

APPOINTED AMBASSADOR: Mr. George Ignatieff has been named Canadian Ambassador to Yugoslavia and will take up his post in mid-February, 1957. He will replace Mr. J.S. Macdonald, who recently became the first Canadian Ambassador to Austria when the Canadian Legation in Vienna was raised to the status of an Embassy.

Mr. Ignatieff is a graduate of the University of Toronto. He went to Oxford as a Rhodes Scholar in 1936 and later attended the University of London. He joined the Department of External Affairs in 1940, serving as Third and later Second Secretary in London, before returning to Ottawa in 1944. He was appointed first Secretary at Washington in 1946 and in 1947 and 1948 served as Advisor to the Canadian Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York. In 1949, Mr. Ignatieff became a Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy at Washington and in 1954 returned for a year to London. He has been in Ottawa since the beginning of 1955.

* * * *

CONFERENCE OF UNIVERSITIES: The National Conference of Canadian Universities was founded in 1911 for "the promotion of higher education in all its forms in Canada". There are thirty-six member institutions.

In its early days, the sole function of the Conference was arranging an annual meeting at which papers were delivered and problems of higher education discussed, but during the Second World War the Conference had to assume responsibility of negotiating with the Federal Government on behalf of all its members. The Finance Committee, for example, acted in 1950-51 for all the members in negotiations with the Federal Government of Canada which led to a system of grants by the Government towards the budgets of the universities. As a consequence of these and similar activities, the Conference is now generally recognized as the voice of the universities and colleges.

* * * *

REVENUES UP: For the seven months to October 31, 1956, the Government's budgetary revenues were \$2,809.8 million, budgetary expenditures were \$2,468.8 million and the surplus was \$341 million. For the same period a year ago, revenues were \$2,359.7 million, expenditures were \$2,268.2 million and the surplus was \$91.5 million.

Operations of the old age security fund, which are not included in budgetary transactions, resulted in a surplus of \$0.6 million for October 1956 and a cumulative deficit of \$15.2 million for the seven months to October 31, 1956. Last year the cumulative deficit for the same seven months was \$33.2 million. These deficits were covered by temporary loans by the Minister under the terms of the Old Age Security Act.

CANADIAN LEADERSHIP: Canada's stature as one of the world's leading fishing countries together with an intensification in the national fisheries generally are increasing the activities of the Department of Fisheries of Canada, Deputy Minister George R. Clark told representatives of the Department from across Canada at a recent meeting in Ottawa.

Dr. Clark said that Canadian scientists were giving outstanding leadership in research programmes being conducted in both the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans as well as the Great Lakes. He referred particularly to the co-ordinated programme being carried out in the North Pacific by Canada, the United States and Japan. In less than 18 months a research programme had been initiated which covered the whole of the area. He felt that this effort had never before been equalled and many of the problems relative to the resources of the North Pacific were on the road to being solved.

At this very moment, he said, Canada was taking a leading part in deliberations covering a broad range of international activities. Among these were talks now taking place in New York on the Fisheries Articles of the International Law Commission, negotiations concerning the seals of the Pribilofs being held in Washington, and the formulation of measures to bring pink salmon of the Fraser River area under international control.

* * * *

OPERATIONAL VISIT: Two of Canada's newest warships, the anti-submarine destroyer escorts St. Laurent and Assiniboine, today ended a five-day operational visit to New York City. It was the first time any ships of the new class had visited the United States port.

Both ships, among the most modern anti-submarine vessels in the world today, had visited ports abroad singly, and the St. Laurent had visited several ports along the eastern United States seaboard, including Washington, D.C. The only time they had visited a United States port in company was in early October, shortly after the Assiniboine commissioned, when they called at Newport, Rhode Island.

* * * *

STRATFORD PLANS: The North American premiere of the English Opera Group from Great Britain will be featured at the third annual festival of Music at Stratford, Ontario, next summer. The Music Festival, running in conjunction with the fifth annual season of drama, has been scheduled from July 31 to September 4.

The English Opera Group will be presenting eight performances of Benjamin Britten's adaptation of Henry James' "The Turn of the Screw", with Benjamin Britten conducting and Peter Pears singing the leading role. Recitals will be presented by Mr. Britten and Mr. Pears during the Festival programme.