

manufacturing, and pulp and paper companies. Their aim is to foster closer commercial ties between the European Economic Community and Canada.

Also, as was briefly mentioned yesterday by the honourable senator from Royal (Hon. Mr. Brooks), the Minister of Trade and Commerce, the Honourable Mr. Hees, announced on November 8 that trade commissioners from Canada's 63 posts in 59 countries throughout the world will assemble in Ottawa on November 30 next, in order to study ways and means whereby trade with their respective territories can be expanded. These trade commissioners will meet with Canadian businessmen who have been invited to Ottawa for discussions. In the week immediately following the announcement of the conference, 252 Canadian businessmen requested interviews, and most of them asked for appointments with at least 12 different trade commissioners. Last week about 3,000 interviews had already been scheduled. The aim, of course, is not only to maintain Canada's position in her traditional markets, but to extend and increase the volume and value of her exports to all countries. It is hoped that much will be accomplished.

Another step is being taken in 1961. Canadian exhibits are now being organized for exhibition at international trade fairs in different parts of the world. Extensive experience has shown that this is one of the best ways to expand export sales. Consequently, throughout 1961, beginning in January, Canadian exhibits will be on view in London, Paris, West Germany, Peru, Detroit, Chicago and New York. The exhibits will show, among other things, furs, sporting goods, home-building materials, models of advanced technology in atomic energy, engineering, welding, marine materials and equipment, and chemicals. The Canadian exhibit at the 1959 trade fair at Lima, Peru, was a great success and it is being continued this year. Last year 74 Canadian firms participated, and 15 countries, including Canada, erected their own pavilions.

Hon. Mr. Euler: May I ask my honourable friend a question: Is there any prospect for increasing the sale of uranium?

Hon. Mr. Brunt: Germany is looking for some.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: The exhibits to be shown, I understand, include models of advanced technology in atomic energy and I assume uranium will be among the exhibits. In fact, I am sure it will be, but if it is not included at first, I have no doubt that if someone in authority reads this speech of mine and my honourable friend's question the omission will be rectified.

Now, honourable senators, coming from the greatest agricultural province in Canada,—

Hon. Mr. Roebuck: Where is that?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: The wonderful province of Saskatchewan. Coming as I do from that province, I think I should say a word or two about agriculture. After that I shall have only one more subject to deal with.

In western Canada this year, as you know, we have had a very satisfactory crop of spring wheat, durum wheat, flax, rapeseed and of course other grains, such as barley, oats and that kind of thing. Our weather was something out of this world—we had no rain, mist or snow or dampness of any kind. The crop was harvested in perfect condition, in fact in such good condition that the protein content in the spring wheat is the highest we have had for many years, almost 15 per cent. Our average yield of spring wheat was about 20 bushels to the acre. As I said, our spring wheat has a very high protein content, and most of it graded No. 2. I was going to say that that was unfortunate, because the wheat importing countries have been asking for No. 4 and No. 5, and we have no great quantity of either of these grades to supply the demand.

Hon. Mr. Brunt: Well, give them No. 3 for No. 4.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: We may have to do what the honourable senator from Hanover (Hon. Mr. Brunt) has suggested—give them a little more than their money's worth.

The yield of wheat for all Canada this year was approximately 490 million bushels. It is hoped that we shall be able to export about 300 million bushels, which has been the average quantity exported annually in the last three years. We use 150 million bushels a year in Canada for seed and feed and general domestic consumption, so we may have a surplus of about 40 million bushels.

Hon. Mr. Reid: How did the last crop compare with the yield of other years?

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I would say that this year's crop was almost 100 million bushels more. It was 490 million bushels. The previous year's crop was around 400 million bushels, I think.

Hon. Mr. Reid: It was above average, then?

Hon. Mr. Hnatyshyn: It was above the ten-year average.

Hon. Mr. Aseltine: I think the 1959 crop was under the ten-year average.

Hon. Mr. Burchill: Would our honourable friend care to tell us what in his judgment is the present surplus of wheat held by the Government here in Canada?