

balance was being maintained between what we were doing in Europe and what was being done on our own continent. As the industrial and productive potential of North America was of such importance in the build-up of the forces of the free world, it was felt that proper attention should be given to everything that was necessary to keep the whole defence setup in its deterrent effect in proper balance.

"I saw some report about my having made a comparison between Canada's defence expenditure and that of New Zealand. But nothing I said anywhere could be a foundation for that kind of report. That was not the atmosphere in which these matters were discussed. No invidious comparisons were made in any quarter.

"With reference to the assertion made that Canada was a wealthy country, I pointed out there were limits beyond which we could not go, and I felt our people would support any Government in carrying what was considered its proper share in building up these joint defences. But I also pointed out that care had to be taken to maintain a proper balance in the manner in which expenditure was made, and that I did not think we were in a position where we could take on additional commitments in regard to these defences.

#### COMMITMENTS

Mr. Diefenbaker: "I would like to ask one other question. To what degree is Canada making a contribution to the building of the northern screen to which the Prime Minister (Mr. St. Laurent) made reference? I ask that because of the fact that the suggestion has been made that Canada should contribute to a strategic reserve of air-borne troops, and that Australia and New Zealand agreed to give one division to that end for services outside their respective countries. Did the Prime Minister take a stand against that on behalf of Canada?"

Mr. St. Laurent: "I would prefer to read the exact words used by my hon. friend because I do not remember anything that would justify the statement that we took a stand against what was being done by others. I believe we have wider commitments outside our own country, and more air and land forces stationed outside this country, in proportion to population, than any other of the Commonwealth countries except perhaps the United Kingdom itself."

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Total value of retail sales in Canada, unadjusted for price change, dropped from \$2,735,740,000 in 1930 to \$1,772,937,000 in 1933 and then increased six-fold to \$10,693,097,000 by 1951, according to revised retail sales data covering the period from 1930 to 1951, prepared by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics.

**\$500,000 TO UNKRA:** The Permanent Representative of Canada to the United Nations announced on February 15 in New York that, subject to parliamentary approval, the Canadian Government would make an additional contribution of \$500,000 to the United Nations Korean Reconstruction Agency (UNKRA).

The announcement was made at a meeting of the United Nations Negotiating Committee for Extra-Budgetary Funds which is entrusted by the General Assembly with the task of collecting funds for United Nations relief and assistance agencies for which no provision is made in the regular budget of the United Nations and its Specialized Agencies.

The Canadian Government has already contributed \$7,250,000 to UNKRA. The Agency was established by the General Assembly in 1950 in order to assist in the restoration and rehabilitation of the Korean economy which was shattered by the war. The prolongation of hostilities, however, prevented the Agency from undertaking large-scale operations until the latter part of 1952.

The Agency's programme is concerned with long-range reconstruction, particularly in the fields of agriculture, education, industry and fisheries.

This programme is an addition to the Emergency Relief Programme which was inaugurated by the United Nations Command shortly after the outbreak of hostilities and which provides immediate relief to the Korean people in the form of food, clothing, medicine and other necessities.

The Canadian Government has contributed Canadian salted cod valued at \$750,000 to the Emergency Programme. Canada's total contribution to Korean relief, if Parliament approves the proposed new allocation, will be \$8,500,000.

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**CONSUL GENERAL AT CHICAGO:** The Department of External Affairs and the Department of Trade and Commerce announced on February 16 the transfer of Mr. Frederick H. Palmer, M.C., Consul General in Manila, to Chicago as Consul General. Mr. Palmer is expected to take up his new duties about the end of March.

Mr. Palmer was born in Belfast, Ireland, on June 3, 1892, and was educated in Halifax, Nova Scotia. He graduated from the Nova Scotia Technical College with the degree of B.Sc. in Civil Engineering. He served with the Canadian Army Overseas during World War I and was awarded the Military Cross in September, 1918. Mr. Palmer has been a member of the Foreign Trade Service of the Department of Trade and Commerce since 1921 and has served in New York, Rotterdam, Milan, Oslo, Bristol, Melbourne, Stockholm and Manila. In Stockholm Mr. Palmer served as Chargé d'Affaires and Commercial Counsellor for more than two years. He has been Consul General in Manila since 1949.