



CANADA

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CANADA SHARES ITS NUCLEAR SKILLS

The annual report of Atomic Energy of Canada Limited for 1960-61 contains the following account of the international activities of AECL during the year:

"The main highlight during the year under review was the successful completion and start-up of the Canada-India Reactor at Trombay, India. The reactor became critical on July 10, 1960, and formal inaugural ceremonies were held on January 16, 1961. All AECL and other Canadian staff have left the site and the reactor is being operated and maintained by the Indian Department of Atomic Energy. This project has been the largest single co-operative programme in atomic energy between any two nations to date, and Canadians and Indians can be justifiably proud of this endeavour. It is expected that the close relationships in the atomic energy field that have been established will continue to grow in the coming years.

"The close co-operation between AECL and the United States Atomic Energy Commission has been further strengthened by the signing last June of a Memorandum of Understanding on a co-operative programme in the development of heavy-water moderated power reactors. By this memorandum, AECL and the USAEC have agreed to exchange detailed information on current and projected heavy-water moderated power reactors and to co-ordinate closely research and development work on reactors of this type. As a further expression of U.S. interest in heavy water power reactors, the USAEC has undertaken to spend up to \$5 million over and above

its regular programme on research and development specifically directed towards the heavy-water moderated reactors being constructed by Canada.

AECL AND UKAEA

"The close ties between AECL and the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority continue to be of great value. Frequent visits take place between the technical staff, and the exchange of staff continues to be an important facet of the co-operation. Special mention should be made of Canadian participation in the U.K.'s study of the steam generating, heavy-water moderated reactor (SGHWR) and of the joint experiments being performed in the Chalk River reactors. The annual technical policy conference was held last October in England.

"AECL has maintained and has profited from contacts with the atomic-energy organizations in many other countries. During the year there have been 72 staff from other countries attached to AECL for extended periods, not including those who have attended the Chalk River Reactor School. They work as staff members in the various divisions on agreed lines of research and development. The number of highly qualified experts from other countries is limited by the working and housing accommodation available.

AECL AND EURATOM

"The joint programme of research envisaged in the agreement for co-operation between AECL and Euratom is being administered by a Joint Tech-

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nical Board. The main area of this co-operation relates to organic cooled reactors and exchanges are being made between AECL and Euratom through the media of reports and visits. A Euratom representative is stationed in Canada to keep in close touch with the Canadian programme.

"Canada continues to be a strong supporter of the International Atomic Energy Agency, and AECL has been able to assist the IAEA by sending many technical experts to its conferences, symposia and panels and by accepting IAEA fellows for training at the Chalk River Reactor School.

"AECL's co-operation with the European Nuclear Energy Agency of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation has mainly been in the field of reactor physics. AECL, on behalf of Canada, is a member of the European-American Nuclear Data Committee. Valuable international co-operation has been established on nuclear cross section measurement work through this committee, and the research chemists at Chalk River in particular have been able to make important contributions."

NATO NAVAL EXERCISE

Approximately 60 warships, including four aircraft carriers from Canada and the United States, participated in a NATO naval exercise in the Western Atlantic from July 10 to 13. The three-day exercise tested carrier aircraft naval flight operations, tactics, communications and many other aspects of naval warfare. The exercise, named Rip Tide Two, was sponsored by NATO's Supreme Allied Commander Atlantic Admiral Robert L. Dennison, United States Navy.

Vice-Admiral Claude V. Ricketts, USN, NATO's Commander Striking Fleet Atlantic, conducted the exercise from his flagship USS "Northampton." Commodore James Plomer, Royal Canadian Navy, on board the anti-submarine carrier HMCS "Bonaventure", commanded the Canadian Task Group.

The exercise included anti-submarine warfare operations and strike exercises from the carriers "Bonaventure", "Essex", "Independence" and "Intrepid".

Other ships participating included the cruiser USS "Newport News", the guided-missile cruiser "Boston", and the Canadian destroyer escort HMCS "Athabaskan".

PROBE NEW SHIPPING METHOD

A new and rapidly-growing method of shipping freight will be examined in Toronto next November at Canada's first Conference on Containers to be sponsored by the National Harbours Board. Containers are oversized metal cases that can be readily moved by ship, rail or truck and easily interchanged among these forms of transportation. This new method is gaining ready acceptance owing to its effect in reducing shipping costs and damage to goods.

"Containerization" of freight is on the increase in the United States and Europe, and the first experimental shipments have already been made from Canada to Britain and the continent. According to a spokesman for the National Harbours Board, the time is ripe to bring together all those interested in container shipments in Canada. "By calling the conference now we shall afford an opportunity for representatives of industry and the various types of carriers to discuss the extent to which containers can be used in our foreign and domestic trade," he said. "By co-ordinating the thinking of the various interests at this stage, we hope that we in Canada can avoid some of the costly errors made in other countries."

The National Harbours Board Container Conference will bring together leading experts in the field from Canada and the U.S. The programme provides for background and technical papers as well as panel discussions and films on the latest container equipment available. The National Harbours Board expects to announce full Conference details shortly.

KOREAN GOODWILL MISSION

A goodwill mission despatched by the Government of the Republic of Korea to a number of capitals in North and South America visited Ottawa from July 11 to 13.

Members of the group were: Ambassador Chung, Il Kwon - head of the mission, Korean Ambassador to the United States; Mr. Lee, Won Kyung - managing director of the Hapdong News Agency; Mr. Shim Yun Sup - research editor of the *Orient Express*; Mr. Bhie, Yong Moon - chief of the European and American Affairs Section of the Korean, Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

During their brief stay in Ottawa, members of the mission called on the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, and conferred with Canadian officials.

AIR PARCEL RATES CUT

Reductions averaging approximately 17 per cent in domestic air parcel post rates were announced recently by Postmaster General William Hamilton in disclosing the first general revision of air parcel post rates since the inception of this service more than eight years ago. Rates on international air parcel post will also be cut, in the first general revision of these rates since 1953.

In making the announcement, Mr. Hamilton referred to the rate cuts as a sweeping step forward in operating an efficient long-haul parcel post service. He explained that the new rates reflected a gradual decrease in basic air costs of mail transportation, and that the Post Office was passing this saving on to the mailing public.

The Postmaster General said his department felt that, because of the vast distances involved in the handling of Canadian parcel post, it was necessary that air transportation be made as economical and as efficient as possible. He felt that the new, more attractive rates would result in an increase in volume for this type of postal service.

The new domestic rates are scheduled to go into effect September 1. The new international rates will probably be in operation in August.

Concurrently with the reduction in international air parcel post rate, there will be a general increase in surface rates for international parcel post for the first time since 1952. The increase, due to higher handling costs, will vary according to the country of destination and the weight of the parcel.

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INITIAL GRAIN PAYMENTS

Initial payments for the basic grades of western wheat, oats and barley, at the same level as the present crop year's, were announced for 1961-62 by Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton in the House of Commons on July 6.

The initial payments effective August 1 are: wheat-\$1.40 a bushel, basis No. 1 Northern, in store Fort William/Port Arthur or Vancouver; oats-60 cents a bushel, basis No. 2 Canada Western, in store Fort William/Port Arthur; barley-96 cents a bushel, basis No. 3 Canada Western Six-Row, in store Fort William/Port Arthur.

For all other grades of wheat, oats and barley, the initial payments for the 1961-62 crop year will be established at a later date on the recommendation of the Canadian Wheat Board.

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NIGERIAN TRADE MISSION

A trade and economic mission from Nigeria arrived in Ottawa on July 12, and visited Toronto and Montreal before leaving on July 15 for London, England. The 23-member mission was headed by Chief F. S. Okotie-Eboh, Nigerian Minister of Finance, two additional federal ministers and three provincial ministers.

The purpose of the mission was to stimulate trade between Nigeria and Canada, to discuss the possible investment of Canadian capital in Nigeria with government officials and businessmen, and to consider the provision of technical assistance by Canada in the development of this new member of the Commonwealth.

Concerning the visit of the Nigerian Mission, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. George Hees, said that Nigeria's stable economy and rising standard of living rendered it a particularly attractive market for Canadian goods, which was the reason for the decision to hold a Canadian trade fair in Lagos in January 1962. Canadian exports to Nigeria last year had a value of \$2.3 million, compared with \$900,000 the previous year. The principal items

were flour and automobiles, but exports from this country also included non-ferrous metals, foodstuffs and consumer goods.

During their stay in this country, members of the mission met many of the Canadian manufacturers interested in the trade fair at Lagos, in addition to other exporters, importers, bankers, shipping agents and other businessmen interested in the Nigerian market.

Members of the mission included: Chief F. S. Okotie-Eboh, Minister of Finance; Z. B. Dipcharima, Minister of Commerce and Industry; J. C. Obande, Acting Minister of Works; Chief A. O. Adeyi, Minister of Trade and Industry in the Western Region; Dr. A. N. Abonna, Minister of Economic Planning in the Eastern Region; Alhaji Mohamadou Bashir, Wamban Daura, Minister of Local Government in the Northern Region.

During their visit to Toronto, the four Nigerian businessmen met Canadian businessmen in the Board of Trade Building, where a reception was held later for all members of the mission.

While in Montreal, the Nigerian businessmen met Canadian businessmen in the Board of Trade Building, where a buffet luncheon was held for all members of the mission.

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CONSUMER PRICE INDEX

The consumer price index was unchanged at 129.0 between the beginning of May and June. Declines in the components for transportation, health and personal care, and for recreation and reading, balanced increases in the food and clothing components. The components for housing and tobacco and alcohol remained unchanged.

The food index rose 0.2 per cent from 123.2 to 123.5 as a result of higher prices for a variety of food items, including most fresh fruits and vegetables, pork, eggs, sugar, and cereals. Beef, chicken and turkey prices were at lower levels, while price declines were also reported for fresh tomatoes, strawberries, and frozen orange juice.

The housing index was unchanged at 132.9, as both the shelter and household-operation components remained at May levels. In shelter, a fractional increase in the rent index -- the first in six months -- just balanced a similar decrease in the home-ownership index. In household operation, lower prices for coal and textiles offset price increases for furniture, floor coverings, and utensils and equipment; the index for household supplies and services was unchanged.

CLOTHING

The increase of 0.1 per cent in the clothing index, from 112.4 to 112.5, reflected higher prices for men's and children's wear, piece goods and clothing services, which include laundry, dry cleaning and shoe repairs. Footwear prices were unchanged, while prices were lower for women's wear.

The transportation index declined 0.4 per cent from 141.8 to 141.2 as a result of lower gasoline prices in the automobile-operation component, combined with a decrease in some local transportation

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fares. The travel component was higher, with increases in some inter-urban bus fares.

The index for health and personal care decreased 0.2 per cent, from 155.3 to 155.0. The health-care component declined as lower prices for prescriptions in the pharmaceutical index outweighed price increases for other items in this group. The personal-care component edged upward, owing to price increases for a number of supplies, including toilet soap, tooth-paste, face cream and powder.

The recreation and reading index declined 0.1 per cent from 146.0 to 145.8. The reading index was unchanged, but the recreation index decreased as a result of lower prices for several items, including sports equipment. The tobacco and alcohol index was unchanged at 115.8.

SWISS ENVOY INSTALLED

On July 7, His Excellency Dr. Alfred Zehnder presented his Letter of Credence as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Switzerland to Canada. The ceremony took place at Government House. Mr. Jean Côté of the Protocol Division, Department of External Affairs, presented the Ambassador to the Governor-General. Mr. G.P. de T. Glazebrook, Assistant Under-Secretary of State for External Affairs, and Mr. Esmond Butler, Secretary to the Governor-General, were in attendance on the Governor-General on this occasion.

The Ambassador was accompanied by the following members of his staff: Dr. Jean Widmer, Counsellor; Mr. Charles H. Steinhauslin, Secretary; Colonel Werner Koch, Military and Air Attaché.

Dr. Zehnder has been in the Swiss diplomatic service since 1925. He was Ambassador of Switzerland to the Soviet Union before his appointment as Ambassador to Canada.

APRIL CREDIT STATISTICS

Balances outstanding on credit extended on the books of sales finance companies (for consumer goods), small loan companies, department stores, furniture and appliance stores, and chartered banks (for personal loans) amounted to \$3,072 million at the end of April this year, up 7.2 per cent from \$2,866 million at the end of April last year.

End-of-April outstandings on the books of sales finance companies for consumer goods decreased to \$786 million from \$804 million at the end of April 1960, and furniture and appliance stores to \$186 million from \$189 million. End-of-month outstandings held by small loan companies increased to \$551 million from \$505 million a year ago, department stores to \$328 million from \$290 million, and personal loans at chartered banks to \$1,241 million from \$1,078 million.

INCO FELLOWSHIP AWARDS

Ten postgraduate fellowships have been awarded to Canadian students by The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited, as one phase of its extensive educational-aid programme, in which \$2,860,000 has been spent over the past five years. Since the commencement of Inco's fellowship programme in 1951, 51 awards, many tenable for more than one year, have been granted for postgraduate studies at Canadian universities.

Of the ten awards now announced, five are new fellowships and five are renewals of previous awards. Each has a maximum tenure of three years, providing an annual stipend of \$2,000 to the student and an annual supporting grant of \$500 to the university.

The ten recipients are completing advanced studies in a wide range of subjects including metallurgy, mathematics, physics, geology, geophysics and chemistry.

WINTER WHEAT SUPPORT PRICE

Winter wheat produced in Ontario during the period from July 1 this year to June 30, 1962, will be supported at \$1.39 a bushel on track, for No. 2 Canada Eastern grade, or better quality, Agriculture Minister Alvin Hamilton announced in the House of Commons recently.

This is the same support level as applied a year ago, and it amounts to 83 per cent of the base price or 10-year average of \$1.67 a bushel.

The 1961 Ontario winter wheat crop is estimated to be about 20 million bushels, an increase of almost 15 per cent over the 1960 production.

The Agricultural Stabilization Board has been authorized to pay producers the equivalent of the amount by which the support price exceeds the average price of No. 2 Canada Eastern grade winter wheat sold for milling or export purposes.

MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCTION

With decreases from a year earlier in each of the first six months of this year, output of motor vehicles in the January-June period fell 12.8 per cent to 222,136 units from 254,789 in the like half of 1960. June production was down to 41,645 units from 41,924 a year earlier.

Production of passenger cars in the first half of 1961 declined 11.9 per cent to 184,268 units from 209,062 a year ago, while the half-year output of commercial vehicles dropped 17.2 per cent to 37,868 units from 45,727. Passenger-car output was larger in June, the first increase this year from a year earlier, at 34,510 units against 34,369, and commercial vehicle production was smaller in the month at 7,135 units against 7,555.