot support from supporters of Dartmouth Mayor Roland Thornhill to win 391 to 346 over former Education Minister Gerald Doucet. Mr. Buchanan was the lone Conservative to hold his seat in eight Halifax constituencies when the Party was defeated in the Provincial election last fall.

Paul Rose Convicted

Paul Rose was sentenced on March 13 to life imprisonment for the noncapital murder last October of Quebec Labour Minister Pierre Laporte. The 27 year old former teacher was sentenced immediately after the jury filed into court at the beginning of the days proceedings to pronounce its verdict. In the course of the seven week trial, Rose told the jury he participated in the kidnapping on October 11 of Mr. Laporte along with his brother Jacques, Francis Simard, and Bernard Lortie. The latter three are to appear on trial on April 13. Rose becomes eligible for parole after serving 10 years.

B & B Commission

The Co-chairmen of the B & B Commission have recommended that the Commission be disbanded at the end of March, and that it not publish its sixth and last volume on its findings. They made the recommendation in a letter to Prime Minister Trudeau, tabled in the House of Commons on March 17. The sixth volume was to have dealt with

Canadian cultural institutions, but the Commission said that changes which have occurred since its studies were done have reduced the value of any recommendations it might make.

New Postal Code

A new postal code, based on a combination of three numbers and three letters, will go into service after April 1, but the machines required to read the code will not be installed for about 15 months. Jean-Pierre Cote, Minister responsible for the Post Office, said on March 22, the new system for addressing letters will be in effect by 1974 when machinery will be installed in 15 major post offices in Canada. But a promotional campaign will be implemented over the next few months to encourage people to use their new code numbers.

Canadian Foreign Assistance Allocations

Paul Gerin-Lajoie, President of CIDA, said on March 24, he hoped that within four or five years Canadian foreign assistance allocations will reach .7 per cent of the nation's GNP. That figure was the target recommended for donor countries in the report of a World Bank Commission headed by former Prime Minister Lester Pearson and subsequently written into the program of the Second UN Development Decade. Mr. Gerin-Lajoie told a news conference that Canadian foreign assistance disbursements last year totalled \$361 million, a 37 percent increase over 1969. The CIDA President also announced plans for a three-week, five nation Asian tour, including India, beginning on March 31.

NHL Playoffs

The NHL ended its regular playing schedule last week with all playoff spots in both East and West decided. Montreal will open against the Boston Bruins while the Toronto Maple Leafs go against New York. In the West, Minnesota will challenge Chicago and Philadelphia plays St. Louis. Collectively and individually, Boston made a shambles of NHL records this season. Four of the top five players in the scoring race are Bruins. Phil Esposito has 69 goals with two remaining games to reach the—once thought—impossible 70 goals. He now has a total of 143 points, 10 more than team-mate Bobby Orr.