

Canada-Mexico \$200-million trade agreement

During a meeting with President Luis Echeverria on the third day of a Canadian trade mission to Mexico, the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce, Alastair Gillespie, announced on January 26 that a trade agreement had been reached between Canada and Mexico worth \$200 million.

"We have agreed on granting Mexico \$200-worth of financing for a variety of projects," said Mr. Gillespie.

The Minister and 31 Canadian businessmen were in Mexico at the invitation of President Echeverria, who had visited Canada last March.

The Canadians, who were in Mexico City from January 24 to 27 held discussions with ministers of the Mexican Government, senior officials and representatives of Mexico's business and financial communities.

The Canadian Government's Export Development Corporation will provide the \$200 million for such projects as a steel plant, railway rehabilitation, the raising of cattle and the development of nuclear energy, stated Mr. Gillespie.

Both countries were seeking to expand their markets, the Minister said, and each country represented a

prime market for each other's goods. During the first ten months of 1973, Mexico's exports to Canada had risen by some 50 per cent to \$66.6 million, compared to those of the same period in 1972. Canada's exports during the same period were up by 16 per cent to some \$99.4 million.

The Minister emphasized several particular opportunities for increasing sales to Mexico in Canadian forestry, agriculture, mining, electronic and communications equipment, as well as scientific and engineering services and equipment and industrial machinery.

Mexico's expanding transportation system also seeks more equipment — last year Canada exported almost \$3 million of railway rails and \$1.2 million of motor vehicle engines to Mexico. The Mexicans also seek to buy power generation and distribution equipment and iron and steel products.

Mexico has been a prime supplier of food products to Canada, having shipped more than \$9 million of fresh tomatoes and \$6.6 million of coffee here during the first ten months of 1973. Canada also imports frozen strawberries, shrimps, cantaloupes and fresh cucumbers from Mexico.

Hope for Indian claim settlement

Following a meeting on January 18 between Jean Chrétien, the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs, and James Wah-shee, President of the Indian Brotherhood of the Northwest Territories, a committee will be established to discuss the groundwork necessary for a comprehensive settlement of Indian claims in the NWT. It was agreed that this preliminary work could be carried on regardless of legal actions currently in progress.

In making this statement, Mr. Chrétien and Mr. Wah-shee both expressed the hope that their discussions would lead to a resolution of land issues and provide a solid basis for economic and social development of Indian people.

Mr. Wah-shee said that the Brotherhood did not wish to impede development in the North, but believed that a land settlement must be an integral part of this development.

The meeting was also attended by Dr. Lloyd Barber, Indian Claims Commissioner. Dr. Barber said the agreement was extremely significant. "I believe there is now an opportunity for effective resolution of issues which will lead to a new era of native participation in northern development," he said.



Nova Scotia Communications & Information

Andrew Mooers works on one of the "crooked knives" that he makes in

his basement as a hobby, still using the techniques he learned as a boy.

Maker of crooked knives

Andrew Mooers of Nova Scotia is never without a crooked knife hanging from his belt.

Now 72 years old, a retired guide and woodsman, Mr. Mooers spent many hours as a boy roaming, hunting and fishing with Micmac Indians in Milton, Queens County. They taught him how to fashion his first crooked knife and he is still making them as a hobby in the basement of his home. Each one takes 12 hours to complete.

The knives have hardwood handles of maple or birch in which spoon-shaped indentations are carved to fit the thumb for increased leverage. A ground steel blade, flat on the underside and rounded at the top is fastened in a slot in the handle with a length of cord coated with bee's wax before being wound many times round the handle.

The sheath, made from two curved