

Asian visit (continued from P. 3)

Japan was slowly opening its markets and encouraged Canadian manufacturers to export more goods. Canadians are looking for further reductions in trade barriers.

Addressing a press conference after his meetings with the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr. Trudeau said he had discussed the increased defence role being demanded of Japan with Mr. Nakasone and leaders of the Association of South-east Asian Nations — Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand, Indonesia and the Philippines — he met on the tour.



Bob Cooper

Prime Minister Trudeau and Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

As he has done in every stop of his journey, the Prime Minister also met with a dozen Canadian businessmen who said Mr. Trudeau's visit helped underline Canadian concerns in the area.

In a speech to the Canada Chamber of Commerce and the Canada-Japan society, Mr. Trudeau told the 600 guests that the two countries must avoid protectionism and consider each other's short-term problems and long-term interests.

Describing Canada as "probably the most secure source of untapped resource potential on the face of the planet", Mr. Trudeau said he could not foresee the day when Canada could not supply Japan's needs for coal, wood, minerals, grain and other resources.

At the same time, he called for more Japanese investment to help upgrade resources before they are exported and more purchases of manufactured goods, which now make up only a small portion

of the \$4.5 billion in resource-dominated sales to Japan each year.

Prime Minister Trudeau said that he had received reassurances from Prime Minister Nakasone that Canada would not be forgotten as Japan tries to appease trade complaints made by other countries.

"To maintain harmony in our relationship, I ask Japan to bear constantly in mind Canada's own strong manufacturing sector and our own imperative need to produce and to export," he told the dinner guests.

Mr. Trudeau specifically asked the Japanese to take a hard look at Canadian satellites, aircraft and information and communications technology.

Mr. Trudeau ended his 18-day Asian tour after meetings with former Japanese Prime Minister Zenko Suzuki and a group of Japanese businessmen with Canadian interests, described as the most effective group for promoting business deals between the two countries.

Prime Minister Trudeau left Tokyo on January 19 for his return flight to Ottawa.

News briefs

A federal task force on energy conservation recently presented its final report to Minister of State for Science and Technology and Economic Development Donald Johnston. Among its 22 recommendations, the task force suggests the federal government identify and implement strategies and support mechanisms to ensure a broader use of existing technologies. To encourage this, the group suggests the government offer financial incentives, support marketing programs, establish data bases and provide training to create skilled personnel.

University of Toronto economics professor Gerald Helleiner is heading a team of Commonwealth experts in a study of the international trade and payments system. Professor Helleiner is also vice-chairman of the North-South Institute in Ottawa. The ten-member steering group was set up to guide the Commonwealth Secretariat in a comprehensive study of the world financial and trading system, including the role of institutions such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The first two super energy efficient homes built under a \$6-million federal government program were opened recently in Lethbridge, Alberta and Laval, Quebec. The R-2000 homes are designed to provide as much as a 50 to 80 per cent

reduction in space heating demand compared to a conventionally constructed home and up to a 50 per cent reduction in demand for hot water appliances and lighting. The homes incorporate energy-saving features such as high levels of insulation, air-tight vapour barriers, air-to-air heat exchangers, energy efficient appliances and water heating systems, and advanced window systems that take full advantage of passive solar gains.

The population of Canada increased by 256 000 in 1981, bringing the total population to 24 347 000 on January 1, 1982, according to statistics published by Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. This increase of 1.06 per cent was slightly lower than the growth rate of 1.17 per cent recorded in 1980, reflecting a decrease in net migration during the year (from about 63 000 in 1980 to about 57 000 in 1981).

The CN Rail division of Canadian National Railways of Montreal has completed one of its biggest seasons of laying work-saving concrete ties in British Columbia, using an automatic system developed by CN and Canron Inc. of Toronto. While the reinforced concrete ties, at more than \$30 each, are three times as expensive as wood ties, they are more economical and provide greater stability in curved sections of heavily used trackage.

The Ontario government recently presented a \$50 000 cheque to the Foundation for Canadian Studies in the UK (FCS) at Edinburgh University. Edinburgh University has, since 1974, achieved a reputation as the leading academic centre in Britain for Canadian studies. It has a course progressing to a Bachelor of Arts degree in the subject; the most extensive library on Canadian topics of any British University; and has a writer/poet in residence.

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