

## CANADA AT THE UNITED NATIONS

from soft currency countries have not been adversely affected by the Emergency Exchange Conservation Measures. British trade has been affected scarcely at all by the prohibitions under Schedule I and it has already begun to benefit considerably from the operation of quotas under Schedule II...."

**DEFENCE MINISTER'S ADDRESS:** "Armed Forces in Churchill", was the subject of an address by the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Claxton to the Ottawa Rotary Club on June 14, in which he told of scientific findings on the problems of living in the Arctic.

He said at the outset:--

"There has been so much speculation, a good deal of it quite irresponsible and exaggerated, about our defence activities in the far north that I thought I might take this opportunity of telling you what we are doing there. Pictures have been painted of vast encampments of troops ready to launch a devastating attack at a moment's notice, all equipped with push-buttons.

"If this excited view is taken in North America, you can imagine what the Russian writers make of it. In an article, "Polar Fever in America", by V. Golant in ZEVZEDA for November 1947, it was said: "... Uncle Sam's flyers practice bombing walrus and polar bears... enormous military enterprises... No small parts of these funds (\$12,000,000,000) will be spent for military construction in the Arctic and adjacent regions... From 1943-45 huge winter manoeuvres took place in the Arctic regions of Canada in which representatives of the Canadian, English and American armies, navies and air forces took part... and so on.

"Of course, there is nothing whatever like this...."

Later, he said:--

"The extent to which military and civilian activities go hand in hand is well illustrated by a list I made up some time ago of our major activities in the north. These are:--

1. The Canadian Army maintains the Northwest Highway System, that is, the Alaska Highway; and the RCAF maintains the Northwest Staging Route.
2. The Canadian Army provides tele-communication services through the Northwest Territories.
3. The RCAF this year will photograph 300,000 vertical and 300,000 miles tri-camera, which would bring the total in the last four years to 757,500 miles of vertical and 827,000 miles of tri-camera photography. At Rockcliffe they process about 100,000 photographs a month. These are then turned over to Mines and Resources to be made into maps

for mining and fishing and tourist travel as well as for military purposes. Army engineers and civilians will fix triangulation points. Last year the RCAF carried a party from the Dominion observatory which re-located the magnetic pole.

4. A number of weather stations and Loran stations have been established.
5. This year the Royal Canadian Navy will have an exercise in the course of which the aircraft carrier "Magnificent" and a tanker will proceed as far as Wakeham Bay in Hudson Straits north of Ungava accompanied by two destroyers, the destroyers coming on as far as Churchill itself. The Navy is to build a large powerful icebreaker for northern use.
6. Health, welfare and educational activities have been extended through the northwest. More health and welfare work is being done each year since the war than was done in all the time up to the war put together.
7. There has been a great increase in scientific attention - by geographers and geologists, by experts surveying wild life and taking steps to conserve and enlarge the animal population.
8. Recent years have in fact been marked by a great increase in knowledge and in public interest in the north."

**ASSIST GOLD OUTPUT:** Honourable James A. MacKinnon, Minister of Mines and Resources, on June 15 announced the establishment of Regulations under The Emergency Gold Mining Assistance Act by Order in Council P.C. 2664 of June 11th, 1948.

The Act, which is designed to encourage a greater output of gold by assisting the producers in meeting the higher costs of production, is expected to be proclaimed shortly.

Certain forms are prescribed for making application for assistance payment but each operator must make declaration of ownership of the mine and its operation during the base and designated year with a detailed break-down of costs.

No mine shall receive assistance payments unless it keeps suitable books and produces more than 50 troy oz. of gold annually which gold must represent seventy per cent or more of the total value of the products of the mine.

Mines are allowed as cost of production an amount for depreciation and pre-production expenses computed by applying the same normal rate of percentage per annum as is employed for that purpose by the mine during that period for the purposes of the Income Tax Act but in no case shall it exceed fifteen per cent per annum....

**ATOMIC ENERGY STATEMENT:** The following is the statement on the Atomic Energy Commission made by General A.G.L. McNaughton, Canadian Permanent Delegate to the United Nations, in the Security Council, on June 11:--

"The attitude of the Canadian delegation to the three reports of the Atomic Energy Commission as a whole, as well as to their several parts, has been stated from time to time in the Atomic Energy Commission, and are on the record. I should, however, like to state briefly the views of the Canadian delegation regarding the general situation in which the Atomic Energy Commission finds itself at the present time, and which the Commission now has to report to the Council.

"It is a matter of profound disappointment that the Atomic Energy Commission, after two years of sincere effort to fulfil the mandate given to it by the General Assembly in its Resolution of January 24th, 1946, now has to report that it has reached an impasse.

"The reason for this state of affairs is set out clearly for all to see in the three reports which are before the Council for its consideration, and which we must also transmit to the General Assembly which established the Commission and defined its responsibilities.

## DANGEROUS CONDITION

"The situation, in the opinion of the Canadian delegation, does not call for recrimination, but for a serious effort to face up to realities. For no one can fail to realize the dangers resulting from international rivalry in the field of atomic energy, and in particular, from competitive efforts to obtain and develop atomic weapons. This dangerous condition will confront the world so long as a universally acceptable and enforceable agreement for the international control of atomic energy does not exist.

"The divergence of view, which months of patient discussion in the Commission has failed to bridge, as we all know, has arisen in consequence of the insistence of the Soviet Union that a convention outlawing atomic weapons and providing for the destruction of these weapons must precede any agreement for the establishment of a system of international control. The majority of the Commission, on the other hand, have considered, and continue to hold the view, that such a convention, unless accompanied simultaneously with effective safeguards, would offer no protection to the nations of the world. As we know, the Soviet delegation in June of last year came around to the position that certain controls, based upon 'periodic' or 'special' inspection of national operations in the field of atomic

energy, would be necessary to provide a check on the compliance of States with the outlaw convention which they had proposed. Unfortunately the Soviet conception of these controls falls far short of what the majority of the Commission believe to be essential to ensure that atomic energy will not become a matter of international rivalry and a menace to world security. The main condition which the majority regards as essential for the purposes of international security, is that all dangerous activities in the field of atomic energy should not be operated by national authorities but should, in the interest of common security, be entrusted exclusively to the international agency which has been proposed. Unfortunately it is this essential main consideration which is unacceptable to the Soviet.

"Throughout the whole of the efforts of the Commission I can claim that the Canadian delegation has devoted itself to the search for a method of control which would give security to all nations. We have, I hope, shown that we were willing to examine with an open mind any and all proposals put before us, including those which were advanced by the Soviet delegation.

## NO CONFESSION OF FAILURE

"We had hoped that the scientific and technological facts, as revealed in the discussions in the Scientific and Technical Committee and through the testimony of experts, would point the way to what was necessary for effective control and thereby provide a basis for agreement. If these efforts have not yet proved successful, I would emphasize that this should not be regarded as an acceptance of defeat, or a confession of failure on the part of the United Nations to achieve an effective system of international control of atomic energy.

"It is clear that the majority of the members of the Commission have been convinced that the proposals evolved in the three reports do provide the essential basis for the establishment of an effective system of international control of atomic energy. It is, I believe, appropriate that those who have been associated with evolving these proposals, through months of hard and patient work, should now submit the results of their efforts to the test of opinion in a wider forum, not only in the Security Council, but also in the General Assembly of the United Nations.

"Moreover, as is provided in the recommendations contained in the third report, while discussion is suspended in the Commission, efforts to achieve agreement should be con-