

Commonwealth Experts meeting

The Prime Minister's Office announced recently that Lawrence Smith, High Commissioner to Barbados and Grenada and Commissioner to the West Indies Associated States and Montserrat, has been named to serve on the group of Commonwealth Experts meeting in Ottawa in July.

At the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Jamaica, it was agreed that this body should be set up to continue discussions on the need for a new international economic order. The ten-member group will discuss practical economic measures aimed at closing the gap between rich and poor countries. They will place special emphasis on the need to promote development and to transfer real resources to developing countries.

Other members of the group are: Professor A.B. Brownlie (New Zealand) Chairman, New Zealand Monetary and Economic Council; Professor Nural Islam (Bangladesh); Amri Jamal (Tanzania) Minister of Trade; Peter Lai (Malaysia) Permanent Representative in Geneva; L.M. Lishomwa (Zambia) Special Economic Adviser to President Kaunda; Sir Donald Maitland (Britain) Under Secretary, Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Shri S.S. Marathe (India); Professor H.M.A. Onitiri (Nigeria).

The chairman will be Alister McIntyre, Secretary-General of the Caribbean Community.

The group, which will hold an organizational meeting in London and then reassemble in Ottawa July 9, is expected to have an interim report ready for consideration at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' meeting in August.

Medical scholarship recommendation for Brazilian students

Medical scholarships for use by Brazilian candidates in Canadian universities and hospitals was one of the recommendations of the membership committee of the Brazil/Canada Chamber of Commerce at a recent meeting in São Paulo, Brazil.

The committee, which meets regularly, agreed that the awarding of ten medical/scientific scholarships by Canada would be "an excellent medium for building the advanced technology image

of Canada in Brazil".

A recommendation of the Brazil/Canada Chamber of Commerce — that the Brazilian Portuguese language be considered an official language in Canadian universities, thereby allowing Brazilian students an extra entrance credit — was endorsed by the membership committee, which concluded that "this would be a gesture towards greater progress of mutual co-operation and understanding between the two countries".

Crédit Lyonnais in Montreal

The Crédit Lyonnais, second largest bank in France, fourth largest in Europe and seventh largest in the world, opened an affiliate branch in Montreal on May 27.

The Crédit Lyonnais thus becomes the second French bank, after the Banque Nationale de Paris-Canada, to establish financial services in Canada. The aims of this Canadian affiliate are to increase and develop trade between Canada and foreign markets, primarily those in France and the rest of Europe. The Crédit Lyonnais has an international network of 140 affiliates in 47 countries.

Located at Place Ville-Marie in downtown Montreal, the offices of Crédit Lyonnais Canada are under the direction of Alain Teitelbaum. The company has a staff of 24, of whom 21 are Canadian, and an initial capital of \$2 million.

Participation continues in Middle East Observer Force

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently that the Canadian Government had responded positively to a request from the Secretary-General of the United Nations that Canada continue its participation in the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Middle East (UNDOF) for a further period of six months, until November 30, 1975.

Mr. MacEachen noted that the presence of peacekeeping forces in the area constituted a vital element of stability while efforts to find a political solution were pursued, and that Canada's contribution to the Disengagement Observer Force was import-

ant for its effectiveness.

Canada shares with Poland the task of providing logistic support for UNDOF, which is carried out in conjunction with similar duties with UNEF. The total strength of the Canadian contingent serving with the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East is about 1,000, of whom some 150 are with UNDOF on the Golan Heights and the remaining 850 are with UNEF in the Sinai.

Soviet trade delegation

Three Deputy Ministers and a Deputy Chairman from the Soviet Union met with Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Alastair Gillespie on May 16 to discuss purchases in Canada of up to \$500 million in capital goods and services.

The visitors were part of a 12-man delegation which toured Canada during the following three weeks for discussions with Canadian firms concerning the utilization of the \$500-million Export Development Corporation line of credit announced by Mr. Gillespie recently.

The delegation was led by V.N. Sushkov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade. Accompanying him was N.M. Inozemtsev, Deputy Chairman of the State Planning Committee, I.N. Kapri- vin, Deputy Minister of the Pulp and Paper Industry, and M.V. Kanevsky, Deputy Minister of the Timber and Woodworking Industry, as well as eight officials and two representatives of the Soviet Embassy in Canada.

Their visit followed more than four years of liaison between Canadian businessmen and Soviet officials whose aims were to identify industrial sectors that would be interested in Canadian exports. The work began after the signing in Moscow of the Canada/U.S.S.R. Agreement on the Industrial Application of Science and Technology in January 1971.

Since then, more than 325 Canadians have visited the Soviet Union and a similar number of Soviet nationals have come to Canada to discuss areas of co-operation, including construction, oil and gas, non-ferrous metals, agribusiness, transport and electric power. As a result of these exchanges Soviet industrial ministries have been apprised of Canadian capabilities.