

expanded to include tourism.

Mr. Lapointe is a former foreign service officer with the Department of External Affairs and served as vice-consul at the consulate-general in Marseille, France from 1971 to 1973. He was first elected to the House of Commons in 1974 and was re-elected in 1979 and 1980. In 1976, Mr. Lapointe was the Canadian delegate to the United Nations and in 1977 was appointed Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport. He was vice-president of the Canadian Group Inter-Parliamentary Union and Canadian delegate to meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in 1976 and 1977. He was a delegate to the European Conference of Ministers of Transport in 1978 and the United Nations in New York in 1979.

Gerald Regan, who has been appointed to the position of Minister of State for International Trade, was first elected as

a member of Parliament for Halifax in 1963. In 1965, he took over as leader of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party and was elected to the provincial Legislature in 1967, 1970, 1974 and 1978. Mr. Regan served as premier of Nova Scotia from 1970 to 1978.

He was re-elected as a federal member of Parliament for Halifax in 1980 and was appointed Minister of Labour and Minister responsible for Fitness and Amateur Sport. Mr. Regan became Secretary of State, retaining the portfolio as Minister responsible for Fitness and Amateur Sport in 1981, while also being named a member of the Cabinet committee on priorities and planning. He was the first Canadian to be named chairman of the executive committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Mr. Regan was appointed to the position in 1973 and served for a three-year term.

## New initiatives to foster aerospace employment

Details of initiatives to create four planning boards to help Canada's aerospace industry meet its needs for skilled workers in the 1980s were announced by Employment and Immigration Minister Lloyd Axworthy at the recent executive meeting of the Air Industries Association of Canada.

Three permanent human resource boards are to be established in Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec with a national board to provide human resource planning leadership from a country-wide perspective. The boards are expected to give a permanent mechanism to complement the aerospace sector manpower planning agreement signed between the industry and the federal government in May 1981 and to support new steps in high skill training made possible through the new National Training Act (see *Canada Weekly*, September 1, 1982).

The proposal to establish the boards by the federal government came after consideration of studies prepared by a senior aerospace industry advisory group and consultation with industry organizations, labour and provincial governments.

### Manpower needs projected

The mandate of the boards would be to project manpower demand and supply in the industry and, on the basis of the analysis, recommend to industry and governments what action and assistance is needed. "Ultimately, we are striving

for a situation where the private sector and government work so closely together that industry skill shortages and bottlenecks simply do not occur," said Mr. Axworthy.

The federal strategy for the aerospace sector is based on a forecast that the industry will need an additional 13 000 technicians, technologists and engineers in the next few years. The total aerospace workforce is expected to reach more than 100 000 this decade.

The labour demand forecasting responsibilities of the boards are expected to result in the gathering of advance information necessary to identify occupations eligible for support under the federal government's new National Training Program.

### Four boards created

The Winnipeg Board will serve the four western provinces, the Montreal Board will serve Quebec and the Atlantic provinces and the Toronto Board will serve Ontario. The National Board will co-ordinate the activities of the regional bodies.

Mr. Axworthy invited representatives of the Air Industries Association to attend a meeting in October which would bring together senior representatives from the aerospace industry, labour and provincial governments to determine how the work of the three boards could best be integrated at the national level.

## East coast oil pacts signed

Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Jean Chrétien has announced the conclusion of seven exploration agreements between the federal and Nova Scotia governments and Shell Canada Resources Limited, the operator on all the lands covered by the agreements.

The agreements, totalling \$551 million, involve 1.9 million hectares on the Scotian Shelf near Sable Island. They were negotiated through the Canada Oil and Gas Lands Administration (COGLA) and were approved by the Canada-Nova Scotia Offshore Oil and Gas Board.

The agreements are in addition to six agreements worth \$263 million concluded with Shell for Scotian Slope lands in deeper water (see *Canada Weekly*, July 14, 1982).

The *Sedco 709* will be used to drill the nine exploration wells covered in the agreements. Each of the pacts has a term of three years but two agreements, which have two-well commitments, will be extended by one year if the second drilling rig at the site discovers a well before October 31, 1983.

The program will employ 254 people directly for the first rig, increasing to 475 for a second rig. Initially, 67 per cent of the work force will be from Nova Scotia, increasing to 95 per cent during the last year of the agreements.

Ownership varies among the blocks of land covered by the agreements. In addition to Shell Canada Resources, the other major owners are: Shell Explorer Limited; Petro-Canada Exploration Incorporated; and Sulpetro Limited. Three other companies, Mobil Oil Canada Limited, Texaco Canada Resources Limited and Texas Eastern Exploration of Canada Limited, each have a share of two agreements.

After the first year, 25 per cent of the lands held by the agreements will be returned to the Crown, and a further 25 per cent will be returned after the second year. The agreements also call for 5 250 kilometres of seismic work to be completed.

Other agreements for the Scotian Shelf Slope include a \$500-million program announced July 30, 1982, involving Petro-Canada Exploration Incorporated, Bow Valley Industries Limited and Husky Oil Operations Limited. The federal and Nova Scotia governments are also negotiating with other major companies and more announcements are expected soon, said Mr. Chrétien.