

U.S.-CANADA TRADE TALKS

The seventh meeting of the Joint Canada-United States Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs was held in Ottawa on January 12 and 13, under the chairmanship of Finance Minister Donald M. Fleming.

The United States was represented at the meeting by Mr. C. Douglas Dillon, Secretary of the Treasury, Mr. Stewart Udall, Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Agriculture, Mr. Luther H. Hodges, Secretary of Commerce, and Mr. George W. Ball, Under-Secretary of State. The U.S. delegation also included Mr. Livingston T. Merchant, United States Ambassador to Canada.

Canada was represented by Mr. Howard Green, Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. George Hees, Minister of Trade and Commerce, and Mr. Alvin Hamilton, Minister of Agriculture. The Canadian delegation included the Canadian Ambassador to the United States, Mr. A.D.P. Heeney.

The text of the joint communiqué issued at the end of the meetings follows in part:

"...The Committee noted the improvement in the level of economic activity in both countries since the previous meeting in Washington in March, 1961. They agreed on the importance of achieving sustained economic growth in accordance with the resolution adopted at the first Ministerial meeting of the OECD on November 17. Measures for the expansion of world trade would be essential to the achievement of these aims.

"Canadian Ministers reiterated their support for the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis, and Canada's readiness to play a constructive role in the promotion of freer world trade. United States members welcomed this statement and pointed out that the United States had consistently supported these objective for many years. The Committee recognized the importance of the recent decision at the GATT Ministerial Meeting to explore new arrangements for the multilateral reduction of trade barriers and for moving toward freer trade. The United States members emphasized that the new trade legislation being sought at this Session of Congress is intended to contribute substantially to this objective.

U.S. TRADE PROGRAMME

"The United States members explained the general nature and purposes of the trade expansion programme which the United States Administration will be submitting to Congress, which, if approved, would enable the United States to make a greater contribu-

tion to the growth of international trade on a multilateral basis, and in this way contribute substantially to the strength and prosperity of the free world.

"The Committee examined the problems inhibiting international trade in agricultural commodities and underlined the importance of securing international agreement on measures which would provide adequate access to world markets for agricultural producers. They agreed that such measures should take full account of the comparative advantage of production in agricultural commodities among different countries. United States and Canadian Ministers expressed the hope that coming international discussions would effectively contribute to the freeing and expansion of international trade in agricultural products.

"The Committee noted the current negotiations between Britain and the European Economic Community and the widespread consequences which British entry into the EEC would have for the rest of the world. The Committee recognized the great importance of the Commonwealth as a unique association of free nations bridging five continents and the constructive contribution which it was making to world peace and stability.

COMMONWEALTH TRADE

"Canadian Ministers emphasized that the Commonwealth trade links, including the exchange of preferences and the historic right of free entry into the United Kingdom market, were an essential cohesive element in the Commonwealth association. They stressed the importance the Canadian Government attached to Britain's efforts in the negotiations with the EEC to safeguard the trade interests of Canada and other Commonwealth countries.

"The Committee recalled the constructive conclusions reached at the recent Ministerial meeting of the GATT concerning the trade of the less-developed countries. They reaffirmed that it was the continuing policy of both countries to assist the efforts of those countries to expand their trade and improve their standards of living.

"The Committee recognized that direct exchanges of views at the Cabinet level are useful in helping to maintain soundly based and effective economic co-operation between Canada and the United States. Such understanding and co-operation will be all the more necessary in the years ahead if each country is to play its part in a changing world with a full recognition of the essential interests and aspirations of the other."

FESTIVAL GIVES LUMBER TO CHICHESTER

A shipment of Canadian maple--a gift from the Stratford Festival of Canada--is on its way to England to be used in the construction of the stage in the new theatre at Chichester. The Chichester playhouse, to be opened this summer, is modelled after the Festival Theatre, on a smaller scale. Its artistic director, Sir Laurence Olivier, visited the Festival

last winter and two of its executives, Leslie Evershed-Martin and Alan Draycott, were in Stratford during the 1961 season. At that time it was decided that, as a link between the two theatres, the stage timber would be a Festival gift. In addition to the 3,700 feet of maple sent from Canada, the Festival is also providing 1,250 feet of western white spruce, to be purchased in England.