

Renewed trade note highlights visit of Chinese Minister

The 1973 Canada/China Trade Agreement was extended for another three years recently, when Canada's Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce Robert de Cotret and China's Foreign Trade Minister Li Qiang signed an exchange of notes in Ottawa.

The signing was the highlight of a nine-day tour of Canada by the Chinese Trade Minister made October 14-22, during which he visited industrial sites in four provinces. The Minister also visited the Vancouver grain terminal, attended a luncheon hosted by Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed, and was a guest at a dinner in Quebec City given by the Quebec government.

While in Ottawa, Mr. Li met Prime Minister Joe Clark, held discussions with Senator Robert de Cotret and was a guest at a luncheon hosted by Canada's Secretary of State for External Affairs, Flora MacDonald.

The Chinese Trade Minister also signed a "Protocol on Economic Co-operation" outlining areas where trade and economic co-operation might take place such as telecommunications, forestry, mining and metallurgy, agriculture, light industry and transportation. The Protocol also provides for joint ventures, compensation trade, trade offices and financing as methods of trade expansion between Canada and China.

Trade between the two countries in



Secretary of State for External Affairs Flora MacDonald meets with Foreign Trade Minister Li Qiang (left) at a luncheon in his honour. Ho Yu-Lin (centre), an interpreter from the Secretary of State looks on.

1978 totalled \$598 million, comprising \$503 million in exports to China and \$95 million in Canadian imports from China. Canadian exports to China consisted primarily of grain sales and other semi-processed raw materials.

The Canadian Government, while recognizing the importance of these sales,

hopes that Canadian sales to China can be diversified to include high-technology manufactured items and technical services. The Government also indicated that it would assist Chinese marketing efforts in Canada by designating China as a beneficiary of the Canadian General Preferential Tariff.

Canadian exhibit at world conference in Munich

Canadian tourist attractions were featured in an exhibit at the forty-ninth World Travel Congress of the American Society of Travel Agents (ASTA) in Munich, West Germany, October 21-26.

Theme of the exhibit, co-ordinated by the Canadian Government Office of Tourism (CGOT), was "Canada - We reach out a friendly hand".

Tourism industry representatives from every major country on five continents were vying for the attention of the 7,500 ASTA members expected to be on hand for the world's largest gathering of travel agents. Last year U.S. travel agency sales totalled \$19.4 billion.

American travel agents are especially important to Canada's tourism industry.

Of the 33 million visitors to Canada from other countries in 1978, 31.5 million came from the U.S. and spent \$1.6 billion. Canada's exhibit was designed to persuade ASTA members that Canada has the attractions, facilities and services their clients want.

Sergeant Carl Stoski of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police; Nick Schweizer, Chef Garde Manger at Toronto's Royal York Hotel, and member of Canada's Culinary Olympic Team in 1972, 1976 and 1980 (to date the team has won 40 gold medals); Arnold Anderson, a doorman at the Four Seasons Hotel in Ottawa and Edward C. Mitchell, Superintendent, Customs Operations for Canada in Europe, met delegates at the Congress.

Defence board chairman named

Progressive Conservative member of Parliament George Hees, a former Cabinet minister, has been named chairman of the Canadian section of the Canada-United States Permanent Joint Board on Defence.

The board was established in 1940 to make recommendations to the U.S. and Canadian Governments on joint military issues and to oversee current defence programs. It now is a largely advisory group.

The 69-year-old member of Parliament served in former Prime Minister John Diefenbaker's Cabinet as Minister of the Transport and Trade Departments before resigning in 1963. He succeeds John Aird as chairman.