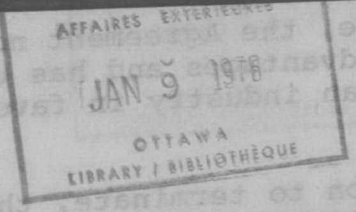




DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
MINISTÈRE DES AFFAIRES EXTÉRIEURES

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CANADA'S DECISION TO TERMINATE THE CANADA/FRANCE TRADE AGREEMENT OF 1933

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Don Jamieson, today announced Canada's decision to terminate the Canada/France Trade Agreement signed in 1933. The decision was conveyed to the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs earlier today by the Canadian chargé d'affaires, a.i., in Paris.

The Agreement is no longer significant in governing Canada's economic relations with France; it has been superseded by our common membership in GATT, French membership in the EEC and Canada's developing relationship with the Community as a whole. The only part of the Agreement that continues to have any practical effect is Article 11, providing for the mutual protection of appellations of origin for goods produced in either country.

(An appellation of origin is a geographical name applied to a product to designate that such product originates in that area and that such product possesses specific characteristics.)

While Canada has registered very few appellations, a considerable number of French appellations (including the names of a number of wines, spirits and cheeses) have been registered in Canada under this Article. In recent years this Article has played an increasingly contentious role in Canada/France relations as a result of a series of court actions undertaken in the late 1960's by French industry concerning the use of the champagne appellation by Canadian producers.

As is the case in all Canadian industrial property legislation, the Canada/France Trade Agreement Act of 1933 gave persons registering their appellations the right to seek protection through the Canadian courts. Although a number of Canadian