

# Canada Weekly

Volume 1, No. 34

August 29, 1973



Ottawa, Canada.

**Federal Government moves to halt the increasing cost of food, 1**

**Arctic oil and gas — federal rail-transportation study, 2**

**Canada's gift to the Queen, 2**

**Young Canadians play ping pong in Peking, 2**

**Visitors' opportunity to become legal landed immigrants, 3**

**Computer privacy, 3**

**Scholars to visit Canada under cultural-exchange program, 4**

**Stricter standards for automobile exhaust emissions, 4**

**Somebody's kidding, 5**

**Uranium-enrichment facilities classed as secondary industry, 5**

**Contribution to the United Nations Relief and Works Agency, 6**

**Canadian film agreement, 6**

**Stamp honours suffragette, 6**

## Federal Government moves to halt the increasing cost of food

*The Prime Minister announced on August 13 measures approved by Cabinet to contain recent increases in the price of food.*

*Effective immediately, the Government has imposed controls on the export of cattle and hogs; it is planning to hold a federal-provincial meeting in the autumn on the subject of food prices; and will strengthen the Food Prices Review Board to provide for investigation of price increases.*

*After an eight-hour Cabinet meeting, Mr. Trudeau read the following statement at a news conference in Ottawa:*

The Government is deeply concerned about rising food prices and Cabinet at its meeting today has approved measures to deal with these price increases and to mitigate their effect on the family budget.

There is no shortage of food in Canada, nor will any be allowed to develop. There are, however, food shortages in world terms and, in certain sectors there appear to be temporary shortages in the United States. As a major trading nation and one of the

world's greatest exporters of food Canada cannot be isolated from all the effects of rising world food prices.

Action to be taken with regard to rising food prices will not be at the expense of any increase in unemployment. Inflation is a world-wide problem that Canada cannot solve alone. Price and income controls were reconsidered and rejected as inappropriate in present circumstances.

The Canadian economy is buoyant, expanding rapidly and a 7 percent increase in real gross national product is expected this year. Job creation continues at a rate in excess of that in any other industrialized nation.

A few days after Mr. Trudeau announced controls on the export of cattle and hogs, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Allistair Gillespie, stated that he thought there may be some relief from high meat prices in the next few weeks. Mr. Gillespie, who had met in Ottawa on August 16 with the Meat Packers Council and representatives of the feed supply industry, said that the price of steers was already going down but that "it would take a little time until the consumer feels the effects". "They pointed out," he said, that "trades in the last couple of days were lower than the recent 'peaks', but that it will take some days to work through the system onto the retail shelf." The Minister believed that the export controls were working, "both from the point of view of moderating what had become a very erratic situation as well as ensuring — and this was the real guts of the Government's control measures — of ensuring supply for Canadians".

### Proposed measures

The action plan undertaken today by the Government is in three parts: measures to conserve and increase the supply of food while protecting farm incomes; measures to protect the consumer against those who may attempt to take advantage of the present situation by unwarranted price increases; measures to mitigate the effect of rising prices with emphasis on those in our society who are likely to suffer most, particularly those on fixed incomes.

### To conserve and increase supply

In order to prevent a shortage caused by any unusual drain on Canadian supplies, the Government has today passed an Order-in-Council providing for export licensing for cattle, hogs and the products thereof. This licensing procedure will be temporary in nature to