

## FOREIGN STUDENT SURVEYORS

The first group of students from underdeveloped countries to take part in a special practical course in surveying arrived in Canada recently. Twenty-nine students from developing countries in Asia, Africa and the Caribbean will spend the summer working, under the sponsorship of the External Aid Office, in the upper Ottawa Valley region of Ontario with instructors from the Department of Energy, Mines and Resources.

Their training will range from basic instruction in the use of surveying instruments to the complex job of planning, organizing and executing specific field-survey and mapping projects. The various projects will require them to travel in teams of from two to six.

## PILOT PROJECT

The course is a pilot project for similar courses the External Aid Office is planning in this sphere. In previous years, students have been attached to survey parties to gain practical experience during the summer months; the new course is designed to give trainees more opportunity of handling equipment and applying the theory they have studied at Canadian educational institutions.

The majority of the students are working toward a bachelor of science degree at the University of New Brunswick.

The countries represented by the students are Nigeria, Kenya, Zambia, Tanzania, Uganda, Malawi, Lesotho, British Honduras, Barbados, St. Vincent, Antigua, Jamaica, St. Lucia and Thailand.

\*\*\*\*

## INTERNATIONAL PAYMENTS

Canada's deficit on international current-account transactions of \$340 million in the first quarter of 1967 was \$65 million, or 16 percent lower than \$405 million for the corresponding quarter of 1966, but was about the same magnitude as the average first quarter deficit for the Sixties. Total receipts from the sale of current goods and services to the rest of the world gained \$451 million, or 16 per cent, to \$3,202 million during the first quarters of the two years. Total payments did not rise as much over this period, increasing by \$386 million, or 12 per cent, to \$3,542 million.

The net inward movement of foreign capital totalling \$327 million almost fully covered the current-account deficit for the first quarter, and capital inflows in long-term forms predominated. Canada's official reserves declined slightly in the January-March quarter.

## TRADE WITH U.S.

In transactions with the United States, total receipts expanded \$325 million, or 19 per cent, from \$1,684 million to \$2,009 million and total payments increased \$276 million, or 12 per cent, from \$2,290 million to \$2,566 million. The current-account deficit accordingly declined from \$606 million to \$557 million during the first quarters of 1966 and 1967. The im-

provement was derived entirely from merchandise trade, with the import balance contracting \$57 million, or 20 per cent, from \$292 million to \$235 million. Merchandise exports gained over 20 per cent from \$1,353 million to \$1,659 million, while merchandise imports rose 15 per cent from \$1,645 million to \$1,894 million. The deficit on non-merchandise transactions widened moderately from \$314 million to \$322 million. All the items shared in this slight deterioration, except interest and dividends.

## TRADE WITH BRITAIN

Canada's surplus on current transactions with the United Kingdom rose \$22 million, or some 20 per cent, from \$106 million to \$128 million during the first quarters of the two most recent years. Total receipts rose \$22 million, or 6 per cent, from \$350 million to \$372 million, while total current payments were unchanged at \$244 million. This improvement was distributed evenly between merchandise and "invisible" transactions.

## OTHER COUNTRIES

Total receipts from other countries advanced \$104 million, or about 14 per cent, from \$717 million to \$821 million, while total payments increased \$110 million, or roughly 18 per cent, from \$622 million to \$732 million, in the first quarter of 1967. The current-account surplus with other countries declined \$6 million to \$89 million. This small deterioration was attributable to a widening in Canada's deficit with other countries on non-merchandise transactions from \$73 million to \$89 million with the rise in official contributions accounting for more than the increase in the net service payments. The increase in the value of wheat clearances alone, to other countries outside the sterling area and the OECD group, accounted for about half of the export gain of \$80 million from \$587 million to \$667 million. The trade surplus increased \$10 million to \$178 million as merchandise imports rose from \$419 million to \$489 million.

\*\*\*\*

## THE CRISIS IN THE MIDDLE EAST

(Continued from P. 2)

members of the Palestine Conciliation Commission. Indeed, it was the permanent members who were responsible for selecting the Commission. That is the kind of precedent that I hope will be followed again.

There are other possible areas of co-operation between the permanent members that remain to be explored. One would be an agreement to control the flow of arms to the Middle East. An all-important by-product of such an arrangement would be the application to economic and social development of some of the resources otherwise spent on maintaining substantial armed forces. It seems self-evident that shipments of food are more important than shipments of arms. The Canadian Government, for its part, will continue its policy...of not sending military supplies to countries directly involved in this dispute.