

CANADA-WEST INDIES RELATIONS

Lord Hailes, the Governor-General of the West Indies, accompanied by Lady Hailes, was in Ottawa from October 11-15, the guest of the Governor-General, Mr. Massey, at Rideau Hall.

In an address to the Canadian Club of Ottawa, Lord Hailes thanked the Prime Minister, Government and people of Canada for the generous encouragement which they have given to the Federation of the West Indies ever since its birth on the 3rd of January of this year; and in particular for the recent announcement of a Five Year programme of economic aid of 10 million dollars, including the gift of two ships for the vital inter-island communications. Lord Hailes went on to say:

"It is not only your generosity, but also the faith which you are showing in the future of the West Indies in this great turning point of her history, which is so deeply appreciated by all the West Indian people. I am indeed glad that the Prime Minister of the West Indies, Sir Grantley Adams, who is always warmly welcomed in Canada, will himself be here very soon to express, as a West Indian, his own acknowledgements and those of his colleagues.

"Friendship between Canada and the West Indies is, however, no new thing. Your affairs and ours, to use an expression of Sir Winston Churchill's in another context, have in the past become 'somewhat mixed up together', and I trust that they will become increasingly so - again to quote his words 'for the mutual and general advantage': not only because of the spiritual ties, if I may call them so, of common allegiance to the Crown, and devotion to democratic ideals; but also because of all the opportunities there are for complementary trade. After all, the two-way trade between Canada and the West Indies, including British Guiana and British Honduras, is the highest per head that Canada shares with any Commonwealth member. You provide to-day our second largest market after the United Kingdom - a market for alumina, bauxite, petroleum products, sugar, rum and molasses; and on our side we provide you with a market for wheat flour, soft woods, codfish, dairy products and a wide range of manufactures. We are most anxious, as I know you are, that this trade should be sustained, and expanded - both ways.

"Nor in the daily life of the West Indies is it easy to forget the close ties which exist between us. There is the large number of men and women who have passed through your Universities and who are now to be found in

the forefront of the professional and official life of all the West Indian territories. This year, nearly a thousand young West Indians are enrolled in your Universities. I ought to mention that recently, annual fellowships were obtained for West Indians from the Canada Council through the good offices of Mrs. Fairclough who with Mr. Churchill and Mr. Smith, recently honoured us with an all too brief visit in Trinidad; and as a modest gesture, my Government was delighted to offer two post graduate scholarships in Science and Arts for Canadians, in our University College of the West Indies in Jamaica.

And then there are the welcome evidences of Canadian enterprise in the West Indies - banks, insurance and shipping; nor are memories so short that the heroic services of the Lady Boats in the war are forgotten, or the life line which they never failed to be. All these things contribute to the very warm feelings towards Canada which exist in the West Indies."

Following upon Lord Hailes' visit, Sir Grantley Adams, Prime Minister of the West Indies, and Lady Adams arrived in Ottawa on October 17. A Guard of Honour greeted them at the Union Station where they were met by the Prime Minister, a representative of the Governor-General, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, the Dean of the Diplomatic Corps, Commonwealth High Commissioners and the Chief of Protocol.

Sir Grantley Adams called upon the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs when he was in Ottawa. He held a Press Conference and had discussions with the Departments of Finance and Trade and Commerce.

On October 19, Sir Grantley and Lady Adams and their party flew to Bagotville, Quebec, from where they drove to Arvida. There they made a tour of the Aluminium Company of Canada.

On October 21, the party left by air for Montreal where the Prime Minister visited McGill University to meet students from the West Indies.

Sir Grantley Adams will be in Toronto on October 23, when he will be the guest speaker at an Empire Club luncheon and will make a television broadcast in the afternoon.

On Sunday, October 25, the party from the West Indies will leave by air for New York.