

not be an easy task. A number of items, most of them dealing with various aspects of disarmament, have already been suggested in the correspondence between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the West. The gap between the proposals made by either side is considerable and unfortunately there has been a tendency, as I mentioned earlier, for some of the agenda items to be submitted in the form of prejudged proposals. If we are to approach the summit with an open mind and a desire to reach agreement we will have to settle on objectively formulated topics. I believe that agreement on this delicate question will be facilitated if the diplomatic negotiations consider the agenda in somewhat more general terms. Such broad subjects as disarmament or European security could surely first be accepted, and then the range of sub-topics under these headings, which both sides could agree to discuss, could be explored.

"I conclude with a word of caution. A summit meeting will not, I feel sure, produce any magic solution for all the problems that beset our troubled world, but I believe that a start can be made in decreasing tension and settling some problems or at the very minimum in setting up the machinery for their active and positive consideration. You will recall that on the initiative of the West we had one of these summit meetings in 1955 when the leaders of the United States, United Kingdom, France and the Soviet Union met in Geneva. Although this meeting did not produce all the concrete results some of us hoped it would, it was by no means entirely barren. We must now continue from where Geneva left off. This may well mean that we should hold a series of meetings at various levels. Indeed, it is my view that we would be well advised not to entertain too great expectations for any single meeting. Rather, we should look into the future and envisage gradual progress through a number of meetings. With advantage we might also provide for the systematic maintenance of consultation between meetings in order that unsolved issues could be kept under continuous review. As the Greek historian Plutarch once wrote, 'Perseverance is more prevailing than violence; and many things which cannot be overcome when they are together, yield themselves up when taken little by little'."

* * * *

VISIT ANNOUNCED

Prime Minister Diefenbaker has announced that President Heuss of Germany has accepted an invitation from the Government of Canada to visit Canada this spring. The Canadian Government warmly welcomes the visit of President Heuss, which will be the first occasion on

which a Head of State of his country has come to Canada. President Heuss will be accompanied by the Foreign Minister, Dr. Heinrich von Brentano, and by members of his suite.

The official visit of the President to the Capital will begin with his arrival in Ottawa on June 1 and end with his departure for Washington on June 4. During his stay in Ottawa President Heuss will be the guest of His Excellency the Governor General at Government House.

Before starting his official visit to the Capital, President Heuss and his party will spend three days making an informal tour of parts of the Provinces of Quebec and Ontario.

* * * *

WILL VISIT CANADA

Prime Minister Diefenbaker has announced that Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, the Prime Minister of Ghana, has accepted an invitation to visit Canada next July.

Dr. Nkrumah's visit will take place immediately before his visit to the United States and will be of three or four days duration.

* * * *

PASSENGER CAR SALES

Rising over a year earlier for the first time since September last, total sales of new passenger cars increased almost 3 per cent in February to 27,351 units from 26,579 a year earlier. The increase in volume of sales was accompanied by an advance of slightly more than 2 per cent in retail value to \$79,956,000 from \$78,314,000. Sales gains in February were posted for all provinces except Quebec, Alberta and British Columbia.

Sales of commercial vehicles continued substantially below year-earlier levels in February when 4,171 units were retailed for \$14,672,000 versus 5,763 valued at \$20,638,000. Decreases in numbers sold were common to all provinces except Newfoundland and Saskatchewan.

February's sales of British and European-made passenger vehicles (included in total sales) rose sharply to 4,758 units valued at \$9,070,000 from 2,156 valued at \$4,084,000. Commercial vehicle sales increased to 340 units from 320 and the value to \$711,000 from \$685,000.

Financing of sales of new motor vehicles (passenger and commercial) dropped in February to 10,797 units from 12,330 and the financed value to \$25,271,000 from \$29,322,000. For used vehicles, financed sales fell to 24,249 units from 25,912 and the financed value to \$24,838,000 from \$24,981,000.