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LOCOMOTIVES FOR ARGENTINA

Mr. George Hees, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, recently announced that 40 diesel-electric locomotives, valued at approximately \$14 million, had been purchased by the Argentina State Railways from the Montreal Locomotive Works Limited. The agreement, which was signed in Mr. Hees' office on November 6, was made possible under the provisions of the Canadian Government's long-term financing legislation, whereby exporters of capital goods may obtain credit that will enable them to meet foreign competition.

It was signed by General Angel Ernesto Peluffo, Argentine Ambassador to Canada; Mr. Fernando J. Tauriel, Argentine Minister in Canada; Mr. W.F. Lewis, President of the Montreal Locomotive Works Limited; Mr. H.M. Bourcier, Secretary of the Montreal Locomotive Works Limited; Mr. H.T. Aitken, President and General Manager of the Export Credits Insurance Corporation; and Mr. T. Chase-Casgrain, Secretary of the Export Credits Insurance Corporation.

A BIG DEAL

This transaction, which involves Canadian financing of \$12.5 million, repayable by the Argentine State Railways over a period of 9½ years, is one of the largest concluded by the Export Credits Insurance Corporation. It raises the total amount of financing extended under signed agreements to \$26 million. Additional commitments and applications for financing under study amount to \$255 million.

The Exports Credits Insurance Corporation is responsible for the administration of this financing programme, under Section 21-A of the Export Credits Insurance Act, which was designed to boost exports of capital goods, to stimulate secondary industry in this country and to increase employment.

Mr. Hees said that he was pleased with the financing programme, which had been initiated by the Government. "The need for long-term financing of capital exports from Canada arose from two inter-related causes", he observed. "These involve the stimulation of employment through the provision of assistance to Canadian firms, in that they now have access to longer-term funds for credit-worthy capital projects in the export field. Canadian firms are thus enabled to bid for sound business, when they can compete in terms of price, quality and delivery, without being hampered by a lack of adequate financing. This business captured by the Montreal Locomotive Works Limited is typical of the new export opportunities opened up for Canadian industry."

OTHER FIRMS INVOLVED

Two other Canadian firms, the Canadian General Electric Company Limited and the Dominion Engineering Company Limited, played a major role in this successful commercial effort and will share in the gains as the principal equipment suppliers. They undertook to "tool up" for the special production necessary for the particular model of loco-

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motive required. More than 100 other Canadian firms will secure orders for parts. It is estimated that this contract will create about 1,800,000 man-hours of work for Canadians.

The Argentine Government fully supports the credit arrangements by endorsing the agreement with a complete guarantee. Experience is proving that Canada is securing significant business for its factories from such transactions and is winning the friendship and respect of countries that receive financial credits of this nature.

Said Mr. Hees: "Canadian industry is proving in a big way that it can supply the needs of foreign countries for a wide variety of capital goods, and can compete with the foremost suppliers in the world in securing orders. This locomotive order is a conspicuous example of successful trade promotion, which is a feature of the avenue along which Canada must continue to travel to balance its foreign trade deficit."

NEW BANKING COMMISSIONER

On November 10, Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced the appointment of Mr. Gilles Mercure of Montreal as Joint Secretary of the Royal Commission on Banking and Finance in Canada. Mr. Harold Anthony Hampson of Toronto was recently appointed Secretary of the Commission.

Mr. Mercure is a barrister and a member of the Montreal Bar. He holds the degree of Master in Business Administration from the Harvard Business School. Between 1948 and 1951 he was employed in the legal inspection service of a *caisse populaire*. In 1953 he was appointed Associate Treasurer of the *Société des Artisans*, a position he held for seven years. Since 1960 he has been the president of a national management holding company. He is a professor at the *Ecole des Hautes Etudes*, teaching subjects relating to financial institutions and stock exchange.

PREBISCH TO VISIT OTTAWA

Dr. Raul Prebisch, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA), has been invited by the Canadian Government to visit Ottawa. He will arrive on the evening of November 28 and stay until November 30. Dr. Prebisch will have talks with ministers and government officials on the ECLA and Canada's participation in its work.

Canada's decision to join the ECLA reflects growing Canadian interest in Latin American affairs and a desire to strengthen ties with these countries.

Dr. Prebisch, a noted Argentine economist, has been Executive Secretary of the ECLA since it was formed in 1948. He is a former Director-General of the Argentine Central Bank, which he organized, and a former Argentine Under-Secretary of Finance.

CANADA YEAR BOOK, 1961

Release of the 1961 edition of the Canada Year Book has been announced by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics. This edition is the fifty-fifth in the present series, which continues a long record of earlier publications that supplied official statistical and other information on Canada's development during the ninetieth and twentieth centuries.

The Canada Year Book 1961 contains some 1300 pages of textual and statistical material dealing with: the physical features of the country; the machinery of government; vital statistics; public health and welfare; education; scientific, atomic, space and industrial research; the primary resources of agriculture, forestry, mining and fisheries; manufacturing; labour; transportation and communications; domestic and foreign trade; finance; and national income and expenditure.

Like its predecessors, the 1961 Year Book includes a number of feature articles: Geology of Canada, the Drainage Basins of Canada; Amendment of the Canadian Constitution; Federal Food and Drug Legislation in Canada; the National Agricultural Programme; Canadian Metallurgical Development; the Fur Industry; the Construction Industry in Canada; Taxation in Canada; and Commercial Banking in Canada.

Also included is a detailed 140-mile-to-the-inch map, as well as small maps portraying the territorial evolution of the country since Confederation, and the progress of the federal "Roads-to-Resources" and territorial-roads programmes.

CANADA, THAILAND DIPLOMATIC AGREEMENT

Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced on November 8 that the Governments of Canada and Thailand had agreed to enter into diplomatic relations and to exchange representatives at the level of ambassador.

The Canadian Government intends to give one of its senior diplomatic representatives in Southeast Asia the concurrent appointment of Canadian Ambassador to Thailand. The name of the appointee will be announced later.

The exchange of diplomatic representatives between Thailand and Canada is expected to strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries.

ATLANTIC FISHERIES MEETING

Recent developments in fishing gear and processing techniques, and "guide lines" for progress in this field, will be discussed at a meeting of senior fisheries officials of the Atlantic coast provincial and federal fisheries departments in Halifax, on December 4 and 5. The occasion will be the interim meeting of the Federal-Provincial Atlantic Fisheries Committee, which is composed of representatives on the deputy minister level from

Nova Scotia, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Newfoundland and the federal Department of Fisheries.

The Committee was established in 1958 to find ways of improving the economic situation of the fishing industry in the five east coast provinces. Through its leadership, considerable progress has been made in modernizing and revitalizing various forms of fishing activity.

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YUGOSLAV ENVOY ACCREDITED

On November 9, His Excellency Dimce Belovski presented his letter of credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Yugoslavia to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House, where the Chief of Protocol of the Department of External Affairs, Mr. Henry F. Davis, presented the Ambassador to the Governor General. Mr. Marcel Cadieux, Deputy Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Esmond Butler were in attendance on the Governor General on this occasion.

Mr. Belovski was born in 1923. From 1954 to 1959 he was Counsellor of the Permanent Mission of Yugoslavia to the United Nations. From 1959 until his present appointment, he was a member of the Executive Council of the People's Republic of Macedonia.

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FEDERAL SUPPORT FOR YUKON MINING

The Government has agreed to pay half the cost of a 110-mile tote road to a new silver-lead-zinc discovery in the Yukon Territory, it was announced recently by Mr. Walter Dinsdale, Minister of Northern Affairs and National Resources.

The trail will be built by the Conwest Exploration Company, with the federal contribution made under the new Assistance Policy on Tote Trails announced in May of this year. The total cost to be shared is estimated at about \$60,000.

The route will leave the Alaska Highway near Teslin, Y.T., and run northeast into the Pelly Mountains. It will permit equipment and supplies to be taken to the new "find" for a large-scale exploration and development programme next season. Since the discovery was made last July, more than 700 mineral claims have been staked in the area.

Mr. Dinsdale also announced that the Government and the company would share the cost - estimated at \$9,000 - of constructing a pioneer airstrip in the area to aid in access for further exploration.

A YEAR OF WIDESPREAD EXPLORATION

The Minister said that 1961 had been a year of widespread and important mineral exploration in the southeast Yukon and the southwest part of the Northwest Territories in the Cordilleran region. Active exploration has been undertaken by a number

of companies in the area lying northwest, north, and northeast of Watson Lake, extending to the headwaters of the Flat and Nahanni Rivers and northward to the Redstone River. In this large potentially well-mineralized area, over 1,000 mineral claims have been recorded this year. In addition to the important tungsten deposit now being developed for production, other interesting finds, including silver-lead-zinc and copper deposits, have been made within the last two years. As a result of work this past summer, a heretofore unknown but potentially important mineralized zone has been reported in the upper regions of the Redstone River.

Mr. Dinsdale said that it was "gratifying to see active exploration, particularly in remote areas hitherto little explored, is yielding important results." "The Northern Affairs Department" he went on "will continue to provide all the assistance available under our development policies, not only to encourage exploration but also to contribute to the costs of roads and airstrips necessary for the development of ore bodies and production from them".

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VISIT OF ARGENTINE PM

Prime Minister Diefenbaker announced on November 15 details of the state visit to Canada of the President of Argentina, Dr. Arturo Frondizi. The President will arrive in Ottawa on the afternoon of November 27, accompanied by Mrs. Frondizi, the Foreign Minister of Argentina, Dr. Miguel Angel Carcano, and Mrs. Carcano, and other dignitaries. General Angel E. Peluffo, Ambassador of Argentina to Canada, and Mrs. Peluffo, will join the President and Mr. R.P. Bower, Canadian Ambassador to Argentina, will come to Canada to accompany him.

On their arrival at Uplands Airport, President and Mrs. Frondizi will be greeted by the Governor General and Madame Vanier and the Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker. After a formal welcome, including a 21-gun salute and the inspection of a guard of honour, the President and Mrs. Frondizi will drive to Rideau Hall where they will be the personal guests of Governor-General and Madame Vanier. In the evening there will be at Government House a state dinner and reception in honour of President and Mrs. Frondizi.

Next day, the Prime Minister will call on the President at Government House and later the President and Foreign Minister will confer with the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for External Affairs in Mr. Diefenbaker's office in the East Block. Just after midday the President will lay a wreath on the National War Memorial. Prime Minister and Mrs. Diefenbaker will entertain at lunch for President and Mrs. Frondizi and later the President will receive an honorary degree from the University of Ottawa.

In the evening, at the Chateau Laurier Hotel, the President will inaugurate the new Telex communication link between Canada and Argentina.

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This is the first direct communication link between Canada and South America. After the inauguration ceremony, a press conference will take place at the hotel. Later President and Mrs. Frondizi will give a dinner at the Chateau Laurier for Governor-General and Madame Vanier.

On November 29, the Presidential Party will leave for Toronto, where the President will lay a wreath on the cenotaph, visit the City Hall and attend a lunch in his honour at the Toronto-Dominion Bank. Later in the afternoon, he will visit Garden Public School, where he will unveil a plaque commemorating his visit. This school has a special exchange programme with the Canada School in Buenos Aires. Mr. Frondizi will hold a press conference at 6:00 p.m. Later, the Province of Ontario will give a dinner in his honour.

On November 30, President Frondizi will visit Montreal, where he will be received by the Mayor and other dignitaries. After laying a wreath on the cenotaph, he will be received at City Hall. The Aluminum Company of Canada is arranging a lunch for him, and the Inter-American Association will give a reception. The same evening the City of Montreal will give a dinner at St. Helen's Island. Mr. Pierre Sévigny will accompany the President during his stay in Montreal.

The following day the President will leave Canada.

MORE CANADA COUNCIL LARGESSE

The Canada Council has announced the latest in a series of commission grants and purchase awards designed to encourage Canadian creative artists. Such grants are made to organizations and individual performers to enable them to commission or purchase original works, on the condition that the recipient perform or otherwise exhibit the work of art created for it. The latest awards will permit a public library and several universities to commission works of art and will help art galleries to buy paintings and graphic art from exhibitions which they will present during the coming year.

Grants of \$2,000 each have been accepted by the University of New Brunswick, the University of

Saskatchewan, St. Louis University, Edmunston, New Brunswick, the Kitchener Public Library and the Convent of the Sacred Heart, Halifax. Most of these grants will be used to commission sculpture or murals for new buildings.

Purchase awards of up to \$1,000 have been accepted by the Norman MacKenzie Art Gallery, Regina, the New Brunswick Museum, the London Public Library and Art Museum, Fredericton, N.B., and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. These galleries have agreed to add a matching sum to the Council's contribution for the purchase of works by contemporary Canadian artists.

The current grants are part of a larger programme for stimulating work in all fields of the creative arts. Since 1958, the Council has authorized commission grants and purchase awards totalling more than \$100,000 to well-known musicians and musical groups, established theatrical companies, galleries and universities in Canada. Grants awarded in the fiscal year 1960-61 alone will purchase two new plays, four works of sculpture, four symphonic works and will bring some 15 to 18 new paintings into the collections of art galleries across the country.

MISS MEAGHER TO VIENNA

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, announced on November 17 the appointment of Miss B. Margaret Meagher as Canadian Ambassador to Austria. Miss Meagher is at present Canadian Ambassador to Israel and High Commissioner for Canada to Cyprus.

Miss Meagher was born in Halifax, Nova Scotia. She is a graduate of Dalhousie University and taught school in Halifax from 1932 until 1942, when she joined the Department of External Affairs. Between 1944 and 1949 she served in Washington and Mexico City; and, between 1953 and 1956, in London as First Secretary and, later, as Counsellor. Miss Meagher was appointed Chargé d'Affaires in Tel Aviv in 1957 and has been Ambassador to Israel since 1958 and concurrently High Commissioner for Canada to Cyprus since April of this year.

Miss Meagher is the first woman to be appointed an Ambassador in the Canadian foreign service.