



CANADA

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## CONTENTS

Canada -- U.S.S.R. Trade Agreement .....	1
Canadian Delegate to UNESCO .....	3
Research in Polar Basin .....	3
Seaway Pleasure Cruising .....	3
8th Colombo Plan Report .....	4
RCN 50th Anniversary .....	4

Unemployment Insurance Claims .....	5
New Maritime Weather Office .....	5
AECB Health Rules .....	5
Aviation Award .....	6
First Ships Into Seaway .....	6
Canadian Overseas Troops Rotate .....	6

## CANADA -- U.S.S.R TRADE AGREEMENT

The following is a statement by Mr. Gordon Churchill, Minister of Trade and Commerce, in the House of Commons on April 25, before tabling copies of a Protocol renewing the 1956 Canada-U.S.S.R. Trade Agreement and of the letters exchanged by the signatories to the Protocol:

"...I now table, for the information of the House, the text of the Protocol signed in Moscow on April 18, 1960, which renews for a three-year period the Trade Agreement between Canada and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics of February 29, 1956, as well as the understanding set out in the letters which the two Parties exchanged at that time concerning the right of the Canadian Government to fix under the Canadian Customs Act values of goods for ordinary and special duty.

"The Protocol also provides that each of the two governments will give sympathetic consideration to any representations which the other government may make concerning the implementation of the renewed Agreement and with regard to other matters which may affect their commercial relations. The Protocol is in force provisionally from the date of signature. It is to be ratified as soon as possible, and will enter into force definitively on the date of exchange of instruments of ratification, which is to take place in Ottawa. An early opportunity will be provided for a debate in Parliament, and a resolution of approval will be introduced to this end.

"I also have pleasure in tabling copies of letters which I exchanged with the Soviet Minister of Foreign Trade, Mr. N.S. Patolichev, setting forth certain additional understandings concerning the development of trade between the two countries....

### PROVISIONS OF PACT

"The House is familiar with the provisions of the 1956 Agreement, which is now being extended. In brief, Canada and the U.S.S.R. exchange most-favoured-nation treatment and, on a reciprocal basis, provide for non-discriminatory treatment of merchant ships in the seaports of the two countries. Either government may, however, apply prohibition or restrictions of any kind directed to the protection of its essential security interests. Our strategic export controls are therefore not affected. The Protocol extending the Agreement broadens the basis on which representations can be addressed to either of the two Parties. Previously, the two governments had agreed to give sympathetic consideration to representations concerning the implementation of the Agreement. The scope for such representations has now been enlarged to include any other matters affecting commercial relations between the two countries. Should the necessity arise, this would permit Canada, for example, to take up with the Government of the U.S.S.R. any special problems which may be encountered in respect of the sale in world markets of Soviet

(Over)

products in which Canada has a substantial export interest.

"The letter which I exchanged with Mr. Patolichev provides that, in each year of the renewed Agreement, the Soviet foreign trade organizations will purchase Canadian goods up to a total value of \$25 million Canadian, including not less than 200,000 metric tons of Canadian wheat, provided the total annual value of Canadian purchases from the U.S.S.R. is not less than \$12½ million Canadian. Should the total value of Canadian purchases from the U.S.S.R. be less than \$12½ million Canadian in any one year, the Soviet undertaking to purchase from Canada would be reduced and would be determined on a 2 to 1 basis; that is, the Soviet Union would purchase twice as much from Canada as Canada imported from the Soviet Union. Wheat will constitute not less than half the value of such annual Soviet purchases. It will be noted that no commitment to purchase Soviet goods has been made by the Canadian Government. As in the case of trade with other countries, the level of our purchases will be determined by the commercial decisions of Canadian importers. The House will appreciate that U.S.S.R. agreement to trade with Canada on a 2 to 1 basis represents a very substantial concession on their part, since the Soviet Union normally endeavours to balance trade with each of its trading partners.

#### ANNUAL MEETINGS

"In addition to establishing the Soviet commitment to purchase Canadian goods, the letter provides that the authorities of the two countries will meet at least once a year alternately in Ottawa and Moscow to consult concerning the implementation of the Agreement and any other matters affecting Soviet-Canadian trade relations. It is the hope of both parties that trade will flow reasonably regularly in each year of the Agreement. The annual consultations will provide the occasion for an exchange of views with respect to the operation of the Agreement. They should also prove of value in building up greater understanding between the two countries with respect to trade matters.

"The letter also sets forth an understanding that, as a measure towards attaining the mutual objective of an expansion of trade, the two governments will facilitate visits for business purposes between the two countries. It is my hope that, within the framework of the renewed Agreement and in pursuance of the undertakings in the letter which has been exchanged, there will be a mutually advantageous growth in trade between the two countries. The actual growth in trade and the nature of the goods to be exchanged will depend mainly on the decisions of the businessmen and business organizations of the two countries. The Canadian market is highly

competitive and it will be necessary for the Soviet export authorities to understand our requirements if they are to sell successfully in Canada. Similarly, it will be important for Canadian exporters to make known to the Soviet import organizations the products and goods which they are in a position to supply on competitive terms. In general, it will be necessary for there to be much closer contact between the traders of the two countries than has been the case in the past. To this end I have suggested, and the Soviet authorities have agreed, that a group of Soviet traders, representing both export and import interests, should visit Canada, and the Soviet authorities have indicated that they would welcome a comparable visit of Canadian businessmen to the Soviet Union. I hope that the necessary arrangements for these visits can be made during the current year. I have also invited the Soviet Minister of Trade, Mr. Patolichev, to come to Canada, and this invitation is being considered by the Soviet Government. I hope that he will find it convenient to come at the same time as the visit of Soviet trade representatives.

"As a further measure to facilitate the growth of trade, Mr. W.J. Van Vliet has been appointed Commercial Counsellor at the Canadian Embassy in Moscow, where his main responsibility will be to assist in the promotion of our exports to the U.S.S.R.

#### TRADE DIVERSIFICATION

"The House will recall that, under the 1956 arrangement, the Soviet Union took an annual obligation to purchase a specified minimum quantity of wheat (400,000 tons). The new arrangement provides that at least half the value of the annual Soviet purchase commitment will be in the form of wheat. If Soviet purchases were to rise to the value of \$25 million, our sales would include at least 200,000 tons of wheat. Accordingly, while the Soviet Union will continue to purchase significant quantities of Canadian wheat, we may now look towards more diversified sales to the U.S.S.R. Both sides are aiming to diversify as well as to expand trade. The House is aware that the Soviet Union has greatly enlarged its production of wheat and is a regular wheat exporter. In the circumstances, the amount of wheat which the Soviet Union has undertaken to purchase may be regarded as satisfactory. I should add that I raised with the Soviet Government the question of the approximately 200,000 tons of wheat still outstanding under the old Agreement. Provided trade develops in a satisfactory manner, in accordance with the Agreement and the letters exchanged in Moscow, I was assured by Mr. Patolichev that the Soviet Union would endeavour to make up this deficiency so that there would be no question of the Soviet Union not having fulfilled the earlier obligation...."

### CANADIAN DELEGATE TO UNESCO

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Howard Green, recently announced the appointment of Mr. L.V.J. Roy as the first Canadian permanent delegate to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris.

The appointment will facilitate liaison and consultation between UNESCO and the Canadian Government and will provide assistance to the Canadian National Commission for UNESCO, which was set up under the auspices of the Canada Council in 1957.

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### RESEARCH IN POLAR BASIN

Mines and Technical Surveys Minister Comtois has announced the arrival at Isachsen, on northern Ellef Ringnes Island, of the advance party of the 55-man scientific expedition that will this year begin a broad programme of research on Canada's continental shelf on the rim of the Polar basin.

The remaining members of the 1960 expedition, which comprises oceanographers, hydrographers, topographers, geologists, geophysicists, geographers, and fisheries and wild-life experts, are expected to arrive in Isachsen in a few days.

In what is known as the Polar Continental Shelf Project, the expedition is the first of many that will make a closely-integrated study of Canada's polar continental shelf and its northern archipelago and adjacent waters. Co-ordinator of the project is Dr. Ernest Frederick Roots.

Canada knows little about its polar regions. Its Arctic shelf, which has not as yet been accurately charted, is about 1,500 miles long and is believed to extend from 100 to 200 miles into the Arctic Ocean.

The first group to arrive in the basin consisted of some 30 scientists and supporting personnel. They will establish base camp at Isachsen and set up a Decca navigating chain from which to establish position (latitude and longitude). With the arrival of the remainder of the group, field work in the form of detailed studies of the physical characteristics of the waters of the shelf and of the topography and composition of its floor and of the adjacent islands and straits will get under way.

This year the expedition will cover an area extending 250 to 300 miles out onto the ice of the shelf from a base line, established by an advance reconnaissance party in 1959, that extends from Meighen Island to Borden Island. In their systematic study of the shelf, the scientists will carry out a number of scientific tests and investigations at holes blasted through the ice in various places. They will work in a sort of grid, 30 miles to the side.

The oceanographers and hydrographers will study and map the topography of the ocean floor, and will measure the movements, temperature and chemical properties of the water at various depths.

Topographers will run traverses from which the positions of the various parties will be fixed. They will also run a reconnaissance traverse southwest down the archipelago to Banks Island and from there to Winter Harbour on Melville Island. Observations will be made along this traverse.

The geologists will study the composition of the ocean floor, as well as the geology of the emerged coast, and will correlate the geology of the shelf with that of the coast to ascertain whether the shelf is of the same or different structure. Their investigations will include geochemical studies of bottom materials.

Geophysicists will study structures beneath the floor, and geographers will investigate the nature, distribution, and movement of the polar mass of ice. They will also study conditions producing certain soil structures and patterns, and such phenomena as permafrost.

The fisheries officers will study fish and sea-mammal life and the shelf's potential for such life, while the wild-life experts, in the persons of a botanist and an entomologist, will investigate plant and insect life in the region.

Up until the end of April, the expedition will work in expected temperatures of around -40°F. The best weather for field work in the Polar basin usually occurs in the three-month period between mid-March and mid-June. Break-up in June brings surface puddling on the ice, and fog.

After the break-up in June, the parties will concentrate on adjacent straits in the archipelago. Most members of the expedition will remain in the area until the end of August and all will be out by the end of September.

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### SEAWAY PLEASURE CRUISING

Pleasure craft 20 feet in length and over, and two tons in weight and greater, may navigate the St. Lawrence Seaway when they have been pre-cleared and are proceeding in accordance with regulations. Smaller pleasure craft will be accepted for passage through the Iroquois, Snell and Eisenhower locks after they too have been pre-cleared.

Tolls of \$2.00 a lock are payable by all pleasure craft at all Seaway canals except at the Lachine, Cornwall and the Sault Canals where transit is free. Toll tickets are available from many sources, including yacht clubs and pleasure-craft organizations.

These and other provisions for the passage of pleasure craft on the St. Lawrence Seaway are set forth in Circular No. 12 and other

sections of the new St. Lawrence Seaway Master's Handbook. Copies of this book are available from the Queen's Printer, Ottawa, or the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation of the United States at Seaway Circle, Massena, New York. A copy of this book must be carried aboard any craft using the Seaway locks.

The procedure for pleasure craft operators before entering a lock is as follows: unless otherwise instructed, pleasure craft tie up at a tie-up wall before transiting. The person in charge of the craft then proceeds to the office of the lockmaster, on the lock wall, to hand in his toll ticket and to receive instructions for passing through. If a pleasure craft is equipped with an adequate radio-telephone, the operator may report to the Seaway despatcher.

"Smaller" craft (less than 20 feet and two tons) may transit the Lachine Canal between Montreal Harbour and Lake St. Louis and the Sault Ste. Marie Canal (Canadian) and the portion of the Cornwall Canal still in operation without pre-clearance and toll-free.

Transit of pleasure craft will be scheduled so as to avoid interference with other shipping and may be delayed until a lockmaster considers that the craft may pass through safely.

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### 8TH COLOMBO PLAN REPORT

Details of Canada's contribution to the economic development of the countries of South and Southeast Asia under the Colombo Plan are given in the 8th Annual Report of the Colombo Plan Consultative Committee, tabled in the House of Commons on April 25.

The report shows that, up to the end of the fiscal year 1958-59, Canada had provided \$231,620,000 in economic aid to the countries concerned. With the addition of \$50 million for the fiscal year 1959-60, Canada's total contribution will reach approximately \$282 million. Canada has also made grants of \$35 million and loans of \$35 million to member countries for the purchase of wheat and flour.

Also shown in the report is the total external assistance made available to Colombo Plan countries in 1958-59, which amounted to more than \$1,400 million and brought the total since the beginning of the Plan in 1950 to over \$6 billion. The report also describes the very substantial flow of their own resources which the countries of South and Southeast Asia are putting into their development programmes.

The report was prepared at the annual meeting of the Committee, which was held last November at Jogjakarta, Indonesia. The purpose of this annual conference, attended by ministers from Colombo Plan countries, was to evaluate the progress countries in the Colombo Plan area had made during the past year in

carrying forward their economic development programmes, and to define, in general terms, the magnitude and scope of the task that lay ahead.

Among the decisions the Consultative Committee reached, three are of significance: (1) to extend the Colombo Plan for a period of five years beyond 1961, and to consider at the 1964 meeting a further extension after 1966; (2) Singapore was admitted to full membership to accord with its new constitutional status; and (3) the 10th Anniversary of the Colombo Plan will be celebrated in 1961.

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### RCN 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Royal Canadian Navy will mark its 50th anniversary this year with special events and ceremonies in major cities from coast to coast.

While the anniversary officially falls on May 4 - the date in 1910 on which Royal Assent was given to the Naval Service Act - special activities will be held throughout most of the year.

Nationwide ceremonies commemorating the Battle of the Atlantic will be held Sunday, May 8. Naval personnel and veterans in cities and towns across Canada will attend special church parades in annual tribute to those of the Navy and the Merchant Service who lost their lives in the war at sea.

The Navy League of Canada will hold its annual Navy Week observances beginning May 8. Among the activities planned are open house and parades by the Navy-League sponsored sea-cadet corps and Navy League cadets and Wrenettes.

At Halifax, the anniversary will be marked by several events, including a "sail-past" of ships of the Atlantic Fleet, a "fly-past" of 40 naval aircraft on May 19 and a fleet regatta in Bedford Basin, followed by a performance of the Sunset Ceremony May 20. Navy Day activities on May 21 will include demonstrations by ships, aircraft and submarines, and on May 23, the Queen's Color will be trooped in honor of Her Majesty's birthday.

On the other side of the continent, Pacific Command anniversary events will include a jubilee ball at HMCS "Naden" on May 19, special displays at the naval dockyard on May 21, when ships and establishments will be open to visitors, and prominent RCN participation in the annual Victoria Day parade May 23.

At Ottawa, a guard and massed bands from the Atlantic Command will perform the Sunset Ceremony on Parliament Hill, June 30 to July 2 inclusive.

The destroyer escorts, "Columbia" and "Chaudière" will visit Quebec City, Montreal, Kingston, Toronto, Hamilton and other Great Lakes ports during a month-long "anniversary cruise" starting late in May. Other ships will make anniversary visits to Canadian ports on

the East and West coasts and in the St. Lawrence and Great Lakes from time to time throughout the year.

Elsewhere across the country, the 21 divisions of the Royal Canadian Navy (Reserve) will be holding special anniversary ceremonies throughout the year, and most divisions will be hosts to the public at open-house functions.

The anniversary will be the theme of naval veterans' reunions held this year. Naval veterans of the Montreal area plan a reunion May 6-8; the Canadian Naval Association will hold its sixth annual reunion at Cobourg, Ontario, June 11-12; and the Naval Officers Associations of Canada will hold their annual meeting at Charlottetown, June 9-11.

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### UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE CLAIMS

Claimants for unemployment insurance benefits totalled 823,000 on March 31, slightly above the February 29 total of 814,200 and 7 per cent higher than the 766,900 claimants recorded one year ago, the Dominion Bureau of Statistics reports in an advance statement. Claimants for seasonal benefits included in these totals were: 248,500 on March 31, 217,100 on February 29 and 258,300 one year ago. Thus, while claimants for regular benefits showed a decline from February to March, they were 13 per cent higher than a year ago.

The initial and renewal claims filed during March numbered 283,500, an increase of almost 20 per cent over those for February, and nearly 25 per cent above those for last March. Part of the month-to-month increase in initial claims is attributable to persons who have exhausted their regular benefits and wish to be considered under the seasonal benefit provisions. Such cases do not constitute new separations from employment during the current month. The failure rate on initial claims processed during March, at 7.3 per cent, was identical with last March and slightly under the 9.8 per cent for February.

Benefit payments at \$74.8 million were almost 20 per cent above the February total of \$62.6 million, and were 14 per cent in excess of those of last March, when payments reached \$65.9 million.

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### NEW MARITIME WEATHER OFFICE

A new weather office of the Department of Transport was formally opened on April 14 at Fredericton, New Brunswick, to serve the province's agricultural and industrial interests, public utilities and the public at large.

"The new weather office in Fredericton will help place the resources of the national weather service more firmly behind the agencies having primary responsibilities in those areas

most directly sensitive to weather conditions", said Mr. Hees, federal Minister of Transport. "This is in keeping with the recently published report of the Atlantic Provinces Economic Council." Among the services to benefit from closer consultation with the weather office are agriculture, forestry, highways, public works and the electric power commission.

In addition, Mr. Hees said that Fredericton was the centre of large-scale federal research activity in forestry and agriculture and that the new weather office would help in assessing weather influences in a wide variety of research projects under study.

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### AECB HEALTH RULES

The regulations made under the Atomic Energy Control Act have been revised to include a new section on health and safety, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, Mr. Churchill, announced recently.

The announcement states that the Atomic Energy Control Board has always maintained a strict control over the distribution and use of radioactive materials in Canada. No person is permitted to obtain such material until the Board's health advisers (radiation safety officers of the Department of National Health and Welfare and, through them, their counterparts in provincial health departments) are satisfied that he has adequate facilities to handle the material requested and that his proposed operations will not cause a health and safety hazard. Federal or provincial inspectors periodically visit users of such materials to ensure that their operations do not cause injury or damage and to make sure that they are complying with any special health and safety requirements laid down by the Control Board on the recommendation of its expert advisers.

It has been recognized for some time, however, that there was a need for regulations to lay down Canadian standards as to the maximum dose of radiation atomic energy workers and the public generally should be permitted to receive and to provide means for ensuring that the operations of users of radioactive materials did not result in exposures above these limits. The question of making such regulations has been under discussion with provincial health authorities, through the Dominion Council of Health, for a number of years. It was first suggested that, since health and safety matters were normally dealt with by provincial authorities, the provinces might issue health regulations in this field that would be reasonably uniform across Canada, but for various reasons this suggestion was not adopted. It was then proposed that regulations establishing such standards be made under the Atomic Energy Control Act, but with recognition that individual provinces

might desire to issue additional regulations, consistent with the federal ones, to deal with special local conditions. When this proposal was favourably received by provincial health authorities, a drafting committee was set up to consider what should be included in these regulations. The draft regulations recommended by this body were considered by various departments and organizations concerned and, when general agreement had been reached, they were recommended to the Board by the Department of National Health and Welfare.

The standards set out in this new section are those recommended by the International Commission on Radiological Protection. The section also specifies the procedures and equipment which the Board will require of users of radioactive materials to enable them to meet these standards. It also indicates that administration of these regulations will be carried out with the assistance of federal and provincial inspectors.

Mr. Churchill noted that, though the main change in the regulations was the inclusion of the health and safety section, a few other changes had been made. These were largely minor in nature, the only important change being a rewording of the section dealing with the control of the release of atomic energy information, to reflect the relaxations which had been made in this field.

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## AVIATION AWARD

Defence Minister Pearkes has announced that the Trans-Canada (McKee) Trophy for 1959 has been awarded to J.A.D. McCurdy of Montreal. Mr. McCurdy won the award in recognition of his meritorious service in the cause of Canadian aviation during the past fifty years, and for his outstanding contribution to the success of the 50th Anniversary of Powered Flight Observances during 1959.

The McKee Trophy, which dates back to 1927, is presented each year for meritorious services in advancement of Canada aviation. Emphasis is placed on performance throughout the year rather than on a single brilliant exploit, and special consideration is given to the application of aircraft and aviation equipment to new and useful purposes.

The Trophy was donated by the late Dalzell McKee of Pittsburg, a wealthy aviation enthusiast who made the first trans-Canada flight by seaplane in 1926. Mr. McKee established the Trophy in recognition of the welcome and assistance given him by the RCAF during the flight.

Mr. McCurdy is one of Canada's aviation notables and is credited with making the first airplane flight in Canada at Baddeck, Nova Scotia, on February 23, 1909. On that occasion he flew the "Silver Dart", an aircraft of his own design, a distance of half a mile over the

ice-covered bay at Baddeck.

Mr. McCurdy has distinguished himself in many ways since that first flight. As a flying instructor and as a proponent of the use of aircraft in both war and peace, he was one of the progenitors of the Royal Canadian Air Force. At the outbreak of the Second World War, he accepted the appointment of Assistant Director General of Aircraft Production, Department of Munitions and Supply, at Ottawa, a position he held throughout the war years.

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## FIRST SHIPS INTO SEAWAY

The Canadian ore-carrier S.S. "Menihek Lake", only a year old and one of the largest vessels sailing the St. Lawrence Seaway, passed through St. Lambert Lock downbound shortly after noon on April 19. The 715-foot laker was the first ship to enter the Seaway from Lake Ontario this season.

The "Menihek Lake" entered Iroquois Lock at the western end of the new lock system at 8:12 a.m. April 18. The S.S. "Lemoine", 633 feet long, another Canadian laker, was first to enter the system upbound. She entered St. Lambert Lock from Montreal at 8:33 a.m. on April 18 and left the lock at 9:04. These two lake ships met and passed in the Beauharnois Canal at approximately 4 o'clock the same afternoon.

Twenty-two ships had transited the Iroquois Lock downbound by midnight the first day of navigation. Ice and high winds had prevented the laying of a number of lighted buoys in Lake St. Louis and, owing to the fact that winter markers only were still in place, it was necessary to restrict navigation to daylight hours for some time.

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## CANADIAN OVERSEAS TROOPS ROTATE

Two major units of Canada's NATO Brigade will be replaced next fall after three years' service in Germany.

The 3rd Regiment, Royal Canadian Horse Artillery, at Camp Gagetown, New Brunswick, including the battery at Camp Valcartier, Quebec, will rotate with the 1st Regiment, now stationed at Fort Prince of Wales with the 4th Canadian Infantry Brigade Group.

The 1st Battalion, Queen's Own Rifles of Canada at Calgary, Alberta, will change stations with the 2nd Battalion, now at Fort MacLeod near Iserlohn.

The troop movement will start in October and be completed by the end of November. Some two-thirds of the Canadian Brigade in Germany rotated last autumn under the Army's new policy for a three-year tour of duty in Europe instead of two years. Approximately one-third of the strength of the overseas brigade will rotate every autumn from now on.