

# PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS  
OTTAWA - CANADA

No.3

FOR RELEASE IN PAPERS OF  
SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 1953

As a further step in the help it is extending to the Asian countries participating in the Colombo Plan for their economic and social development, Canada is sending a small team of specialists in co-operative and agricultural training to India, Pakistan and Ceylon. The team will make enquiries about the technical assistance which Canada can most usefully give in those fields and will report its findings to the Government. The team is composed of:

Mr. H.L. Trueman and Mr. J.E. O'Meara  
of the Department of Agriculture;

Rev. M.J. McKinnon, Director of Extension,  
St. Francis Xavier University,  
Antigonish, N.S.

Mr. R.H. Tremblay, Chief Inspector of the  
Federation des Caisse Populaire, Desjardins,  
Que.

The team will visit co-operative training institutions, rural development projects and agricultural colleges in the Asian countries. Mr. Trueman will explore how Canada can help in training agricultural technicians, Mr. O'Meara will enquire how Canada can help in the development of co-operative marketing, Fater McKinnon will make a study of co-operative education and Mr. Tremblay will see to what extent Canadian experience in rural savings and credit is applicable to conditions in those countries.

This team is being sent out because of the emphasis placed on co-operatives and agricultural training in the first Indian Five Year Plan, in the report on the economic development of Ceylon prepared by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development, and in the proposals for rural development made by the Government of Pakistan.

During the course of its mission the Canadian team will work closely with the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization and the International Labour Office, which are already giving technical assistance in these fields to South and South-East Asia. The team will leave Ottawa on January 17. They will confer with officials of the International Labour Office in Geneva and of the Food and Agriculture Organization in Rome. They will then go on to India, Pakistan and Ceylon where they will spend approximately three months.

(A background paper on the mission  
is available)