

OVERSEAS AWARDS SURVEY: The Department of External Affairs announced on September 11 that Mr. Jean Désy, who until recently served on loan from the Department as Director-General of the International Service of the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, is proceeding to Europe on a special mission to survey the operation of the Canadian Government Overseas Awards. Mr. Désy's mission will take him to Italy, France and The Netherlands, in which countries blocked funds owing to Canada have been earmarked for education purposes.

The Overseas Awards Programme was approved by Cabinet in June, 1951. It includes both scholarships for advanced study and fellowships for advanced work and study granted each year to candidates selected by the Royal Society of Canada. The Programme is administered overseas by the Canadian missions in the countries concerned.

In France and The Netherlands, where the programme already is in operation, Mr. Désy will study existing arrangements and liaison with local education and cultural bodies. In Italy, where the programme is still pending, he will take part in the negotiation of a cultural agreement, as provided under the Civilian Relief Agreement between Italy and Canada which was ratified by the Italian Parliament last April.

In this survey, Mr. Désy will be able to draw on his experience as former Canadian Ambassador to The Hague and Rome.

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While the number of retail stores of all kinds in Canada increased by 10.4% to 151,611 from 137,331 in the decade between 1941 and 1951, sales climbed by almost 210% to \$10,-653,945,000 from \$3,440,900,000.

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