

IMCO CANADIAN DELEGATION: The Acting Secretary of State for External Affairs and the Minister of Transport on November 26 announced the composition of the Canadian delegation to the meetings of the Preparatory Committee of the Inter-Governmental Maritime Consultative Organization (IMCO) of the United Nations, which opens at Lake Success on November 30.

Head of Delegation

Mr. J.V. Clyne, Chairman of the Canadian Commission, Ottawa.

Delegate and Alternate Head of Delegation
Mr. L.C. Audette, Commissioner, Canadian Maritime Commission, Ottawa.

Delegate

Mr. Norman Wilson, Chief, Aids to Navigation Division, Department of Transport, Ottawa.

Secretary of the Delegation

Mr. S.P. Wheelock, Canadian Embassy, Washington.

At a meeting of IMCO held in Geneva, Switzerland, last February, Canada was elected to the Chairmanship of the November meeting of the Preparatory Committee. Mr. Clyne, therefore, will preside as Chairman over the meetings. Both Mr. Audette and Mr. Wilson were among the Canadian delegates named to the Geneva meeting of IMCO.

One of the main responsibilities of the Preparatory Committee will be to set up a body within the United Nations to deal with international shipping matters concerning the signatory nations in a manner similar to that in which international aviation is served by the International Civil Aviation Organization.

A draft convention was passed at the Geneva meeting which outlined the organization's scope, purposes and functions. Canada is one of the signatories of this convention.

RCAF DRIVING CHAMPIONSHIP: Top motor vehicle drivers from RCAF stations across Canada will compete for the Air Force championship at RCAF Station, Camp Borden, Ont., Tuesday, November 30, Air Force Headquarters has announced. The three leading drivers will represent the RCAF against the Army champions in the Armed Services Division of the second annual Canadian Truck "Rodeo" December 6 in Toronto.

Each command area of the Air Force held competitions among drivers from all stations and selected two to represent it in the Air Force finals. None of the drivers is above the rank of corporal.

The winding and twisting course over which the drivers will compete in their two-ton trucks is covered with obstacles such as barrels, balls and gates. To run up a good

score requires the skill of an expert and cool nerves.

Object of the contest is to determine the driver's knowledge of safety and his courtesy, efficiency and skill in handling his vehicle. The competition is part of the general service policy stressing courteous and safe driving as well as technical skill in handling transport vehicles.

AIR SCHOOL TRAINING: Something new has been added to training at the Joint Air School, Rivers, Man., where on the command "JAB!" trainees jump to the sloppiest "attention" imaginable.

Candidates for parachutists' "wings" no longer stand erect in the normal position of attention, but adopt the "landing attitude" when on parade.

The idea is to impress on the students the necessity for relaxing, with feet together and knees bent in the manner a parachutist adopts just before hitting the ground after a jump.

"JAB!" doesn't mean anything in particular. Instructors shout the command simply because it doesn't seem right to yell "SHUN!" and have everyone go limp instead of rigid.

WOOD PULP CONFERENCE: The Minister of Mines and Resources, Mr. MacKinnon, announced November 29 that problems related to the future productive capacity and demand for wood pulp have resulted in the Canadian Government sponsoring a conference to study this important problem under the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. The Government has extended an invitation to Mr. N.E. Dodd, Director General of FAO, to arrange for the Conference to be held in Canada. It is anticipated that the Conference will convene in Montreal next March. The Canadian Pulp and Paper Association will assume an active part in the work of the Conference.

It is anticipated that delegates from nineteen countries will be present at the Conference, together with observers from several other countries, and officials of the United Nations and other specialized agencies.

The main purpose of the meeting says an explanatory note from the Department, will be to give experts in the field of pulp production and distribution an opportunity to review the world position of this important commodity and to decide whether any steps are needed to achieve, both for the immediate and the more distant future, the necessary equilibrium between requirements and supplies.

It is known that new pulpmills are under construction, or are being planned, in a number of countries. While this constitutes an obviously desirable development, it is equally important that the capacity of pulp industries should always be considered and planned with due regard to the permanent capacity of forests

to yield the necessary raw materials. It should also take into account present and prospective market requirements in order to forestall the risk of surplus capacity once the immediate needs of the next few years have been met.

N.B. NATIONAL PARK: Substantial progress has been made in the development of the new national park in New Brunswick during its first year of existence, according to a statement by the Hon. J.A. MacKinnon, Minister of Mines and Resources, Ottawa. The sum of \$500,000 appropriated by Parliament to begin developments in this park has been used largely for improving roads and trails, erecting administration and staff buildings, and providing recreational facilities such as a golf course, salt water swimming pool, athletic field, and for landscaping the area around the administrative headquarters. Construction of the golf course has been completed, and the greens and fairways have been seeded.

SECURITIES TRANSACTIONS: International transactions in securities between Canada and other countries in September totalled \$39,900,000, just over the monthly average for the current year of \$37,700,000. The month's total was 58 per cent above that for August, which was the lowest monthly total for the year. There was a purchase balance of \$900,000 on the month's trade as compared with \$3,400,000 in August and \$2,500,000 a year ago.

Sales to all countries in September were valued at \$19,500,000 as compared with \$10,900,000 in August and \$13,400,000 a year ago, while purchases totalled \$20,400,000 compared with \$14,300,000 in August and \$15,900,000 in September, 1947.

In the nine months, sales aggregated \$160,600,000 as compared with \$152,700,000 in the similar period last year, while the purchases totalled \$179,000,000 compared with \$164,600,000.

MR. MARTIN'S ADDRESS: The following is an excerpt from the address of the Minister of National Health and Welfare, Mr. Martin, to the Annual Dinner of the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons of Canada at Ottawa, on November 27:

"The new national (health) plan does not in any way lessen the role or lighten the responsibilities of the individual doctor, dentist, nurse or health worker. In bringing better health to its citizens, a government must look to your profession for leadership. Without your confidence and collaboration, no health program could be fully successful. I can assure you that no action taken by the present Government under this or under any other program to improve health services in

Canada will stifle or destroy the liberty of the individual doctor.

"All of us in our own respective fields must, of course, recognize our social responsibilities in the service of society, whether we be public servants, or professional persons in the larger areas of service to humanity. We must adjust our disciplines, our patterns of performance in recognition of this growing sense of social responsibility. Yet this must be accomplished without restriction of our liberty and freedom.

"Health advances take their inspiration from the imagination, industry and integrity of each member of your profession. Regimentation of the doctor would be ruinous to health progress. In any sensible health plan the doctor holds a responsible position. Will you not want to see that doctors should continue to be free to serve their patients -- not that they should become mere servants of the state?"

WHOLESALE PRICES: The general index number of wholesale commodity prices, on the base 1926=100, showed a further increase in October, standing at 159.2, the highest since August, 1920, when it was placed at 160.2. The record high figure for this index is 164.3 registered for May of that year.

The current index stands one point above September and 19.9 points above October last year. Six of the eight sub-group indexes show increases in October over the preceding month. Most marked gains were shown for wood products and non-ferrous metals.

COL. GORDON APPOINTMENT: Col. Melville B.K. Gordon, DSO, ED, of Ottawa, was appointed November 30 by the Minister of National Defence to command the 7th Infantry Brigade, Canadian Army Reserve Force. He has also been promoted to the rank of brigadier. Headquarters of the brigade are in Ottawa.

The appointment fills out the list of officers commanding brigades in the 3rd Infantry Division of the Reserve Force. Previously appointed to command the 8th and 9th brigades respectively were Brig. J.V. Gauvreau, DSO, and Brig. J.B. Weir, OBE, ED, both of Montreal.

MOTOR VEHICLES SALES: Motor vehicle sales were higher in October, moving close to this year's peak established in June, but were still substantially below last year's level. The month's sales totalled 20,541 units compared with 18,654 in September and 23,647 in October last year. In the 10 months of this year, 174,314 units were sold, down 10 per cent from the 191,917 units sold in the same period of 1947.

Value of the units sold in October was \$39,795,925, as against \$36,223,309 in September and \$44,867,072 in October last year.