

## Fishing quotas increased

Canadian groundfish quotas on Georges Bank will be increased substantially for 1980 as a result of the U.S. failure to ratify the Canada-U.S. Fisheries Agreement and overfishing of scallops by U.S. fishermen, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Roméo LeBlanc has announced.

The Minister said he and External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan had decided on the increase in quotas, "because the U.S. has not only failed to ratify the agreement which both countries have signed, but has also allowed U.S. fishermen to increase their catch of scallops well above the share to which they are entitled under the agreement".

The object of the Canada-U.S. Fisheries Agreement is to conserve the Georges Bank stocks, and to protect the interests of the fishermen in both countries by providing specific shares, said the Minister. The overfishing of scallops by U.S. fishermen runs directly counter to the agreed management regime for the Georges Bank stocks, said Mr. LeBlanc.

Until now, Canadian fishermen have accepted quotas consistent with the agreement. These quotas had been set for 1980 at 5,950 metric tons of cod (17 per cent of the anticipated total allowable catch), and 6,800 metric tons of haddock (21 per cent of anticipated total allowable catch), and no yellowtail flounder. However, the continued delay by the U.S. Senate to ratify the agreement compounded by the lack of restraint on the part of the U.S. fishermen make it unreasonable for Canadian fishermen to continue their acceptance of quotas consistent with the agreement. The new Canadian quotas for 1980 are 13,500 metric tons of cod, 10,500 metric tons of haddock and 2,500 metric tons of yellowtail flounder.

"The new Canadian quotas carry this message. Overfishing by U.S. fishermen of stocks to which Canadian fishermen have the major entitlement in terms of the agreement will result in increased fishing by Canadian fishermen of stocks to which the U.S. fishermen have major entitlements," said Mr. LeBlanc.

He said New England fisheries interests, U.S. senators and congressmen must realize that their interests will be best served by prompt ratification of the agreement which Canada and the U.S. have negotiated with a view to protecting the stocks and fishermen of both countries.

## Canada/Haiti trade boost

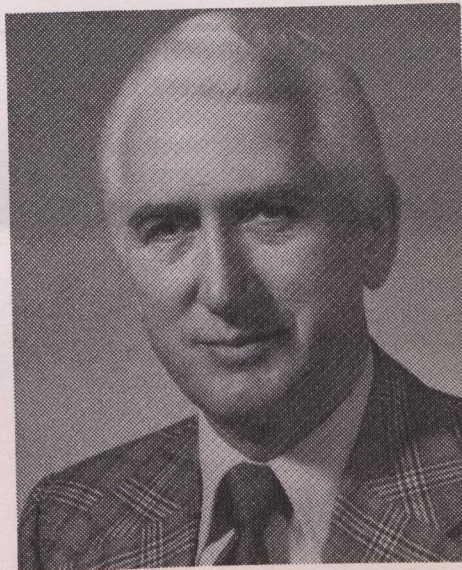
The Canadian and Haitian Governments have signed a bilateral foreign investment insurance agreement designed to foster increased trade and investment between the two countries.

The agreement, signed in Port-au-Prince on June 11, by Canada's Ambassador to Haiti Pierre Garceau and Haiti's Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Worship Georges Salomon, is tied directly to the Export Development Corporation's (EDC) Foreign Investment Insurance Program. The program insures Canadian investors against loss of their overseas investments by reason of political actions in the host country.

Canada has signed 28 similar agreements with countries in Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, Europe and the Pacific. Negotiations are continuing with 24 other nations.

The parties also signed a reciprocal amateur radio operating agreement that permits licensed amateur radio operators of Canada and Haiti to operate their stations in the other country under certain conditions.

## Canadian heads committee



*Dr. E.J. LeRoux, Assistant Deputy Minister (Research) with Agriculture Canada, has been re-appointed as chairman of the Agriculture Committee of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development. Dr. LeRoux was the first non-European to chair the organization's committee for agriculture.*

## Planning for year of disabled

Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin has announced the formation of the Canadian Organizing Committee for the 1981 United Nations International Year of Disabled Persons (IYDP).

The committee will bring together 25 individuals from a wide range of interests such as organizations of disabled persons, service agencies, organized labour and the business sector. As well, one representative from each provincial and territorial government will be included on the committee.

The Federal Government is providing \$800,000 to support the operations of the organizing committee and enable it to develop a community liaison program. The purpose of this program will be to contact by mail and in person as many organizations, associations and corporations across Canada as possible to encourage them to become involved in some activity or project to mark IYDP. The community liaison program also will provide advice and assistance in the selection, development and implementation of projects.

Canada's commitment to IYDP is solid, having seconded the resolution which set in motion preparations for the Year. The theme of IYDP is "Full Participation and Equality". Its purpose is to promote the realization of full participation of disabled persons in the social life and development of the society in which they live. A further objective is to encourage and support activities and programs which may help to eliminate or reduce the causes of disability.

## Condolence message to Japan

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau sent a message of condolence to the Government of Japan following the death of Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira.

Prime Minister Trudeau said Mr. Ohira's "many successes over the course of his distinguished public career and in particular his deep concern for the well-being of his fellow countrymen, would serve as a model for others in Japan and abroad. His efforts over the years in striving for a better world community will likewise be remembered by Japan's friends. No national leader could leave a more fitting international testament".