

NEW SOVIET WHEAT PURCHASE

Trade Minister Robert Winters announced on June 20 that he and N.S. Patolichev, Minister of Foreign Trade of the U.S.S.R. had signed in Moscow a protocol extending the Canada-U.S.S.R. trade agreement for a further period of three years. The agreement, which expires April 17, 1969, is subject to renewal by mutual consent.

At the same time, the Minister also announced that agreement had been reached between the Canadian Wheat Board and Exportkhleb, the Soviet Grain Trading Agency, regarding trade in wheat and flour during the next three years. Under a contract signed in Moscow between the Board and Exportkhleb, the Soviet Grain Agency has undertaken to buy 9.0 million long tons (about 336 million bushels) of Canadian wheat and flour for shipment from Canadian ports during the next three crop years commencing August 1, 1966. No intergovernmental credit arrangements are involved.

As part of the total quantity, the Board has concluded a specific contract with Exportkhleb providing for shipment of 3.0 million long tons (about 112 million bushels) of wheat and flour during the first year of the arrangement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER

"I am very pleased that negotiations have been brought to a successful conclusion", Mr. Winters commented. "It is most gratifying that the U.S.S.R. has again decided to purchase such substantial quantities of Canadian wheat.

"I think that the trade agreement reached here in Moscow constitutes a further significant step in developing our trade with the U.S.S.R.

"This further substantial Soviet purchase and the assurance which it gives for marketing of wheat and flour to the U.S.S.R. will provide important returns to

farmers of Western Canada. Wheat growers will be able to take these assured sales into account in planning production.

"The impact of this record sale will extend throughout Canada, and will be felt not only by wheat farmers and millers but by grain handlers, longshoremen, elevator companies, railways, shipping companies and the economy generally."

LARGEST SINGLE SALE

This is the largest single three-year commercial contract for a fixed quantity of Canadian wheat and flour ever concluded. Since 1963, the Soviet Union has purchased 478 million bushels, valued at approximately \$1 billion. The new contract, worth approximately \$800 million, will bring total Soviet purchases to about 814 million bushels.

The trade agreement provides for continued exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment between Canada and the U.S.S.R.

Under the protocol, the two governments undertake to continue to give sympathetic consideration to any representations either may make concerning implementation of the agreement or other matters affecting their undertaking to facilitate visits for business purposes between Canada and the Soviet Union.

In addition, Mr. Winters and Mr. Patolichev exchanged letters concerning their discussions on trade relations and noted the importance attached by the Soviet Government to expanding its exports to Canada.

During negotiations, the delegations of Canada and the U.S.S.R. carried out a detailed review of trade between the two countries. It has been agreed that the trading framework which has been established should provide increased opportunities for further development of mutually advantageous trade.

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IMMIGRATION DISCOVERS GLAMOUR

The Department of Citizenship and Immigration is looking for six attractive young women to serve, on an experimental basis, as immigration receptionists at Montreal's International Airport. "There has long been a need for immigrants, returning residents and visitors to be welcomed upon arrival in Canada and to be guided through the examination process in a friendly and organized manner", said Mr. Jean Marchand, Minister of Citizenship and Immigration. "Immigrants particularly need considerable assistance and advice to ease the strangeness of a new country and to meet such immediate needs as arrangements for onward travel to their destination."

TRAINING PROGRAMME

Each receptionist, who will be able to speak several languages, including French and English, will take part in an extensive training programme before assuming her new duties. Included in the course will be

such subjects as the care of children and the aged, the psychology of human relations, problems and customs of immigrants, grooming, first aid, and techniques in speech, public speaking, conversation, correspondence and telephone use. Instruction will also be given in Canada's geography, social, economic and political environment, immigration organization, policies, regulations, operations and procedures, customs and medical procedures, and the identity and functions of voluntary agencies.

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NEW DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, recently announced the appointments of the following Canadian high commissioners and ambassadors: Mr. Alfred John Pick, first Canadian Ambassador to Tunisia; Mr. John Alexander McCordick, Ambassador to Austria; Mr. Charles Eustace