

under which such contracts may be concluded on a commercial basis between the appropriate governmental agencies in each country.

"The governmental agencies which will be responsible for the detailed operation of this Agreement and the negotiation of any contracts arising under it report to Parliament through my colleague the Minister of Trade and Commerce".

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RUSSIAN LANGUAGE CLASSES

As part of an over-all plan to keep abreast of world scientific developments, at least 30 scientists from the Department of Mines and Technical Surveys will attend a 25-week language course in scientific Russian this winter at Carleton University.

The group, sponsored by the Department, includes scientists from its five branches - Geological Survey of Canada, Mines, Surveys and Mapping, Geographical and the Dominion Observatory. Represented are the sciences of geology, mineralogy, geophysics, metallurgy, chemistry, geodesy, hydrography, astronomy, and astrophysics.

Chosen on a basis of their proven linguistic abilities and from scientific fields in which Russia has published large amounts of literature, the scientists will attend 25 two-hour night classes on those aspects of the Russian language required to read and understand the available scientific publications. The course is directed by G. Belkov of the Translation Division, National Research Council.

For some time, a large volume of Russian literature has been coming into the Department as part of a world exchange of certain scientific papers. Some of this material has been translated by the few members of the Department's staff who have a working knowledge of the language. However, in recent years, the number of scientific publications from Russia has reached great proportions and it has been impossible for the few translators to cope with them.

During the recent meetings of the International Astronomical Union and the International Union of Geodesy and Geophysics, it came to light that time and money had been

spent by North American scientists on projects of the same nature as those that were previously completed by the Russians and for which results had been published and were readily available. Such duplication arises largely from the inability of many scientists to understand Russian.

An example of the duplication, cited by the National Science Foundation of the United States, describes how several United States industries spent five years and at least \$200,000 on research connected with electric circuits only to discover that the work had already been done and described in a Soviet scientific journal before the research started.

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OIL TOPS HEATING FUELS

Continuing the steady increase of recent years, oil was the principal heating fuel in slightly over half of Canadian households in May, according to an advance release of figures to be published in the Dominion Bureau of Statistics annual report on household facilities and equipment which is expected to be ready for distribution shortly. This proportion compares with 46 per cent in September last year.

The increase in the use of oil for heating purposes was at the expense of coal and coke and wood. The proportion of households using coal or coke for heating purposes fell to 23 per cent in May this year from 26 per cent in September a year ago, and those using wood dropped to 17 per cent from 18 per cent. The proportion relying on gas as a heating fuel represented 9 per cent of all households in both years and those using other fuels such as sawdust, electricity and briquettes, accounted for 1 per cent.

Hot air furnaces were used for heating purposes in 41 per cent of Canada's households in May this year as compared with 40 per cent in September 1956. Another 17 per cent of households used steam or hot water furnaces, the proportion being unchanged. Heating stoves were used in 27 per cent of households versus 26 per cent, cookstoves or ranges in 15 per cent versus 16 per cent, and the remainder used radiants, central heating and fireplaces.