

Canada/Brazil co-operation in agricultural technology

The Canadian Ambassador to Brazil, James Howard Stone, and the Minister of Foreign Affairs for Brazil, Antônio Francisco Azeredo da Silveira, signed an exchange of notes on January 9 implementing a memorandum of understanding signed in Ottawa last October by Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan and his Brazilian counterpart, Alysso Paulinelli.

The memorandum promotes exchanges of technology (including agricultural research), and exchanges of scientists, specialists, trainees and technical personnel in such fields as plant genetics, animal husbandry, veterinary science and agriculture productivity. It also establishes a Joint Working Group on Agriculture under the aegis of the Canada/Brazil Joint Economic Committee and will complement the objectives of that committee by encouraging bilateral commercial and economic relations between Brazil and Canada.

Brazil, with 1977 agricultural exports of about \$6 billion, and Canada, with foreign sales of agricultural products exceeding \$4 billion, are two of the largest producers and exporters of food products.

In the first nine months of 1977, Canada sold Brazil \$65-million worth of wheat, purebred cattle, chicks, gelatin and animal semen. In the same period, Brazil's sales to Canada of food and related products, which included processed meats, fish, nuts, coffee, cocoa, cotton and canned vegetables, were in the order of \$65 million.

Alberta oil finds

Two significant oil discoveries, the first in Alberta since the late 1960s, were announced recently in the West Pembina area.

Chevron Standard Ltd., a subsidiary of Standard Oil of California, has six discovery wells in the West Pembina field, about 160 kilometres southwest of Edmonton. Pacific Petroleum Ltd. has found light-gravity oil in its Pacific Amoco well.

The last major oil discovery in Alberta was made in 1967 at Zama Lake in northwestern Alberta. In 1965, the Rainbow Lake field, just south of Zama Lake, was found.



Brazil's Minister of Foreign Affairs Antônio Francisco Azeredo da Silveira, flanked by the Minister of Agriculture, Alysso Paulinelli (left), and the Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, H. Guerreiro, completes the signing of an exchange of notes with Canada's Ambassador Stone, while Commercial Counsellor C.W. Ross observes.

Satellite removed from tundra

A special lead container has been prepared for the storage of a radioactive fragment from a Soviet satellite discovered at the east end of Great Slave Lake, about 15 miles northwest of Fort Reliance in the Northwest Territories.

Scientists who have studied the fragment say it is tail-shaped, about ten inches long, one-eighth inch thick and three inches across at the widest point.

Six persons — five Americans and one Canadian, conducting wildlife studies at a Canadian meteorological base — were examined for radioactive contamination immediately after authorities learned of their accidental discovery of a "black, man-made object". Doctors concluded that the two men who ventured closest to the material received a radiation dose not exceeding that of two normal X-rays.

Four other objects from the nuclear-powered *Cosmos 954*, which entered the earth's atmosphere on January 24, were displayed recently at Canadian Forces Base Namao, near Edmonton. They are not radioactive.

The Soviet Union has offered to send technical help to Canada to aid in the

search for debris from the spacecraft. Defence Minister Barney Danson said that his department and the Atomic Energy Control Board, a federal regulatory agency, would share responsibility for the removal and clean-up of debris in the North.

The dangerous reactor core, if it survived re-entry, has not been discovered.

Diplomatic relations with Angola

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Don Jamieson, recently announced establishment of diplomatic relations between Canada and the People's Republic of Angola.

Canada's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, William H. Barton, and the Permanent Representative of the People's Republic of Angola, Elisio de Figueiredo, signed on February 1 a joint *communiqué* formally opening the way for the exchange of ambassadors between the two countries. The Canadian ambassador to be accredited to the People's Republic of Angola will be resident in Lagos, Nigeria, where he is Canada's High Commissioner.