

CANADA-U.S. TRADE COMMITTEE

The Joint Canada-United States Committee on Trade and Economic Affairs held its twelfth meeting in Washington on June 25 and 26. This body, which last met in Montreal in 1967, was established in 1953 to provide a forum for consultations at Cabinet level between the United States and Canadian Governments.

The Canadian delegation was headed by Mr. Mitchell Sharp, Secretary of State for External Affairs; the U.S. delegation was led by Mr. William P. Rogers, Secretary of State.

Committee members reviewed the international political and economic situation and reaffirmed their support for expanding world trade. They recognized the importance of achieving a smoother functioning of the international monetary system and agreed on the desirability of an early activation of the plan for Special Drawing Rights within the International Monetary Fund. The Committee was concerned over the economic growth of developing countries and confirmed the willingness of both Governments to participate with other countries in seeking to expand trade opportunities of developing countries.

The Committee noted with concern current de-

velopments in international wheat marketing, which have placed serious pressure on the price provisions of the International Grains Arrangement. The members emphasized their readiness to consult bilaterally and with the governments of other countries concerned to try to overcome these difficulties and restore stability in world markets, in conformity with the objectives of the International Grains Arrangement, which was an important outcome of the Kennedy Round.

Members reviewed the extensive trade and economic relations between their two countries, and Ministers reaffirmed their desire to co-operate closely in strengthening these relations.

The Committee agreed that inflation and the need to "cool their overheated" economies were serious problems facing both the U.S. and Canada. Fiscal and monetary policies were reviewed, which, in both countries are directed towards ending inflation.

Important bilateral trade and economic matters including energy, developments under the Automotive Agreement, and specific agricultural commodity problems were also discussed.

IMPORTANCE OF EDUCATION

In an address to the Hants Industrial Management Club in Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Manpower Minister Allan J. MacEachen declared that recent studies indicated that elementary schooling would be necessary for over 90 per cent of Canadians entering the labor force. Mr. MacEachen said that this requirement would be necessary as early as next year.

He said that studies conducted by his Department and other research bodies showed that, from now on, at least 40 per cent of Canadians entering the labor force would have to have finished high school; at least 16 per cent would require trade school or apprenticeship training; 10 per cent would need university graduation; and another 10 per cent should be qualified as nurses, teachers and graduates of technical and other non-academic post-secondary institutions.

The most conspicuous result of studies made by his Department, Mr. MacEachen continued, was the heavy demand for persons with technical and scientific training; for example, Canadian universities should be graduating four students in science for every one in arts. A comparison with the current output of technical institutes indicates a shortage of facilities for training students in technical and science-oriented courses.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

So far as job opportunities were concerned, Mr. MacEachen said, the most dramatic changes in-

dicated by the surveys would be the increase of professional and clerical workers, the rapid growth of industries using service occupations, and the increased use of managers in nearly all industry divisions. There would be a decline in use of laborers in secondary industries, he continued, and reduced employment chances in primary industries.

Jobs in construction and public utilities are expected to grow more rapidly than total employment, he said, and, in manufacturing, transportation and communication, at a somewhat slower pace.

A rapid growth in jobs in service industries, government, finance and business and a decline in opportunities in agriculture and forestry was predicted by Mr. MacEachen, and he added that a significant rise was likely in general education requirements of jobs.

Demand for those with only elementary education was not keeping pace with labor force growth; their proportion of employment was declining sharply, he said, and those with high-school education could expect job opportunities to grow at a rate about equal to labor force growth. Employment opportunities requiring higher education were increasing at about the same pace as jobs for those with only elementary education were declining.

"This is what we think we'll need over the next decade in terms of jobs," Mr. MacEachen said, "more professional people, more technicians and skilled workers, fewer laborers and semi-skilled persons."

Mr. MacEachen said that Canadians were becoming aware of the need for increased learning and