

NATO ministerial meetings

Allan J. MacEachen, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and James A. Richardson, Minister of National Defence, attended the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's ministerial semi-annual meetings at NATO headquarters in Brussels early in December.

Mr. Richardson took part in the sessions of the NATO Defence Planning Committee on December 10 and 11 and Mr. MacEachen attended a meeting of the North Atlantic Council on December 12 and 13.

The Defence Planning Committee, composed of defence ministers of 14 Alliance members is concerned with military aspects of the Alliance. France does not participate in the NATO integrated military command.

The North Atlantic Council is composed of foreign ministers of the 15 member countries of NATO who meet in ministerial session twice yearly to discuss international political developments as they relate to NATO.

Soviet historian at Carleton

A leading authority on Canadian history, V.A. Tishkov, of the U.S.S.R., is carrying out two months of research as a visitor in the Institute of Canadian Studies at Ottawa's Carleton University.

Mr. Tishkov, a senior scientist of the World History Institute of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R., is in Canada under the agreement on academic exchanges between Canada and the Soviet Union. While here, he is sponsored by the Canada Council, which has a special arrangement for co-operation with the U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences.

The visitor wrote his candidate dissertation on "Canadian Revolution of 1837-38". He has published a number of articles on aspects of the history of this country, and was co-author of the article, "Canada, Historical Review", in the large *Soviet Encyclopaedia*, third edition, 1973. At present he is working on a book dealing with the history of social movements in Canada.

After leaving Ottawa, Mr. Tishkov will go on to shorter stays in Toronto and Quebec City before returning to the U.S.S.R.

Canada/U.S. salary comparisons

Salaries for Canadian clerical workers average \$128 a week, only \$3 below their American counterparts, according to a survey by the Administrative Management Society of Pennsylvania. Last year the Canadian salaries rose 16.4 per cent to the February 1974 average of \$128; salaries for American clerical employees, subject to wage and price guide-lines, rose 6.5 per cent to an average of \$131 a week.

Office salaries in Canada (Montreal, Toronto, and St. John's were purposely omitted from the survey) ranged from \$90 for a mail clerk to \$160 for an accounting clerk to \$155 for a secretary to a senior executive. Data-processing personnel received an average of \$166 last year, an increase of \$27 a week, or 19.4 per cent. Telephone switchboard operators' wages rose an average 10 per cent, to \$111; they were more fortunate than bookkeeping machine operators, whose salaries increased only 3.7 per cent, to \$113.

Most companies in the United States — 64 per cent — required their employees to work 40 hours a week, compared with only 5.3 per cent of companies in Canada; more than 90 per cent of companies in Canada required workers to work 37.5 hours or less a week.

Canadian Agricultural Research Council

The direction of agricultural research in Canada will probably be influenced in future by a new committee composed of representatives of government, universities and producers.

The Canadian Agricultural Research Council, formed last April, recently held its first meeting in Ottawa to plan its course at its future quarterly meetings.

"We will be using an updated inventory of all agricultural research being conducted in Canada as an information platform," says D.G. Peterson, secretary of the new council and research co-ordinator, executive program of Agriculture Canada's Research Branch.

"Basically, the council will provide an overview of all agricultural research in Canada — in government, industry and universities. It will then advise

and thereby influence the direction of research.

"It will study research needs and recommend directions new research should take. The council will also advise on the allocation of funds for research activities."

Chairman of the new 19-member council is Dr. N.R. Richards, professor of soil science and former dean of agriculture at the University of Guelph, Ontario. Vice-chairman is Dr. B.B. Migicovsky, director-general of Agriculture Canada's Research Branch.

Included as council members are representatives of each of the provincial and regional agricultural services co-ordinating committees, the Agricultural Institute of Canada, Agriculture Canada, the deans of Agriculture of Canadian universities, the Association of Faculties of Veterinary Medicines in Canada, the Canadian Chamber of Commerce, the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association, the federal Ministry of State for Science and Technology, the National Research Council of Canada and Canadian producers.

Famous Canadians honoured

Jean-Paul Drolet, chairman of the Canadian Permanent Committee on Geographical Names, announced the formal naming of Bell Lakes and Mount McCurdy in Nova Scotia at the committee's annual meeting in Quebec City recently.

Bell Lakes are named for Alexander Graham Bell, who invented the telephone 100 years ago and was a distinguished teacher of the deaf. The lakes are at the head of the Baddeck River and were formerly identified on maps as Baddeck Lakes, although local usage has long been Bell Lakes.

Seven miles to the northeast of Bell Lakes and 30 miles northwest of Sydney is Mount McCurdy, which rises more than 1,250 feet above the Cabot Trail on its eastern flank. The previously unnamed mountain honours the pioneer aviator, J.A.D. McCurdy, who was also lieutenant-governor of Nova Scotia from 1947 to 1952.

Mr. Drolet presented special commemorative maps to the committee members from Nova Scotia and Ontario to donate to the Baddeck Museum, the Nova Scotia Archives and the Bell Homestead in Brantford.