

AIRMAIL BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OTTAWA - CANADA

Not for Publication -- Not for Distribution in Canada

Vol. 7, No. 128

Wednesday, July 13, 1949.

Commonwealth Finance Conference: The third major meeting of Commonwealth leaders in 10 months opens Wednesday in a new phase by the search for what Canada's Finance Minister, Mr. Abbott, calls "a reasonable kind of trading world," the Canadian Press reports from London this morning.

Finance experts from seven Commonwealth countries and Southern Rhodesia will assemble in the Cabinet Room at 10 Downing Street where Prime Minister Attlee will declare the talks open. All other meetings will be at the Treasury.

No agenda will be drawn until the first plenary sessions ends. A Treasury spokesman told a press conference Tuesday he has no idea how long the conference will last.

He said it has been called to discuss the dollar situation as it affects Commonwealth countries. Mutual co-operative measures would be sought to offset the recent sharp drop in the sterling area's gold and dollar reserves. But nobody should expect any sort of immediate solution, the spokesman added.

The conference would consider interim measures to meet the immediate problem of halting the drain on sterling-area dollar and gold reserves. Major decisions on long-term solutions could not be expected until the Anglo-American-Canadian economic meeting at Washington in September.

Proposals from the Commonwealth conference will be submitted for approval to the Commonwealth Governments by their respective finance ministers, the report continued.

Sir William Osler Centenary: The memory of a man who has been termed an "apostle of international medicine," Sir William Osler, was recalled Tuesday night by members of the teaching staff of the Faculty of Medicine McGill University, by the Osler Society and the Medical Undergraduates' Society of the University.

Past and present members of the Osler Society, an undergraduate organization at McGill, celebrated informally the centenary of the birth of Sir William at a private dinner followed by a visit to the Osler Library in the medical building of the university. A special display of the more important mementos of Sir William was placed on view in the library for the occasion.

Among those who attended were Dr. C.F. Martin, former Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, and Dr. Frederick Smith, present Dean; Dr. Wilder Penfield, Director of the Montreal Neurological Institute; and Dr. W.W. Francis, librarian of the Osler Library, and a cousin and friend of Sir William, the Montreal Gazette reports.

Fisheries Investigation: The federal Government's plans for assistance to the Canadian fishing industry will be discussed with fishermen of the four Maritime Provinces and Quebec during a 17-day tour to be undertaken by the Minister of Fisheries, Mr. Mayhew and his top assistant, the Canadia Press reports this morning.

(over)