

## Trade conference in Toronto

The Canadian Association-Latin America and the Caribbean (CALA), which promotes trade, commerce and investment between Canada and countries of that region, held its eighth international conference in Toronto, October 5-7.

The theme of the two-day conference was "Technology in the Americas". More than 400 delegates of which some 100 were senior officials and businessmen from the region attended the conference which was planned to coincide with two major trade missions from Brazil and Argentina.

The conference delegates discussed new technological developments in the areas of energy, communications, urban development, food and resources, and mechanisms to exchange and supply these technologies.

Keynote speakers included: Nicolas Ardito Barletta, Vice-President of the Latin America World Bank; Alberto Grimoldi, Argentine Minister of Industrial Development; Alfred Powis, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, Noranda Group; José Represas, Continental President, Inter-American Council for Commerce and Production; Larry Grossman, Ontario Minister of Industry and Tourism; and Ed Lumley, the federal Minister of Trade.

During the conference, Mr. Lumley met with Guyanese Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Hubert Jack. The two discussed the possibilities of joint ventures and investment in the manufacturing and forestry sectors.

In addition, the Minister of Trade met with Dr. Mario Fernandez, Economic Adviser to the President of Panama. They discussed strengthening economic and political relations between the two countries and the possibility of technical assistance to Panama in the areas of urban transport, fisheries, and educational and commercial cable television.

Mr. Lumley met with the Costa Rican Minister of Planning, Wilberg Jiménez Castro, to discuss Canadian investment in the fisheries and agriculture sectors.

He also held talks with a Nicaraguan Delegation headed by Junta member Arturo Cruz to discuss the possibility of co-operation in the fields of forestry, fisheries, hydro, agriculture, communications and railways.

## Ambassador chairs atomic agency



*Canadian Ambassador to Austria Maurice Copithorne has been elected chairman of the International Atomic Energy Agency. Mr. Copithorne joined the Department of External Affairs in 1956 and became its legal adviser in 1977. He has been Canadian ambassador to Austria since 1979.*

## Petro-Can to make rigs

Petro-Canada and a Texas company have entered into a deal to produce drilling rigs, says Petro-Canada chairman Bill Hopper.

Mr. Hopper announced that the Crown corporation and Sedco Incorporated of Dallas would build the world's second dynamically-positioned semi-submersible rig.

As part of the deal, Mr. Hopper said Petro-Canada would have the exclusive use of the rig for at least the first five years of its operation for exploration off Canada's east coast.

Mr. Hopper said the move was part of "Petro-Canada's continuing efforts to increase and maintain the pace of exploration off the east coast".

The new Petro-Canada rig should be one of the most sophisticated in the world.

Dynamic-positioning means it can be kept on location by the use of thrusters that compensate for winds, currents and waves. The rig is only partially submersed, so that it does not have to be fixed to the ocean bed, and can be moved quickly in an emergency.

## Drilling programs approved

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources has announced approval of three drilling programs by Petro-Canada in the Labrador Sea.

Three drillships — the *Pelican*, *Pelerin* and *Neddrill II* — will be used to evaluate previously-drilled wells, to complete three new wells and, if there is enough time before the season ends in October, to begin drilling two additional wells that will then be left for re-entry in 1981.

Two of the new wells are of particular interest as they are within a few kilometres of previous discoveries. The Labrador Sea area has had a high discovery rate compared with other frontier regions, and is thought to have a significant potential for hydrocarbons, particularly for gas and gas condensate (the liquids associated with natural gas).

Since exploration began in this area in 1971, 17 wells have been drilled, with four resulting in significant flows of gas and condensate, and a fifth indicating hydrocarbons on mechanical logs and in cores.

Petro-Canada is the operator for the Labrador Group of Companies, which is composed of Petro-Canada Exploration Canada Ltd., AGIP Canada Ltd., Aquitaine Company of Canada Ltd., Gulf Canada Resources Incorporate, Suncor Incorporate, Total Eastcan Exploration Ltd., Amerada Minerals Corporation of Canada Ltd., and Total Petroleum (North America) Ltd.

## Foreign Minister of Singapore visits

The Foreign Minister of the Republic of Singapore Suppiah Dhanabalan visited Ottawa October 7-9 at the invitation of the Secretary of State for External Affairs Mark MacGuigan.

Mr. Dhanabalan met with Dr. MacGuigan and other federal ministers to discuss issues of interest to Canada and Singapore as trading nations, as Commonwealth members and as countries of the Pacific. He discussed with Dr. MacGuigan and Minister of State for Trade Ed Lumley means of strengthening private and government relations in order to expand economic and trade co-operation. Mr. Dhanabalan also reviewed current relations between Canada and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.