Canadian Labour Congress opposes anti-inflation program

The Canadian Labour Congress (CLC) voted on October 24 to use very legal means to fight the Federal Government's selective wage and price restraints.

The 30-member CLC executive council, which represents nearly two million workers, authorized the establishment of a "national fund to fight this proposed legislation and assist the 120 affiliates to combat its injustices". At a subsequent meeting on October 30, the CLC committed \$500,000 for this purpose.

CLC president Joe Morris said that the Government's program against inflation would "not be able to control prices, corporate income, professional fees, nor does it intend to control interest rates". He said that it would "effectively put the lid on wage increases".

Finance Minister Donald Macdonald has announced that the Government would amend its anti-inflation program to permit anybody to earn up to \$3.50 an hour without being subject to the wage guidelines. The original proposal was a maximum annual increase of \$600 before the guidelines applied.

Meantime, the provincial government in British Columbia placed an immediate price freeze, effective until January 1, on food, other essential commodities and services, in order to make the federal program "fairer and more equitable".

Executive aid overseas

Nearly 1,000 development projects have been carried out in 46 Third World countries by volunteers through the Canadian Executive Service Overseas (CESO).

Formed in 1967 by a group of Canadian businessmen, CESO aids enterprises in developing countries by offering the services of experienced advisers, often retired executives. It has a roster of 1,700 potential volunteers ready to accept postings for two to six months in developing countries.

CESO meets travel costs, while the organization being assisted pays for living expenses. CESO volunteers contribute their services.

Cultural links with Belgium

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Allan J. MacEachen, announced recently that, in the framework of the cultural agreement concluded between Canada and Belgium in 1967, the Mixed Commission of the two countries would meet in Quebec City, December 8 and 9.

Following discussions between Federal Government authorities and those of the government of Quebec, it has been agreed with the concurrence of the Belgian Government that the Mixed Commission will adopt at its first meeting a resolution, creating a Belgium/Quebec Sub-Commission permitting the government of Quebec to participate fully in the implementation of the agreement.

The convening of the Commission and the creation of the Sub-Commission will encourage the growth and diversification of the links that traditionally unite Canada and Belgium in the cultural sphere.

Cultural exchanges, which have increased considerably since the conclusion of the Canada/Belgium agreement in 1967, have involved the academic (scholarships, exchanges of university professors), and artistic (exhibitions by Belgian and Canadian

artists) sectors as well as the performing arts (tours by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra, the Jeunes comédiens du Théâtre du Nouveau monde and by the National Theatre of Belgium). Also included was the opening in 1974 of the Canadian Cultural and Information Centre in Brussels, youth-exchange programs, gifts of books, and the existence of a Belgian/Canadian literary prize.

Visitors from Senegal

Government representatives from Senegal, led by Minister of Planning and Co-operation Ousmane Seck, visited Ottawa from October 19 to 22, at the invitation of the Canadian Government. Meetings took place with officials from the Departments of External Affairs, Industry, Trade and Commerce, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Export Development Corporation and the International Development Research Centre. Discussions covered political, cultural, economic and commercial relations between the two countries as well as questions relevant to the French-speaking world.

Relations between Senegal and Canada were acknowledged as excellent.

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UNICEF spokesman in Ottawa

Danny Kaye, one of the best-known entertainers from the United States, was in Ottawa October 27 to promote the twenty-fifth anniversary of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF).

Mr. Kaye, a long-time advocate of UNICEF, was met at the airport by Mayor Lorry Greenberg and some 50 school children in Halloween costumes. During their "trick-or-treat" house to house rounds on October 31, young people collected money for UNICEF which will be contributed to the \$4 million Mr. Kaye said was expected this year.

Margaret Trudeau, wife of the Prime Minister and honorary president of the Ottawa UNICEF committee, entertained Danny Kaye for dinner that evening. Sasha, the Trudeau's second son, posed for this picture with him.



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