

During the months of November and December 1959, while the increase in upbound movement continued, the downbound tonnage also showed an increase of 19 per cent over the same period of 1958. The total for the period (November and December) was 3,800,000 tons, as compared with 2,900,000 in 1958.

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CANADA ABROAD DURING 1959

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sentiment. The Commonwealth is an entirely new conception, embracing the belief that sovereignty, limited by a voluntary association with other sovereignties for the preservation of common values, is an acceptable and civilized political order. It is, moreover, a dynamic conception, with members constantly admitted as they emerge from colonial to independent status. In 1957 we welcomed into the Commonwealth the Federation of Malaya. This year will see Nigeria take her place in our family of nations, and in a few weeks Canada will be opening a diplomatic post in the capital, Lagos....

"The fact that these new nations are voluntarily joining the Commonwealth, graphically illustrates the kind of multi-racial community which is developing, bound together by common ideals and institutions, and exercising a profound influence for good throughout the world. I believe the Commonwealth offers a lesson for the world in that it points the way towards the only tolerable solution of the basic dilemma of our time--the problem of achieving order with freedom.

"There are lessons, too, for others in the way in which there is mutual assistance within the Commonwealth for improving the lot of the less-developed members. The greater part of Canadian assistance has been carried out under the Colombo Plan, to which we have last year raised our contribution to \$50 million....

"Canada has found a large number of projects where Canadians and Asians have worked harmoniously together, have learned from each other and together have made an effective contribution to the development of a particular country. Canadian experts sent out to Asia and the Asian student trainees who have come to Canada in a two-way stream of traffic have enriched and broadened our understanding of one another.

"We also derive considerable strength and influence in international affairs from our unique relationship with our large and friendly neighbour to the south, the United States. Both the Americans and ourselves tend to take for granted the deep understanding and friendship which permeates the daily relations of our two countries, but the fact is that there are few neighbouring states in the world between which ordinary day to day life is so intertwined....

"Now I am not going to pretend that we never have any differences of opinion with our southern neighbours; we do, and these differences invariably get free play in the press of both countries. It is inevitable that the impact of a large population such as that of the United States on her much less populated neighbour is profound, and we cannot afford to be complacent if we wish to preserve our separate identity as a nation. It is the Government's policy to speak up frankly when Canadian national interests are suffering as a consequence of United States policies...."

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SOIL EXPERTS TO WEST INDIES

Canada is lending the services of two soil-survey officers of the Department of Agriculture to the Government of The West Indies, under the Canada-West Indies Aid Programme.

Mr. Alexander J. Green of Vancouver and Mr. Paul Lajoie of Ste-Anne de Bellevue, who left Canada last week, will carry out soil and land-use surveys on islands in the Federation designated by The West Indies Government. They expect to remain in The West Indies for approximately one year.

Mr. Green and Mr. Lajoie will spend the first weeks of their tour of duty in Port-of-Spain, at the Regional Research Centre of the Imperial College of Tropical Agriculture. After eight months spent in conducting the soil and land use surveys, they expect to return to Trinidad to compile reports and to make recommendations.

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NEW SERGEANT AT ARMS

The Prime Minister, Mr. Diefenbaker, has announced the appointment of Lieutenant-Colonel David V. Currie, V.C., of Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan, and Montreal, to succeed Lieutenant-Colonel W.J. Franklin, M.C., as Sergeant-at Arms of the House of Commons.