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Tuesday, January 26, 1954.

Canada, U.S., U.K. Trade Statistics: Ottawa, Jan. 25 (CP) -- Canada's deficit in United States trade rose to a six-year high of \$694,400,000 in the first 10 months of 1953.

Exports to the U.S. in the 10 months edged ahead to \$2,035,500,000 from \$1,911,200,000 in the previous year, but imports jumped by more than \$280,000,000 to \$2,729,900,000 from \$2,447,500,000.

The unfavourable balance in U.S. trade increased from \$536,800,000 in the 10-month 1952 period, rising to the highest mark since the peak of \$804,500,000 in 1947.

Canada balanced off part of this deficit in a surplus in British trade, but the general 10-month interchange showed a Canadian overall deficit of \$236,500,000. This compares with a surplus of \$248,400,000 in the 10 months of 1952.

Canada's shipments to all countries dropped to \$3,456,500,000 from \$3,570,000,000 in 1952, while imports climbed to \$3,693,000,000 from \$3,321,900,000.

Exports to Britain declined to \$565,000,000 from \$641,000,000 while imports increased to \$376,200,000 from \$296,500,000. The surplus in British trade dropped to \$188,900,000 from \$345,400,000 in the previous year.

Housing Legislation Before Commons: Ottawa, Jan. 25 (CP) -- A Progressive Conservative Member of the House of Commons said today the Government's new housing legislation will turn lending institutions into agents of the Government.

Mr. J.M. Macdonnell (PC - Toronto Greenwood) said one section of the measure will leave lenders "practically no choice" but to foreclose on mortgages when payments are in default.

Under the new plan of insuring mortgages, banks and other lending institutions would be unable to depart from the housing regulations in administering home loans for fear of losing the Government's guarantee on the mortgage.

Mr. Macdonnell criticized the "wide, inclusive, meticulous and permanent power" given the Government's Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation during the Commons' third day of debate on the housing bill.

"The bill regulates private enterprise to the status of a mere machine of Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation," he said.

"The only place where initiative is left to the lender is the dirty job of foreclosing the loan. In many cases he will be forced to do it even against his better judgment."

The wide powers of regulation given the Government would be acceptable to a CCF government, if the party were to come into power. A CCF government would want to extend similar control over any other industry where regulation was "socially desirable"....

Opposition Asks For Meyer Documents: Ottawa, Jan. 25 (CP) -- The Government today declined to make public documents relating to the trial, sentence and possible early release from prison of German S.S. Maj.-Gen. Kurt Meyer.

Mr. Claxton said the Government could not accept a motion, placed on the Commons order paper by Mr. Drew, asking for the papers.

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