

Mr. Gordon, a native of Toronto, was educated at Upper Canada College, Toronto, and the Royal Military College, Kingston, Ontario.

He was elected to the House of Commons in June 1962. Re-elected in April 1963, he was sworn of the Privy Council and appointed Minister of Finance and Receiver General of Canada. In November 1965, Mr. Gordon resigned from the Cabinet. He was appointed Minister without Portfolio in January 1967. In April he became President of the Privy Council.

MAURITIUS INDEPENDENCE

Mr. Michel Gauvin, Canadian Ambassador to Ethiopia, was the official representative of the Canadian Government at the independence ceremonies of Mauritius held between March 10 and March 13.

Mauritius is the only French- and English-speaking country in the Commonwealth besides Canada; the French-speaking part of the population amounts to about the same number as in Canada. Since 1962 there has been a programme of Canadian aid to Mauritius, which has included the sending of technical experts, advisers and teachers to the island and the granting of scholarships to Mauritian students for training in Canada. Canada is also the second largest market for Mauritian exports, consisting principally of sugar.

FORCES GET NEW EGGBEATER

The *Iroquois*, newest helicopter for the Canadian Armed Forces, was officially accepted by Mr. Leo Cadieux, Minister of National Defence, at a ceremony at Canadian Forces Base Uplands, near Ottawa, on March 6.

The first of ten such helicopters assigned to the training squadron, it will be used to train pilots and technicians in providing tactical support for units of Mobile Command.

The medium-sized craft has a crew of two and can carry 11 combat-equipped troops. It can also be used for casualty-evacuation, reconnaissance, airborne command, aerial resupply, search and rescue and fire-fighting. Powered by a 1,400 hp. turbine engine, the *Iroquois* can cruise at 115 knots for three hours without refuelling.

DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced the appointment on March 7 of Mr. Robert Choquette, at present Canadian Consul General at Bordeaux, as the new Canadian Ambassador to Argentina, with concurrent accreditation to Uruguay. He will be replaced by Mr. René Garneau, Canadian Ambassador to Switzerland, who is also accredited to Algeria.

Mr. Choquette was born in New Hampshire, U.S.A., in 1905, and educated in Montreal. He was appointed Associate Commissioner of the Centennial

Commission in Ottawa in 1963 and joined the Department of External Affairs as Consul General at Bordeaux in November 1964.

Mr. Garneau was born in Quebec City in 1907 and graduated from the Universities of Montreal and Laval and the University of Paris. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1951, has served with the Department in Paris and Brussels and was formerly accredited to Tunisia.

Mr. Martin also announced the appointment of Mr. Richard V. Gorham as the new Canadian Commissioner to the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Cambodia, replacing Mr. S.H. Nutting, who will return for duty to Ottawa.

Mr. Gorham, born in Fredericton, New Brunswick, in 1927, was educated at the University of New Brunswick and Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1952, has served at the Canadian Embassy in Tokyo and at the Office of the High Commissioner for Canada in New Delhi.

CANADA-U.S. PARKS EXCHANGE

A programme for the exchange of the staff of their national parks has recently begun by the United States and Canada. The plan, which will eventually include experienced administrative and operational personnel of national and historic parks, was worked out by senior officials of the National and Historic Parks Branch, Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, and the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. Each country hopes to acquire more knowledge of the national parks policies of the other.

WHEAT EXPORTS

Total exports of wheat and wheat flour (grain equivalent) from the four major exporting countries - Canada, the United States, Argentina and Australia - in the period August to December of the current Canadian crop year amounted to 563.8 million bushels, a decrease of 23 per cent from the total of 738.3 million exported during the same period in 1966, but 6 per cent above the ten-year (1956-65) average for the same period of the crop year, of some 519.8 million bushels.

Supplies of wheat held by the four major exporters at January 1, 1968, for export, and for carry-over at the end of their respective crop years, amounted to 2,154.6 million bushels, 6 per cent above the 2,031.2 million at the same time a year ago. The newly-harvested 1967-68 wheat crops in Argentina and Australia are included in these totals.

The total supplies of wheat in Canada for the 1967-68 crop year are estimated at 1,169.7 million bushels, a 6 per cent decrease from the 1966-67 total of 1,247.5 million. This decline reflected a sharp reduction in the 1967 crop, which more than offset an increase in carry-over stocks.