

The Government of Canada and the Government of the Federal Republic of Cameroun, which already enjoy the best of relations, have agreed to exchange diplomatic missions at embassy level. The Canadian Government will in the near future send an ambassador to Yaoundé. Later, the Government of Cameroun will accredit an ambassador to Canada.

It is also the Government's plan to establish diplomatic relations with a number of neighbouring French-speaking African states by accrediting to them the Canadian Ambassador to Cameroun. A further announcement on this subject will be made shortly.

The decision to establish diplomatic relations with these French-speaking African states has been taken because of the growing importance of Africa in world affairs and the outstanding influence of these states both within Africa and at the United Nations. The French African delegations have played a notably constructive part in the deliberations of the General Assembly and the Canadian delegation has worked closely with them on many issues.

A COMMON CULTURAL HERITAGE

Sharing with Canada a common French cultural heritage, the French-speaking states of Africa have shown great interest in establishing diplomatic relations with Canada. The opening of an Embassy in Yaoundé will afford an excellent opportunity for strengthening these ties. Earlier this year, the Government established a \$300,000 annual programme for educational assistance to the French-speaking countries of Africa, which the new mission will help to administer. It is hoped that the mission will also be able to promote the development of further programmes of technical assistance for these countries in fields in which Canadian experience will be useful.

Tanganyika will become independent on December 9, 1961, and the Government of Tanganyika has agreed to the Canadian Government's proposal to appoint a Canadian high commissioner in Dar-es-Salaam as soon as possible after the date of independence. This appointment is a mark of the importance which the Government attaches to the establishment of close relations between this new member of the Commonwealth and Canada. Tanganyika, with a population of 9,000,000 and a special reputation for the achievement of racial harmony within its territory, will have an influential position among the African states.

It is expected that, as has occurred in other new Commonwealth countries in Africa, the common interests between Canada and Tanganyika will grow rapidly during the latter's first years of independence. The Canadian mission in Dar-es-Salaam will have important functions to fulfill, particularly in the field of educational and technical assistance under the Special Commonwealth African Aid Programme.

It is hoped that, with the establishment of these new missions and the broader contacts they will make possible, there will be increased opportunities for trade between Canada and the states of both East and West Africa.

SEPTEMBER CANAL TRAFFIC

Freight transported through Canadian canals during September increased 4 per cent to 7,176,822 tons from 6,902,754 in the corresponding month last year. Heavier traffic was reported by the St. Lawrence, Welland and four of the smaller canals. Increased shipments of wheat, corn, and iron and steel scrap were the main factors in this increase. Although vessel passages through all canals dropped 20.8 per cent to 3,016 from 3,810, the registered net tonnage rose to 6,094,086 from 5,997,259.

Freight cleared through the Canadian and United States locks of the Sault Ste. Marie canals in September totalled 11,846,802 tons, 4.2 per cent above the 11,373,199 tons carried in September last year. Freight transported through the Welland Ship Canal rose 1.8 per cent to 3,868,223 tons from 3,799,794, while traffic through the St. Lawrence canals rose 12 per cent to 3,044,858 tons from 2,715,435.

MAN-HOURS & EARNINGS

The average weekly wages in manufacturing in September rose to \$74.97 from \$74.26 in August, reflecting no change in average hourly earnings at \$1.82 and an increase in the work week to 41.3 hours from 40.9, according to advance figures issued by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics that will be contained in the September issue of "Man-Hours and Hourly Earnings With Average Weekly Wages". Weekly wages in September 1960 averaged \$72.37, hourly earnings \$1.77, and the work week 40.9 hours.

In durable-goods manufacturing, weekly wages rose in September to \$82.75 from \$81.76 in August, hourly earnings to \$1.99 from \$1.98, and the work week to 41.6 hours from 41.2. Overtime work in transportation equipment and electrical apparatus and supplies contributed to the increases in earnings and hours. There were layoffs in the automotive industry owing to the steel strike in the United States.

In non-durable goods manufacturing, average weekly wages in September rose to \$68.23 from \$67.65 in the preceding month and the work week to 41.0 hours from 40.6, while average hourly earnings declined to \$1.66 from \$1.67. Reduced overtime work in tobacco plants and a seasonal increase in the number of lower-paid employees in canning and preserving contributed to the decline in average hourly earnings.

Average hourly earnings in mining rose in September to \$2.13 from \$2.10 in August, owing in part to layoffs of lower-paid employees in non-metal mines, overtime in oil and natural-gas extraction, and higher-production bonuses in metal mines. Hourly earnings in service in September rose on average to \$1.07 from \$1.04 in the preceding month, resulting from seasonal layoffs of lower-paid wage-earners in summer hotels.