

India-Canada Atomic Reactor

On November 2, in reply to an inquiry whether he could say if there was any substance to "some recent statements in the press as to the possibility of India using the reactor, which was contributed by Canada through the Colombo Plan, for the production of a nuclear bomb", Mr. Martin said:

. . . As regards the policy of the Indian Government in this matter, I think the record is clear. Prior to the Chinese explosion, and subsequently in the face of this event, the Prime Minister of India stated that India is maintaining its policy of not manufacturing atomic weapons. I regard this declaration as a positive contribution to world peace.

In so far as the Canada-India Reactor is concerned, under an agreement concluded with India in April 1956 and tabled in this House on May 9, 1956, the Government of India gave an unconditional undertaking to use it for peaceful purposes only. The relevant article of the agreement reads as follows:

The Government of India will ensure that the Reactor and any products resulting from its use will be employed for peaceful purposes only.

Aid to Proposed West Indies Federation

A question was asked on November 3 whether, in view of reports that "a new West Indies federation has been agreed upon by seven . . . British colonies", it was the Government's intention "to offer special aid to the fledgling nation once it achieves federation". Mr. Martin replied as follows:

Canada has noted with great interest the formation of this federation and has already expressed in a message its best wishes and congratulations. I would call . . . attention . . . to the increase in Canada's external aid programme, which is designed to provide greater assistance to the Caribbean area.

Trade Talks With British Prime Minister

Asked on November 25 whether the Government was "preparing specific proposals relating to Commonwealth trade to present to Prime Minister Wilson and his colleagues at the time of their visit to Ottawa next month", Mr. Mitchell Sharp, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, replied:

I understand that Mr. Wilson will be here for a very short time only. I expect that during this time we shall have an opportunity of talking about many matters relating to Commonwealth trade. I am satisfied Mr. Wilson will raise with us certain complaints which the British Government has against the treatment of British exports to Canada. We, in turn, will raise with the British Government the