Extra time for U.S./Canada maritime negotiations

The Governments of Canada and the United States have agreed to extend to the end of January 1978 the period for completion of the maritime boundary and resource negotiations being conducted by Ambassador Marcel Cadieux for Canada and Ambassador Lloyd N. Cutler for the United States.

The two special negotiators had been directed to develop the terms of a comprehensive settlement for submission to governments by December 1, 1977. Although substantial progress has been made since October when the two governments approved the joint report on the principles of a settlement, the negotiators considered that additional time would be required and therefore recommended an extension.

The extra time will permit careful review of the complex elements involved in the negotiations — management and sharing of fish stocks off both coasts, hydrocarbon-sharing arrangements in maritime boundary areas, and delimitation of maritime boundaries. The additional time is also required to ensure consultation with and participation by the industry, state, provincial, congressional and other interests of the two countries.

Since a long-term agreement will not be in effect by January 1, when the current Interim Reciprocal Fisheries Agreement for 1977 between Canada and the U.S. expires, the two governments have also agreed to consider further interim arrangements. These would allow fishermen of the two countries to continue fishing in each other's waters pending the coming into force of a comprehensive fisheries agreement.

War hero dies

Tommy Prince, Canada's most decorated Indian war veteran, died November 26. He was 62.

A member of the Canada-U.S. "Devil's Brigade" unit during the Second World War, Mr. Prince won a total of ten medals, including the Military Medal and the U.S. Silver Cross, for his efforts in Europe, and later in Korea. He was twice decorated for valour by King George VI.

In 1944, while a sergeant in Italy, Mr.

Prince crept 1,500 yards behind enemy lines to install a telephone line which he used later to relay a message that led to the bombing of German tanks and artillery. Shortly before issuing the message, he was forced to appear in broad daylight, disguised as a hoe-carrying Italian peasant, to make repairs to the line.

The veteran, grandson of Saulteaux Indian Chief Peguis, lost most of his possessions, including his medals, in a house fire several years ago. Permanently crippled by war injuries, he was last employed as a part-time labourer in Winnipeg before his admission to hospital on November 6.

Pacific fisheries renegotiation

Delegations from Canada, Japan and the United States met from October 24 to 26 in Anchorage, Alaska, to consider the future of the 1952 International Convention for the High Seas Fisheries of the North Pacific Ocean. The three countries are members of the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission, which was established under the convention to conserve and manage fishery resources of the North Pacific Ocean. This initial renegotiation session was held to outline revisions compatible with recent extensions of national fisheries jurisdiction.

All three delegations termed this initial meeting useful. A further meeting is expected to be held not later than mid-January 1978.

Native development grant

A grant of \$10,000 has been awarded to the Native Development Village Committee of Vancouver by Secretary of State John Roberts.

Activities planned for the cultural, educational and commercial centre include Indian dance, art and drama workshops, and instruction in native languages and religions. Space has been allocated for the performing arts, exhibitions and cultural exchanges. A commercial outlet for arts and crafts will allow native people to acquire on-the-job management skills.

The location of the village may be at the entrance to Vancouver's Stanley Park, or on another waterfront site such as Granville Island.

Low lights soothe ruffled feathers

Dim lighting in bars and restaurants is said to create a relaxed atmosphere for the customers.

But for chickens too?

Fred Proudfoot, head of the poultry section at Agriculture Canada's research station at Kentville, Nova Scotia, has found that dim lighting is conducive to fast growth and lower energy demands by broiler chickens.

In tests at the research station, light intensity was reduced from the normal daylight level to one-tenth of a foot candle over three weeks. In layman's terms, one tenth of a foot candle stops humans short as they enter a broiler house. Eyes become accustomed to the darkness in about 15 minutes. Then, birds and feeders are discernible, although not clear.

"We've found that this low-light regimen has several beneficial effects on the birds," Mr. Proudfoot says. "They are subdued and there is much less conflict. They perform better because they aren't running around competing with each other."

Mr. Proudfoot has even discontinued the common debeaking program used to halt attacks.

"We have no problem with fighting," he says. "They are subdued enough that they don't seem to bother with it."

An additional factor is demand for a lower-protein finishing diet. Broilers are normally fed a diet containing about 24 percent protein for the first 28 days, and then a 19-to-20 percent protein diet for another 28 to 49 days until they are ready for market.

Protein, energy savings

"We have found that with the low lighting, the finishing diet's protein content can be cut to 15 or 16 per cent and the birds still perform well," Mr. Proudfoot says.

The cost of the lower-protein food is about \$36 a tonne less than the normal ration. With some broiler operations housing thousands of birds, each eating about five pounds of finishing ration before market, a considerable saving is realized. Another aspect of the system is energy savings. The low-light system demands less energy than traditional systems that simulate daylight for up to 24 hours a day.