

Canadian Aid to Caribbean Countries

THE SECRETARY of State for External Affairs, the Honourable Paul Martin, and His Excellency V. H. MacFarlane, High Commissioner for Jamaica in Canada, recently signed agreements by which Canada would make available up to \$1,625,000 in special loan funds to Jamaica under Canada's external aid programme. The loans will be used to finance the construction of the Olivier Bridge over the Johnston River and to provide services in a new housing development near Kingston. These agreements are the first of their kind between Canada and Jamaica under the special loan programme, which offers funds free of interest with a maturity of 50 years and a ten-year period of grace.

Earlier this year, similar agreements were signed by Mr. Martin and His Excellency Donald Granado, High Commissioner for Trinidad and Tobago in Canada, providing loans of up to \$2,315,000 to finance an extensive resources survey.

Canada's aid to countries of the Caribbean is now running at more than \$9 million a year.



Mr. Martin (right) and Mr. MacFarlane are shown in this photograph in conversation after signing the Canada-Jamaica special loan agreements.