

and said that were it not for the fact that the work was about finished and the temporary services of the author of the letter would automatically cease it is probable that the man would have been dismissed.

The Minister explained that the camp work in Manitoba had been carried out under the Dominion-Provincial Agreement between his Department and the Manitoba Agriculture Department and could be said to be a partnership plan. Both Departments do look to the Manitoba Health Department to make inspections of camps and direct that necessary improvements be carried out. The operators of camps have an obligation of course to comply with the Manitoba Regulations applying to camps and the direct responsibility for violations of the law would be that of the Manitoba Sugar Company.

In my opinion, the Minister said, the main difficulties in the camps are due to insufficient camp help and some carelessness on the part of the men themselves.

Finally, the Minister said he was very surprised and seriously concerned, over the fact that a number of men were sick and had been sick on previous occasions and no doctor called. There was no excuse for this neglect, in his view, especially when Emerson doctors were within easy reach.

The Minister stated that as a result of the contents of the first report and of the sickness of the men, arrangements were made to reinspect the Emerson Camp.

This reinspection was carried out by a group from Winnipeg and, according to telephone advice, the most serious unsanitary conditions have been remedied; the sick men were better, and the situation already had been materially improved.

NEW TRADE DISCUSSIONS: Canada will participate in a new series of multilateral tariff negotiations with eleven countries which have indicated their desire to become parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, Ré. Hon. C.D. Howe, Minister of Trade and Commerce, announced October 27. The countries with which Canada will negotiate include Denmark, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Finland, Greece, Haiti, Italy, Nicaragua, Sweden, Peru, and Uruguay. The tariff negotiations will take place in Geneva, Switzerland, commencing April 11, 1949.

Canadian Government Departments concerned are now making preparations for these negotiations. In order to aid these preparations Canadian business firms and organizations interested in trade with the countries listed above, are invited to submit written representations.

Representations dealing with foreign tariffs are to be addressed to the Commercial Relations and Foreign Tariffs Division of the Department of Trade and Commerce. Representations dealing with the Canadian tariff are to

be addressed to the International Economic Relations Division of the Department of Finance. In view of the fact that request lists for tariff and other concessions must be exchanged between Canada and the listed countries before January 15, 1949, representations are to be submitted as soon as possible but in any case not later than December 20, 1948.

There will generally be no negotiations among the countries which participated in the Geneva negotiations last year. Further negotiations between Canada and the United States, United Kingdom or any other country which participated in the Geneva negotiations in 1947 are not scheduled on this occasion. Canada and the other countries which negotiated in Geneva last year will be expected to negotiate only with the 11 countries listed above. Generally speaking, contracting parties will not be required to negotiate on products already in the schedules, except in individual cases where one of the acceding governments has a special interest. In these negotiations the concessions already contained in the existing schedules will, of course, be taken fully into account.

DEFENCE COLLEGE REOPENING: Canada's National Defence College will reopen on November 1. National Defence Headquarters announced October 28. The course, lengthened from seven to nine months, will be the second of its nature in Canadian history. As he did last January, Hon. Brooke Claxton, Minister of National Defence, will deliver the opening address. Eleven officers of the three armed services, eight civilians, one naval officer from the United Kingdom and one officer from the United States Army will attend the course. The college is located at history-shrouded Fort Frontenac in Kingston.

Designed as an institution for the advanced study of war and security problems in relation to other aspects of national policy in times of emergency, the unique program includes the study of new and foreseeable development in science, economics and international politics and their effects upon national security. Many of the lecturers who addressed students at the first course will return during the next nine-months period. These will include Cabinet Ministers and leaders in diplomatic, military, scientific, industrial, political, educational and other walks of life. Most of the lecturers are Canadian, but some will come from points in the United States and the United Kingdom.

BUTTER SHORTAGE: Domestic disappearance of butter in Canada during September amounted to an estimated 34 million pounds, second highest quantity for any month this year, according to the Dairy Review of Canada issued by the Bureau of Statistics. This total compares with 35½ million pounds in August, the peak month so far this year, and with 32½ million pounds in

September last year.

Per capita, the domestic disappearance last month amounted to 2.65 pounds as against 2.75 pounds in August and 2.58 pounds in September a year ago. On a cumulative basis, the per capita disappearance in the nine months ending September was 21.08 pounds as against 20.48 pounds in the similar period of 1947. During the nine months the domestic disappearance aggregated 270½ million pounds, an increase of 13 million pounds over the January-September period of 1947.

Stock holdings of butter at October 1 were about 4½ per cent greater than a month earlier but 27 per cent below those for a year earlier. The total butter supply, as represented by stocks at the beginning of the month, plus butter produced during the month, increased 1½ per cent over the previous month but fell 17½ per cent below the total of September last year.

FEDERAL BY-ELECTIONS: Results in the two federal by-elections held on Monday of this week were as follows:

ALGOMA EAST
(95 out of 105 polls)

Hon. L.B. Pearson, Lib.....4,581
Lorne Callahan, CCF.....2,174
J.J. Fitzgerald, SC.....1,142

ROSTHERN
(Complete)

W.A. Boucher, Lib.....6,233
P.G. Makaroff, CCF.....3,268
G.W. Beilhartz, SC.....2,344

FIRST HOSPITAL GRANT: The first cheque to be issued by the federal Government to assist hospital building in Canada is being forwarded this week for the Killarney and District General Hospital at Killarney, Man., Hon. Paul Martin, Minister of National Health and Welfare, announced October 29.

This cheque, for slightly more than \$5,000, marks the beginning of federal grants for hospital construction under the new National Health Program announced by the Prime Minister in May. The federal appropriation for hospital construction throughout Canada this year is \$13,000,000 out of a grand total of \$30,020,300 set aside for the entire program.

Approximately 40 other projects totalling more than \$1,225,000 have already been approved and an additional 60 are expected to be passed within a few days. These include grants for health surveys, professional training, and control of cancer, venereal diseases and tuberculosis.

The Killarney hospital is a 30-bed institution established to serve approximately 15,000

people in the towns of Killarney and Boissevain, the village of Cartwright, the municipalities of Turtle Mountain and Morton, and parts of Roblin and Riverside. It is a general hospital with complete diagnostic facilities, operating room and laboratory. Already in operation, it is a part of the overall program to provide complete hospitalization facilities for people in all parts of Manitoba.

Construction was almost complete on April 1 when the federal grants came into effect, and hence the hospital did not qualify for the full \$1,000 per bed provided for in the hospital construction plan. In addition to matching the federal grant, the Province is making up the difference between the federal contribution and the \$1,000 figure.

The Killarney hospital is municipally financed, owned and operated.

NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY: The following statement was given by Hon. L.E. Hearson, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at his press conference Thursday morning:

The Canadian Government, he said, noted with great interest the statement of October 26 in Paris of the Foreign Ministers of Western Union that they are 'in complete agreement on the principles of a defensive pact for the North Atlantic and on the next steps to be taken in this direction.' The Canadian Government has been giving careful study to the question of North Atlantic security. Canada's representatives have been participating from the beginning in conversations which have been taking place in Washington since July 6 between representatives of the Western Union countries, the United States and Canada. These conversations were informal, non-committal and exploratory and had reached the point where they were referred back to the respective governments for observations and comments. As a result of its study of the question, the Canadian Government has informed other participants in the Washington discussions that Canada is now ready to enter into negotiations for a regional treaty for collective security with them and with other North Atlantic states.

The general lines of such a North Atlantic treaty desired by the Canadian Government and of the implications to Canada have been made clear by public statements during the past six months.

Mr. Pearson said the informal conversations in Washington had reached the end of the first stage of discussions. Any treaty would be submitted to Parliament for approval. All of the implications involved in such a treaty would be clearly understood before Parliament was asked to consider it.

GOLD PRODUCTION: Canadian production of gold in August passed the 300,000-ounce mark for the first time since June, 1943.