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EXTERNAL AID OFFICE REORGANIZED

Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced an extensive reorganization of Canada's External Aid Office, following a year of intensive studies necessitated by the increasingly complex requirements of international development assistance and Canada's growing role in this sphere.

Mr. Martin pointed out that the aid programme had tripled in size since 1963-64, to its current level of more than \$300 million. Of equal signifi-Cance, he said, was the need to ensure effective use of Canadian aid funds and Canadian skills and resources, now concentrated to an increasing extent in areas where they could make a maximum impact on economic development.

The proliferation of external-assistance schemes in recent years has created the need for a more comprehensive, professional approach to the administration of aid, for better analysis of the requirements of recipient countries in relation to Canada's capacity, for improved assessment of project requests and for better evaluation of projects during and after their implementation.

PLANNING AND ECONOMICS

An important extension to the administration role of the External Aid Office is a Planning and Economics Branch, under the direction of Mr. L.D. Hudon, who is also Canadian executive director of the World Bank. Besides meeting the need for a thorough evaluation of all requests for Canadian aid, this Branch will provide the programme with expert advice on Canada's human and physical resources and maintain relations with the private sector and with multilateral development-assistance agencies.

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The development and implementation of projects is now the responsibility of the Operations Branch, under Mr. George Kidd, former Minister (Economics), Canadian Embassy in Washington. This Branch contains the divisions which oversee large capital projects, recruit Canadian teachers and experts for service abroad and arrange training programmes for foreign students sponsored by the Canadian Government. Provision has been made for a co-ordinating function, designed to facilitate the development of projects in which all these elements of aid are combined.

Calling attention to the Government's policy of encouraging greater participation in international development by non-governmental agencies, business and industry, Mr. Martin said that the External Aid Office would draw to a growing extent on the skills and experience available in Canada. More and more Canadians, he said, would be involved in some aspect of the international development task.

"There has been a growing awareness that aid is only one of a number of factors, including trade, tariff, commercial and taxation policies through which a country such as Canada can affect significantly the economic and social progress of developing countries," he added. "These factors must be evaluated as alternatives and complements to direct aid, and this requires the application of highly sophisticated skills and techniques."

The regular staff of the External Aid Office is supplemented by the short-term engagement of persons with special experience in certain areas. Extensive use will be made of computers, and dataprocessing methods are already being applied to several aspects of EAO operations. Greater use is also being made of special-purpose task forces. Overseas personnel are receiving greater support, both through more frequent visits to the field by External Aid officers and through the appointment of personnel with specialized aid experience to Canadian missions in countries to which Canada is providing aid.

PUBLIC APPOINTMENTS

The appointment of Mr. Pierre Juneau as Chairman of the Board of Broadcast Governors was announced recently by Prime Minister Pearson. Mr. Juneau succeeds Dr. Andrew Stewart whose resignation became effective on March 18.

In accepting Dr. Stewart's resignation, the Prime Minister expressed gratitude for his unselfish and efficient service as BBG Chairman and in other capacities.

Under the provisions of the Broadcasting Act of 1968, Mr. Juneau will become Chairman of the Canadian Radio and Television Commission. He was formerly Vice-Chairman of the BBG.

DOMINION HYDROGRAPHER

The Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Mr. Jean-Luc Pepin has announced the appointment of Dr. Arthur Collin, as Canada's new Dominion Hydrographer.

As chief of the Canadian Hydrographic Service, Dr. Collin, will be responsible for the charting of Canada's coastal and inland waters. At 38, he is the youngest person ever to head the Service, which is a division of EMR's Marine Sciences Branch.

WELLAND CANAL TUNNELS

An agreement to construct two new Welland Canal tunnels under a revised federal-provincial cost-sharing formula involving a total of more than \$43 million has been announced jointly by Transport Minister Paul Hellyer and Ontario Highways Minister George E. Gomme. One project is a combination highway and railway tunnel, estimated at over \$30 million, and the other is a highway tunnel estimated at \$13 million, both in Welland.

Work on both projects, to be undertaken as part of the reconstruction programme of the Welland Canal being carried out by the St. Lawrence Seaway Authority, is scheduled to begin next spring, for completion in the spring of 1971.

Under the new financial agreement, the Seaway Authority assumes the cost of putting underground the required lanes of existing highway feeding into the city, and the Highways Department assumes the cost for any additional lanes incorporated in a tunnel to expand the road facility. "The agreement also has a long-term aspect, with both parties accepting it as the formula to be adopted for financing any future tunnel projects resulting from the Welland Canal reconstruction programme," the Ministers said in their announcement.

The agreement is the result of extensive negotiations carried out between the Department of Highways and the Seaway Authority.

The two tunnels will be built as part of a new \$110-million section of the canal, nearly 8.5 miles long, being constructed on the eastern outskirts of the city to by-pass Welland.

PRISON HEALTH VOLUNTEERS

Mr. Allan J. MacEachen, Minister of National Health and Welfare, and Mr. Larry T. Pennell, Solicitor-General, have announced that volunteers in prisons in the Kingston, Ontario, area will take part in investigations conducted by the Food and Drug Directorate in collaboration with the Canadian Penitentiary Service and the Department of Pharmocology of Queen's University. The studies will assess the ways in which the human body alters and excretes small amounts of certain chemicals found in food products as a result of agricultural practices or of processing. Chemical substances, such as agricultural pesticides and sweetening agents, will be included.

Extremely small amounts of the chemicals will be given to groups of volunteers from whom blood and urine samples will be collected at intervals for biochemical analyses. The quantities of the chemicals ingested will be similar to those found in foods available on the Canadian market, which animal tests have shown to be harmless. Health authorities have a continuing need of new information on the ways in which the human body deals with such chemicals.

SUPERVISION AND CARE

Elaborate care is being taken to safeguard the health of volunteers involved in the studies. Detailed plans for each project will be cleared by a minimum of four independent panels of medical experts before approval is given to proceed. Each volunteer will be medically examined to ensure he is in good health before a study begins, and close medical surveillance will be maintained as tests progress. Each volunteer will have the aims and procedures of the study thoroughly explained to him and will be free to drop out whenever he chooses, which ensures that the legal principle of "informed consent" in human studies is scrupulously observed.

The number of inmates involved is estimated to be from ten to 50, depending on the project. All who participate will do so on a strictly voluntary basis as a public service, with neither tacit nor implied promise of remission of their prison sentences, or other rewards. A new jack has been approved for Canadian warships. At a ceremony on March 13, aboard the aircraft carrier *Bonaventure*, the jack was presented to the fleet by General Jean V. Allard, Chief of the Defence Staff.

The naval jack, which is smaller than the national flag, flies on the bow of the ship, while the national flag, which will continue to serve as an ensign, flies on the stern.

The new jack is a white flag incorporating Canada's flag in the upper quarter next to the hoist or staff, with the naval crown, fouled anchor and eagle combined in dark blue on the fly.

The jack is usually flown by ships in harbour during the day. It is also flown when a warship is under way and dressed with masthead flags for ceremonial occasions or when displaying the flag of royalty (including the Governor-General's flag), or when escorting a warship that has royalty on board. It is never flown by shore establishments.

Until 1965, Canadian warships flew the blue ensign as the jack, showing the union flag in the upper quarter next to the hoist and the Canadian coat-of-arms in the fly. Subsequently, the Canadian flag was used also as a jack by HMC warships.

The use of a jack is widespread among many navies. In former days, when warships and merchant ships looked very much alike and both flew the same ensign, the jack was flown exclusively by ships of war. Later, though the difference in appearance between warships and merchant ships was generally more obvious, the need remained to prevent any masquerading under false colours for purposes of piracy, unlawful aggression, or improper aggrandisement.

FIGHTING RACIAL INEQUITY

On International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination, March 21, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Paul Martin, issued the following statement:

By a resolution adopted at the twenty-first session of the General Assembly in 1966, March 21 was designated as the International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. At the current twenty-second session a further resolution was adopted, calling upon member states to observe the day. The Canadian Government believes that observance of the day will serve to remind all Canadians that their efforts must be untiring in order to achieve a world free from all forms of racial discrimination. Only through a continuous process of education and through the observance of such occasions as today, can the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms be adequately strengthened.

TEHRAN CONFERENCE

The United Nations has been responsible for considerable progress toward this objective, and this year's observance of March 21 is especially significant during International Year for Human Rights. The United Nations is convoking an international conference next month at Tehran to review the human rights programme and to consider measures and methods to more effectively assure human rights to all the world's people. One of the items on the conference's agenda is concerned with the rapid and total elimination of all forms of racial discrimination in general, and of the policy of *apartheid* in particular.

In August 1966, Canada signed the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination. The Canadian Government is continuing with the necessary process of consultation with the provinces in the expectation that it will be possible for Canada to ratify this Convention at an early date.

I commend the observance of this day to all Canadians. I hope that all of us will determine to do our utmost to ensure that not only Canadians, but people throughout the world, will enjoy freedom from racial discrimination.

CANADA-ROMANIA TRADE PACT

Mr. Robert H. Winters, Minister of Trade and Commerce, signed on March 22 a three-year trade agreement between Canada and the Socialist Republic of Romania. The agreement was signed on behalf of the Government of Romania by Vasile Rauta, Deputy Minister of the Romanian Ministry of Foreign Trade.

FIRST POST-WAR AGREEMENT

The new trade agreement, which is the first between Canada and Romania following the Second World War, is a further step in the expansion of Canada's relations with that country. It is based on the exchange of most-favoured-nation treatment. Romania has undertaken to purchase Canadian goods to a minimum value of \$9 million during the three years of the agreement and to give consideration to Canada as a source of supply of competitive goods required by Romania.

The new pact, which is designed to expand and diversify trade between the two countries, will result in new opportunities for Canadian exports. Representatives of Romanian state-trading enterprises are already in Canada for the purpose of both buying and selling under the new most-favoured-nation trading arrangement.

POLYMER REPORT

Mr. C.M. Drury, Minister of Industry, who tabled recently the 1967 annual report of the operations of Polymer Corporation Limited, indicated that the company's net sales as well as other income, of synthetic rubber, latex and plastic manufacturer, had held steady during the year at \$128.9 million, while net income had declined to \$5.8 million. The total volume of production, he added, had reached 617 million pounds.

Polymer paid a dividend of \$3 million into the consolidated revenue fund.

Mr. Drury noted that the results were related not only to the effect of rising costs but to a slower growth in world rubber demand and further price declines for many of Polymer's products. He indicated that the devaluation of the pound had adversely affected the results of the last quarter.

Polymer's capital expenditures amounted to \$21.9 million in 1967, and the company absorbed start-up costs of three major plant facilities, including styrene and benzene operations in Sarnia, Ontario, and a general-purpose rubber plant at Strasbourg, France. Work began, and is progressing well, on expansion of latex facilities in Sarnia to produce latices for carpet, textile, paper and other industries. Also in Sarnia, expansion of Polymer's ABS plastic plant was completed and the new Applications Development Centre has begun a number of important programmes.

During 1967, Polymer for the first time undertook public financing, with an \$18-million debenture issue that provided the company with the means to reduce short-term indebtedness substantially and to build a sound financial base for future growth, while remaining within its borrowing capacity.

GROWTH PREDICTION

Mr. Drury indicated that the synthetic-rubber industry predicted growing demand and that, with its strong position in the industry, Polymer was in a good position to participate in the predicted growth. He noted that for some years the industry had operated in an environment of surplus world capacity with attendant downward pressure on prices.

The Minister stated that the company would also benefit from a successful cost effectiveness programme, a highly selective capital-spending programme, and an organization that would remain fully competitive in international markets.

NEW DEAL FOR INDIANS

Indian Affairs Minister Arthur Laing announced recently that the Indian people would be consulted about changes they desired in the Indian Act. The Minister circulated to Members of Parliament copies of a booklet designed to help Indians discuss questions which arise in amending the Act. A series of technical papers will be forwarded to the spokesmen of the various bands before they meet with Department officials at various locations across Canada late in April or early May. Mr. Laing said that the provinces would also be consulted, since many of the changes being discussed had a direct bearing on their attitude to Indian reserve communities. "We have discussed the kind of changes the Indian people want with the Regional Indian Advisory Councils and the National Indian Advisory Board," the Minister said. "Now it is time to go to the Indian people and make certain that the changes being discussed are along the lines they want. We do not have any fixed views except that the Act should provide more scope and should not restrict the individual."

CHOOSING A PATH

The booklet, entitled *Choosing a Path* includes a message from the Minister, a statement of the objectives of the Government and comments on various parts of the Indian Act. It says the Government wants to repeal the sections relating to liquor unless the Indians themselves want these restrictive parts of the Act retained.

The Minister said that he had discussed the Indian Act with his Cabinet colleagues, and the Government had agreed to support an Act which would permit Indian bands to choose from a number of options the form of self-government that suited them best. "My colleagues have given preliminary approval to some other changes which might be made following consultation," Mr. Laing said, "but we must know the extent to which the Indian people themselves want changes, and the nature of the changes before we come up with a finished Bill. This will not be an Act imposed on the Indians. I suppose that no one will get everything he wants, but he will certainly be heard and if enough agree about specific points, you can be sure that we will pay close attention."

CARIBOU RETURN TO CAPE BRETON

The woodland caribou, which disappeared from Cape Breton Island, New Brunswick, about 43 years ago, is being brought back to Cape Breton Highlands National Park.

A small breeding herd of about 25, captured last month in Laurentides Provincial Park, Quebec, was flown to Sydney, Nova Scotia, and then sent by truck to Cape Breton. Finally, after being kept for possibly six weeks in a corral near Warren Lake, the animals will be released to make their new home in the lichenrich barrens of the park interior.

Repopulation of the park with caribou has been studied for several years by the National Parks Service of the Department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Since one of the purposes of national parks is to preserve wild animals in their natural environment, the Service had planned to restore the Cape Breton Park's caribou herd, which disappeared about 1924 as a result of hunting.

The Quebec Department of Tourism, Fish and Game agreed to provide the National Parks Service with a number of caribou from Laurentides Provincial Park, where they had been protected since 1897. Mr. Paul Martin, the Secretary of State for External Affairs, has announced that Canada is responding to a special appeal for assistance for Vietnamese refugees whose numbers have been swelled by the recent upsurge of terrorism in South Vietnam.

Initially, Canada will supply \$200,000-worth of aid. Of this \$100,000 will be food aid, principally in the form of powdered milk — a food specifically requested by the Government of South Vietnam and the International Red Gross.

RED CROSS PROJECTS

The sum of \$50,000 will be supplied for a refugee project undertaken by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the League of Red Cross Societies, involving the supply of medicine, rice sleeping mats, and clothing, to approximately 70,000 refugees in a number of centres. The remainder will be used to offset the cost of sending medical volunteers to South Vietnam for short periods of service. The Canadian Red Cross and the Canadian Medical Association will try to find four surgeons and four orthopaedists, to serve in established hospitals. They will be sent to South Vietnam as soon as they can be recruited, and will be assigned to various hospitals with the assistance of Dr. Alje Vennema, a Canadian External Aid adviser in Vietnam who has been studying the emergency medical needs.

The appeal for help was sent to a number of Western nations, including Canada. The refugees, 80,000 of whom are in Saigon, need food, medicines, housing materials and blankets, among other things.

This aid is in addition to the current Canadian aid programme for South Vietnam which, for 1967-68, totals \$3 million. Since Canada began its aid programme to South Vietnam in 1953, \$8,300,000 in assistance has been allocated. Projects undertaken include the Quang Ngai medical centre, 350 miles north of Saigon. Because of fighting in the area, the team of Canadian doctors and nurses employed at the hospital have been withdrawn to Saigon, but are returning as soon as conditions become more settled. The hospital has not been damaged. Canada has also sent ten packaged emergency hospital units, which are being used in Vietnamese provincial hospitals, and has recently agreed to send an additional ten units. A polio immunization programme for the children of the country has been undertaken, and Canada has recently agreed to build, equip and staff a rehabilitation centre for the physically disabled at Qui Nhon, approximately 250 miles north of Saigon. There are 225 Vietnamese students currently studying in Canada under the Colombo Plan.

SERVICEWOMEN STYLES ON TRIAL

A new trial uniform will be issued to 20 women in the Canadian Armed Forces late this summer. See Canadian Weekly Bulletin, Vol. 22, No. 45, Nov. 8, 1967.

The test uniform is a medium green, lighter in shade than the trial uniform now being worn by 450 officers and men of the Forces. The single-breasted jacket is semi-fitted and waist-length, with a modified "A-line", pleatless skirt to mid-knee length. The pastel-green blouse of fortrel and cotton has permanent pleats in front. There is no tie or collar tab. Both summer and winter weights will be supplied.

The trial, which will be continued until early 1969, will be carried out by servicewomen at military establishments in Canada and in Europe. The uniform is designed for more than 1,700 women in the Canadian Forces, including nursing sisters. A working dress of pale-green synthetic or blended fabric, unlined, with removable buttons, is provided in addition to the basic uniform.

The hat is dark-green felt with a ribbon round the base of the crown, the colour and width of the ribbon denoting rank.

The overcoat and gabardine raincoat are of the same dark-green colour and cloth as the men's; the accessories are black. Women wearing the trial uniform will be given a collapsible umbrella and a waterproof head-scarf. Nursing sisters will wear a white-cotton veil on duty, with the working dress, white nylon stockings and oxford shoes. Nursing assistants will wear the working dress without the veil. All other women will wear taupe-coloured stockings and either black oxfords or pumps with the basic uniform or the working dress.

CHILDREN'S DAY-CARE STUDY

The Canadian Welfare Council recently began a national study of day-care services for children, which will cost \$118,000, with the help of a grant from the Welfare Grants Division of the Department of National Health and Welfare.

Mr. Reuben C. Baetz, executive director of the Canadian Welfare Council, said that the study would take about 18 months to complete and would involve the population of day-care centres in 102 urban communities throughout Canada. Reports which will be of use to agencies planning and working in this field, will be released at regular intervals during the 18 months.

"Our concern," Mr. Baetz said, "is not only for children of working mothers, who are becoming an increasingly-important part of the work force, but also for culturally deprived and disturbed children and more broadly, for the overall strengthening of family life. There is no general perception in this country of day-care services as a support to families in the discharge of their responsibilities for child nuture and development."

The study will: examine the status of day-care facilities in Canada, their organization, policy, operation, programmes, extent of community acceptance, physical facilities and equipment; examine the personnel of day-care centres, including numbers, duties, education qualifications, experience, wages, etc; examine the clients using the services – their numbers, age, sex, economic status; determine the extent of use of present facilities – their capacity, and some measure of unmet need in the communities; and analyze the current status of day-care legislation in Canada.

The Canadian Welfare Council, which is based in Ottawa, is a national voluntary agency for social welfare.

LABOUR FORCE

Total employment in Canada was estimated at 7,107,000 for the week ending February 17. As is usual at this time of year, there was little change in employment during January and February. Unemployment rose seasonally by 18,000, to 482,000 during the same period. The labour force increased by 25,000 over the month, to 7,589,000. In February, the labour force was 213,000, or 2.9 percent higher, than in February 1967. Employment was up 127,000, or 1.8 per cent, over the year. Unemployment was 86,000 higher than that of a year earlier.

EMPLOYMENT

Agricultural employment declined (23,000), and nonagricultural employment increased (30,000) between January and February. As in recent years, the largest change in employment between January and February was an increase in manufacturing industries (35,000). Employment in construction declined somewhat during the month. Compared to February 1967 figures, employment in community, business and personal service showed the largest gain (125,000). Smaller increases occurred in trade (37,000), and finance (33,000). Declines occurred in manufacturing (55,000), and construction (30,000). Among the regions, employment in British Columbia increased most (4.5 per cent), since February 1967. There was a small drop in employment in Quebec (0.8 per cent).

UNEMPLOYMENT

Unemployment rose by 18,000 to 482,000 between January and February. Compared to last year's figures, the unemployment total was higher by 86,000.

Of the February total, some 75 per cent had been unemployed for less than four months. The remaining 25 per cent had been unemployed for four months or more. Total unemployment in February represented 6.4 per cent of the labour force; in January, the rate was 6.1 per cent. In comparison to previous years, the unemployment rate was 5.4 per cent in February 1967 and 5.0 per cent the year before. The seasonally-adjusted unemployment rate in February 1968 was 4.5 per cent.

PHOTOGRAMMETRY CONGRESS

Canada's display for the eleventh International Congress for Photogrammetry in Lausanne, Switzerland, is now under construction to be ready for the opening on July 8. The display, 42 by 11 feet will show Canadian developments and techniques, scale models of three Canadian inventions and a large terrain model to demonstrate "Aerodist", a radarranging system pioneered and developed in Canada.

The Department of Energy, Mines and Resources is the major contributor to this display. Others are the National Research Council and the Canadian Association of Aerial Surveyors. EMR participation in the Congress is aimed at informing other nations of Canadian advances in photogrammetry and benefiting from the experience of other countries, as well as securing the vote for Canada to be the site for the next Congress in 1972.