

### Air agreement with Finland

Canada and Finland have concluded an air transport agreement, which was formally signed in Ottawa by Secretary of State for External Affairs Don Jamieson and Finnish Ambassador Niilo Juhani Pusa on May 16.

The routes specified in the agreement are on a third- and fourth-freedom basis with intransit rights at a point in Europe between the two countries and intransit rights at Montreal and Helsinki to a point beyond. Finland, which has chosen New York, will serve Montreal on its New York run twice a week. In exchange, Air Canada would have similar rights through Europe to Helsinki and to a point beyond Helsinki to be named by Canada.

The air agreement, which is for four years, is renewable. During the initial period the service will be operated by Finnair alone. Air Canada and Finnair have, for their part, concluded a commercial agreement.

### Government/labour pioneer pact

Federal Labour Minister John Munro and Canadian Labour Congress President Joe Morris met recently to sign an agreement — the first of its kind — providing support for a major program of labour education.

The agreement will enable the CLC to institute a wide range of training and development programs for its 2.3 million membership through a \$2-million annual contribution that is intended to run for five years. "The agreement reflects our recognition of the national importance of sound industrial relations — and of the unique contributions of the Canadian union membership to the economic and social well-being of the country," Mr. Munro says. "It also

reflects a major CLC initiative."

The program is designed to encourage a better-informed union membership and a smoother collective-bargaining process, and to help labour participate fully in social and economic affairs.

The program of labour studies provided for in the agreement, which will be administered by the CLC, will include a National Labour Studies Centre and five regional centres.

The Labour Minister also announced a labour-education program for the support of unions not affiliated with the

Congress and for grants to individual union members and educational institutions. This part of the program, which will cost an estimated \$600,000 during the first year, will be administered by a national advisory council on labour education.

"Substantial public funds are already available for the development of leadership in business and industry *via* post-secondary institutions across the country. Nothing comparable presently exists for the union side," says Mr. Munro.

### News briefs

- Prime Minister Trudeau arrived in London early on June 6 to take part in the Commonwealth heads of government meeting and in the jubilee celebrations of Queen Elizabeth. With Mr. Trudeau was former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker. Governor-General and Mrs. Léger arrived the same day, accompanied by former Governor-General Roland Michener and Mrs. Michener.
- Liberals swept five of six seats in federal by-elections on May 24. A 25-year Conservative hold on Malpeque, a Prince Edward Island riding, was broken by Liberal Donald Wood, 42. Only Social Credit candidate Gilles Caouette, 37, withstood the Liberal sweep. He won Temiscamingue, Quebec, formerly held by his father, the late Réal Caouette. Dennis Dawson, 27, won Louis-Hebert and Quebec Mayor Gilles Lamontagne, 58, won Langelier. Both are Liberals and the seats were formerly held by their party. Liberal Raymond Savard overcame a strong NDP challenge from Phil Edmonston in Verdun, as did Liberal Roland Comtois, 48, former MP for Terrebonne, against Conservative Roger Delorme.
- Registrations of new cars in Canada were up 34 per cent in the first three months of this year from those of the comparable period last year, according to figures compiled by R. L. Polk and Co. Ltd. of Toronto. Total new car registrations were 199,440, compared with 148,833 a year earlier.
- Northern Telecom Ltd. has received a \$170-million contract from the Turkish Government for equipment manufactured in Canada. Under the five-year contract, it will supply the Turkish Post, Telegraph and Telephone Administration

with telecommunications equipment and services. Its Turkish subsidiary, Northern Electric Telekomunikasyon AS, expects to supply an additional \$250 million in equipment and services.

- Manitoba became the first jurisdiction outside Hong Kong to sell a bond issue in that Crown colony when it floated an issue May 25 amounting to 150 million Hong Kong dollars — the equivalent of \$33 million in Canadian funds. Manitoba Finance Minister Saul Miller said the five-year bonds, dated June 15, 1977, carried a 6 7/8 percent interest coupon and were sold at 99.50. This gives an effective yield to the investor of 6.88 per cent, based on an annual interest coupon, rather than semi-annually, as is the custom in North America.

- Constitutional guarantees are needed to make Quebecers feel secure in Confederation, newspaper publisher Claude Ryan told the Atlantic Provinces Chamber of Commerce on June 5. He said such things as guarantees of access to federal services and to justice in French or English were necessary, along with guarantees of minority educational rights.

- The Wall Street bond-rating house of Standard and Poor's Corp. has announced it will maintain its double A rating on Quebec bonds and that the risk to bond holders because of the independence issue had been greatly exaggerated. It is the second major New York rating group to retain the high credit rating, the other being Moody's Investors Service Inc.

- Part-time students at Hamilton's McMaster University will study on an equal basis with full-time students and be taught by regular McMaster faculty members if a wide-ranging report is adopted by the University.

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