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CANADIAN CO-OPERATIVE EXPERT TO NIGERIA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Howard Green, announced today the appointment, under the Commonwealth Technical Assistance Programme, of the Reverend N.H. MacKenzie of Toronto as advisor to the Government of Nigeria on the future development of co-operatives in that country. To undertake this assignment, he has been granted leave-of-absence by the Board of Overseas Missions of the United Church of Canada.

Dr. MacKenzie expects to arrive in Lagos on January 26 and will remain in Nigeria for one year. He will concentrate on fostering leadership in the Co-Operative Movement in the Western Region, and will undertake research work into certain aspects of its organization and practice. In addition, he will supervise and conduct field work, establish refresher courses for co-operative workers especially at the village level, and will also act as advisor to the Principal of the Co-Operatives College at Ibadan.

Dr. MacKenzie was born in China where he received his early education. He is a graduate of Victoria and Emmanuel Colleges of the University of Toronto and also studied at the Ontario Agricultural College. While on the staff of St. Francis Xavier University, he carried out extension work both in Nova Scotia and British Columbia. From 1944 he carried out missionary work for the United Church of Canada both in China and India, where he was concerned with promoting adult literacy, co-operatives, public health, etc. in the villages. Dr. MacKenzie has published a number of pamphlets on adult education and credit unions in both the Chinese and Hindu languages.

Dr. MacKenzie will be accompanied on his assignment by his wife and three children.