

**STATEMENTS ISSUED BY FRENCH EMBASSY AND ACTING PRIME MINISTER:** The following statements were issued October 19 by the French Embassy and the Acting Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe:

Text of press statement issued by the French Embassy:

"The Ambassador of France called this morning, on Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, Acting Prime Minister, and discussed with him the question, recently raised by the press, of French persons accused of collaboration with the enemy and now in Canada as refugees.

"The Ambassador pointed out that the persons in question, who have been condemned in absentia, were tried by French courts according to correct legal procedures and found guilty of major crimes. He further stressed that their concern for their honour should prompt these Frenchmen to go and appear before the courts of their country, where every opportunity of defending themselves would be given to them.

"The French Ambassador recalled that since the end of the war the French Government has not presented to the Canadian Government any request for extradition."

At the same time, the Acting Prime Minister, Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, issued the following statement:

"I have seen the communique of His Excellency the Ambassador of France. I am able to confirm that at no time since the end of hostilities has the French Government presented any request for extradition to the Canadian Government, nor would I wish to question the Ambassador's assurance that the trials in absentia were conducted according to correct legal procedure."

**IMPORT PERMITS FOR STEEL:** All importations from the United States of certain types of structural iron and steel will require import permits under the provisions of the Export and Import Permits Act, Rt. Hon. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced October 21. The new regulation comes into effect on October 25.

The Minister explained that this step is taken by the Canadian Government in connection with the agreement reached with the United States to limit imports of iron and steel to a maximum of 200,000 tons for the last quarter of this year.

The new import control regulation applies to types of structural iron and steel classified for entry into Canada under tariff items 388, 388a, 388b, 388c, and 388d. These include various iron and steel angles, beams, channels, columns, girders, joists, tees, zees, used chiefly in the construction of large buildings and in heavy manufacturing.

Arrangements are being made to issue import permits which provide for the importation, during the balance of 1948, of specific tonnages of steel where a manufacturer or importer

has a standard pattern of importations, while specific or spot importations will be the subject of individual permits.

According to Mr. Howe, import permits issued, or which may be issued, under the Emergency Exchange Conservation Act, will be honored in connection with the importation of the items covered by the new regulation. All structural steel or iron covered by the regulation which was in continuous transit to Canada on or before October 24, as well as steel from countries other than the United States, will not require an import permit.

Applications for new permits will be handled by the Import Permit Branch of the Department of Trade and Commerce. Importers who require specific or spot supplies of structural steel will be able to obtain the necessary forms from a local Customs office.

**SHIPPING CONFERENCE:** "A much better perspective of the needs of Canada's merchant marine is the result of the frank and open discussions which took place during the past three-day meeting of the National Advisory Committee." So stated John V. Clyne, Chairman of the Canadian Maritime Commission at whose call the committee gathered in Ottawa.

After the concluding session October 20, Mr. Clyne said that "delegates had expressed satisfaction at the opportunity of attending the meetings. There was a general feeling that the conference had enabled them to clear up a number of problems. The delegates also expressed the view that they now have a better appreciation of the overall needs of the dual industries of shipping and shipbuilding."

Mr. Clyne further stated that the gathering marked the first time that representatives of the ship owners, shipbuilders, and the shipyard personnel, besides the producers, exporters and importers met in one group and were able to discuss their respective problems together.

"As a result of this historic gathering," he continued, "the need of the closest co-operation to maintain Canada's standing among the trading nations of the world is more apparent. From the frank discussions the Canadian Maritime Commission is now in a position to qualify submissions which have already been made and which are contemplated by the regional advisory sub-committees."

"The task which now befalls the Canadian Maritime Commission is to study the views expressed during the three day conference and, where feasible, make recommendations to the Government."

**PRODUCTION OF WIRE NAILS:** Production of iron and steel wire nails increased in August over the preceding month and was well in advance of August last year, according to the Bureau of Statistics. The month's output totalled 7,662 tons compared with 6,482 in July and 5,789 in August, 1947.

taken part in the long and difficult task of working out this plan fully realize how great an achievement in human co-operation this represents. Everyone knows that the plan is of necessity complicated. Everyone also knows that it will involve considerations of national sovereignty, and that activities heretofore regarded as being within the national sphere will in future have to be exercised through international association. It is most surprising to hear this project for the co-operative international development of one of the world's great potential resources being attacked, in the interests of safe-guarding the private rights of one nation, by a state such as the USSR which claims to be inspired by principles of action for the general good.

**SOVIET RESOLUTION**

"In place of the majority resolution, the representative of the USSR proposes a programme of specious and deceptive simplicity. The Soviet resolution calls for the signing of simultaneous conventions prohibiting atomic warfare and establishing international control of atomic energy. What the USSR fails to state is that the process of producing the materials which release atomic energy is practically complete before the first step is taken towards assembling an atomic bomb. What they are asking us to do is to start by controlling the last simple detail of the process, before they have given us any adequate assurance that they will co-operate with us in controlling the earlier essential steps. On the contrary, through the long debates which have taken place in the Atomic Energy Commission, in which every effort has been made to secure their assurances on this point, they have demonstrated clearly time and again that they have no present intention of co-operating in any reasonable plan for controlling the production, refining, and further processing of uranium and thorium, without which the control of its assembly into a bomb is without meaning.

"This is the deception that lies in the Soviet resolution. It is deception which, as I have said, is repeated and reiterated time after time and which must be denied every time it is put forward. Let me say again, Mr. Chairman, that it is only by co-operating fully in the control of the production of uranium and thorium and of their processing from the time these substances are taken from the ground to the time that they are used up by the release of their energy for peaceful purposes that the USSR can really contribute to the solution of this problem. The facts of atomic energy are such that nothing short of a complete solution is any solution at all. The only answer lies in a co-operative association which is universal, and which the work of the Atomic Energy Commission has shown to be technically feasible and possible...."

"The second way in which the majority resolution before us is positive is in its reference to the reasons for the deadlock which has occurred in the activities of the Atomic Energy Commission. The third report of the Atomic Energy Commission contains an analysis of the present situation in the work of that body. This analysis makes clear beyond question of doubt why it is not possible to make progress until agreement has been reached on the principles which have already been enunciated.

"It is idle for the delegation of the Soviet Union to come to this Assembly with a specious offer to accept the international control of atomic energy when they have repeatedly in the meetings of the Atomic Energy Commission refused to accept the only basis on which it will be possible to work out that control and make it effective. This point is made clear in the third report of the Atomic Energy Commission. The Canadian Delegation is glad, Mr. Chairman, that it has been possible to include in the majority resolution a reference to this report, so that it may be specially drawn to the attention of the nations of the world. It is most important that the Assembly should accept this provision so that it may show clearly the way that leads to progress.

**FUTURE ACTIVITY**

"I come finally to the third part of the majority resolution which deals with the future activity of the Atomic Energy Commission. Here again the resolution is positive, and points the way to future progress...."

"The proposal that is made in the Indian resolution is that the Atomic Energy Commission should be instructed to continue its work in spite of the fact that the USSR has refused to give its agreement to the principles which must be accepted before the work can go forward. I fully realize that this proposal has been put forward as an attempt at conciliation between those who support the New Zealand position as it has now been incorporated in this resolution and the contention of the USSR that, in some vague way, agreement may yet be reached in the Atomic Energy Commission in spite of the intransigence which that Government regularly has shown as regards the discussions of the Commission. I am sure, however, that it is more expedient to seek reconciliation in a body which can deal with the basic political issue which divides the USSR from the rest of us. For this task, technicians and the experts who serve on the Atomic Energy Commission are not appropriate authorities.

"It is the political leaders such as those who originally sponsored the setting up of the Commission, who alone can solve this issue. Until that political issue has been cleared out of the way, there is no point in proceeding, by majority decisions in the Atomic Energy Commission, with the technical aspects...."