U.S. Vice President's visit maintains momentum of Canada/U.S. relations

"Over-all relationships" and the exploration of "the best directions for the U.S.A. and Canada on a number of issues" was how United States Vice-President Walter F. Mondale described the purpose of his two-day visit to Canada on January 17 and 18. Mr. Mondale was accompanied by his wife and by Senators Robert Stafford of Vermont, William Hathaway of Maine and Wendell Anderson of Minnesota.

Included in their program in Ottawa was a call on the Governor General, meetings with Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau and other ministers, a lunch given by Speaker of the Senate Renaude Lapointe and Deputy Prime Minister Allan Mac-Eachen and a press conference.

On January 18, the visitors left for Edmonton for discussions on energy and trade with Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed.

During meetings between the Prime Minister and the Vice President, subjects discussed included international matters of current interest, such as the situation in the Middle East and East-West relations. Bilateral talks began in a meeting between Mr. Trudeau and Mr. Mondale and then continued at greater length in discussions with Canadian ministers and the full U.S. delegation.

Joint decisions

To intensify economic co-operation between the two countries, it was decided that meetings would be held in March between economic ministers of the two gov-



Mr. Mondale (left) and Mr. Trudeau meet in Ottawa on January 17.

ernments. Possibly, other meetings would follow.

In discussions on energy, both sides agreed to encourage new short-term gas exports with a so-called "swap-back option" to help facilitate the accelerated construction of the southern section of the Alcan natural gas pipeline.

A U.S.-Canadian study will be completed in 90 days on the establishment of a joint oil-storage facility in the Atlantic provinces which, if feasible, will provide protection in an emergency to both eastern Canada and the U.S.A.

The two countries will also undertake a joint study of ways to increase exchanges of electricity, with a view to saving costs.

Speaking at the press conference on the subject of extra-territorial application of U.S. laws, Mr. Mondale said there had been substantial concern expressed in Canada about this issue. "We have in the past, when pursuing investigations against U.S.A. firms, used the courts to require subsidiaries of U.S.A. corporations in the U.S.A. to respond to the discovery proceedings in the courts of the U.S.A." In future, he said, the Canadian Government would be informed first, following which the information would be sought voluntarily without, however, "waiving the right to pursue our compulsory legal remedy should those voluntary efforts fail".

Mr. Mondale announced that his government was proposing amendments to tax legislation to respond in part to Canadian concern about existing convention expenses legislation. The changes would remove the limitation on the number of conventions held outside the U.S.A. His government is also increasing from \$100 to \$250 the monthly duty free allowance available to returning Americans.

On the subject of multilateral trade negotiations, Mr. Mondale said his government would table in Geneva on January 20, proposals for tariff reductions on natural resources, which, he said, "we think will be attractive to the Canadian Government".

Toast to Mr. Mondale

In a toast to the Vice President, Mrs. Mondale and to the people of the United States, Deputy Prime Minister Allan Mac-Eachen said:



Mrs. Mondale (left) and the U.S. Vice President support Iona Campagnolo, Min ister responsible for Fitness and Amateus Sport, as she skates on the Rideau Canal

"Last February, Prime Minister Tru deau made an official visit to Washingtor and again in September to attend the signing of the Panama Canal treaties. Al most all cabinet members on both sides have conducted business with their coun terparts in the other's capital. Your visit carries forward this process of close con sultation among leaders and provide: both you and us with an opportunity to reflect on recent achievements and future challenges. In the course of the past year Canada and the United States have reached major agreements in a number of areas the trans-boundary pipeline agreement the agreement to build the natural gapipeline from Alaska across Canadian territory; the agreement on a new tol structure for the St. Lawrence Seaway; at interim agreement on nuclear co-opera tion; and an interim fisheries agreemen are among the most important achieve ments. Our special negotiators are making good progress towards the delimitation o Maritime boundaries and the settlemen of related resource matters. The magni tude, the extent and complexity of rela tions between Canada and the United States unmatched by any other two coun tries in the world, do not, of course, per mit us at any single point in time to settle all the problems that might arise between us. It is our job, however, to ensure tha issues in the relationship are kept within