

Environment and Public Works Committee in attempting to force action on the urgent problem of acid rain, and that this House express its appreciation to Senator Stafford and his fellow Senators from both American political parties for their efforts to improve Canadian-American relations with regard to environmental questions."

According to a US State Department official, the Senate committee vote would help the bogged-down US-Canadian negotiations (*The Citizen*, July 23). Earlier in the month Mr. Roberts had criticized the Reagan administration's treatment of the problem. He had made a speech in New Orleans the day before the Senate committee announcement. On June 21 Mr. Roberts had told a meeting of the US Air Pollution Control Association that "In Canada we are deeply disappointed with the state of negotiations

The foot dragging and interference in the development of scientific information has reached frustrating proportions. The administration's rejection of our proposal to reduce sulphur dioxide emissions in eastern North America by fifty percent by 1990 and a clear indication that it may be some considerable period of time before it will be able even to begin to discuss control actions, is a bitter pill to swallow." The same day, Canada's position had been supported by a "strongly worded letter" signed by nine US Senators and distributed by the Canadian embassy in Washington. The letter urged strong action to combat acid rain pollution, warning that further delays could cause "serious deterioration" and "needless souring" of Canada-US relations (*The Gazette*, June 22).

Reagan administration officials had said that a lack of both funds and knowledge about acid rain made it impossible to move ahead on a cleanup program (*The Citizen*, June 16). The Senate proposals of June 22 will be debated in the House of Representatives and if they survive will be given to the President for approval. This is not expected to happen this year (*Globe and Mail*, July 23).

Acid Rain: Quebec and NY Agreement

Quebec and New York signed an agreement July 26 to coordinate efforts to curb acid rain pollution through the operation of a joint information and research office. The agreement, by which both parties will invest \$100,000 for the establishment of offices in Quebec City and Rochester, was made after two years of negotiations (*Globe and Mail*, July 27).

Visit of Quebec Premier to Washington

Quebec Premier René Lévesque met with a group of US Republican Senators July 14 in Washington. Mr. Lévesque told reporters that the meeting was an opportunity to discuss "the ABCs of Canadian politics in general and the politics of Quebec" (*Globe and Mail*, July 15). Issues discussed included Montreal's Bombardier Inc. subway contract with New York City, the US credit rating on Quebec provincial bonds, and the possible effect of an independent Quebec on NATO commitments. US Senators reported that Mr. Lévesque was very "pro-American" in his approach to trade with the US (*Globe and Mail*, July 15).

Ground Fish Processing

NDP fisheries critic Ted Miller (Nanaimo-Alberni) called on the federal government June 3 to stop sales of BC ground fish to US processing firms. He told the House

of Commons that there were 400 unemployed shore workers in the BC ground fish industry, while raw fish were being shipped to Washington for processing. Fisheries Minister Roméo Leblanc replied that at least one Canadian processing plant had not found sufficient volume of fish to sustain its ground fish processing operations.

East Coast Scallops

Canada and the US reached an agreement regarding Georges Bank scallops, Fisheries Minister Roméo Leblanc announced June 17. He called it "the first serious step toward cooperation between the two countries in the east coast fisheries since extension of the fisheries jurisdiction." Understandings reached included provision for the implementation of a "forty-meat per pound rule," which was considered an important step in conserving the scallop stock. A Canada-US boundary dispute over Georges Bank had been referred to the International Court of Justice, with a decision expected by 1984 (Fisheries and Oceans press release, June 17).

Duty-Free Books

Pierre Bussi eres, Minister of State for Finance, announced June 9 that the Canadian government would extend the suspension of the duty on imported books beyond June 30, 1982. A press release from the Minister's office stated, "The ten percent duty on books was temporarily removed from January 1979, to June 30, 1982, in response to action taken by the United States to exempt Canada from the 'manufacturing clause' of its copyright legislation which had prevented Canadian printers from exporting commercial quantities of books and other printed materials to the United States." Should the US "manufacturing clause" be reimposed against Canada, the government "would have to give serious consideration to the reinstatement of duties on books," Mr. Bussi eres stated. A *Globe and Mail* article July 6 said that the government decision met with general approval in the Canadian book trade.

Satellite Agreement

Telesat Canada announced June 21 that contracts with the US National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) were signed that day, providing for the launches of five new Canadian satellites over the next three years. The first Canadian Anik D satellite is to be put into orbit August 12 in the conventional manner atop a Delta rocket. The remaining four launches will employ the NASA space shuttle. The total cost of the five launches was estimated at \$75 million.

On June 30 Communications Minister Francis Fox announced that government approval had been given to Telesat to provide Argo Communications Corporation of the US with six channels on the first Anik D to be launched in August. Mr. Fox stated that he was "satisfied that Telesat Canada had satellite capacity to supply the services requested by Argo and that future Canadian customers are adequately protected" (Communications Department press release). It was also reported July 7 that the federal government was considering giving approval to a pact with the US which would further "liberalize" the use of domestic satellites for telecommunications and broadcasting transmissions between the two countries (*Globe and Mail*).