

**REPRESENTS CANADA AT I.R.O.:** The Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Mines and Resources announce that Lieutenant Colonel Laval Fortier, will represent Canada at a meeting of the Preparatory Commission for the International Refugee Organization, opening in Geneva January 20.

Colonel Fortier, formerly of Quebec City, is Associate Commissioner of Immigration, Department of Mines and Resources. The topic for discussion at Geneva will be the handling of refugees and displaced persons, an international problem towards the solution of which Canada is making a substantial contribution, both through the contribution of funds to the I.R.O. and the admission of D.P.'s as immigrants to Canada.

Following the Geneva meetings, Colonel Fortier will make a tour of inspection of Canadian immigration offices abroad. These include Canadian immigration headquarters in Germany at Heidelberg, Brussels, Paris, The Hague and London. He will meet Canadian immigration teams working in Europe and visit a number of Displaced Persons' Camps. The tour will afford him an opportunity for first hand study of the operation of Canadian immigration offices abroad, the amount and quality of accommodation available, the adequacy of staff, and the general conditions with which Canadian officials are faced.

#### CANADA AT THE U.N.

**SECURITY COUNCIL:** Meeting at Lake Success, N.Y. January 6 for the first time this year, the United Nation's Security Council granted the request of the Government of Pakistan for a postponement of the Indian complaint in the case of Kashmir. The delay was granted to Pakistan to permit Foreign Minister Sir Mohammed Zafrullah Khan to reach Lake Success from Karachi and to reply to Indian charges that Pakistan troops have invaded Indian territory.

The next meeting of the Council on the matter will be held either early next week -- if the Foreign Minister of Pakistan arrives in time -- or at the latest on Thursday Jan. 15.

Fernand van Langenhove, (Belgium) president of the council, has addressed identical telegrams to the foreign ministers of India and Pakistan making an urgent appeal to both countries to abstain from any action which might aggravate the situation and make action by the Council more difficult.

Argentina and Canada, two of the three new members of the Council, took their seat with Ambassador Jose Arce representing the Argentina and Lester B. Pearson, Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, representing Canada. The third new Council member, the Ukraine, has not yet communicated the name of its representative.

The President welcomed Dr. Arce and Mr. Pearson, the "change of guard" in the Council.

Mr. Pearson, in reply, said he hoped Canada would by its work on the Council deserve the

honor of membership conferred on it. He expressed Canada's great pleasure at taking its seat on the Council, under the presidency of Mr. Van Langenhove, a long and trusted friend of Canada in war and peace.

**LITTLE ASSEMBLY MEETS:** The Interim Committee of the General Assembly of the United Nations (the Little Assembly) held its first meeting at Lake Success, N.Y. January 5 and, on the motion of Lester B. Pearson (Canada) elected Dr. Luis Padilla Nervo (Mexico) as chairman. Fernand Van Langenhove (Belgium) was elected vice-chairman and Nasrollah Entezam (Iran) a rapporteur. Forty-four countries were represented. Soviet Russia and the other members of the Slav bloc boycotted the meeting.

Warren B. Austin (United States) submitted a resolution which called for the submission of proposals on the veto question by all member states by March 15. In the meantime, the Interim Committee should entrust a sub-committee to report within a week on draft rules of procedure for the committee.

The Committee postponed discussion of the U.S. proposal until its next meeting, January 9. A sub-committee was established to consider draft rules of procedure for the Interim Committee. This sub-committee will report to the main committee.

At its next meeting, the Interim Committee will also consider fixing a deadline for submission of proposals by member states on matters mentioned in paragraph 2 (c) of the General Assembly resolution by which the Interim Committee was established. This paragraph confers on the Interim Committee the task of considering and reporting to the Assembly on methods for the implementation of articles of the U.N. Charter which deal with general principles in the maintenance for international peace and security and with the promotion of international cooperation in the political field.

**PURPOSE OF LITTLE ASSEMBLY:** The proposal for creation of the Interim Committee was one of the most controversial items on the agenda of the recent General Assembly of the United Nations. Lengthy discussions in First Committee, sub-committee and in plenary meeting preceded the Assembly's decision on November 13 to establish such a Committee. The vote was 41-6, with six abstentions. The proposal had been originally made by the United States.

As finally determined, the purpose of the Interim Committee is to assist the Assembly in discharging its responsibilities for international peace and security between the second and third regular sessions.

Each member of the U.N. has the right to appoint one representative on the Committee, but the Eyelorussian S.S.R., Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Ukrainian S.S.R., the U.S.S.R. and Yugoslavia announced that they would not participate in the new body because they considered its establishment contrary to the U.N. Charter.

**CREDENTIALS PRESENTED:** The Department of External Affairs announces that Urho Toivola presented January 7, to His Excellency The Governor General, at Government House, his Letter of Credence as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of Finland in Canada.

The Secretary of State for External Affairs Mr. St. Laurent, was present.

Mr. Toivola was presented to His Excellency The Governor General by Howard Measures, Chief of Protocol, Department of External Affairs.

Mr. Toivola was Secretary of the Legations of Finland in London and in Paris from 1919 to 1925. He was Finnish Government Delegate at the International Labour Conferences in 1922 and 1923, and Secretary of the Finnish Delegation at the League of Nations Assemblies from 1922 to 1924. He was Editor-in-Chief of the daily newspaper "Turun Sanomat" in Abo from 1925 to 1937 and was a Member of Parliament from 1933 to 1936. Mr. Toivola was chief of the Press Department of the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs from 1938 to 1940, and Chief of the State Information Office in 1939. Mr. Toivola was Charge d'Affaires of Finland in Norway in 1940, and was Counsellor of the Finnish Legation in Washington from 1941 to 1944.

#### FOREIGN TRADE'S RECORD LEVEL

**INCREASE OF 27 PER CENT:** Canada's total foreign trade reached record proportions during the eleven months ending November 1947, the aggregate value standing at \$4,920,700,000 compared with \$3,870,200,000 in the same period of 1946, an increase of 27 per cent. With December still to be accounted for, the trade was 15 per cent in excess of the aggregate figure of \$4,266,400,000 for the full year 1946. Total trade in November was valued at \$485,100,000 compared with \$433,300,000 in the same month of 1946 but below the total of \$508,200,000 for last October.

Value of commodities exported during the eleven months ending November was \$2,508,700,000 compared with \$2,100,300,000 in the similar period of 1946, an advance of 19.4 per cent. Total for the eleven months was 8.5 per cent above the aggregate for the calendar year 1946 which amounted to \$2,312,200,000. Export trade in November was valued at \$253,100,000 as against \$232,200,000 in November 1946, and \$250,800,000 in October.

Commodities were imported to the value of \$2,379,800,000 during the first eleven months of 1947 compared with \$1,745,400,000 in the same period of 1946, an increase of 36.3 per cent. The eleven-month total was 23.4 per cent higher than for the full year 1946 which stood at \$1,927,300,000. Imports in November were valued at \$229,100,000 compared with \$198,200,000 in November 1946 and \$254,500,000 in October.

Foreign commodities were re-exported in the eleven months to the value of \$32,200,000

compared with \$24,509,000 in the same period of 1946. Figure for November was \$2,900,000, unchanged from October and November, 1946.

For the eleven months ending November, Canada had an overall favourable balance of trade with all countries of \$161,100,000 compared with \$379,500,000 in the like period of 1946. Aggregate deficit with the United States was \$884,200,000 compared with \$436,600,000 a year earlier, and the credit balance with the United Kingdom, \$511,800,000 compared with \$349,600,000.

In November the trade balance with all countries was favourable to the extent of \$26,900,000 compared with a deficit of \$800,000 in October and a favourable balance of \$37,000,000 in November, 1946. Deficit in trade with the United States in November was \$79,800,000, while trade with the United Kingdom showed a favourable balance of \$51,600,000.

**REDUCED GAIN IN IMPORTS:** Showing a lessening of the upward trend of earlier months of 1947, Canada's merchandise imports in November were valued at \$229,100,000 as against \$198,200,000. The month's advance of nearly 16 per cent compared with an average gain of 36 per cent for the eleven months ending November, when imports aggregated \$2,379,800,000 as against \$1,745,400,000 for the corresponding period of 1946.

Imports from the United States in November were valued at \$174,388,000 as compared with \$149,473,000 a year earlier, but were down from the October figure of \$190,473,000. Aggregate imports from that country in the eleven months amounted to \$1,833,016,000 as against \$1,259,656,000 in the like period of 1946.

Commodities entered from the United Kingdom (excluding Canadian goods returned) increased in November to \$17,816,000 compared with \$14,800,000, the eleven-month aggregate standing at \$168,310,000 as against \$129,770,000.

Among other British countries, imports from Newfoundland, the British West Indies and British Guiana as a group declined in November to \$3,011,000 as compared with \$5,268,000 in the same month of 1946, while those from the Union of South Africa and other British countries in Africa increased to \$1,822,000 compared with \$889,000. Imports from India rose to \$5,932,000 compared with \$3,390,000, and British Malaya to \$1,647,000 compared with \$7,000; while those from Australia declined to \$586,000 from \$1,558,000.

November purchases from Latin American countries rose moderately to \$14,168,000 compared with \$13,494,000 a year earlier, a sharp decrease being recorded in imports from Argentina and substantial gains for those from Venezuela, Cuba and Mexico. Imports from European countries as a whole declined to \$4,920,000 as compared with \$5,143,000, the aggregate for the eleven months being substantially higher at \$54,215,000 against \$36,548,000. Among the larger European sources of