

## Canada-U.S. Economic Co-operation

*The annual meetings of the Joint Canada-United States Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs afford opportunity for full and candid discussions between Canadian and American ministers on economic matters of mutual concern. As the following communiqué shows, the talks deal broadly with international economic developments as well as with specifically Canadian-United States economic problems:*

THE fifth meeting of the Joint United States-Canada Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs was held at the Department of State, Washington, D.C. February 16 and 17.

Canada was represented at the meeting by the Honourable Donald M. Fleming, Minister of Finance; the Honourable Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce; and the Honourable Douglas S. Harkness, Minister of Agriculture.

The United States was represented by the Honourable Christian A. Herter, Secretary of State; the Honourable Douglas Dillon, Under Secretary of State; the Honourable Robert B. Anderson, Secretary of the Treasury; the Honourable Fred C. Seaton, Secretary of Interior; the Honourable Ezra T. Benson, Secretary of Agriculture; the Honourable Frederick H. Mueller, Secretary of Commerce; and Mr. Don Paarlberg of the White House.

The members of the Joint Committee were accompanied by Ambassador Heeney of Canada and Ambassador Wigglesworth of the United States, and senior officials of departments and agencies in the two Governments.

The Committee reviewed recent economic developments in the United States and Canada. They noted that the expansion of economic activity was continuing in both countries and that output and employment had reached new high levels. Sustained efforts to avoid inflation had been made in both countries and price increases in 1959 had been slight. The Committee agreed on the desirability of policies designed to bring about even greater expansion of trade on a multilateral basis.

The Committee noted with satisfaction the substantially improved economic and financial position of most other countries and in this connection welcomed the considerable progress made since the last meeting in the removal of restrictions and the elimination of discrimination against exports from the dollar area. However, the Committee emphasized the importance of securing the complete removal of the remaining quota discrimination in world trade.

In reviewing agricultural problems the Committee noted the prevalence of special restrictions on agricultural trade throughout the world and emphasized the importance of pursuing policies which would encourage an expansion of trade. The Committee agreed that incentives leading to an accumulation of burdensome surpluses should be avoided. In regard to programmes of surplus disposal, the