

External Affairs headquarters celebrates Canada Week

Included in the special events to celebrate Canada Week (June 24 to 28) at the Lester B. Pearson Building, headquarters of the External Affairs Department in Ottawa, were a small exhibition of rare Canadian books and the showing of two National Film Board productions, *Here is Canada* and *Who Owns the Sea*. The screening of the latter film coincided appropriately with the United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea in Caracas, Venezuela (June 20 to August 29), which a Canadian delegation is attending.

One of the books on display, *Quebec Patchwork*, by Jean Donald Gow, is accompanied by several original copper and zinc printing blocks and a "pull" off the press showing how black and white illustrations were produced in 1940, when the book was published.

Another work, George Heriot's *Travels Through the Canadas*, illus-

trated by the author, was printed in England in 1807. The Heriot illustrations, reproduced by Hugues de Jouvancourt, are from collections in the National Archives of Canada and the McCord Museum in Montreal.

Canada's Wild Flowers, by Agnes Fitzgibbons, published in 1868, contains lithographs of her paintings with botanical descriptions by Catherine Parr Trail, who is well known also for her descriptions of life and customs in early Canada.

The small but rare collection of Canadian books which was visited on June 25 by Ottawa Mayor Pierre Benoit, Chairman of the National Capital Commission Edgar Gallant, Deputy Minister of Public Works J.A. MacDonald and Assistant Under Secretary of State Yvon Beaulne, will remain on display until July 25. The visitors were escorted by Under Secretary of State for External Affairs A.E. Ritchie.



Information Canada

A display of rare Canadian books, written in English and French, on loan from several private collections, was one of the events featured during the recent celebration of Canada Week in the Lester B. Pearson Building, External Affairs headquarters.

Above, Mrs. Ruth M. Thompson, Director of Library Services, explains the merits of the collection to Edgar Gallant, Chairman of the National Capital Commission (centre) and Mayor Pierre Benoit of Ottawa during their visit to the building.

Canada's view on nuclear tests

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mitchell Sharp, made the following statement on June 21:

The Government of Canada regrets that in the last few months five countries have exploded nuclear devices, notwithstanding the longstanding and widely supported international objective of a comprehensive ban on all nuclear testing by all countries. Unfortunately, in recent days there have been additional nuclear tests in the atmosphere. Although the level of radioactivity in the atmosphere arising from nuclear tests is no longer at the high levels of a few years ago, it is prudent, in the Canadian view, that releases of radioactive material into the atmosphere be avoided, given uncertainties of the long-term effects to health.

Canada has taken encouragement from the French Government's announcement that it expects its current tests in the atmosphere to be the last. Canada strongly hopes that China will follow the same course and that the Soviet Union and the United States will take the lead in moving towards the conclusion of a comprehensive test-ban treaty which would meet not only immediate environmental concerns, but also serve the more far-reaching goal of directing nuclear knowledge to solely peaceful purposes.

Oil-spill contingency plan with the United States

Canada and the United States have exchanged diplomatic notes concerning the establishment of a joint marine contingency plan for spills of oil and other noxious substances.

The exchange constitutes agreement between the two countries that a joint Canada/United States Marine Contingency Plan shall be promulgated by the Canadian Ministry of Transport and the United States Coast Guard and shall be maintained to co-ordinate responses to significant pollution threats to waters of mutual interest. The waters affected include the Great Lakes, and areas off the Atlantic and Pacific Coasts. The plan will apply in Juan de Fuca and Rosario Straits among others.