



CANADA

PRESS RELEASE

DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

OTTAWA - CANADA

NO. 10

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 1961.

VISIT TO OTTAWA OF OEEC SECRETARY-GENERAL,
MR. THORKIL KRISTENSEN.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS, THE HONOURABLE HOWARD GREEN, TODAY ANNOUNCED THAT MR. THORKIL KRISTENSEN, SECRETARY-GENERAL, DESIGNATE OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT, WHEN IT COMES INTO BEING, WILL PAY AN OFFICIAL VISIT TO OTTAWA, AT THE INVITATION OF THE CANADIAN GOVERNMENT, ON FEBRUARY 27 AND 28.

A PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS IN VARIOUS DANISH INSTITUTIONS SINCE 1927, MR. KRISTENSEN WAS A MEMBER OF THE DANISH PARLIAMENT FROM 1945 UNTIL THE TIME OF HIS APPOINTMENT AS SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE OEEC LAST SUMMER. HE TWICE HELD THE PORTFOLIO OF FINANCE OF HIS COUNTRY: FROM 1945 TO 1949 AND 1950 UNTIL 1953. HE HAS BEEN A MEMBER OF THE CONSULTATIVE ASSEMBLY OF EUROPE AND OF THE NORDIC COUNCIL. HE HAS PUBLISHED NUMEROUS ARTICLES AND STUDIES ON ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL PROBLEMS.

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DESIGNATE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MR. GUNTER KEISER, DIRECTOR OF TRADE AND PAYMENTS OF THE OEEC; MR. JOHN FAY, DIRECTOR OF ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS; AND MR. OTTINO CARRACIOLO DI FORINO, CHIEF OF THE OEEC MISSION IN WASHINGTON.

MR. KRISTENSEN WILL CALL ON THE PRIME MINISTER AND ON OTHER MINISTERS CONCERNED WITH THE NEW ORGANIZATION AND WILL ALSO HAVE DISCUSSIONS WITH CANADIAN OFFICIALS. HE WILL ADDRESS A LUNCHEON MEETING OF THE CANADIAN CLUB, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, AT THE CHATEAU LAURIER, AND ATTEND A DINNER GIVEN BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE AT THE RIDEAU CLUB THAT EVENING.

MR. KRISTENSEN AND HIS PARTY WILL ARRIVE IN OTTAWA SUNDAY AFTERNOON, FEBRUARY 26, FROM WASHINGTON AND WILL DEPART FOR NEW YORK TUESDAY EVENING, FEBRUARY 28.

THIS WILL BE THE FIRST OFFICIAL VISIT TO CANADA OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL DESIGNATE OF THE OECD AND WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THE PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF THE NEW ORGANIZATION AND THE PROBLEMS WITH WHICH IT WILL BE CONCERNED. CANADA HAS SIGNED THE OECD CONVENTION AND WILL BECOME A FULL MEMBER WHEN THE ORGANIZATION COMES INTO FORCE FOLLOWING RATIFICATION BY SIGNATORIES.

(DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME OF MR. KRISTENSENS VISIT WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER.)

Mr. Thorkil KRISTENSEN

Biographical Notes

Born 9th October, 1899, at Fløjstrup, near Vejle, Denmark.

Education

School of Commerce Certificate, 1916. Studied at the People's College, Askov 1920-21.

Matriculation 1922. University of Copenhagen "Cand.polit." (Diploma of Political and Economic Sciences) 1927.

Academic Career

Lecturer in the High School of Commerce, Aarhus and in the University of Copenhagen, 1927-38. Professor of Commercial and Industrial Economics in the University of Aarhus, 1938-47, and in the School of Advanced Commercial Studies, Copenhagen since 1947.

Career as a public servant

Member of the Danish Parliament since 1945, sat as a Liberal up to 1960; at present Independent.

- Minister of Finance, 1945-47 and 1950-53.

Member of Finance Committee 1947-49 and 1953-60.

Member of the Consultative Assembly of Council of Europe, 1949-58

Member of Foreign Affairs Committee, 1953-60.

Member of Nordic Council, 1953-60.

Member of Academy of Technical Sciences. President of the Foreign Policy Association. Member of the Institute of History and Economics. President of the National Anti-Unemployment Federation. Member of the Assurance Council.

Author of

"Danmarks Driftsregnskab" ("Denmark's National Accounts") 1930;

"En Sikringsfond for Indskud i Sparekasser" ("A Deposit Guarantee Fund for Savings Banks") 1931; "Undersøgelser af kommunale Skattespørgsmaal" ("Studies on municipal Tax Problems") 1935; "Faste og variable Omkostninger" ("Fixed and variable Costs") 1939.

Editor of

"Haandbog i Kredit- og Hypoteksforeningspørgsmaal" ("Handbook of Land Bank Problems") 1944; "De europæiske markedsplaner" ("European Markets - Plans and Prospects") 1958; "The Economic World Balance" 1960.

Married Ellen NIELSEN.