

Government's object of increasing Canadian participation in all aspects of the industry would be implemented wherever possible and practicable.

#### Royalties and investments

Under the new legislation, the basic royalty rate should be in the order of 10 per cent. "In addition, there will be a profit-sharing scheme based on individual field profitability," said the Minister.

To provide a more stable climate for investment, the proposed Petroleum and Natural Gas Act would restrict changes, particularly those affecting royalties and rentals, that could be made without the authority of Parliament.

The Minister also explained that the new Act may give some initial preferences to Petro Canada with respect to current reserve acreage. However, he added that it was his view that Petro Canada should pay the Crown the same charges, royalties, and rentals and incur the same obligation as any other company. Further, he considered that Petro Canada would not have preferred access to information submitted by other companies.

#### Anglo-Canadian Cultural and Information Consultations

The third meeting of the Anglo-Canadian Cultural and Information Consultations, which took place in Ottawa May 5 and 6, was attended by a British delegation led by Ronald Scrivener, Assistant Under-Secretary for Information and Cultural Relations of the Foreign Office, and a Canadian delegation led by Patrick Reid, Director-General of the Bureau of Public Affairs, Department of External Affairs.

Delegates informally reviewed progress since the last meeting in the cultural relations between the two countries in such areas as scholarships, exchanges of professors, teachers, students and specialists in various disciplines, and in programs of cultural diffusion such as tours of performing groups, exhibitions and books. They particularly welcomed the creation of a chair of Canadian studies at the University of Edinburgh. Future plans were discussed and it was agreed to explore further a number of new proposed projects.

There was a useful exchange of views on the policies and implementation of international information work and areas of mutual co-operation were examined.

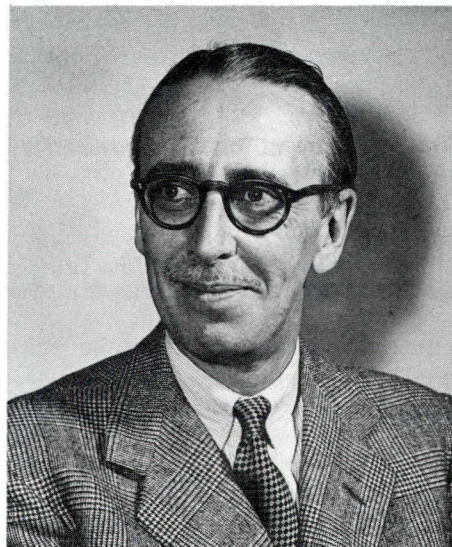
Concurrently with these meetings, which are held annually, representatives of Britain and Canada and of the respective film industries met and agreed on the draft of an agreement on films-co-production, which will be recommended for approval to both Governments. It will encourage the production of more films reflecting the national cultures of both countries.

Following the tradition of alternating the location of these consultations between the two countries, the fourth meeting will be held in London next spring.

#### Literary award for former diplomat

Charles Ritchie, former Canadian diplomat and Special Adviser to the Privy Council before his recent retirement, was among six authors who recently won the Governor General's Literary Awards for 1974. *The Siren Years*, which is a book of his personal recollections of the period from 1937 to 1945, when he served as a junior officer, mostly in London during the Second World War, has been described as the "undiplomatic diaries" of a diplomat and as "immensely readable".

Mr. Ritchie, states the dust-jacket of his book, "has written not so much of political events and diplomacy in themselves but of his personal response to these events and to people".



Charles S. Ritchie

During his service with the Department of External Affairs, Charles Ritchie was Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs and Ambassador to the Federal Republic of Germany, the United Nations, the United States, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and as High Commissioner in Britain.

#### Other award-winners

Other books which won Governor General's prizes were: *Fire on Stone* a collection of poetry by Ralph Gustafson; *The Diviners*, a novel by Margaret Laurence; *Don Quichotte de la démanche*, a novel by Victor-Lévy Beaulieu; *Mécanique jongleuse suivi de Masculin grammaticale*, a collection of poetry by Nicole Brossard; and *Habitants et marchands de Montréal au XVIIe siècle*, a historical study by Louise Dechêne.

The awards will be presented by Governor-General Jules Léger on May 22 in Ottawa. Each winner also receives a cash prize of \$2,500 from the Canada Council.

The winning books were chosen by a committee of 18 members who examined over 450 works by Canadians published in 1974. Professor Fred Cogswell, of the University of New Brunswick, and Professor Antoine Sirois, of the University of Sherbrooke, co-chaired the committee.

#### Canada helps establish Indonesian pioneer air service

As part of a program first announced in 1973 for the improvement of Indonesia's civil aviation, Canada is providing to that country 11 *Twin Otter* aircraft and ground-support equipment and technical assistance.

The project, financed by a \$12.5-million Canadian loan, will help the Government-owned Merpati Nusantara Airlines supply outlying islands with a "pioneer air service" similar to the bush service that contributed to the development of Canada's North in the 1920s and 1930s.

By providing regular freight, mail, and passenger links with outlying islands the service could help to draw their people more directly into the mainstream of Indonesia's social and economic life.