

PM SALUTES U THANT DECISION

When the Secretary-General of the United Nations, U Thant, had announced his decision to accept a further term of office, Prime Minister Pearson issued the following statement:

...On behalf of the Canadian Government, I wish to say how greatly pleased and heartened I am to receive this news. I should like to repeat on this occasion what the Secretary of State for External Affairs said in his statement to the General Assembly on September 23: "He (the Secretary-General) has said that no man is indispensable in the function which he himself is performing with such distinction. But, notwithstanding the difficulties to which he has called attention, the guidance which he has provided to our work, his sense of responsibility, his qualities of compassion and understanding and, above all, his capacity to speak and to act in the name of mankind, are indispensable to the United Nations."

I know, therefore, that I speak on behalf of all Canadians when I express my pleasure at U Thant's decision, reiterate our confidence in him and wish him well in the arduous task which he has agreed to undertake for a further term of office. The Canadian Government will do its utmost to assist him to maintain and promote the purposes and principles of the Charter which are and will remain the purposes and principles on which Canada bases her international relations.

CANADA'S DEPENDENCE ON EXPORTS

Mr. Robert H. Winters, Minister of Trade and Commerce, predicted recently that realization of his 1967 export goal of \$11.25 billion could create up to 160,000 new jobs in Canada.

Speaking to the tenth anniversary dinner meeting of the Industrial Management Club of South Waterloo in Galt, Ontario, Mr. Winters said that the new jobs would come into being only if the export increase represented greater productivity, rather than diversion from domestic requirements.

Describing the present trade picture, the Minister noted that exports had advanced 20 per cent this year over last, and that achievement of the expected level of \$10 billion for 1966 would establish a mark 70 percent greater than the total of five years ago. Canada's economic advance in recent years had been "virtually unprecedented", he said, and a major share of this success could be traced directly to merchandise exports.

Mr. Winters regarded the success as proof of the ability of Canadian producers to compete in international markets as never before. Further improvement in Canada's trade performance was essential he declared, and depended largely on exports of highly manufactured goods.

"Manufactures now count for a smaller share of Canadian exports and larger share of Canadian imports than in any other industrial country," said Mr. Winters. This situation existed despite the fact that exports of manufactured goods had grown faster

than industrial materials and primary products in the world trading community, he added.

The Minister emphasized the need to maintain a cost structure that would enable Canada to remain competitive if exports of sophisticated manufactures were to advance rapidly. He expressed concern over the inflationary tendencies and cost increases that were outstripping productivity gains by "an uncomfortably wide margin". "Should these tendencies persist, there could be a serious erosion in Canada's competitive position in international markets," he said.

SEARCH FOR SKILLED WORKERS

Mr. Winters suggested that improved productivity depended to a large extent on finding "the best possible ways of using our human resources".

Canada has been "remarkably successful" in attracting skilled workers from abroad, but "...it is unlikely that we will be able to rely as heavily on these sources in the future".

The need for qualified people had created "an explosion of learning," said Mr. Winters, that would more than double the numbers in Canadian universities by 1975. This would require vast spending programmes to expand the university plants.

The Bladen Commission report on financing higher education in Canada, the Minister said, had estimated conservatively that expenditures for universities ten years from now would be over \$2 billion.

Despite this enormous expansion, he said, only one out of 12 persons of university-age was at university in Canada, compared to six out of 12 in the United States.

EDUCATIONAL AID TO PROVINCES

The Minister described the federal proposal to assist provinces with education costs through a special arrangement of unconditional fiscal transfers calculated in relation to the operating costs for post-secondary education, but also urged greater financial participation by industry to insure "the freedom of our institutions...from all arbitrary influence, including government".

"Corporate business management has a long and distinguished history of rendering aid to higher education in this country. We may take satisfaction... that our expanded educational facilities will help to bring us closer to our ultimate objective...a rich fruitful life for all Canadians," he concluded.

NEW PATROL VESSEL

Mr. H.J. Robichaud, the Minister of Fisheries announced recently that a contract valued at \$2,798,468 for the construction of a multi-purpose patrol vessel for the Pacific coast had been awarded to Yarrow's Victoria, British Columbia.

The 180-foot craft, of welded steel construction, will be the largest and most versatile of the Department of Fisheries protection fleet on the Pacific coast. Besides performing regular patrol duties, it will be equipped for experimental fishing, research projects and search and rescue activities.