

towards a lump-sum settlement of Canadian claims on the basis of principles similar to those applied in settlements which Poland has concluded with other countries. Canadians were invited to submit their claims against Poland to the Department, where they were examined and details were sent to the Polish authorities in 1967. The first round of negotiations was held in Warsaw from October 21 to November 6, 1968, and a second round will be held in Ottawa in April 1969. Although experience indicates that several rounds of talks may be necessary before agreement is reached, an active period of negotiation has begun which it is hoped will lead to an early settlement.

Agreement in principle to negotiate outstanding Canadian claims has also been reached with the Czechoslovak Government, which signed a preliminary agreement in May 1967. Claims received under this programme are now being examined in the Department. As considerable analysis remains to be carried out, it is now apparent that negotiations with Czechoslovakia are unlikely to begin before late 1969. As an intermediate step, however, it is hoped that the Department may be able to transmit a list of these claims to the Czechoslovak authorities in the first half of 1969, and perhaps to have an official visit to Prague to discuss the format of the prospective Czechoslovak negotiations with appropriate officials.

Progress has also been registered with regard to Canadian claims against Romania. In May 1967, agreement was reached to negotiate a settlement of outstanding Canadian financial claims, and the Department is now completing the initial phase of collecting information from the Canadian claimants. In November 1968, Canadian representatives met with Romanian officials in Bucharest at the invitation of the Romanian Government. On the basis of these discussions, the outlook for an early and equitable settlement appears promising. It is anticipated that the first round of negotiations will be held in Bucharest early in 1969.

In addition, the Department of External Affairs has raised with the authorities of a number of other countries the claims of Canadian citizens concerning the taking of property without compensation, and regarding other injuries and losses. It has also examined a small number of claims against Canada which other governments have brought to the attention of the Department.

Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal

The year 1968 saw the completion of the proceedings of the Lake Ontario Claims Tribunal: United States and Canada.

The Tribunal was constituted under a Canada-U.S. agreement of March 25, 1965, which came into force on October 11, 1966. Dr. Erades was appointed jointly by the Governments of Canada and the United States. The member appointed by Canada was the Honourable W.D. Roach, a recently retired Judge of the Court of Appeal of Ontario, and the member appointed by the United States was Professor Alwyn Freeman of Johns Hopkins University.

Under its terms, the Tribunal was vested with the powers to dispose of certain claims for damage to property owned by U.S. citizens on the American side of Lake Ontario. These claims, which were espoused by the