

Sugaring parties may become a Canadian tourist attraction

Just about the time the snows start to melt, Canada's sugar maples are ready with their spring treat — the natural confection that satisfied the sweet tooth of the country's first inhabitants, the Indians. A sure sign of spring in Eastern Canada is the "sugaring off party" held in late March or early April in many parts of Quebec



Ontario Ministry of Industry and Tourism

"Mmmm this sap tastes good."

and Ontario to sample the delicious sap of the maples.

The value of the annual production varies between \$7 and \$12 million, depending on atmospheric conditions. This amount could be higher if owners of maple groves were able to obtain the most possible out of them and turn them into productive sources of revenue. Labour, however, is expensive, the prime cost is high and marketing often leaves a lot to be desired. Although for several years an attempt has been made to modernize the industry, the process has been slow.

Young landowners do not seem to be very interested in making use of their maple groves. In Beauce County, Quebec, for example, the average age of producers is over 50 years. Changing climatic conditions often cause production and price to vary greatly from one spring to the next, making it difficult to supply markets at a consistently stable price.

Several means have been suggested to improve the situation. The most original idea, however, comes from Serge Doyon, a Quebec university student, who advocates turning the maple groves into tourist attractions, thereby making them profitable all year round. Advertising and investment would be necessary to make maple groves more accessible and to equip them with restaurants and dance halls, but it might be profitable in the long run.

Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister visits Canada

As a result of talks between Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister A.W. Gillespie and the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Péter Vályi, and his delegation, who were in Canada from March 8 to March 13, it is expected that there will be increased possibilities for the expansion of trade between Canada and Hungary, notably in the machinery and the capital goods sector.

Vietnam discussed

On March 12, the Hungarian Deputy Prime Minister and the Hungarian Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

held talks with the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, during which political questions of common interest were reviewed. Besides subjects of bilateral interest, the talks concentrated on outstanding international questions, including preparation for the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, the Canadian and Hungarian approaches to the problem of mutual balanced force reduction, and Vietnam. As both Canada and Hungary are participating in the ICCS in Vietnam, a frank exchange of views ensued on this subject; as a result of these discussions

the position of both participants in the Commission has been clarified. While both sides recognize that they entertain a different approach to their role in the ICCS, both sides expressed similarity of views on the desirability of establishing a lasting peace in Vietnam.

Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society meets in Ottawa

The Department of External Affairs recently announced that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Committee on the Challenges of Modern Society (CCMS) had accepted an invitation from the Government of Canada to hold its eighth plenary session in Ottawa on April 10 and 11, the first meeting of the CCMS outside its headquarters in Brussels. Secretary of State for External Affairs Mitchell Sharp and Environment Minister Jack Davis will be the hosts to the delegates from the 15 member nations of NATO who will attend the meeting.

Other departments of the Canadian Government concerned with the work of the CCMS are the Ministry of State for Science and Technology, the Ministry of Transport, the Department of National Health and Welfare and the Department of National Defence, all of which will take part in the meetings.

Aims of the Committee

The CCMS was established by the North Atlantic Council in 1969 to promote and exchange of views and experience among NATO and other countries and to deal with specific problems of the human environment with the object of stimulating international action on such problems. Since then, the CCMS has undertaken nine projects in the areas of air pollution, advanced health care, waste treatment, urban transportation and road safety, coastal and inland water pollution, work satisfaction, regional planning and disaster assistance.

The projects, when approved by the Committee, are carried out by those members having a particular interest in the subject matter, their results being made available to the international community as a whole. Canada, which has taken an active part