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## AGRICULTURE AND FOOD PROBLEMS IN THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

*The following is part of a recent statement by Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, at the Development Assistance Committee High Level Meeting in Washington, D.C.:*

...As a major producer and commercial exporter of foodstuffs, Canada has a vital interest in the relationship between future world demand and supply of food, and also in the implications of the food situation for the economic progress and well-being of the developing countries. The trade aspects are, of course, being discussed elsewhere; in addition, FAO and the World Food Programme are doing important work on food aid. Nevertheless, the DAC has a distinctive role to play in examining the place of agriculture in economic development and in encouraging adequate responses on the part of both donor and recipient countries....

### AID FOR SELF-DEVELOPMENT

The importance of increasing agricultural productivity in the developing countries cannot be overemphasized. It is obvious that the only satisfactory solution lies in helping these countries to acquire the necessary knowledge, technology, resources and will to feed themselves. The Secretariat has performed a useful service in summarizing the task before us. The paper has rightly pointed out the need for effective tools, fertilizers, pesticides and seeds, as well as for related facilities such as the construction of rural roads, the provision of electricity, equipment for irrigation and drainage, and the establishment of suitable marketing arrangements. The members of this Committee can do a great deal to provide the necessary knowledge and what is now referred to in

the jargon as "inputs". However, we must recognize that the most difficult problem may be the human one - how to persuade farmers rooted in tradition to accept new agricultural technologies and motivations.

The main burden of these changes must fall on the developing countries themselves. As donor countries, we must seek to help in every way we can. Technical assistance is a vital ingredient. In Canada we are actively examining additional ways of increasing and improving our contributions of human resources and we will give the highest priority to requests from developing countries for such assistance related to agriculture or fisheries as we are competent to provide. In addition, we have, over the years, provided significant assistance in other forms, such as fertilizers. In the coming years, we are prepared to supply increased amounts of fertilizers to developing countries. To this effect, programmes are being developed which will, we hope, facilitate forward planning by both Canadian industry and the developing countries concerned.

Perhaps I might note two areas in which the useful Secretariat paper might be a little more explicit. There is first the need of a proper balance in the application of agricultural inputs. As the experience of the Indian subcontinent has made clear, there are dangers in seeking to increase irrigation without paying equal attention to the important problem of drainage. Similarly, there is little point in promoting agricultural productivity through the use of fertilizers unless adequate credit and marketing arrangements are available. In short, there is no magical formula for increasing food production; we must ensure that our approach is balanced and realistic.

My second comment is about fisheries. The resources of the sea are virtually untapped, and I believe that more attention should be devoted to their exploitation. Our own aid programmes have given a high priority to assisting the fishing industry and we have found that this can yield encouraging returns. Among the benefits has been the improvement of nutritional standards as a result of the enlarged supply of this high protein food.

#### INTERIM SUPPLY OF FOOD

The other main aspect of the problem... is the provision of food supplies on an interim basis. Probably only a few DAC members are in a position to make a large-scale contribution in kind. Other donor countries can, however, play their part through increased contributions of cash or shipping services, either through the World Food Programme or under special arrangements such as were recently made to meet the emergency food needs of India. An excellent example of this type of aid was the British Government's cash contribution earlier this year to help meet the cost of shipping foodstuffs to India.

Although Canada makes a cash contribution to the World Food Programme, our main multilateral and bilateral food aid is in the form of foodstuffs, principally wheat, which we have supplied in considerable quantities over the years.

This year Canada mounted an unprecedented food-aid programme, including the provision of one million tons of foodstuffs, largely wheat, to India to help meet the emergency situation there. Every bushel of wheat we have provided may be considered as a lost commercial sale; we have made this effort despite the fact that commercial exports of wheat are a vital element in our balance of payments and in the livelihood of Canadians.

Although food aid is in one sense humanitarian relief for the hungry, we also regard it as an integral part of our regular development assistance. By responding to the urgent need for food aid we are freeing, for purposes more directly related to the economic development process, foreign-exchange resources that would otherwise be used for the purchase of foodstuffs.

#### AID TERMS AND CONDITIONS

It is our present intention to continue this food aid on the basis of grants rather than loans, in order to ensure that the debt-servicing positions of the developing countries are not further strained. In our view, it is necessary to draw a clear distinction between terms of aid and conditions of aid. While keeping our terms liberal, we are anxious to join with others in efforts to ensure that food aid will be used under conditions that will have the maximum impact in improving levels of agricultural productivity in the developing countries.

As Canada expands the size of its bilateral and multilateral aid programmes, more resources will become available for assistance to agriculture, and we look to DAC for increasing help in administering this assistance. DAC might well serve as a forum for the exchange of ideas and techniques for improve-

ments in the carrying-out of aid programmes in the agricultural sector. Exchanges of views with countries whose experience is greater than our own would be most helpful and would assist us in responding to the aid requests of the developing countries and in suggesting to them how Canadian agricultural assistance might be more effective.

In addition, a co-ordinated approach might be particularly helpful in leading to greater emphasis on self-help in agriculture and the importance of adequate performance by the developing countries. The DAC had done some general work in this field and more may be possible. IBRD consortia and consultative groups can also play a helpful role. We intend to rely increasingly on these groups to evaluate, on a country-by-country basis, the priority to be given to the various sectors of the economy, the adequacy of the performance of the local governments, and the most appropriate form and terms for external assistance. DAC might find it useful to look closely at the role of IBRD groups to see if there are ways to make them even more effective.

#### OTHER SOURCES OF AID

Here we are quite properly concerned with official aid programmes, the channel through which the bulk of assistance will have to flow. However, we should not overlook non-governmental groups which can play a helpful role in complementing these official activities. For example, private industry can make a real contribution and FAO is already attempting to co-ordinate and encourage these activities. A most significant recent development has been the action of His Holiness the Pope in setting up a special committee, headed by Cardinal Roy of Canada, to mobilize the Church for an active role in the world's war on hunger. Similar work is being done by other churches and by various secular organizations; the agricultural research work of the Rockefeller Foundation, for example, has been outstanding....

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#### MURALS FOR NATIONAL LIBRARY

The appointment of three artists to execute works for the new National Library was announced recently by Public Works Minister George J. McIlraith.

Two murals 35 by 9 feet in size will be painted on the site by Dr. Charles Comfort, former director of the National Gallery of Canada, who has resumed his career as a professional artist. Two others of the same dimensions will be painted in sections by Alfred Pellán, well-known Quebec artist and teacher.

Two of the murals will be located in the main reading rooms and the others in the main catalogue and reference room on the second floor.

The third artist is John Hutton of London, England, who is creating glass screens for the main entrance and the main lobbies on three other floors. His work will represent figures from the world of literature and will be engraved directly on the glass.

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## CANADA-POLAND WHEAT DEAL

Trade Minister Robert Winters and Ambassador Wolniak of Poland recently signed a new three-year wheat agreement that provides for the purchase by Poland of a minimum of 33 million bushels and a maximum of 44 million bushels of Canadian wheat. Representatives of the Canadian Wheat Board and Rodimpex, the Polish grain agency, participated in the negotiations. The agreement will come into force on November 5 when the current agreement expires.

### TERMS OF AGREEMENT

Poland will purchase at least 11 million bushels of wheat in the first year and a combined total of not less than 22 million bushels in the second and third years. An additional 3.7 million bushels may be purchased during each year of the agreement.

These purchases will once again be facilitated through extension by the Canadian Government of credit guarantees under the Export Credits Insurance Act. As under the previous agreement, payment terms will be ten per cent cash and the balance payable in equal installments 24, 30 and 36 months from the date of each shipment.

Since 1955, Poland has bought 125 million bushels of Canadian wheat valued at approximately \$225 million. The new agreement, worth an estimated \$85 million, will bring total purchases by Poland to about \$310 million.

### POLAND AND GATT

Canada and Poland exchange most-favoured-nation treatment under a trade agreement concluded in 1935. In addition, Poland has, since 1959, participated in the work of the Contracting Parties to the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade under "special arrangements" and is at present contemplating provisional accession to the membership of the GATT through the "Kennedy round" of tariff negotiations now under way in Geneva.

During the negotiations of the renewed wheat agreement, a comprehensive review of the trade between Canada and Poland was carried out. It was agreed that the framework that has been established should provide increased opportunities for further development of mutually advantageous trade.

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## FISHING FLEET EXPANSION FOR '76

An expenditure of \$300 million on expansion of Canada's fishing fleet is indicated over the next ten years, federal Fisheries Minister H.J. Robichaud revealed in an address to the Fisheries Council of Canada 1966 annual meeting. This investment will be made for the construction of some 300 modern fishing vessels and the provision of up-to-date mechanical and electronic gear for these vessels.

Mr. Robichaud predicted that, within the same period, about 10,000 men would have to be trained to man the expanding deep-sea fleet in Atlantic waters. The indicated requirement is between 1,000 and 1,200 fully-trained men every year.

In his report to the industry, the Minister mentioned programmes undertaken to achieve more effective management of the Pacific salmon and Atlantic lobster. It was hoped that measures to control the entry of equipment and manpower into these over-crowded fisheries would "not only permit more efficient regulation of the fisheries, in the interest of conserving the stocks but...also encourage the development of an economically efficient industry."

Development programmes, the speaker said, were in progress to exploit the Atlantic herring and Pacific groundfish resources. New processing plants were being constructed, and a fleet of specialized vessels would be required to fish the available stocks.

The Minister stated that negotiations were continuing with a number of countries on establishment of proposed baselines for Canada's 12-mile fishing zone. Until these negotiations were completed, a 12-mile limit was being enforced against all countries except those with traditional fishing rights.

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## EXPO SEEKS THEME SONG

A contest has been launched to find a theme song by Expo '67. The winner will receive \$5,000 and retain normal author's rights for publication, recording and performance of his song.

Jean Coté, head of Special Events at Expo, says he hopes the contest will produce an international hit, that could do for Expo '67 what "Meet Me in St. Louis" did for the St. Louis World Fair in 1904.

The deadline for entries, which can be in English or French, is August 31. The selection will be made by a five-man Canadian jury.

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## NEW DIPLOMATIC APPOINTMENTS

Mr. Paul Martin, Secretary of State for External Affairs, announced recently that Miss B.M. Meagher had been appointed as Canada's first resident High Commissioner to Kenya. Miss Meagher, who has been Canada's Ambassador to Austria since 1962, will be replaced by Mr. J.A. McCordick, formerly the Head of Information Division of the Department of External Affairs.

Miss Meagher is the first woman to be appointed by Canada as high commissioner or ambassador to an African country.

### LAOS COMMISSIONER

Mr. Martin also announced that Brigadier P.S. Cooper would shortly be seconded to the Department of External Affairs to take up an appointment as Canadian Commissioner to the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos in September.

Brigadier Cooper comes to his new appointment with a military career dating back to 1931 and a record of previous service with the Canadian delega-

tion to the International Commission in Laos, where he has served on two previous occasions. In August 1956 he was appointed military adviser to the delegation, an appointment he held for a year. When the International Commission in Laos was reactivated in April 1961, he was reappointed military adviser and made alternate delegate.

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#### ADULT EDUCATION

A total enrolment of 1,936,188 in adult-education courses was reported in 1963-64. Government departments and agencies operated or assisted programmes that accounted for 77.0 per cent of the enrolment, and another 13.6 per cent was sponsored by universities and colleges. Vocational courses accounted for about two-thirds of the enrolment, more than half of which was in agricultural extension courses, sponsored by government departments, universities and wheat pools. Another 13.1 per cent of the enrolment was for credit toward a high-school diploma or university degree, and the rest was in social education, fine arts and other cultural subjects.

Attendance at public lectures, educational film showings and other events totalled more than four and a half million. Additional educational services for adults included radio and television programmes, library services, conferences and workshops.

The total staff reported for adult education included 1,649 full-time and 6,039 part-time employees. The median salary of full-time professional personnel employed by universities was \$8,577 and of those employed by government \$7,065.

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#### NORTHERN RESEARCH GRANTS

Northern Affairs Minister Arthur Laing announced recently that grants totalling \$200,000 had been awarded to research institutes carrying out northern studies, and to scientific expeditions working in the Canadian North. This is an increase of \$55,000 over the awards made in 1965. "Research is basic to economic development", Mr. Laing said. "The Government is keenly aware of the role it must play in the future of the North, and this is part of our programme for expanding support of northern research."

The grants have been awarded to 15 universities, institutes and expeditions. In addition, a grant of

\$30,000 has been made to the Arctic Institute of North America for publication of the *Arctic Bibliography*, a unique reference work for northern scientists.

The first grants for northern research, awarded in 1962, totalled \$60,000. Designed to encourage university research in the North and to assist in the training of northern scientists, the programme is administered by the Northern Co-ordination and Research Centre of the Department of Northern Affairs and National Resources. Grants are made on the recommendation of a special committee of scientists from the Federal Government and from universities. The institutes will use the awards for research projects in such fields as botany, zoology, microbiology, entomology, geology, geography, glaciology, oceanography, physics, archaeology, anthropology, sociology and economics.

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#### RESTOCKING LAKE HURON

Fifteen thousand splake, with their offspring, raised by the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, will be part of a planned-parenthood project which is hoped will result in a successful "planting" of Lake Huron during the next few years.

The splake (a hybrid of lake and brook trout), which are highly developed after ten years of research, will be sent to production hatcheries in Ontario and the State of Michigan to raise young for the Lake Huron restocking programme, in which United States authorities have agreed to participate. "Theoretically, at least," says Kenneth H. Loftus, Supervisor of the Fisheries Section, Lands and Forests Research Branch, "rehabilitation of Lake Huron, using splake, should be cheaper, and should involve fewer years of stocking than would be required using lake trout."

The present stock of hybrids will be reared to maturity, and their young planted in Lake Huron. Plantings are scheduled to coincide with a control programme for the sea lamprey, which will begin this year in the northwest corner of Lake Huron.

"Since these hybrids have just been developed, we do not know how they will perform in the wild," Mr. Loftus says, "we can speculate on the basis of the observed performance of the less highly selected hybrids which have been test-planted. These observations make us optimistic. We do know they should be planted in large numbers, and in a lake where neither lake trout or brook trout exist to backcross and dilute the selection just completed."

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