



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION · DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS · OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 20 No. 3

January 20, 1965

CONTENTS

- Canadian Business and Changing World Trade Patterns 1
- The New Canadian Flag 3
- Household Incomes 3
- Diplomatic Relations with Nepal 3

- Students From Outside Canada 3
- Daniel Fowler Exhibition 4
- International Forestry Meet 4
- Figures on Bilingualism 4

CANADIAN BUSINESS AND CHANGING WORLD TRADE PATTERNS

"I have no magic formula for foreseeing the future," the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, told the Conference on International Business of the School of Business Administration of the University of Western Ontario in London, Ontario, on January 22. "I can, however, point to some of the issues and developments in international trade that are motivating change and are likely to have implications in the foreseeable future." The speaker suggested that the most important influences since the Second World War on the trade between nations had been "the virtual elimination of distance by the revolutionary advances in rapid communications", "new sources of energy" and "the revolution in production and productivity". He continued as follows:

...Let me try to identify at this point in time the main issues and development underlying the changes in world trading patterns that are in the making. Perhaps my best course would be to take a snapshot, as it were, of the year just ended. This will help us to focus on these events and developments that portend change in the longer term.

ECONOMIC NEEDS OF UNDER-DEVELOPED NATIONS

No doubt one of the most prominent events in international trade relations in 1964 was the UN Conference on Trade and Development, at which 119 countries were represented. This gave expression to the economic demands, needs and aspirations of the less-developed countries. The economically-advanced countries were enjoined to come to terms and help redress the inequity and injustice involved in the growing disparities between the rich and

poor countries. Just before the turn of the year, the UN General Assembly approved the establishment of the Trade and Development Board as the permanent institutional framework for the implementation of the Conference's recommendations. The Trade and Development problems of the LDC's were given further expression in the new Part IV of the GATT, which was approved at a special session of Contracting Parties last November, and is due to be signed early in February.

No less significant for Canada was the formal opening of the "Kennedy round" of tariff and trade negotiations at the GATT meeting of ministers last May, and the tabling of industrial exceptions lists on November 16 by 17 of the major trading nations... Because of Canada's special trade and economic structure, which has been recognized in the GATT, we did not table an exceptions list; instead, we tabled a positive offer list on the basis of a realistic appraisal of what might be available for others. Improved access for agricultural products, the way in which non-tariff barriers can be dealt with, and the extent to which institutional barriers can be overcome, will be an important measure of the benefits for Canada. The process of confrontation and justification of those lists is now taking place behind closed doors and the detailed and intensive phase of negotiations is now being joined. The decision of the EEC Council of Ministers in December to establish a common cereals price to come into effect on July 1, 1967, has opened the prospects for the joining of agricultural negotiating, which had been at an impasse throughout the summer and fall, both in Geneva and Brussels.

(Over)