

## COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY

Representatives of Canada and the United States concluded on January 13 a series of negotiating sessions, begun last August, to complete arrangements for the co-operative development of the water resources of the Columbia River basin.

At the latest meeting, on January 13, agreement was reached among the negotiators on all remaining points of substance relating to clarification and adjustments in the Columbia River Treaty and to the implementation of Article VIII, regarding the marketing of Canada's entitlement of power generated in the United States. The documents embodying these agreements are being submitted by the negotiators to their respective governments for their immediate consideration. When approved, these documents will be put in appropriate form for signature and released to the public.

### CANADIAN DELEGATION

The Canadian delegation was headed by the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, and included Mr. Ray Williston, British Columbia Minister of Lands, Forests and Water Resources, Mr. Robert Bonner, British Columbia Attorney General, Dr. Jack Davis, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister, Dr. Hugh Keenleyside, Chairman, British Columbia Hydro and Power Authority, and other officers of the departments and agencies concerned.

The representatives of the Canadian Government and of British Columbia announced on January 31 the conclusion of a supplementary agreement covering the relations between their governments under the arrangements being made between Canada and the United States. This agreement will be made public at the time of the signing of the U.S.-Canada arrangements to which it relates.

## CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

Canada's consumer price index (1949=100) rose to 134.2 in December, up 0.1 per cent from the November index of 134.0 and 1.7 per cent above the December 1962 index of 131.9. In November and December, increases occurred for five of the seven main components. The transportation component was lower, while tobacco and alcohol showed no change.

The food index for December rose to 131.4, up 0.5 per cent from the previous month's index of 130.8. Prices were higher for most dairy products, fats, bakery and cereal products, fresh and canned vegetables, poultry and a number of specific items, including jams, coffee, soft drinks and apples. Prices were considerably lower for eggs, oranges, bananas and sugar, and more moderate declines occurred for most meats.

The housing index edged slightly higher to 137.0, up 0.1 per cent from 136.9, as a result of increases in the shelter component. Within shelter, the rent index was unchanged but the home-ownership index was higher. The household-operation component of housing was unchanged as scattered price increases for some items of furniture, floor coverings, textiles,

utensils and equipment, and household supplies were not sufficient to move the index.

The clothing index increased 0.2 per cent to 118.9 from 118.7. Indexes for men's wear, footwear and piece goods increased, while indexes for women's wear, children's wear and clothing services moved down from the previous month.

The transportation index fell 0.4 per cent to 140.6 from 141.2, reflecting a decrease in the index of automobile operation. Initial prices for the 1964 models of new passenger cars were below the year-end prices of 1963 models. Prices for gasoline and chassis lubrication were slightly lower, while motor oil was somewhat higher.

The health-and-personal-care index moved to 165.4 from 164.8, an increase of 0.4 per cent, as a result of higher prices for men's haircuts. The recreation-and-reading index rose 0.3 per cent to 151.4 from 151.0. In the recreation component, prices were higher for toys. A newspaper price increase in Montreal moved the reading component. The tobacco-and-alcohol index was unchanged at 118.5.

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## COMMERCIAL WOOD EVALUATION

Forestry Minister John R. Nicholson recently announced that a meeting of Canadian and United States forest-products specialists to deal with research on log and tree quality evaluation, will be held in Ottawa on January 21 and 22. Dr. L.Z. Rousseau, Deputy Minister, will open the discussions at the Forest Products Laboratory of the Department of Forestry. Chairman at the sessions will be Dr. J.H. Jenkins, Director of Forest Products Research for the Department.

The purpose of the meeting is to study common problems of log and tree quality evaluation for commercial hardwood and softwood species, and to further co-operation between the United States and Canada in the development of adequate evaluation techniques.

### SPECIES FOR DISCUSSION

The principal species under discussion will include spruce, Douglas-fir, white and red pine, jack pine, yellow birch and maple. Because of the wide variation in the quality of the products from the forest, great emphasis is now placed on evaluation in relation to various product uses, to ensure selection of the logs best suited for veneer, lumber and a variety of other uses.

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## GUATEMALAN ENVOY RECEIVED

On January 14, His Excellency Dr. Carlos Garcia-Bauer presented to the Governor-General his letter of credence as Ambassador of Guatemala in a ceremony at Government House. The Chief of Protocol for the Department of External Affairs, Mr. Henry F. Davis, presented the Ambassador to Governor-General Vanier. Mr. Max Wershof, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Esmond Butler, Secretary to the Governor-General, were in attendance on General Vanier on this occasion.