

PACIFIC FISHERY RULES RELAXED

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, with the concurrence of the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. H.J. Robichaud, announced on May 8 that the Canadian Government had accepted two recommendations of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission that would provide that Japan no longer be required to abstain from fishing for halibut in the Eastern Bering Sea and for herring west of the Queen Charlotte Islands. These recommendations had already been approved by the Governments of the United States and Japan. The Canadian Government has also approved conservation measures recommended by the Commission with respect to halibut fishing by Canadian, United States and Japanese fishermen in the Eastern Bering Sea.

ORIGINAL AGREEMENT

The Commission's recommendations were made pursuant to the provisions of the International North Pacific Fisheries Convention signed by Canada, Japan and the United States in 1952. Under the original terms of the Convention, Japan agreed to abstain from fishing in the high seas of the North Pacific and the Bering Sea for stocks of salmon, halibut and herring of North American origin, provided that these stocks were being exploited to the full and were under conservation regulations based on continuing scientific research.

As a result of an exhaustive study of the scientific evidence, the Commission determined, at its annual meeting in Seattle in 1962, that the stock of halibut in the Eastern Bering Sea and the stock of herring off the west coast of the Queen Charlotte Islands no longer met the qualifications for continued abstention. It accordingly recommended to the three governments concerned that these stocks of fish be removed from the abstention annex of the 1952 Convention. All stocks of salmon of North American origin and halibut in the North Pacific Ocean, exclusive of Bering Sea, as well as herring off the rest of the coast of British Columbia, continue to be subject to abstention.

The Convention may be terminated by any one of the three signatory countries after June 12, 1963, on 12 months' notice. Japan has requested a review of the Convention and arrangements are being made for a tripartite meeting in Washington in June to consider its continuation or possible modification. The Government has decided to appoint an advisory committee of representatives of recognized fishing associations on the West Coast for consultation in connection with these negotiations and with the work of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS

In March there were fewer work stoppages than in February, the number of workers involved was considerably lower and the number of man-days lost was less than half the February figure, according to a preliminary summary of strikes and lockouts re-

cently released by Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, the Minister of Labour.

There were 32 stoppages in March, involving 5,207 workers, with a time loss of 34,080 man-days. In February there were 37 stoppages, involving 7,002 workers and a time loss of 75,280 man-days.

More than 59 per cent of the time lost in March was accounted for by three disputes, one involving primary-metals workers at Tracy, Quebec, one involving transportation workers at Toronto, and the other metal workers at Stratford Centre, Quebec.

Only three of the stoppages, involving 93 workers, were in industries under federal jurisdiction. Of the others, 10 were in Ontario, 10 in Quebec, five in British Columbia, three in Nova Scotia and one in Newfoundland.

Nine of the March work stoppages involved 100 or more workers. Of these, six were over by the end of the month.

A breakdown by industry of the month's stoppages shows 17 in manufacturing, four in transportation and utilities, four in service, three in mines and two each in construction and trade.

Based on the number of non-agricultural wage and salary workers in Canada, the number of man-days lost represented 0.03 per cent of the estimated working time. In February, the percentage was 0.07 per cent. The corresponding figure for March 1962 was 0.14.

BELGIAN AIR CHIEF VISITS

The Chief of Air Staff of the Royal Belgian Air Force, Major-General A. Henry, accompanied by four of his staff officers, arrived at the Uplands station of the Royal Canadian Air Force on May 7 for a five-day tour of RCAF installations.

General Henry was met by the Chief of the Air Staff of Canada, Air Marshal C.R. Dunlap, the Commanding Officer of RCAF Station Uplands, Group Captain W.L. Gillespie, and the Belgian Ambassador to Canada, M. Guy de la Chevalerie. An RCAF guard of honour was present.

Following lunch with the Ambassador, General Henry again met the Chief of the Air Staff at National Defence Headquarters, where he attended an RCAF briefing. Later in the afternoon, he visited the Minister of National Defence, Mr. Paul Hellyer. In the evening, he was guest of honour at a dinner given by the members of the Air Council at RCAF Station Rockcliffe.

Next day General Henry left Ottawa by RCAF aircraft for the RCAF station at St. Hubert, Quebec, where he attended briefings on the work of Air Defence Command and Northern NORAD Region Headquarters. Afterwards he visited the Montreal plant of Canadair Limited.

Other visits made by the Belgian Chief of Air Staff took him to RCAF Training Command Headquarters and navigation schools at Winnipeg, RCAF Station Cold Lake, Alberta, and a number of other Air Force establishments.

On May 11, General Henry returned to Brussels in a Royal Belgian Air Force aircraft.