

HONOUR CANADIAN SAVANT

Dr. Gerhard Herzberg of the National Research Council, Ottawa, was awarded the degree of honorary D. Sc. by the University of Oxford on February 27.

Dr. Herzberg is Director of the Division of Pure Physics at the NRC. His field is molecular spectroscopy, a branch of physics concerned with the structure of the atom and the molecule.

In his own sphere Dr. Herzberg works with a group of research physicists who are using various techniques of spectroscopy to investigate atoms and molecules. One aspect of this work has been the discovery of a number of new molecules in the laboratory. The investigations have led to the identification of certain compounds in interstellar space and in the atmosphere of stars and planets.

Dr. Herzberg is a Fellow of the Royal Society of London. He has received recognition from scientific societies in Canada, the United States, and India. These awards include four honorary doctorate degrees and three gold medals. He holds office in a number of world scientific organizations, such as the International Astronomical Union and the International Union of Pure and Applied Physics.

He was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1904, and was educated at Darmstadt Institute of Technology. His postgraduate work was done at the University of Göttingen and the University of Bristol. In 1935 he became professor of physics at the University of Saskatchewan. In 1945 he went to the University of Chicago as professor of spectroscopy at the Yerkes Observatory. In 1948 he returned to Canada to accept a position with the National Research Council.

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COMMONWEALTH GUESTS

Thirty-two Commonwealth service advisers and foreign-service attachés from 26 countries will tour service establishments in Western Canada from March 7 to 18.

Flown by the RCAF, the group will visit the Army garrison at Calgary, Alberta, on March 9, home station for the Queen's Own Rifles of Canada and the Lord Strathcona's Horse armoured regiment.

From Calgary they will fly to Victoria, British Columbia, where they will tour HMCS "Naden" and the Royal Roads service college on March 11.

On March 14 the group will see the Royal Canadian School of Military Engineering at Chilliwack, B.C.

Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, will be the next stop on the itinerary, where they will visit the headquarters of the Northwest Highway System. The final stop of the tour will be the RCAF Station, Cold Lake, Alberta.

TRADE ENVOY TO CANBERRA

Trade and Commerce Minister Churchill announced recently the establishment of a new office of the Trade Commissioner Service in Canberra and said that Mr. R.B. Nickson had been appointed Commercial Secretary at this post, where he would assist in the further development of trade between Canada and Australia.

Provision is made in the new Canada-Australia Trade Agreement, signed on February 12 in Canberra, for continuing consultation in the trade field, and, to this end, for the appointment of trade commissioners in Ottawa and Canberra. A Commercial Counsellor in the Office of the High Commissioner for Australia arrived in Ottawa in January.

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TOP ORCHESTRAS FOR STRATFORD

The Symphony Orchestra of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, the 50-piece orchestra of the International String Congress, and the National Festival Orchestra will perform at the Stratford Festival during the International Conference of Composers, August 7 to 14.

Making one of its rare public appearances, the CBC Symphony will play the final concert of the Festival Conference Week. In making the announcement, Geoffrey Waddington, Director of Music for the CBC, said: "The CBC recognizes that the Conference of Composers will be one of the most important musical events ever to take place in Canada, and is pleased to contribute to it. We are also pleased that the appearance of the CBC orchestra in Stratford will enable distinguished musicians from all parts of the world as well as the public to experience at first hand the high level of orchestral playing which our Symphony has achieved."

The orchestra of the International String Congress will be flown to Canada from Puerto Rico to take part in the Conference. About 50 scholarship players will form the orchestra that will perform at Stratford. The distinguished American composer, Roy Harris, Director of the String Congress, will prepare and conduct a programme of music of the Western Hemisphere for this occasion.

A third orchestral concert in this week of discussion and music will be provided by Stratford's own National Festival Orchestra, which, even in its short history, has been acclaimed by press and public. This orchestra's Conference concert will culminate its season of opera, concert and workshop activities at Stratford for 1960.

The total of five concerts scheduled for the Conference Week will also include a presentation of solo and chamber music, with some composers probably performing their own works, and a concert of electronic and tape music.