

Canada to discuss embassy move

Canada will consult further with interested parties on the Government's proposal to move the Canadian embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, Prime Minister Joe Clark has announced. Robert Stanfield, the former leader of the Progressive Conservative party will conduct the consultations at the Prime Minister's request.

After his election victory in May, Mr. Clark reaffirmed his election campaign promise to move the Canadian embassy to Jerusalem. However, in recent weeks, this decision has met with unfavourable reaction from Arab leaders.

To clarify the situation, the Prime Minister met with Arab ambassadors in Ottawa at the end of June to discuss the Government's desire to further develop Canadian relations with the Arab world in all fields — political, economic, technological and cultural.

The Prime Minister also spoke with the ambassadors about the Government's intention to move the Canadian embassy

to Jerusalem. Mr. Clark emphasized the Government's interest in consulting extensively with those concerned with the question and he stressed its willingness to consider the views expressed before proceeding with the policy.

As the Government's special representative Mr. Stanfield will consult with governments in the Middle East and other Islamic countries, with the United Nations, with Canada's allies, with provincial governments, with the business community and other interested groups in Canada, the Prime Minister said.

Mr. Clark has asked Mr. Stanfield to make recommendations on means of developing Canada's relations with the Middle East and North Africa and on the implementation of the Government's policy on Jerusalem "in a way that will be compatible with the efforts that are being made to achieve a comprehensive peace settlement in the Middle East".

Mr. Stanfield will start his mission this autumn and the Prime Minister said he hoped his recommendations might be available to the Government next year.

Industrial activity improves

Canadian manufacturing and processing industries experienced considerably stronger activity in May than in April, according to a survey by the Purchasing Management Association of Canada. The survey of 110 manufacturing and processing companies across Canada showed that new orders were up for 37 per cent of companies surveyed, while only 7 per cent reported lower order levels. Production increased with 32 per cent of the companies, and declined with 9 per cent.

Employment was also higher. New hiring was reported by 37 per cent of the firms surveyed, while 9 per cent reported fewer employees.

Price increases were noted by 64 per cent of the respondents, and 24 per cent reported no price changes. Among the major and repeatedly mentioned increases were prices of lumber, steel, zinc, lead, tires, plasticizers, corrugated containers, synthetic rubber and PVC compounding materials.

Inventories of raw and finished materials fell in May, with 30 per cent of companies reporting declines and 22 per cent mentioning increases.

French Canada marks holiday

A variety of activities from Vietnamese cooking to disco street dances highlighted French Canada's traditional St. Jean Baptiste holiday on June 24.

For the second consecutive year the festivities in Quebec, marking French Canada's patron saint, were decentralized rather than concentrated on a single extravaganza. The Quebec government encouraged all Quebec residents, not just



Un joli clown!

French-speaking Catholics to participate in the holiday.

Nearly every neighbourhood in Montreal and every community across the province had its own activities planned this year.

"It is through this holiday that people can express their culture and traditions," said Jean-Paul Champagne, president of the festival's organizing committee for the Montreal area.

A group of 200 Vietnamese invited strollers through Montreal's Jeanne-Mance Park to eat, dance and sing. Disco enthusiasts danced outside a discotheque on the city's predominantly English Crescent Street, while Haitians held a carnival and North Africans demonstrated their culinary and musical skills.

Premier René Lévesque and his wife Corinne took part in a celebration that also marked the 300th anniversary of the founding of Ile d'Orleans, an island in the St. Lawrence opposite the capital of Quebec City.

Quebec residents were not the only ones observing the holiday. Predominantly French-speaking communities across Canada also planned activities to celebrate the festival.

The Prime Minister's message

Prime Minister Joe Clark sent greetings on the occasion saying:

"It is with great pleasure that, for the first time as Prime Minister of Canada, I send fond greetings to all my French speaking compatriots on the occasion of their *fête nationale*, June 24.

"The importance of the activities organized wherever French Canadian communities are found is an eloquent expression of the dynamism and of the cultural richness which those communities have taken upon themselves to promote in each of the provinces.

"In this respect, I must emphasize the vital role both the leaders and the people of Quebec have to play as they are the heart of the Canadian *francophonie*...

"We must all, together, pursue anew the goals of the Fathers of Confederation and build Canada as they hoped it would be: a community of communities.

"May the 24th of June be an occasion, for Canadians of all origins, to offer their wishes to their French speaking compatriots. Let us rejoice with those whom history and common will have given us as partners to share in diversity, equality, fraternity and unity."