

Mr. MacEachen co-chairs international energy conference

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan MacEachen, shared the chairmanship of the Conference on International Economic Co-operation with Dr. Manuel Pérez Guerrero of Venezuela in Paris, which convened on December 16.

The conference, opened by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing of France, brought together foreign ministers of industrialized states and oil-producing and developing countries. Mr. Giscard d'Estaing appealed for greater justice in organizing the world economy.

Mr. MacEachen stated that the conference was a "unique event" and was "the beginning of a crucial dialogue

aimed at establishing a sound basis for economic co-operation" for all countries.

United States Secretary of State Henry Kissinger called on the oil-producing countries to reduce oil prices and use the revenues to aid the needy countries that would face, he said, a deficit of some \$35 billion in 1976.

Representatives agreed to set up four commissions to "pursue an intensified international dialogue" on energy, raw materials, development. Mr. MacEachen and Dr. Pérez Guerrero will review the terms of reference of the commissions and all commission assignments at a meeting on January 26.

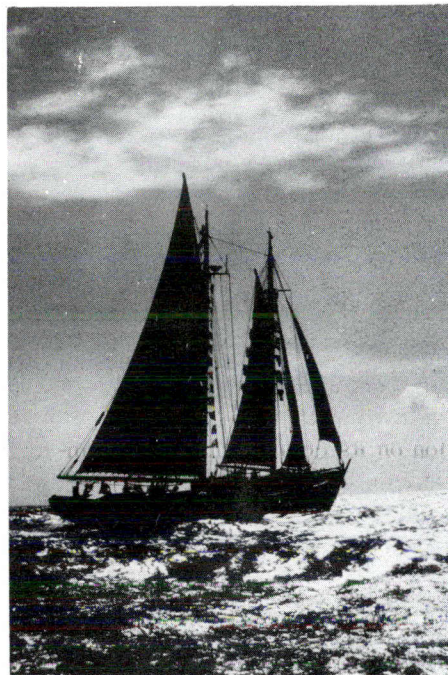
Fisheries-conservation ship Europe bound

A new European itinerary for the Canadian fisheries-exhibit ship, the *Norma & Gladys*, has been agreed on by the Federal Government and the government of the province of Newfoundland (see *Canada Weekly* dated August 27, 1975). The ship's original world trip, including a visit to Japan, was changed owing to scheduling problems and budgetary cutbacks by the two governments which are joint sponsors of the project.

The traditional fishing schooner will visit many countries with which Canada is negotiating both bilaterally and at the on-going Law of the Sea Conference the basis of co-operation necessary for the effective implementation of the 200-mile fisheries control zone.

The vessel will carry her exhibit promoting fisheries conservation and management to ports in Spain, Italy, Portugal, France, the Netherlands, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Finland, Britain and possibly the U.S.S.R. and Poland.

Not only will the schooner and exhibit be open to the general public, but chosen audiences, mainly concerned with conservation and marine-resource management, will be invited aboard. In addition, the ship will be used as part of a trade, investment and tourist promotion program that will be undertaken in Europe by the government of Newfoundland.



The Norma & Gladys on the high seas.

U.S.S.R./Canada fisheries pact

Canada and the U.S.S.R. have concluded an agreement on fisheries, effective immediately, announced Secretary of State for External Affairs Allan MacEachen on December 22.

The accord, signed the same day by Mr. MacEachen and Soviet Ambassador A.N. Yakovlev, provides for the estab-

lishment of a Canada/U.S.S.R. joint fisheries consultative commission and the appointment of a Soviet fisheries official in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Among the functions assigned to the four-member commission — two from each country — will be the facilitation of co-ordination of statistical and scientific information, the improvement of bilateral co-operation under the scheme of Joint International Enforcement of the International Commission for the Northwest Atlantic Fisheries, a regular exchange of information with regard to areas of concentration of fishing operations of both countries, and the promotion of other co-operative measures for the purpose of preventing damage to fishing gear and facilitating the settlement of any claims arising from such damage.

Among the functions of the Soviet fisheries official, who will reside in Halifax, will be the regular exchange of statistical and other information with regard to fishing operations conducted in the Northwest Atlantic off Canada's coast and the comparison of such information with estimated catch data by species, sub-areas and statistical areas, as well as the regular provision of data concerning the number of Soviet vessels operating within the area.

Canada increases commitment to NATO

Defence Minister James Richardson told his North Atlantic Treaty Organization colleagues at a two-day annual defence planning committee meeting in Brussels on December 10 that recent Canadian Government decisions on defence matters "constitute a strong reaffirmation of Canada's commitment to collective security".

Along with new developments he had announced in Canada on November 27, Mr. Richardson also said that "in addition, we will be providing sufficient modern tanks to enable us to increase the tank strength of the armoured regiment from two squadrons to three, with a total of 57 gun tanks and eight specialists' tanks, thus giving us the equipment in Europe to field a full brigade group".

Later, the defence minister told a news conference that the decision on tanks would be made "in a matter of months, certainly before the summer".