

Cyprus. He replaces Mr. Thomas Wainman-Wood, whose next assignment will be announced later.

Mr. D.B. Hicks, now Counsellor at the Office of the Canadian High Commissioner in Nairobi, will be the High Commissioner to Ghana, with accreditation to Togo and the Ivory Coast. He replaces Mr. A.F. Hart, who has returned to Ottawa.

AGRICULTURE ASPECT ALTERS

In the past 25 years, the average size of farm in Canada has increased from 237 acres to 404, while the total farm productivity has gone up some 67 per cent in the last 20 years. The capital value of all farms reached \$19.2 billion in 1966, up 50 per cent from the figure for five years earlier. "Commercial" farms — those producing \$2,500 or more worth of goods annually — increased from 37.7 per cent of the total number in 1951 to 64.3 per cent in 1966. In the past five years, in fact, the number of farms with sales of \$15,000-plus has more than doubled, from 23,900 to 50,800. Thirty years ago, about 63 per cent of the "inputs" on farms was labour; today labour is only 25 per cent and the balance of 75 per cent is for capital costs, such as machinery, equipment, fuel, fertilizer etc. With these fundamental changes, a large agricultural business complex has come into being. Farmers now go to relatively new industries for enormous volumes of farm inputs; and, conversely, many more industries depend on farmers for their raw materials.

Goods and services used in farm business, as distinct from the cost of living, were valued at \$2.6 billion in 1967, the two biggest items being feed, and repairs and operating costs of farm machinery, which cost more than \$1 billion, yet ten years ago the cost of all inputs was only \$1.4 billion.

EMPLOYMENT

The manufacture and supply of farm inputs means jobs for a steadily-increasing number of non-farmers. The farm-machinery industry alone employs more than 12,000 workers, who receive close to \$70 million annually in pay. The feed industry has about 8,400 employees; and farmers buy heavily from the petroleum, the rubber, the automotive, the hardware, the paint, the electrical, and many other industries.

Probably 22 per cent of Canadian manufacturing industries use raw material of farm origin and about 20 per cent of the gross value of factory shipments are made from farm products. In 1964, the latest year for which complete information is available, some 7,400 of a total 33,000-odd manufacturing plants in Canada were processing foods and vegetables, and paying 215,000 workers \$1 billion.

The transportation industry is deeply involved too: in 1965, more than a third of the freight hauled through the St. Lawrence Seaway was of agricultural origin, and 16 per cent of the freight hauled by railways came off farms.

TOWARD THE DEFINITION OF A CULTURAL POLICY

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succeed in its aim, but it would also, in my opinion, be rendering itself guilty of attempted suppression of an entire generation. Nor would the young people of Canada ever allow themselves to be shackled in this manner.

In its youth policy, therefore, the Government of Canada proposes to allow the new generation to play a real part in defining our common goal.

When students talk about an uninterrupted school year, for example, are they not being more realistic than we are? They know that an automated society offers fewer and fewer summer jobs. They also know that if universities adopted a 12-month academic year, post-secondary studies could be completed in a shorter time. Which idea is far-fetched: such a reform, or adherence to the tradition of four-and-a-half month vacations, a relic of a middle-class world and of an agricultural society in which students were roped in to help with the harvest? Is it not time we made a thorough study of an idea which, though an original one, is no doubt more realistic than the present state of affairs?

CIVIC SERVICE CONSCRIPTION

And here is another idea put forward by some youth groups — a year of civic service similar to the military service in other countries but devoted to peaceful ends.

The young would like to work with their hands and their brains to build their country, especially its underdeveloped regions, so that they can play their part in creating a more just society.

Of course, an idea of this kind would not be easy to put into practice in the overall scheme of things. Its economic consequences are unknown because no one has yet studied them in detail. The social impact of peaceful conscription cannot be foreseen. But is that any reason to reject the idea without even considering it?

Personally, I would like to welcome all constructive ideas, however risky they may appear, and study them very closely, because I am convinced that young people in general have a much better feeling for the future than we do. I wish to assure you that the Government has no intention of running away from the risks which a bold youth policy would entail; it is, after all, the only kind of policy that is possible. We are presently working on developing and elaborating our approach.

We will also continue the work begun by my predecessors in the Department of the Secretary of State. The travel and exchange programme under which more than 15,000 young people have already travelled throughout the country, with the co-operation of all the provinces, will be increased. New jobs for young people will be created. Young working people, in particular, must be brought out of their isolation, I might almost say, their oblivion. And we do not rule out the possibility of international exchanges on a large scale which would open up world-wide horizons to Canadian youth....