

#### FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

The press release issued in Washington regarding the Wheat Exporters' meeting read in part as follows:

The ministers reviewed the supply/demand situation in the international wheat market. They also examined the sales performance of each of the major exporters and the price relationships between grades and qualities of wheat as set out in the schedule of the International Grains Arrangement.

The ministers, in reviewing current prices in world markets, recognized that distortions had appeared and that corrective action would be taken by some exporters to bring prices into proper competitive relationship in the interests of orderly marketing and price stability.

The ministers reiterated their support for the International Grains Arrangement and expressed their determination to strengthen its operations.

As a means of making the Arrangement more effective, the ministers agreed to maintain continuing consultations to deal with problems that may arise.

#### ISRAELI AGRICULTURALISTS VISIT

Two senior officials of Israel's Department of Agriculture spent a week in Canada recently to study the seed-potato industry. The mission was sponsored by the Department of Industry, Trade and Commerce to familiarize the visitors with the varieties of Canadian seed potatoes and with phytosanitary control and certification.

During the past decade, annual seed-potato imports into Israel have reached about 12,000 metric tons. Canada does not yet export this product to Israel, though Canadian certified seed potatoes have been sold to more than 25 countries for many years.

The two agricultural officials visited Ottawa before touring seed-testing stations in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island. They also studied storage and inspection practices, breeding research and grading standards and talked with federal and provincial officers, as well as growers and exporters of seed potatoes.

#### SEAWAY SHIPS AND SHORES

The Canadian and United States Seaway entities, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the U.S. Coast Guard and the Canadian Department of Transport announced recently that an international joint study was being carried out during the 1969 navigation season to determine the effect of passing ships on the shore-line of the St. Lawrence River from Montreal to Lake Ontario.

The study is being conducted in the section of the St. Lawrence between the foot of Cornwall Island and the head of the river in Lake Ontario. Since the

shipping channel passes through both Canadian and U.S. waters in this reach, the study has been made international in scope.

The main object of the study is to establish and measure the interrelations of the numerous factors that contribute to the generation of waves by ships and the effect of these waves in selected areas of the river. To accomplish this, technical personnel are now conducting visual surveys and instrument recordings of the action of waves and related phenomena caused by passing ships of various forms, drafts and sizes and travelling at various speeds. Data collection is expected to continue throughout the summer, after which a report encompassing the findings of the investigation will be prepared and used as the basis for possible future speed regulations.

#### HOUSING STARTS IN JUNE

Housing starts in urban and rural areas in June continued at a seasonally-adjusted annual rate of more than 200,000 units.

Preliminary figures show that starts in urban centres during the month totalled 18,699 dwelling units, 2.8 percent more than in June 1968. Single-detached dwellings accounted for the entire increase; these numbered 5,450 units, up by 17.7 percent over those for June 1968. There was a decline of 2.3 per cent in apartment and other multiple-unit starts.

The total number of urban starts for the first six months of the year was 85,012 dwelling units, some 15,300 units, or 21.7 percent, higher than those for the corresponding period last year. This included an increase of 14.8 per cent in starts of single-detached dwellings and a 24.5 percent rise in apartment and other multiple unit starts.

#### VISITING SCHOLARS

Six Canadian universities have been awarded grants by the Canadian Government to finance visits by 41 scholars from France, Belgium and Switzerland for the 1969-70 academic year. The grants, worth a total of \$93,400, were announced on July 11 by the Canada Council, which administers this phase of Canada's cultural exchanges on behalf of the Department of External Affairs.

The visiting scholars will attend conferences and direct seminars for students, faculty and the public. Host universities are: Alberta, Laval (Quebec), Montreal, Ottawa, Queen's (Kingston, Ontario), and Waterloo (Ontario).

Under this program, the Government of Canada provides travel expenses and up to \$1,000 a month each for a certain number of foreign scholars, intellectuals and artists invited by Canadian universities or cultural organizations.