

Canada-United States Ministerial Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs

THE thirteenth meeting of the Canada-United States Ministerial Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs, which was established in 1953 and meets alternately in Ottawa and Washington, was held in Ottawa on November 23 and 24, 1970.

The U.S. delegation was headed by the Honorable William P. Rogers, Secretary of State, and included, as members of the Committee and other principal delegates, His Excellency the Honorable Adolph W. Schmidt, U.S. Ambassador to Canada, the Honorable David M. Kennedy, Secretary of the Treasury, the Honorable Walter J. Hickel, Secretary of the Interior, the Honorable Clifford M. Hardin, Secretary of Agriculture, the Honorable Maurice H. Stans, Secretary of Commerce, the Honorable Paul W. McCracken, Chairman, Council of Economic Advisers, the Honorable Carl J. Gilbert, Special Representative for Trade Negotiations. There were also advisers.

The Canadian delegation was headed by the Honourable Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs, and included, as members of the Committee and other principal delegates, the Honourable Edgar J. Benson, Minister of Finance, the Honourable Jean-Luc Pepin, Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Honourable J. J. Greene, Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources, the Honourable Horace A. Olson, Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Louis Rasminsky, Governor of the Bank of Canada, and Mr. Marcel Cadieux, Canadian Ambassador to the United States. Other participating ministers were the Honourable Jack Davis, Minister of Fisheries and Forestry, the Honourable Otto Lang, Minister of Manpower and Immigration, and the Honourable Herb Gray, Minister of National Revenue. Advisers also attended.

Purposes of Committee

In the 1953 agreement establishing the Committee, its purposes are said to be to consider matters affecting the harmonious economic relations between the two countries, to exchange information and views on matters that might adversely affect the high level of mutually-beneficial trade that has been built up between the two countries, and to report to the respective governments on such discussions in order that consideration may be given to measures appropriate and necessary to improve economic relations and to encourage the flow of trade.

The Committee does not meet to negotiate or to conclude agreements but only to consult, explore problems and exchange views. As Mr. Sharp remarked during the opening session of the recent meeting, the deliberations of the Committee are intended "to help avoid future disagreements, and to