

Canada increases support to Commonwealth funds

Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau announced on May 6 that Canada would increase its pledge to the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation (CFTC) by \$1 million to \$4 million for 1975-1976.

Mr. Trudeau made the announcement at the Executive Committee session of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Conference in Jamaica, stressing that the CFTC was proving to be one of the most useful forms of Commonwealth co-operation. He stated that it symbolized in practical terms the very nature and spirit of the Commonwealth.

Canada's contributions have more than doubled each year from \$350,000 in 1971-72. The \$1-million addition to the ceiling is based on a formula whereby Canada contributes \$2 for every dollar contributed by developing countries of the Commonwealth.

At present, Canada is contributing about 15 per cent of the current budget of £350,000.



Trinidad Guardian

On his way to the Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting in Jamaica (April 29 to May 6), where he announced increased support for the Commonwealth Fund for Technical Co-operation and for the Commonwealth Foundation, Canada's Prime Minister, Pierre Elliott Trudeau, visited the Commonwealth Caribbean countries of Trinidad and Tobago, Barbados and Guyana. Mr. Trudeau is greeted by Sir Ellis Clarke (right), Governor General of Trinidad and Tobago, on whom he paid a courtesy call shortly after his arrival in Trinidad.

Interest in Latin America

Greater participation by Canadian companies in Latin-American development projects was sought by Industry, Trade and Commerce Minister Alastair Gillespie at the sixteenth annual meeting of the Inter-American Development Bank in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, May 19 to 21, according to a news release issued before the Canadian delegation's departure from Ottawa.

Mr. Gillespie was to be accompanied by some 25 Canadian businessmen, mainly from the banking and engineering sectors at the meeting, which was expected to attract more than 1,000 representatives from the 24 member countries, including Canada. Twenty non-member countries and a number of international organizations would also be represented. Activities of the past year and the Bank's policies and priorities for the current year were on the agenda.

Canada joined the Bank in 1972 and has since contributed \$293 million in Ordinary Capital Resources (\$40 million paid in) and \$72 million in concessional funds to the regional development bank for further development in Latin American and Caribbean countries.

Mr. Gillespie said that the attendance of Canadian businessmen as special guests should lead to greater interest by Canadian companies in Bank projects. He said that Canada had made a significant contribution to the Bank but so far Canadians had not participated in projects on a comparable basis.

Federal grants for French-Canadian activities

Secretary of State J. Hugh Faulkner, who met with representatives of l'Association canadienne d'éducation de langue française (ACELF), in Quebec City, on May 20, announced federal grants totalling \$80,000 for three projects presented to his Department by this national organization.

The first is for the organization of a "French-Canadian Biennale" with participation by French-speaking delegates from outside the province of Quebec. The meeting, to be held in

Chicoutimi, Quebec, from August 10 to 17, 1975, will draw hundreds of participants from across the country to discuss the state of "la francophonie" in Canada. An amount of \$50,000 has been authorized for this project.

Another grant of \$10,000 will cover part of the costs incurred by the activities of a co-ordination committee grouping representatives of ten francophone provincial organizations and ACELF. This grant is renewed for the third consecutive year.

The Secretary of State also indicated to ACELF directors that their organization would receive \$20,000 to operate its Information and Documentation Centre. Since 1969, the Department of the Secretary of State has contributed a total of \$120,000 for the continued activities of this centre.

Sarnia-Montreal pipeline

The National Energy Board recently announced that it had authorized Interprovincial Pipe Line Limited (IPL) to start construction of a 520-mile oil pipeline between Sarnia, Ontario and Montreal, Quebec.

Construction of this major pipeline extension is to be completed for the 1976-77 winter season at a cost of some \$185 million. Initial capacity of the line will be in excess of 300,000 barrels a day and could exceed 600,000 with the addition of horsepower.

IPL's immediate plans are to transport enough oil from western Canada to meet Ontario requirements, plus 250,000 barrels a day to Montreal. The pipeline will be connected to the system which now extends from Edmonton, Alberta, through Manitoba and south of the Great Lakes to Ontario.

While the extension is being built to provide consumers in eastern Ontario and western Quebec with access to more secure domestic supplies of oil, the line will be designed so as to allow oil to flow in the reverse direction should the need arise.

Public hearings on the pipeline proposal were held by the National Energy Board over a period of a year, in three separate sessions from May 1974 to April 1975. The majority of representations at the hearings were concerned with the environment, routing and land use, all aspects of which are covered