

## TRIBUTE TO MR. ROBERTSON

*Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau issued the following statement on the death, on July 16, of Mr. N.A. Robertson, former Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs.*

The death of Norman Robertson has come as a great shock to me. He had been unwell for many months yet the end came suddenly.

Norman Robertson was one of the greatest public servants this country has ever had. He had a mind of outstanding brilliance joined with a deep humanity, effacing selflessness and great dedication to Canada. During the Second World War he was the closest adviser of the Prime Minister, the Right Honourable W.L. Mackenzie King, on the whole range of problems, social, economic and administrative, that had to be faced at that time. After the war he turned his great abilities to the problems of reconstruction and the establishment of a world organization that could bring a lasting peace. It was my privilege to work under him during two years in the Privy Council Office and to realize his great qualities.

Mr. Robertson was the perfect civil servant. He worked quietly and constantly for the welfare of his country. His ideas and proposals enriched the policy of government, but at no time did he lose sight of the role and responsibility of ministers in deciding the course to be taken. His advice was wise, far-seeing and disinterested. He did not seek recognition or credit: he sought only to contribute to the solution of the great public problems of his day. As Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, High Commissioner for Canada in London, Ambassador to the United States and Secretary to the Cabinet he served Canada in superlative measure....

## BANK RATE DOWN

Mr. Louis Rasminsky, Governor of the Bank of Canada, recently announced that the bank rate had been reduced by  $\frac{1}{2}$  per cent to  $6\frac{1}{2}$  per cent, effective July 29. He stated that this action was in accord with the decline in market interest-rates that had taken place in recent weeks.

The Governor also announced that the Bank of Canada had repaid the remaining 50 per cent (\$125 million) of the drawing that it had made last January under the reciprocal credit facility with the Federal Reserve System. The first \$125 million had been repaid in June. There are now no drawings outstanding under this reciprocal facility, which continues to be available in the full amount of \$1 billion (U.S.)

Mr. Rasminsky stated that the Bank of Canada had terminated the short-term credit facilities with the Bank for International Settlements in the amount of \$100 million and with the Deutsche Bundesbank and the Banca d'Italia in amounts of \$150 million each, which had been arranged last March. He said that, though these credit facilities had not been used they had been of great value in helping to re-establish the position of the Canadian dollar.

## GERMAN DEFENCE MINISTER VISITS

Dr. Gerhard Schroeder, Minister of Defence for the Federal Republic of Germany, visited Canada from July 24 to 28 at the invitation of Mr. Léo Cadieux, Minister of National Defence. Dr. Schroeder, who arrived in Ottawa from Washington, discussed defence matters of mutual interest with Mr. Cadieux, Mr. Donald Jamieson, the Minister of Defence Production, and senior officials of the Canadian Government.

On July 25, Dr. Schroeder and his party travelled to Montreal, where they saw the Man and His World Exhibition, returning to Ottawa late the same afternoon. A short visit to the Canadian Forces Base North Bay was made on July 26 by Dr. Schroeder, who then flew to the west coast for an informal visit.

The party left for Alaska on July 28.

## UNESCO EDUCATION CONFERENCE

The Department of External Affairs announced recently the appointment of the Canadian delegation to attend the International Conference on Educational Planning, being held in Paris from August 6 to 14, under the auspices of UNESCO.

As usual in conferences of this type, the Council of Ministers of Education for the Provinces was asked to suggest the names of persons who would join the delegation as representatives of the provinces.

The delegation will be headed by Dr. F. J. Gathercole, Director of Education for Saskatchewan Public Schools, and will include the Chief Superintendent of Schools for the Department of Education in New Brunswick, Mr. D.B. Estabrookes; Mr. F.P. Levirs, Superintendent of Education for the Department of Education in British Columbia, and Mr. C.H. Williams, Chairman of the Group Humanities Programme Branch in the Department of Education in Ontario, and, as Special Adviser (political matters) to the Chairman of the delegation, Mr. R.G. Blackburn, from the Permanent Delegation of Canada to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

The main object of the gathering is to enable experts in educational planning from the participating countries to examine policies for formulating educational plans and to propose strategies for their implementation in countries at varying stages of development. Delegations from almost 100 countries will attend the Conference.

## PILOTAGE REPORT

The Government has received the first volume of the Report of the Royal Commission on Pilotage. Prime Minister Trudeau stated that a small task force, under the direction of the Department of Transport, would be set up to launch an early review of the report with a view to expediting implementation of the recommendations. The Government intends to