



CANADA

CANADIAN WEEKLY BULLETIN

INFORMATION DIVISION • DEPARTMENT OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS • OTTAWA, CANADA

Vol. 16 No. 4

January 25, 1961

CONTENTS

Crisis in Laos	1
Maritime Groundfisheries	2
RCMP Police Five Airports	3
Fishy Navigation	3
Future of National Resources	4
Consumer Price Indexes	4

Commemorative Stamp	4
Seaway Communication System	4
Columbia River Treaty Signed	5
Forrester to Stratford	5
Bottles Measure Ocean Flow	6
Agent-General to France	6

CRISIS IN LAOS

In reply to a question in the House of Commons on January 16 on "the policy of the Government of Canada regarding the reactivation of the Truce Supervisory Commission in the troubled situation in Laos, particularly in the light of the published views of the Governments of the United Kingdom, France and the United States", the Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, made the following statement:

"...The Canadian Government has been very much concerned about this situation. We have been doing our best to help work out a satisfactory solution...

REASONS FOR COMMISSION ADJOURNMENT

"Canada's direct concern in this matter arises from our membership in the International Commission for Supervision and Control in Laos, which was established by the Geneva Conference of 1954....Canada did not participate in that Conference, but, together with India and Poland, was named to a Supervisory Truce Commission. It will be recalled that the International Supervisory Commission adjourned *sine die* in July, 1958, following two requests by the Laotian Government for its departure. I have seen the suggestion made that this Commission was adjourned at Canada's insistence, but the insistence came from the Laotian Government, and the adjournment was approved by Canada and India, being a majority of the nations on the Truce Supervisory Commission.

"In the second of these requests dated May 22, 1958, the Prime Minister of Laos stated that the task entrusted to the Commission was 'drawing successfully to a close', and he expressed on behalf of his Government 'its profound gratitude for the efficacious assistance' of the Commission in re-establishing in the kingdom a 'normal situation in respect of its unity, sovereignty and independence'.

"The normal situation to which the Prime Minister of Laos referred in his letter of May 1958 did not, unhappily, long prevail. In the fall of 1959 the Security Council took steps to send a committee to Laos in the hope that this would stop the trouble which had already arisen there at that time. I believe there is still a United Nations presence in Laos, but obviously that fact has not prevented the civil war which is going on there at the present time.

"In recent months the situation has become increasingly critical, so that at present there is not only a state of open hostilities but also an absence of general international agreement on the identity of the legitimate Government. The Communist side is claiming that one man is the head of the Government and the Western side is claiming another man is. The conflicts within the country have engaged the sympathies and to some extent the support of interested powers outside. This is actually a question which the big powers must settle. If they do not agree to some settlement, in any event if they do not keep their hands off,

(Over)

it is quite impossible for other countries to bring about a settlement.

"I need hardly remind the House that such a situation imperils not only the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Laos, which the members of the Geneva Conference undertook to respect, but also the peace and stability of Southeast Asia in general. In these circumstances, it is natural that there should have been suggestions that a return to Laos of the International Supervisory Commission might help to reduce tensions and promote a peaceful solution of Laos' difficulties.

DIFFICULTIES TO BE FACED

"Such a reconvening of the Commission presented, however, certain difficulties. In the first place, the task originally assigned to the Commission was to supervise and control the application of a cease-fire agreement already reached by the great powers at the Geneva Conference. There was no question of the Commission itself bringing about a cease-fire. Second, it is clear that an essential condition for the effective functioning of a Commission so constituted would be basic agreement among the other powers directly interested on its return and on the duties it should perform. Third, unless it has an assurance of the co-operation of the Laotian authorities it would be unable to operate and its position would be untenable.

"I might remind the House in this connection...that, at the time the Commission was adjourned, we made quite clear that if, in any future emergency, the Commission were to be recalled, we would always have in mind the rights of the Laotian Government and would respect the sovereignty of that country. The Canadian Government, therefore, while fully in sympathy with the desire to take action quickly in a critical situation, has sought to ensure that the means adopted would be those which, given the existing circumstances, would give the best promise of success.

"It was with these considerations in mind that I suggested an exploratory mission might be sent to Laos to find out by consultation with the Laotian authorities what precisely could usefully be done in the present circumstances.

"In this connection my suggestion was that the three key men who went to Southeast Asia in 1954 or 1955—I am not sure of the exact year—would go back as members of this exploratory mission. The Canadian member was Brigadier Sherwood Lett of Vancouver, who is now Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of British Columbia. Chief Justice Lett has offered to go out in this capacity. The Indian representative, Mr. M. Desai, unfortunately has not been well and is on sick leave. This proposal that there be an exploratory mission made up of these three key people was not generally acceptable.

CANADA IS WILLING

"Discussions are continuing with a view to establishing an agreed basis of proceeding along these general lines. We for our part are willing, if the United Kingdom and the Soviet Union as co-chairmen of the Geneva Conference so request, and subject to the agreement of the King of Laos—we are not asking for the agreement of the Laotian Government but for the agreement of the King of Laos, who is the only generally recognized constitutional authority of that country — to appoint a Canadian representative to the Commission, which would do what it could in present circumstances, by consultation and advice, to contribute to the restoration of peace and to the maintenance of the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Laos.

"If the Commission is reconvened, I do not believe that all the responsibility for working out a cease-fire could fairly be placed on it, because in fact it was never set up to bring about that result, but it probably could help.

"As I pointed out earlier, discussions are taking place. Some discussions are actually going on this afternoon, and when there is anything further to report I will be very glad to bring it to the attention of the House.

RECONVENE GENEVA CONFERENCE

"...I also made the statement some days ago that I thought, for a long-term settlement, it would be wise to reconvene the Geneva Conference. There was a good deal of opposition to that being done. In addition there has been the suggestion that there should be a broad-ended Geneva Conference made up by adding countries in the area which are neutral, for example Burma and Thailand. Several of the Asian countries have been proposed. Whether agreement will be reached to recall the original Conference or to call an expanded Conference, I do not know. This is one of the questions which is already under discussion."

*** **

MARITIME GROUND FISHERIES

An intensive study of the valuable ground-fishery of the Maritime Provinces was carried out by the biological station of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada at St. Andrews, New Brunswick, in 1960. In a report recently released at the Board's annual meeting in Ottawa, several projects vital to this important fishery were described. Groundfish are those that feed on the ocean bottom. Well-known members of this group are cod, haddock, pollock and halibut.

Among the projects undertaken by scientists of the St. Andrews station were the collection of mobile-fleet statistics, the sampling of commercial landings at major Maritime ports and the studying of catches taken at sea by

commercial fishing boats. The more significant developments of the 1960 programme were the processing of statistics and research-vessel data on IBM cards, new studies of halibut and pollock stocks, winter fishing by the Board's research vessel, the "A.T. Cameron", in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the assessment of the effects of various otter-trawl mesh sizes on total landings.

SEASONAL VARIATIONS

Tagging and survey operations conducted by the station's scientists showed that there are seasonal and annual differences in the distribution of cod, haddock, plaice, and pollock. Studies of small-fish abundance have assisted scientists in forecasting trends in cod and haddock landings.

The report pointed out that greater fishing effort by Canadian and foreign fishing fleets in the Western Gulf of St. Lawrence had resulted in increased cod landings but that this had also reduced the abundance of large fish and that, as a result, Canadian line-fishing catches were on the decline.

The station also reported that the landings of all pelagic fishes, such as herring, swordfish, mackerel and tuna, had totalled 213 million pounds as of the end of September 1960. This was an increase of 11 per cent over the yield for the same period of 1959. Herring landings had increased by 22 million pounds and mackerel landings by four million pounds. However, the swordfish catch was down from 6.6 to 3.9 million pounds.

USE OF DDT

The station continued its long-term study of the Atlantic salmon in 1960. In this connection, considerable emphasis was placed on efforts to determine the effects of a 1960 DDT spraying of two million acres of budworm-infested woodland in central New Brunswick on salmon stocks. DDT concentration at half-strength caused only half as much immediate mortality to native young salmon as application of full-strength DDT in other areas. Laboratory experiments have shown that late-season mortalities of young salmon from areas sprayed with full-strength DDT may be heavy (around 80 per cent), while samples from half-strength areas have shown no unusual mortality to date.

RCMP POLICE FIVE AIRPORTS

Because of the tremendous growth of air travel and the vast increase in the volume of the travelling public using airport facilities round the clock, the Department of Transport will turn over policing and securing at Toronto, Montreal, Ottawa, Edmonton, and the Halifax airports to the Royal Canadian Mounted Police on April 1, 1961.

Announcement of the decision was made by Transport Minister Léon Balcer. It was

pointed out that the question of airport security, including the handling of a steadily-increasing flow of automobile traffic, had been under study for some time. It had been decided that the matter could be managed best by a specialized agency and, since the RCMP were already responsible for the security of other federal property, they were asked to handle the policing at the airports in question as well.

SIZE OF JOB

Some idea of the magnitude of the task can be gained from the fact that in 1959, at Montreal International Airport (Dorval), a total of 902,084 persons arrived at the airport by plane and 904,388 departed by air. It is estimated that, for each air traveller, there were 2.7 other persons at the airport to see him off, welcome him, or just to look round.

The decision to have the Mounted Police take charge of policing at Toronto, Montreal and Ottawa airports will affect a total of 32 men, at present employed by the Department as airport constables or security guards. The Department will seek the concurrence of the Civil Service Commission in trying to place the men affected in suitable alternate employment.

The RCMP will employ a number of men from the Corps of Commissionaires under the new scheme. It is expected that about 49 members of the force and 57 commissionaires will be in service at the five airports.

FISHY NAVIGATION

Early sea captains and desert wanderers may have been the first humans to discover celestial navigation, but apparently the fish beat them to it. Evidence that sockeye salmon use the skies and the stars to orient themselves while migrating has been found by scientists of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada and was contained in a report to the Board's recent annual meeting in Ottawa by its Biological Station at Nanaimo, British Columbia.

Observations on adult salmon have produced evidence that migration is limited to particular pathways at particular times, and the influences of daily, lunar and seasonal cycles in activity or behaviour, of weather changes and of hydrodynamic forces have been substantiated.

Experimental studies on orientation in sockeye smolts has indicated consistent directional tendencies when vision of only the sky is permitted; overcast skies or artificial covering has resulted in the fish pointing in random directions.

Moonlight, sunset after-glow or city lights may interfere to some extent, but the studies indicate that celestial orientation is an essential component for the successful migration of the sockeye out of lakes and towards the sea.

FUTURE OF NATIONAL RESOURCES

Interesting new areas of federal-provincial co-operation are becoming more apparent as a result of a meeting of federal and provincial cabinet ministers in Ottawa on January 16.

Agreement to work closely together on making the "Resources For Tomorrow" conference in Montreal next October a solid success was arrived at in the meeting of the national steering committee of the conference. Seven provincial resource department ministers were in attendance and other provinces were represented by senior officials. The proposed content of the conference agenda was fully discussed. All renewable resource sectors will be represented in conference discussions including agriculture, forestry, water, recreation, wildlife, fisheries and regional development.

The general feeling of the committee is that the "Resources For Tomorrow" conference is a major step in the promotion of the long-range development and proper management of all of Canada's renewable resources.

* * * *

CONSUMER PRICE INDEXES

Consumer price indexes declined in five of the ten regional cities during November and December 1960, with decreases ranging from 0.1 per cent to 0.3 per cent. Indexes were higher in three of the other five regional cities, and unchanged in the remaining two.

Food indexes declined in seven of the ten regional cities, and were higher in the remaining three cities. Shelter indexes showed mixed results as four indexes were higher, two lower and four unchanged. Clothing indexes were higher in five regional cities, unchanged in four, and down fractionally in the remaining city. Household-operation indexes were higher in six of the cities, unchanged in two, and down in the other two. "Other" commodities and services indexes were unchanged in seven of the ten cities, up fractionally in two, and down slightly in the remaining city.

* * * *

COMMEMORATIVE STAMP

The tremendous strides made by Canada's Indian population and the significant contribution they have made to the development of Canada in many fields will be honoured by the Canada Post Office with the issue of a special commemorative stamp on March 10, it has been announced by Postmaster General Hamilton.

Occasion for the special stamp will be the centennial of the birth of E. Pauline Johnson, the famed Mohawk poet, who was born at Chiefswood, near Brantford, Ontario, on March 10, 1861.

In announcing the new stamp, Mr. Hamilton pointed out that, although the issue was

directly related to the life and work of Miss Johnson, it was intended to honour all the members of her race. He noted that, in recent years particularly, Canadian Indians have made tremendous advances. They have achieved the federal franchise, made sweeping gains in the educational, health and social fields, and contributed at a vastly accelerated pace to the economic and industrial growth of the nation.

LEADERS IN MANY FIELDS

Historically, Mr. Hamilton pointed out, Canadian Indians had produced outstanding leaders in many fields. He mentioned, among other notables, Joseph Brant, Crowfoot, and Tecumseh, all outstanding military leaders. Among modern Indians, the Postmaster General mentioned: James Gladstone, whose appointment in January 1958 marked the appointment of the first Indian Senator; George Clutesi, painter; Mrs. Ethel Brant Monture, author; Dr. Gilbert C. Monture, O.B.E., internationally-known mineral economist; and the late Brigadier and Judge Oliver M. Monture.

The stamp is designed to show Miss Johnson's dual personality - as Victorian lady and Indian princess. It shows the poet in the foreground, wearing a high ruffled collar. In the background, she is depicted in tribal dress. Printed in brown and dark green, the stamp measures one and one-half inches by one inch. It was designed by B.J. Reddie of Ottawa. It is of the five-cent denomination and 32,000,000 copies will be printed.

* * * *

SEAWAY COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority and the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation of the United States advise that a very high frequency (VHF) radio telephone communication system has been fully installed within the Seaway. It is strongly recommended that vessels transiting the Seaway be equipped with VHF since it is believed that its use will resolve a number of communication problems because of the interference-free positive communication it provides. The Seaway entities also believe that the use of this system will result in greater ease in scheduling and transit.

The St. Lawrence Seaway Authority gives notice that very high frequency radio-telephone equipment will be compulsory on the Welland Canal, effective on the opening of navigation in 1962.

It is anticipated that vessels will be required to be equipped with VHF radio telephone installations in all sections of the Seaway for the 1962 navigation season.

The Seaway Rules and Circulars will be amended at a later date to clarify the requirements of the Seaway entities with respect to very high frequency radio scheduling.

COLUMBIA RIVER TREATY SIGNED

At the signing ceremony of the Columbia River Treaty, in Washington, on January 17, Prime Minister Diefenbaker described the Treaty as one of the great joint achievements of the twentieth century.

"The Columbia River Treaty is more than a blueprint for technical and economic development", he declared. "It is a symbol of intelligent partnership between nations. It shows what can be done when there exists a mutual desire for progress."

The body of Mr. Diefenbaker's statement follows:

"Indeed there could be no more impressive evidence of the capacity of the United States and Canada to pioneer in new methods of co-operation to their mutual advantage.

"This is the first time that, anywhere in the world, an arrangement has been made between governments by which the operation of large water storages in one country produces vast benefits in another which are shared by both countries. The programme envisaged under the Treaty is based on skilled engineering and resourceful collaboration. The negotiating teams, under Mr. Elmer Bennett for the United States and the Mr. E.D. Fulton for Canada, have secured agreement on difficult and complex problems in a comparatively short time. Their task was performed with patience and in a spirit of compromise but without sacrifice or impairment of the independence and sovereignty of their respective countries.

POSSIBILITIES LIMITLESS

"The further development of this continent depends in substantial measure on the continuing readiness and ability of Americans and Canadians to husband and to harness their rich resources for the common good. In the development of the Columbia River basin, as in the St. Lawrence Seaway, unmistakable proof is given of determination to realize the unlimited possibilities of our natural environment. The Treaty avoids intrusion into each others affairs. Each country retains full authority and responsibility on its side of the common border. Each will be strengthened, and the opportunities now opened up for in-

creasing practical co-operation between the people of the Province of British Columbia and their neighbours in the States of Washington, Montana, Oregon, and Idaho, to the south, will result in broader mutual understanding between us.

"Nations have disagreements and differences as do the closest of friends. The United States and Canada have not been without disagreements in the past. We shall have differences in the future, but we shall settle them in amity and with mutual goodwill and constructive understanding. Friendship is not like the passing of the seasons. It cannot be taken for granted or neglected. It requires constant vigilance. The fabric of our common aspirations will not be damaged so long as we continue to approach joint problems in a constructive spirit founded on substantial agreement as to broad objectives. The presence at this ceremony of distinguished Senators from both the great political parties in the United States illustrates that the objectives of this Treaty -- as indeed the continuing friendship between our countries -- are matters transcending partisan considerations.

TRIBUTE TO PRESIDENT EISENHOWER

"I cannot allow this memorable occasion to pass without saying how deeply I personally esteem the friendship of President Eisenhower and how valuable it has been to meet with him from time to time for informal and private discussions. On behalf of the Canadian Government and of all Canadians I thank President Eisenhower, with deep sincerity and respect, for all that he has done in time of war and of peace to reinforce and enhance the strength of this close and treasured partnership. As you prepare, Sir, to leave the office of the President, I wish to extend to you warm and heartfelt wishes for many years of continued health and happiness in the service of peace. In your constant crusades for peace you have typified the true spirit of international co-operation. May this Treaty which we launch today be an example to the world of what nations can do by joint endeavour to contribute to the economic welfare of mankind."

* * * *

FORRESTER TO STRATFORD

Glenn Gould, Leonard Rose and Oscar Shumsky, directors of the music season of the Stratford Festival, have signed Maureen Forrester as Soloist for one of the five Sunday afternoon concerts to be held this coming summer in the Festival Theatre.

Miss Forrester, one of the world's most widely-acclaimed contraltos, will appear on July 30 with string quartet and piano in a programme including the works of Scarlatti, Respighi, Brahms, Wesendonk and Wagner. This

will be the third of the Sunday concerts beginning on July 16 and concluding on August 13.

A native of Montreal, where she studied voice and made her debut in 1953, Miss Forrester appeared previously at the Stratford Festival in 1956, in the old concert hall. Miss Forrester has sung in some of the leading concert halls and opera houses the world over, from Town Hall in New York to La Scala in Milan. Not only has she appeared with most of the major orchestras on this continent, she has also worked with several leading symphonies abroad during some 12 tours of Europe.

(Over)

On both sides of the Atlantic, she has received the accolades of critics. She has been described as "Canada's most precious natural resource since gold was discovered in the Klondike."

In private life, Miss Forrester is the wife of Eugene Kash, Montreal violinist and conductor.

In February she will be out on her travels again, opening a U.S. tour at New York's Town Hall. Later she will go to Israel for a three-week tour with the Israeli philharmonic, and make a short European trip in June. Following her appearance at the Stratford Festival in July, she will return to Israel to participate in a chamber music festival and, after further European dates, will go to Russia in November.

Miss Forrester is one of two leading Canadian singers who will appear at the 1961 Stratford Festival. The other, Lois Marshall, will be heard on August 6 and August 13.

The Stratford Festival's music season will open on July 7 with the first performance of Sir Tyrone Guthrie's production of "The Pirates of Penzance." In addition to the Gilbert and Sullivan opera, to be staged in the Avon Theatre, the season will include five Sunday concerts and four Saturday morning concerts of informal chamber music, all held in the Festival Theatre.

BOTTLES MEASURE OCEAN FLOW

Thirty-six thousand bottles, bobbing on the ocean for over three years, have provided the Pacific Oceanographic Group of the Fisheries Research Board of Canada with confirmation of the circulation of the Northeastern Pacific and the Bering Sea.

Starting in August, 1956, the bottles were released at intervals at various locations by the Board's scientists, and the returns, which averaged five per cent, have been analysed at the Group's headquarters at the Board's biological station at Nanaimo, British Columbia.

The pattern of circulation was described to the members of the Board at their annual meeting in Ottawa earlier this month. It shows the seasonal and annual variations of circulation -- a two-mile-a-day mid-ocean movement towards North America, a division near the coast into northward and southward flows, a movement of the northern flow around the Gulf of Alaska (the Alaskan Gyral) and along, through and around the Aleutian Islands into the Bering Sea, with some return movement south of the Aleutians.

Research is continuing on the interpretation of the data obtained by the oceanographers of the Nanaimo station, whose scientists are co-operating with their counterparts in the United States and Japan in a general study being made for the International North Pacific Fisheries Commission.

AGENT-GENERAL TO FRANCE

The appointment has been announced of Mr. Charles Lussier, Montreal lawyer and director of the Maison Canadienne in Paris, as Agent-General of the Province of Quebec in France, effective March 1. His headquarters will be in Paris. The Agent General's office will perform commercial and cultural functions, which may eventually extend to all Common Market countries, North Africa and French-speaking Africa.

FORRESTER TO STRATFORD

Miss Forrester, who has sung in some of the world's most famous concert halls and opera houses, will be the guest artist at the Stratford Festival. She will appear in the role of Desdemona in Verdi's "Otello" and in the role of the Queen in Wagner's "Lohengrin". Miss Forrester has also appeared with the Montreal Symphony Orchestra and the Montreal Chamber Orchestra. She has performed in the roles of Desdemona, the Queen, and the Girl of the Port in various operas. She has also performed in the roles of Desdemona, the Queen, and the Girl of the Port in various operas.

(Over)