

PRAIRIES GET RADAR POSTS

The opening of new heavy-radar stations on the Prairies early in 1964 will permit the closing of portions of the Mid-Canada Line lying generally to their north.

The new long-range Western radars are located at Dana and Yorkton, Saskatchewan, Gypsumville, Manitoba, Penhold, Alberta, and Alsask on the Alberta-Saskatchewan border. They were constructed under joint cost-sharing arrangements between Canada and the United States.

Sector Control Stations of the Mid-Canada Line at Dawson Creek, British Columbia, Stoney Mountain, Alberta, and Cranberry Portage and Bird, Manitoba, will be closed, with their adjacent doppler sites. The range of the new radars extends beyond that of the latitude of the closed section of the Mid-Canada Line. In addition, the operation of a few doppler sites at the extreme Eastern end of the MCL, which are overlapped by coverage of other radars on the Labrador coast, will be discontinued.

The MCL sites will close this spring, with annual savings expected to amount to approximately \$6 million.

BALANCE OF PAYMENTS

Rising merchandise exports improved the current account in Canada's balance of payments in the third quarter of 1963. Compared to the corresponding quarter of 1962, this rise was well in excess of a rise in imports and some deterioration in the balance from non-merchandise transactions. The result was a small surplus of \$8 million from net sales to non-residents of goods and services in the third quarter of 1963. While the current account is seasonally most favourable in this quarter of the year, mainly because of travel, the 1963 surplus compares with a deficit of \$34 million in 1962, and one must go back to 1954 to find another surplus. However,

allowing for seasonal variations, the balance on current account in the third quarter implied an enlarged deficit over earlier quarters of 1963.

CAPITAL INFLOW

In this period, when the current account did not give rise to a need for external financing, the capital inflow in long-term forms contracted sharply, to \$28 million, mainly because of reduced inflows from security transactions. At that level, it was smaller than for any but three earlier quarters in more than a decade; two of these exceptional quarters occurred in 1962. While the change from \$441 million in the final quarter of 1962 is very large, it may be noted that the capital inflow in long-term forms in that quarter was probably exceeded only twice earlier.

There were outflows of capital in short-term forms, and Canada's official holdings of gold and foreign exchange were reduced moderately.

FISHERIES RESEARCH MEETING

Although all aspects of Canada's fishery resources are studied by the Fisheries Research Board of Canada, emphasis on present and future research on marine crustaceans and marine mammals will be among the main topics of discussion at the Board's annual meeting in Ottawa from January 6 to 8.

Long-range programmes designed to meet future needs are under way at the Board's seven biological and technological stations in various parts of Canada. Practical application of many of the findings of the Board's scientists has already been accomplished in the fishing industry.

The Board is made up of 18 non-salaried members chosen from the scientific staffs of university faculties, the fishing industry and the federal Department of Fisheries. Seven newly-appointed members will be attending their first full meeting of the Board.

His Excellency the Right Honourable George B. Vanier, Governor General of Canada, was promoted from the rank of Major General to the rank of General in the Canadian Army effective January 1. He is the sixth Canadian Army officer to be promoted to this rank. The promotion follows a long and distinguished military and diplomatic career, which started at the beginning of the First World War, during which General Vanier was awarded the Distinguished Service Order, the Military Cross and a bar to the Military Cross for gallantry in action while serving with the Royal 22nd Regiment, of which he was a founder. General Vanier is now Colonel, Royal 22nd Regiment, and is also a member of the Order of St. John.

U.S.-CANADA AIR SPACE FACT

The recognition of the need for facilities with safety in mind across the common boundary, the Governments of Canada and the United States recently concluded an agreement authorizing the extension under certain conditions of air-traffic