

WHEAT TO U.S.S.R.

The sale of 1.5 million tons of wheat and flour (about 55 million bushels) to the Soviet Union was announced recently by Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, and by Mr. Otto Lang, the Minister responsible for the Canadian Wheat Board.

This purchase is being made under the option clause in the contract for 3.5 million tons announced earlier this year.

In addition, the Canadian Wheat Board has completed negotiations for the sale of 200,000 tons (some nine million bushels) of barley for shipment during the 1972-73 crop year.

When added to the present 3.5-million ton contract, this brings the total sales value of Canadian grain for shipment to the U.S.S.R. from August 1, 1972 to July 31, 1973 to about \$350 million.

Wheat shipments began this month from both the Pacific and Atlantic ports. Barley shipments will move through the West Coast. The sale was concluded in Ottawa between the Canadian Wheat Board and V/O EXPORTKHEB, the Soviet grain-trading corporation, during the visit of the First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of the U.S.S.R., N.R. Kuzmin, and Exportkhele President N. A. Belousov. As in previous contracts with the Soviet Union, the terms call for payment in cash at time of delivery.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, has announced the following appointments, which will take effect during the course of the next few months:

Mr. Henri Gaudefroy, Director-General, Special Advisers Division, Canadian International Development Agency, to be Ambassador to Tunisia, succeeding Mr. D'Iberville Fortier, whose appointment as Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs was announced earlier.

Mr. Gilles Mathieu, Director, Western European Division, Department of External Affairs, as Ambassador to Ivory Coast, also accredited to Liberia and Niger, replacing Mr. Georges Charpentier, who will return to Canada.

Mr. Clarence Joseph Van Tighem, Minister, Canadian High Commission, London, to be Ambassador to Venezuela with concurrent accreditation to the Dominican Republic, replacing Mr. Donald Sutherland McPhail, who is returning to Ottawa.

Mr. Wilfred Kenneth Wardroper, Director-General, Bureau of Economic and Scientific Affairs, Department of External Affairs, to be High Commissioner to

Nigeria and concurrently accredited to Sierra Leone, succeeding Mr. A.S. McGill, who is returning to Ottawa.

The following appointments are effective September 1:

Mr. Lawrence Joseph O'Toole, Director-General of Finance and Administration, to be Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs (Administration). He succeeds Mr. W.H. Barton who, as announced earlier, will be the Canadian Ambassador and Permanent Representative to the Office of the United Nations at Geneva, and to the Conference of the Committee on Disarmament.

Mr. Georges-Henri Blouin, Director-General of Personnel, to hold the additional appointment of Special Adviser to the Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs on foreign service appointments and related policies. He will also be the External Affairs representative on the Personnel Management Committee of the Interdepartmental Committee on External Relations.

CATTLE IMPORT PERMITS

Agriculture Minister H.A. (Bud) Olson recently announced that import permits had been granted to 613 applicants to import 911 cattle from Europe this year; the maximum number of cattle for each permit-holder is four.

Permit-holders are entitled to purchase cattle in Austria, France, Germany, Italy and Switzerland, the only approved European countries, and import them through the Grosse Ile and St. Pierre maximum-security quarantine stations.

The Canada Department of Agriculture received about 1,400 applications this year to import some 6,000 head of cattle. The total capacity of the two quarantine stations is slightly more than 910 head.

All applications were assessed by a committee of geneticists, permits being issued according to priorities established by the committee.

Import permits this year will restrict the holder to purchasing the breed of animal from the country of origin designated on the application form. "Because applications for permits are assessed on the basis of project proposals for a particular breed, we feel it is a fair policy to restrict permit-holders to their stated intentions," Mr. Olson said. In future years, imports may be allowed from other European countries and discussions are progressing aimed at establishing satisfactory veterinary agreements.

The cattle will undergo preliminary quarantine in Europe and arrive at the maximum-security quarantine stations in the autumn. Providing they meet health requirements, they will be released from quarantine in the spring.