

**THREAT OF POVERTY:** The serious lag in social, health, educational and economic development throughout large areas of the world, "stands as a serious threat to the well-being of the entire world community," said the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. L.B. Pearson, in addressing the International Conference of Social Work in Toronto on June 27. The maintenance of peace in the world today, he said, is closely related to the work of social and economic development.

Touching on the work of the United Nations in the economic, social and humanitarian fields, he said such programmes were not simply acts of charity. They were "investments in prosperity and progress in which all will share".

He concluded:

#### DANGEROUS FACTS

"The favoured nations of the world cannot afford to ignore the fact that one half of the world's inhabitants live in areas where hunger, disease, poverty and human misery are the daily lot of all the people. They cannot continue to live comfortably, in the knowledge that one out of every two persons alive today is simply not getting enough to eat; that one person in eight suffers from malaria; that infant death rates in some sections of some countries rise as high as 400 for every thousand children born.

"These are ugly, dangerous facts about the Twentieth Century which so often has been heralded as an age of social progress. They have all too obvious implications.

"The consciences of millions of men and women have in recent years been aroused to work towards creating a happier, more prosperous, and better world for all. As modern science and technology have drawn the different parts of the globe more closely together, a far-reaching change in outlook has been taking place. To an extent which might have seemed inconceivable even fifty years ago, there has now come increasing recognition that the hundreds of millions of people throughout the world today must somehow contrive to share among themselves less unevenly the ability to use the resources of the earth; that the general impoverishment of any area is a matter of concern to all areas; and that the technical experience and knowledge acquired in rapidly changing industrialized societies have somehow, through our collective efforts, to be made available to those communities that are less advanced and less well equipped.

"Arnold Toynbee has suggested that 'the Twentieth Century will be chiefly remembered by future generations not as an era of political conflicts or technical inventions, but as an age in which human society dared to think of the welfare of the whole human race as a practical objective'. This is an exciting idea. If governments and peoples can accept

this possibility, this challenge; if they can recognize in time the interests not merely of their own communities but of the world in which these communities exist; if they can pool their common efforts through self-help and co-operative action to further the advance of all peoples everywhere, then truly the authors of the Charter of the United Nations will not have laboured in vain.

"For in such accomplishment, in such achievement, in such recognition of the mutual interdependence of our world society, in such fulfilment of our obligations of self-help and co-operative action to promote our common betterment, we will give new life and meaning to those inspiring words which are enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, and will demonstrate our firm resolve 'to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom'."

\* \* \* \*

**GRAIN DELIVERY:** The Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. C.D. Howe, announced on July 12 that provision is being made for the full delivery of the general quota of 7 bushels per specified acre at all delivery points in the Prairie Provinces by July 31.

Mr. Howe pointed out that producers' marketings of all grains during the crop year 1953-54 have now exceeded 525 million bushels, and that before the crop year ends on July 31 these marketings could range from 575 to 600 million bushels.

As far as producers' marketings are concerned, the crop year 1953-54 will be one of the larger years in history, although smaller than the record year of 1952-53.

\* \* \* \*

**PRICE INDEX RISE:** The consumer price index advanced 0.5% from 115.5 to 116.1 between May 1 and June 1. This is a slightly larger rise than was recorded between the same dates in 1953. The latest change was almost entirely attributable to an advance of 1.6% in the food index. Among other groups, shelter was the only one to advance.

\* \* \* \*

Canada imported 30,151 gallons of sparkling and 1,080,116 gallons of non-sparkling wines in the 12 months ended March 31 last year. Almost 93% of the sparkling wines came from France, and the balance from seven other countries. Australia supplied about 26% of the non-sparkling wines, France 17%, Portugal 14%, the Union of South Africa 14%, the United Kingdom 8% and Italy 8%.

\* \* \* \*

Productive forests extend over some 764,000 square miles or 22% of the total land area of Canada. About two-thirds of this is accessible for economic exploitation.