



# Bulletin

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## MR. TRUDEAU VISITS THE SOVIET UNION

*At the invitation of the Government of the U.S.S.R., Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau and Mrs. Trudeau paid an official visit to the Soviet Union from May 17 to 28.*

*Mr. Trudeau reported to the House of Commons on his Soviet tour the very day he returned to Ottawa. Excerpts from his statement follow:*

...The Soviet Union occupies a vast land-mass extending through 11 time zones - some of which I am still feeling - with climates varying from the desert heat of Central Asia to the frigid temperatures of the Arctic. While in the U.S.S.R., I was taken by the Soviet Government to six cities in addition to Moscow. We travelled some 12,400 kilometres while doing so. Two of those cities, Murmansk and Norilsk, were within the Arctic Circle, the largest communities in the world that far north. They offered evidence of the advantages to be gained by Canada in the development of our North through closer co-operation and exchanges with the Soviet Union.

This visit to the U.S.S.R., which concluded just three hours ago, was the first of a Canadian Prime Minister, while in office, to that country. It was by no means, however, the first occasion on which a minister of the Canadian Government has travelled in the Soviet Union. Our relations with

that country have been developing and increasing in complexity since Canada first opened an embassy in Moscow in the early 1940s.

### TRADE RELATIONS

Honourable members will recall that Canada has long had treaty arrangements with the Soviet Government. Our first trade agreement was signed in 1956. Since that time, in every year except 1969, we have enjoyed a favourable and often substantial balance of trade in our favour. I might add that, while in Moscow, our trade in wheat was reviewed, including the Soviet assurance that when the U.S.S.R. has requirements to import wheat, it will in the first instance apply to Canada as a preferred source of supply. In January of this year the Minister of Industry, Trade and Commerce concluded an important agreement with the U.S.S.R. on the industrial application of science and technology - an agreement which reflects the recognition in the U.S.S.R. of Canada's increasing stature as the owner of important, advanced technology and of our awareness of the important progress made by the Soviets in a number of fields.

This increasing interest in the Soviet Union has not been confined to the Government. A wide range of contacts has been established in recent years by persons who recognize the Soviet Union as a near neighbour, as a country of great influence, as a market-place and trading partner of immense potential, as the home of wide cultural attainments and as a fascinating land. I believe we have much to gain in this process of increasing awareness....

Canadian businessmen, scholars, artists, athletes and tourists are visiting the Soviet Union in increasing numbers and with considerable success. While my party was in Leningrad yesterday, a ship unloaded a valuable cargo of sophisticated, heavy-tracked vehicles purchased by the Soviets from a Calgary manufacturer.

Earlier in my visit I was delighted to be told

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that an Edmonton girl, Miss Elizabeth Carruthers, had placed first in one of the events at a championship diving meet in Rega and that two of her Canadian team-mates came third and fourth.

#### PROTOCOL SIGNED

Against this steadily developing background it was only natural that steps be taken to place Canadian-Soviet relations on a more structured and orderly basis, and this was the purpose of the protocol which was signed in Moscow last week and tabled in this House by the Secretary of State for External Affairs on the same day.

This document, which I believe to be an important one, goes some distance toward placing Canadian-Soviet consultations on the same basis as has existed for a number of years with Britain, the United States and Japan. Honourable members will recall...that a similar arrangement was entered into with Mexico as part of the work of the ministerial committee which travelled to Latin America, and that agreements for regular consultation with both New Zealand and Australia were reached during my visits to those countries last May.

This process of broadening Canadian relations is an ongoing one and was spelled out in the foreign policy review. The principles of that review have been discussed widely in Canada and were studied at length by a Parliamentary committee. The foreign policy of this Government has been to contribute where it can to a peaceful world and to strengthen our relations with a number of countries. In both respects this policy is designed to serve basic Canadian values and interests. The Canadian-Soviet protocol is a natural manifestation of that policy.

As the communiqué which was tabled this morning reveals, the protocol will ensure continuing consultations at a variety of levels on matters of the kind discussed by me and the Soviet leaders, President Podgorny, Premier Kosygin and Secretary General Brezhnev. The communiqué refers to the desirability of relaxation of international tensions and of stability and *détente* in Europe; economic, scientific and technological co-operation; Canadian-Soviet trade; Arctic and northern development, including the safety of navigation and the prevention of pollution; the significance of the forthcoming UN Conference on the Human Environment; the conviction that international issues be resolved in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter and that the effectiveness of the UN be enhanced; satisfaction at the conclusion of the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, and the treaty prohibiting placement of weapons of mass destruction on the ocean floor.

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#### REASON FOR VISIT

...As we have looked traditionally south to the United States and east to Europe and, more recently, west to Asia, so should we not disregard our neighbour to the north. The relations between Canada

and the Soviet Union in the postwar years have not all been of a wholesome or a desirable nature. I harbour no naive belief that as a result of this protocol our two countries will find themselves suddenly in a relation which will reflect nothing but sweetness and tender feelings. As I stated in my speech in the Kremlin, there remain many fundamental differences between us; differences relating to deep-seated concerns springing from historic, geographic, ideological, economic, social and military factors.

But surely...the only way to resolve these differences and eliminate these concerns is by increased contact and effort at understanding. That is what the protocol proposes. That is what, in a different way, is achieved by prime ministerial visits. Through them an opportunity is created by the pens of journalists and the cameras of photographers for the people of both Canada and the Soviet Union to learn much more about one another — their respective histories, their sufferings, their aspirations.

No one can travel in the Ukraine and not absorb the instinctive and passionate desire for peace on the part of a people who lost nine million of their countrymen during the Second World War, a number approaching in magnitude the entire population of Canada at that time. No one can walk through the cemeteries of Leningrad and view the mass graves of tens of thousands of residents of that city who died of starvation during the cruel 900-day siege and not understand that the Russian people fear desperately the repetition of an experience which no Canadians, fortunately, have ever suffered. The death of half the people of a city — 600,000 of them women, children and civilians — did not spare a single Leningrad family. The survivors of that cruel conflict do not regard war as an abstract concept, as a glorious pursuit or as a credible means of resolving disputes. War to them is the loss before one's eyes of loved ones, of home, of possessions, of hope.

To achieve a satisfactory, just and continuing peace requires a climate of confidence, a climate in which men of differing social and economic systems trust one another. There is no simple way in which this can be done, but neither is there the slightest doubt that it must be done. Equally, confidence can be engendered only by increasing contact of governments and of people. In this way, gradually, and sometimes painfully, can we continue and accelerate the slow progress toward a world in which the foremost goals of every government of every country must be the attainment of social justice, fundamental human rights and the dignity and worth of all human beings.

Because tolerance and good will are nowhere so evident as they are in Canada, Canadians are possessed of an uncommon opportunity to urge all men everywhere to pursue these universal goals. I attempted to do so while in the Soviet Union, where I expressed to Premier Kosygin the widespread concern in Canada over the alleged refusal of the Soviet Government to permit its Jewish citizens to

## FEDERAL AID FOR LOW-COST HOUSING

A \$100-million federal program of assisted home-ownership for low-income families was announced recently by Mr. Robert Andras, the Minister responsible for Housing. An expansion of techniques developed last year under the special \$200-million low-cost housing program of home-owner and rental housing, the new program is meant to bring home-ownership within reach of about 8,000 families in the \$4,000 to \$6,000 income range.

Loans to builders by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation will be made under Section 40 of the National Housing Act and loans will at first be committed on a 25-year amortization and five-year renewable mortgage at 8 ¾ percent interest.

Purchasers will be required to make a minimum down-payment of 5 per cent of the purchase price; however, capital grants through provincial or municipal assistance may eliminate down-payments entirely in some projects. Total monthly payments of principal, interest and taxes may not exceed a maximum of 27 per cent of gross income, but the aim will be to hold monthly carrying charges at a level no higher than 25 per cent of income.

Where purchasers are unable to meet these requirements, the interest-rate on the NHA loan may be reduced to a minimum of 7 ¼ per cent. Also, the amortization period may be extended to a maximum of 40 years if a decrease of interest-rate is insufficient to bring the monthly payments within the purchaser's financial capabilities.

### PROVINCIAL PARTICIPATION

There was active provincial participation and support in last year's experimental program, with Quebec, British Columbia, Alberta and Saskatchewan applying interest rebates or capital grants to ease the way for low-income owners. Nova Scotia introduced interest rebate legislation this year and New Brunswick is offering second mortgage assistance. Other provinces, and municipalities may wish to participate and support further development of this program.

"We are convinced," Mr. Andras said, "that in many parts of Canada more home-ownership can be made possible for families in lower income brackets, even at incomes below \$4,000. For others, particularly in the large metropolitan centres, low-cost rental housing will continue to be the major means of achieving improved family accommodation at this time, although our experiences with condominium forms of tenure promise that even in the big cities it will be possible to offer home ownership to low-income families."

"In general, we propose to expand the assisted home-ownership experiment into smaller centres this year, particularly those urban areas where the Section 16 controlled rent program is not entirely suitable. We anticipate as well that it will be possible in some centres to achieve projects in conjunction with the activities of approved National Housing Act lending institutions where combined projects could offer a broad range of income mix and a high level of amenities," Mr. Andras declared.

### NATO PLANNING GROUP

The Nuclear Planning Group of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization consisting of Britain, Canada, Germany, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, and the United States defence ministers, held its ninth semi-annual meeting last month in Mittenwald, Germany, under the chairmanship of Manlio Brosio, NATO secretary general.

The NATO Nuclear Planning Group is composed of members from eight countries. Membership is on a rotation basis which permits non-nuclear members, together with nuclear powers, to participate in nuclear defence planning measures within NATO, including control and consultation procedures.

Canada began its current 18-month membership on January 1, 1970, and was also a member from January 1967 to July 1968.

### REMEMBERING THE "BLUENOSE"

The exploits of the famous Canadian schooner *Bluenose* are recounted in a book just published entitled *Bluenose, Queen of the Grand Banks*.

In 1921, the *Bluenose* won the Halifax Herald International Fisherman's Trophy, emblematic of the sailing championship of the fishing fleets of the North Atlantic, and was never afterwards defeated in a contest for this trophy. She successfully defended it four times - in 1922, 1923, 1931 and 1938 - on the last two occasions as victor over the United States schooner *Gertrude L. Thebaud*. Sold in 1942, the *Bluenose* became a West Indies freighter registered in Honduras. She was lost off Haiti in January 1946.

Captain Angus Walters, who died in Lunenburg, Nova Scotia, in 1968, was managing owner and skipper of the *Bluenose* from 1921, when she was built, until 1942, when she was sold. In 1933, he took the *Bluenose* to Chicago to represent Canada at the Century of Progress and in 1937 sailed her to Britain to take part in the Silver Jubilee of King George V and Queen Mary.

The book about the *Bluenose*, written by an American, Mrs. Feenie Ziner, and illustrated by her husband, tells the story of the schooner's great victories and speaks of the fishing and boat-building industries that produced the magnificent vessels of which the *Bluenose* was an outstanding example.

## RELICS OF CHINESE JEWRY ON DISPLAY

For several centuries, Western scholars have been intrigued by reports of a small colony of Chinese Jews living in K'ai-feng, in Honan Province, Northern China. The Jesuits who went to China in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries made contact with some of them, and several nineteenth century churchmen visited the city and its Jewish families.

It remained for a Canadian, Bishop William C. White, to make a study of this obscure community, its history and genealogies, and, in 1942, to write what is still the definitive work on the subject, *Chinese Jews*. A new edition of this book was published in 1966.

While studying and photographing these twentieth century representatives of this ancient colony, Bishop White (who later became Curator of the Far Eastern Department of the Royal Ontario Museum) arranged for the memorial stone recording early history of the community to be preserved, and collected relics of the vanished synagogue of K'ai-feng. He brought the objects he was able to assemble to Toronto, where they have been in the Chinese collections of the Far Eastern Department for many years.

### HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE

The objects are varied, and rich in historical associations. Although the Rolls of the Pentateuch had been taken to England in the nineteenth century, the lacquered wooden Torah case was obtained for the ROM, and the Bishop was able to find some manuscript leaves from the Book of Genesis. Perhaps the most handsome piece is a black sounding-stone originally used to call the worshippers together, and carefully preserved by the leading Jewish family of the city in the years since the synagogue had fallen into disrepair and then been demolished.

There are, in addition, two ornamental stone bowls once situated in the synagogue courtyard, and a stone object that was probably the mouth of the drain into which water from ablutions was poured. While the memorial stone recording the community's history from the first building of the synagogue in 1163 into the sixteenth century remained in K'ai-feng, a facsimile copy of it, as well as ink rubbings of the original, were specially made for the Royal Ontario Museum.

These objects, together with the photographs of the community taken earlier in the twentieth century by Bishop White, form a unique record of a religious group whose links with the West go back more than 1,000 years and whose faith endured for many centuries despite its isolation.

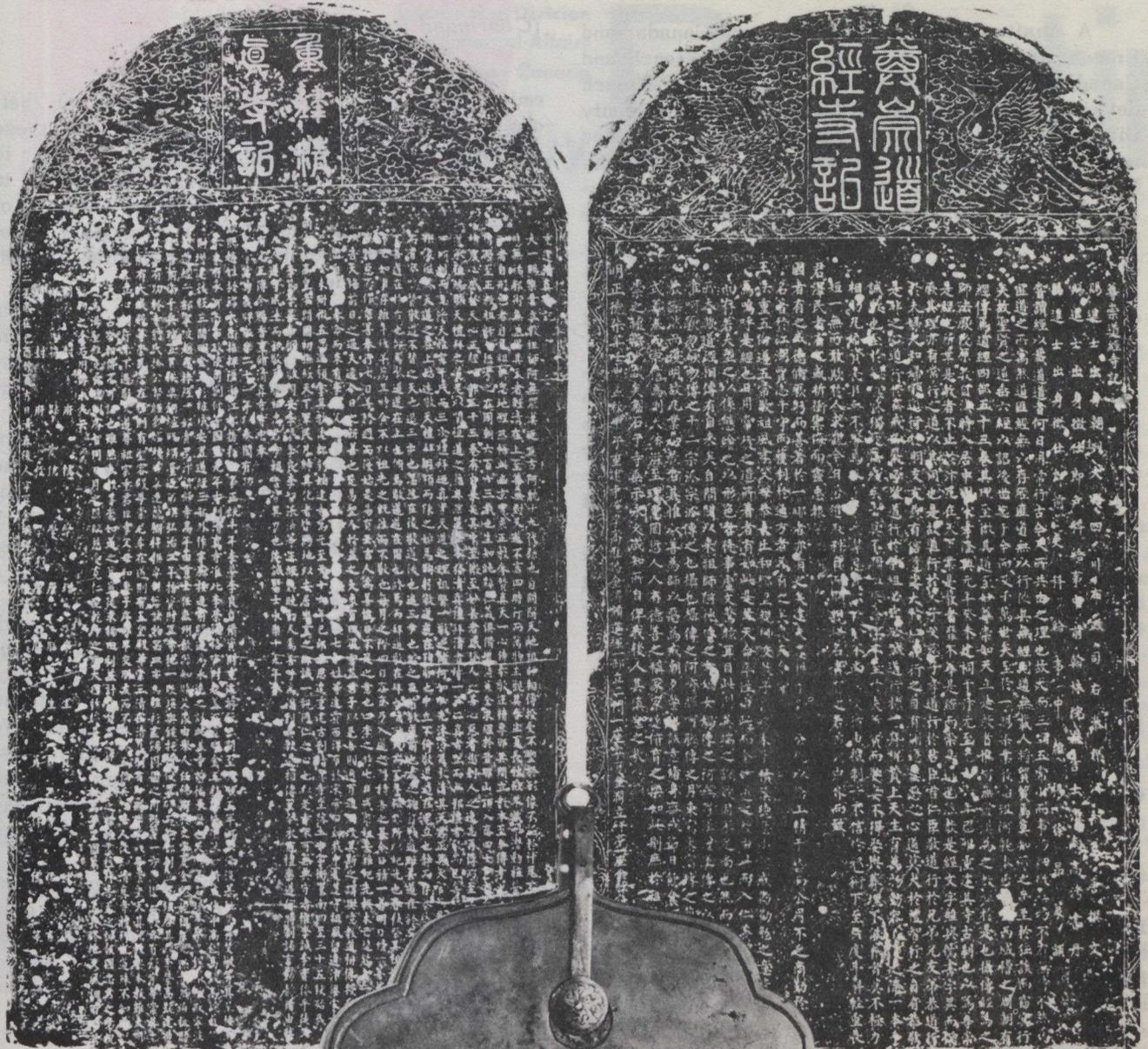
### DISPLAY LOANED TO SYNAGOGUE

The objects have been scattered in study areas of the Museum, and have not been on display, owing to lack of gallery space. The Curator estimates that it would cost about \$10,000 to prepare a proper setting for them because of the diversity of their characteristics and history and, since the funds have not been available for this purpose, the Museum has made an extended loan of nine of the K'ai-feng objects to Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto, where a handsome display has been created for the enjoyment of the whole community.

The objects on display are: rubbings of two inscriptions, 1489 and 1512, from a stele; two stone basins, believed to be of fifteenth-century date; a stone drain-mouth; a stone chime; a lacquered Torah case; three leaves from the Book of Genesis; and a single leaf from a New Year's prayer.



*Dr. Hsio Yen-Shih, Curator of the Far Eastern Department, Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, and Rabbi Gunther Plaut, of the Holy Blossom Temple, Toronto admire a lotus-carved stone basin of fifteenth century China, with members of the congregation. The Museum recently made an extended loan of the rare Judaica from China to the Jewish community of Toronto.*



The two ink-squeezes above were taken from the opposite faces of the earliest memorial stone at K'ai-feng. At the left is the first inscription, dating from 1489; the one at the right was made in 1512. Both tell of the "Israelitish" religion coming to China in the time of the Han Dynasty (206 B.C.-A.D. 220), and of another immigration, by way of India, in the twelfth century.

A resonant, black marble chime, or gong, called the worshippers to three periods of prayer each day during the years that the synagogue flourished. The chime is now in the Royal Ontario Museum. It is 12 inches wide, and the four Chinese characters on its face mean "the jade chime of spiritual essence". Certain characteristics indicate that it was made during the Ming Dynasty.

## CANADA-FRANCE FISHERIES

A draft fisheries pact between Canada and France was agreed on last month when French and Canadian representatives met in Ottawa. The French delegation, led by Mr. Christian Girard, Deputy Director in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, included representatives of the General Secretariat of the Merchant Marine and of the Ministry of State responsible for overseas departments and territories. The Canadian delegation, headed by Mr. J.A. Beesley, legal adviser in the Department of External Affairs, included Department of Fisheries and Forestry officials as well as other representatives of External Affairs.

At the end of the discussions, the two delegations worked out a draft agreement, subject to approval by their Governments, which takes into account the evolution of fishing in Canada and the traditional activities of French fishermen in the waters of the Atlantic coast, including those of St. Pierre and Miquelon.

The delegations also agreed upon a proposed delimitation of the territorial waters and fishing zones between St. Pierre and Miquelon and Newfoundland.

## FORCES RECRUITS DOWN NORTH

Recruiting officers of the Armed Forces will visit Arctic communities this month to interest young northerners in a career with the Forces.

The object of the program is to enrol young men and women who have special knowledge of the North.

Although recruiters have been north of the 60th Parallel in the past, the establishment of a Northern Region Headquarters at Yellowknife in the Yukon and increased Forces' activity in the Arctic, have created a requirement for people who have an intimate familiarity with local working and living conditions.

About 100 young men and women, who will be recruited in the initial drive, will be chosen for training in administration, transportation, supply, food services and communications.

When they complete their training, they will be qualified to serve at any Armed Forces unit - though particular emphasis will be placed on locating them in the North.

Recruiters from Edmonton, Winnipeg and Montreal will visit Yellowknife, Inuvik, Whitehorse, Hay River, Fort Smith, Churchill and Frobisher Bay.

Basic training at Canadian Forces Base Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, will begin in September.

## MR. TRUDEAU VISITS THE SOVIET UNION

(Continued from P. 2)

emigrate to Israel or to other countries of their choice. I was assured by Mr. Kosygin that these allegations were not well-founded and that, in particular, his Government had permitted the exit to Israel for many months of significant numbers of Soviet Jews. I might add...that Mr. Kosygin's statement has been corroborated by the Canadian Government from other, independent sources.

I seized the opportunity to urge Mr. Kosygin to permit persons of all ethnic origins with relatives in Canada to come here and thus reunify the many families which have been split tragically for many years.

He assured me that his Government would not place unjustifiable barriers in the way of those persons and he promised that he would give personal attention to the list of names of such persons which I took with me to Moscow.

## FISHERIES DISCUSSIONS

In another area entirely, I was able to discuss with Mr. Kosygin the concern and fear expressed by our East Coast fishermen over the practices of the Soviet Atlantic fisheries convention and had a profound interest in a long-lasting and healthy fish stock. We agreed that this issue was deserving of further talks.

Only time will tell...whether the warm welcome which was accorded me in the U.S.S.R. reflects the commencement of an era in Canadian-Soviet relations as advantageous as we all hope will be the case. I prefer to be optimistic and I am urging all government departments to exploit these new openings. I urge Canadian businessmen to accept the new challenge. For our part as Canadians, I assured the Soviet leaders that there was no impediment in our desire for better and more mutually beneficial relations.

## MR. KOSYGIN TO VISIT CANADA

As the House is aware...I invited Premier Kosygin to visit Canada at a time convenient to each of us, and he accepted with pleasure. I am certain that on that occasion Canadians will respond to the Soviet leader with the same warmth and congeniality as was shown to me by persons in every city I visited. I am particularly grateful to Mr. Kosygin, who spent some 20 hours with me and whose daughter acted throughout the visit as a hostess for my wife.

I am happy...that I was given the opportunity to make the trip. I am happy to be back. I am happy at what appears to be favourable results of the visit.