

militarily to play its part in the rapidly developing defence programmes of the free world.

Canadian Association with OEEC

In June, 1950 the Canadian Government accepted an invitation to become associated with the work of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation in Paris.

The OEEC had been set up in 1947. Its chief immediate purpose was to assist European recovery by guiding the distribution of funds from the United States under the Marshall Plan. However, its objectives went beyond those of the Marshall Plan; the OEEC was designed to promote European economic co-operation on a permanent basis.

By the middle of 1950 European recovery was well advanced and the end of the Marshall Plan (1952) was in sight. The question arose whether the close association which had naturally existed between the OEEC and the United States would come to an end. It was decided that the United States should be invited to associate itself with the OEEC on a permanent basis. This would provide a permanent economic link between Europe and North America.

Canada had kept in close touch with OEEC since its beginning. As early as June, 1948, the Canadian Government sent an informal mission to Paris to impress European countries with the Canadian desire to assist in European reconstruction (to which Canada was contributing through a liberal programme of credits) and to promote Canadian trade with European countries.

This special mission was withdrawn in 1949 but Canadian interest in OEEC and informal contacts with it remained. Hence, when OEEC decided to invite the United States to become associated with it on a permanent basis, a similar invitation was extended to Canada. The Canadian Government gladly accepted.

In September, 1950, a Canadian Representative, Mr. S. D. Pierce, was sent to Paris with a small staff to establish relations with the OEEC. They will have full access to the work of the Organization.

Joint Canada-United States Industrial Mobilization

Planning Committee

The Joint Canada-United States Industrial Mobilization Planning Committee was established by an exchange of notes between Canada and the United States on April 12, 1949, following a series of discussions that began the previous June when international conditions again appeared threatening.