



Information Division
Department of External Affairs
Ottawa Canada

Canadian Weekly

Bulletin

Vol. 25, No. 18

May 6, 1970

MR. SHARP'S VISIT TO EUROPE

The Secretary of State for External Affairs, Mr. Mitchell Sharp, returned recently from an official visit to France and West Germany,

In Paris, where he had discussed bilateral relations with Mr. Maurice Schumann, the French Foreign Minister, Mr. Sharp had opened the new Canadian Cultural Centre. His trip to Bonn was in return for the visit to Canada last year by Mr. Willy Brandt, now Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany.

The following is Mr. Sharp's report to the House of Commons on April 9:

...Our new Cultural Centre in Paris will assist Canadians in France, especially students, and bring to the French people information about Canada, reflecting our bilingual and bicultural character and the many cultural strands that make up the Canadian fabric. The director of the Centre is Mr. Guy Viau, who was assistant director of the National Gallery here before taking up his new responsibilities. Mr. Viau is particularly well qualified for the job and

I am sure that the Centre, under his direction, will forge new ties between Canada and France.

The interest of the French Government and the people in the new Centre and in Canada as a meeting place of two great cultures was well expressed by the French Government's representative at the inaugural ceremonies, Mr. Léo Hamon, who said:

"What makes your country unique is the imbrication and the juxtaposition of its two cultures. This Centre will fully reflect the originality and the wealth of resources of a country intent on retaining its own personality in the New World, notwithstanding the size and power of its southern neighbour, which can be achieved only by preserving its diversity."

CANADA-FRANCE RELATIONS

In Paris I met with the French Foreign Minister, Mr. Maurice Schumann. The principal subject we discussed was our bilateral relations, and the most important part for me was Mr. Schumann's categorical statement that the French Government has absolutely no intention of intervening in the internal affairs of Canada. If there is no misunderstanding between us about this, and I hope there is not, our problems will be easier to deal with in the future.

I explained to Mr. Schumann what I consider to be the three basic elements on which good relations between France and Canada should rest: *first*, that co-operation between France and Quebec, which we regard as being of first importance, must be carried out in consultation with the Canadian Government; *second*, that co-operation between France and Canada must be practical in nature and not confined to expressions of good will; *third*, that France must avoid taking positions contrary to the Canadian Constitution.

As a result of this frank exchange, I feel we have laid a foundation for avoiding in future some of the incidents which have in the past caused unnecessary strain and tension between us.

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CANADA-WEST GERMANY RELATIONS

In Bonn, my objective was to establish a better mutual understanding of our respective policies on international problems of common concern, and to prepare the way for more intensive bilateral co-operation between our two countries.

I got a firsthand account from the German Foreign Minister, Mr. Walter Scheel, of the Federal Government's efforts to improve relations with their Eastern neighbours and to develop a more integrated community in Western Europe, efforts which naturally form an overwhelming part of German preoccupations at the moment. I expressed the admiration of the Canadian Government for the courage, imagination and realism of the Federal Government in these efforts.

The Germans expressed their appreciation for Canadian understanding and support. They also stressed the importance they attached to the maintenance of an active Canadian role in both the defence and *détente* efforts of NATO. I reaffirmed the importance for Canada of our ties with Europe, not only from the security point of view but also as a means of diversifying our external relations. I discussed with several members of the German Federal Government ways of strengthening the functional co-operation between our two countries, particularly in the fields of science and technology, where both countries have something to contribute and something to gain from more intensive and systematic exchanges. We agreed to proceed in a pragmatic way to identify specific areas where the prospects for such exchanges are most promising. I hope it will be possible to send a mission to the German Federal Republic in the year to follow up these initiatives in greater detail.

I took the opportunity of these visits to let both the French and German Governments know of the Canadian Government's concerns about the repercussions of certain commercial and agricultural policies of the European Economic Community, particularly in relation to grain production and trade. Our desire is to increase consultations with the EEC on these matters so that the transatlantic co-operation to which we attach so much importance will be strengthened rather than weakened.

TREASURED MEDALS TO WAR MUSEUM

The National War Museum has received as gifts two cherished military flying medals — one from the First World War and the other from the Second.

Mrs. Helen Annetts of Ottawa recently presented a Victoria Cross, and Mrs. Patricia Frost of Sarnia a George Cross to William Arthur Bishop (son of Canada's greatest flying ace, Billy Bishop, and himself a fighter pilot during the Second World War), who accepted the donations on behalf of the National Museum of Man.

YOUNGEST VC

Mrs. Annetts is the sister of Alan Arnett McLeod, a native of Stonewall, Manitoba, who, at 18, was the youngest Canadian ever to be awarded the VC, the Commonwealth's highest award for valor.

The action for which he was decorated occurred on March 27, 1918, during a bombing raid over France. On that mission, McLeod, attacked by eight enemy triplanes and wounded five times, managed nevertheless, to save the life of his observer, Lieutenant A.W. Hammond, M.C. McLeod subsequently recovered from his wounds, only to die of influenza in November of the same year, only hours before the Armistice was signed. His sister, who was in the Women's Division of the RCAF, and later married an air force officer, has preserved her brother's medals, photographs and other mementoes and wishes them to be placed in the War Museum in Ottawa.

Ernest Ralph Clyde Frost, a Canadian airman in the Royal Air Force during the Second World War, was the first of eight Canadians to win the George Cross in recognition of gallantry and extreme valor other than in the face of the enemy. On July 5, 1940, he and a companion rescued a fellow pilot from the burning wreckage of a *Blenheim* bomber that had crashed on take-off. They managed to extricate the pilot moments before the craft exploded.

After the war, Flight-Lieutenant Frost served with the RCAF as one of its most versatile pilots until 1964, when he was released with the rank of squadron leader.

In 1967, Frost attended a reunion banquet at Government House in honour of Canada's VC and GC winners. He died at his home in Sarnia last year. Mrs. Frost, who presented her late husband's medals to the War Museum on March 17, had other ties with the Royal Canadian Air Force, her brother having been killed during the Battle of Britain while serving with No. 1 Squadron, RCAF. She herself was a nursing sister in the RCAF.

SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

The National Research Council of Canada has awarded 49 new 1967 Science Scholarships for 1970-71.

These prestige awards for graduate students, which mark the fiftieth anniversary of the Council's scholarships program and the centennial of Canadian Confederation, were first presented in 1967. They are intended to help young Canadians to obtain doctorate degrees in science and engineering.

Scholarship holders receive an annual grant of \$5,000 for a three-year period, their awards being renewable for a fourth year if necessary. Their academic fees and travel costs are also paid by the Council, and the universities at which they will study receive annual grants of up to \$1,500.

Nearly 976 million pounds of apples were grown in Canada during 1969.

RADIO TEACHER-TRAINING IN KENYA

For the past three years a team of Canadian teachers has been using Kenya radio to broadcast to teachers instead of children. They have been conducting courses for primary school headmasters and teachers throughout this East African country.

This use of radio for professional training is apparently unique. The Voice of Kenya, a government-operated station, provided the air-time for these programs over the English language network, while the Ministry of Education supplied the production staff and equipment. So far there have been 65 successful programs.

The Canadians wrote most of the scripts for these broadcasts, gave direction in the control room and often acted as narrators, announcers and teachers. Thirty-one of the broadcasts were put on the air as a direct teaching method.

The Canadian team, whose members are all experienced teacher-teachers, were sent to Kenya in 1966 by the Canadian International Development Agency in response to a request by Kenya's Ministry of Education. Recruited for the job and placed under contract by CIDA were A.C.E. Ritter, Charles Logie, Edward Babiski and L.M. Annis.

Charles Mustard, a former superintendent of teachers' education in Ontario, headed the team for almost four years but has now been replaced by Mr. Ritter as program administrator.

The main purpose of the CIDA-sponsored program was to help up-date Kenya's educational system by conducting special courses for primary school headmasters and teachers across Kenya. There are about 35,000 teachers, a third of them unqualified, for Kenya's half million school-age children.

FIRST STEPS

On its arrival in Nairobi, the Canadian team set up its headquarters at Kenyatta College in the Kenya Institute of Education. They began their tour of duty by travelling across the country and organizing classes in various places.

In the first year, classes for unqualified primary school-teachers were set up in 54 centers and courses for headmasters were organized in 28 teachers' colleges.

In 1967, enrolment in the teachers' classes had reached 3,300 and by 1968 there were well over 4,000 applicants. Over 1,200 headmasters took advantage of the courses held at the teachers' colleges during vacation time.

The syllabus for the headmasters' courses, designed by the Canadian team, includes school management, supervision and administration; child study; and methods of teaching English, mathematics, social studies and science. This is supplemented by the daily radio broadcasts, and by seminar discussions.

The other series of courses for unqualified primary school-teachers is still helping many a Kenyan obtain a teaching certificate. These courses consist of two one-week residential sessions, broadcasts, correspondence assignments and a written final examination.

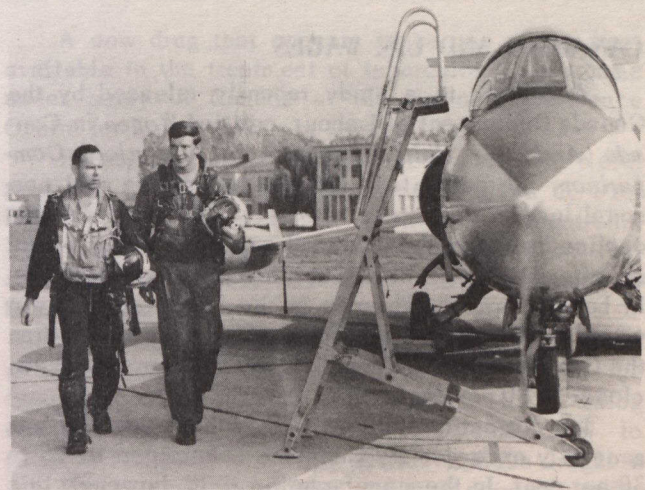
NATO AIR FORCES EXCHANGE PROGRAM

Scenery ranging from Danish farmlands to Turkish mosques will become familiar sights for some Canadian airmen this summer when their units take part in the annual Allied Forces Central Europe (AFCENT) squadron exchange program.

The squadron exchange program is, as the name implies, an exchange between flying squadrons in the various NATO air forces. The activity gives flyers and their ground crews the chance to compare techniques and operating procedures with their NATO colleagues, and also provides an opportunity to operate from unfamiliar bases on a deployed status.

The exchange program is a two-way street. While Canadian squadrons are visiting other countries, representatives from those countries will be dropping in to Canadian bases. For example, while 422 Squadron from 4 Wing is located at Araxos, Greece, 336 Squadron of the Royal Hellenic Air Force will be flying out of 4 Wing at Baden-Solingen, Germany. Various Canadian squadrons will exchange with their counterparts from Italy, Denmark, Turkey and Greece. The squadrons will be deployed from Karup, Denmark, in the north to Murted, Turkey, in the south.

Despite their far-flung operations, one problem, that of language, will not arise. Since English is the international language of the air, the Canadian flyers will not have to become multilingual to operate out of the different countries.



Canadian Captain J.A. Cratchley (left) in discussion with Lieutenant H. Van Os, Royal Netherlands Air Force.

CANADA-JAMAICA TAX PACT

Finance Minister E.J. Benson has announced that Canada and Jamaica will negotiate a limited income tax agreement, which will be confined to taxes imposed on dividends, branch profits and undistributed earnings.

Negotiations with Jamaica for a comprehensive income tax agreement began shortly after the 1966 Commonwealth Caribbean-Canada Conference. They were postponed after the report of the Royal Commission on Taxation was made public early in 1967, in accordance with the Canadian Government's decision not to enter into new or revised comprehensive income tax agreements until the program for tax reform had been further advanced. The proposed limited agreement would be designed to take into account changes being made in the Jamaican law imposing taxes on company profits and distributions.

FILM CO-OPERATIVE GRANT

The newly-formed Canadian Film Co-operative has received a grant of \$3,000 from the Canada Council to help finance the making of prints for distribution of the work of independent Canadian film-makers.

Member groups of the Co-operative are the Inter-media Film Co-op of Vancouver, the Canadian Film-makers Distribution Center of Toronto, and the Co-opérative des Cinéastes Indépendants of Montreal. The London Film Co-operative is an affiliate member.

The major aim of the Co-operative is to provide non-commercial Canadian film-makers with reliable and effective distribution for their films. It is in the process of setting up offices in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver, where films will be stored, booked and cared for.

CANADIAN AND U.S. WAGES

According to a study recently released by the Canada Department of Labour, entitled *Wages in Canada And The United States: An Analytical Comparison*, the percentage difference between real personal income in Canada and in the United States has declined slightly throughout the postwar years - that is, after allowance has been made for price increases in both countries. Whereas in the immediate postwar years the U.S. figure was 35 to 40 percent higher than the Canadian, the difference in recent years has been closer to 30 per cent.

In domestic dollars, U.S. labour income has generally exceeded its Canadian counterpart by 25 to 30 per cent. In the manufacturing field, however, this differential has narrowed.

Comparing hourly wages for 15 groups of manufacturing industries for the years 1949 and 1965, two notable features emerge: in no instance was there an

increase in the U.S. margin over the comparable Canadian wage; and there was a wide variation, from one manufacturing industry to another, in the extent to which the gap was closed.

CARIBBEAN SEASONAL LABOUR

Labourers from the Caribbean will again come to Canada this summer to help Ontario farmers grow, harvest and can their fruits and vegetables. This seasonal program, which has been in effect since 1966 in the effort to overcome the shortages of Canadian workers at peak demand periods, applies to Jamaica, Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago.

The decision to repeat the program in 1970 was made after consultation with the Ontario Department of Agriculture and Food, the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Manpower Committee, and industry representatives.

There will probably be a need for about the same number of labourers as last summer, when 1,449 Caribbean workers came to Ontario.

The period begins May 1 and ends November 15. Workers may be employed for a minimum of six weeks or for the duration of the program. Employers pay return fare, provide accommodation, and pay a wage rate of \$1.65 an hour, an increase of nine cents an hour over that paid in 1969. Since the cost of providing meals has increased, workers may be charged \$1.70 a day, an increase of ten cents a day over last year's amount.

The Department of Manpower and Immigration will co-operate with employers who, through their own arrangements, hire individual workers in other Commonwealth or French Caribbean territories, provided they meet the same terms as those stipulated for the organized movement.

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES, DEATHS

In February, there were 26,531 births registered in provincial offices in Canada compared to 27,119 in February last year. For the first two months of 1970, births recorded were 1.6 percent lower than in the same period of 1969. The birth rate for February was 16.3 per 1,000 population.

There were 8,710 marriages registered in provincial offices in February, compared to 8,228 in the corresponding month of 1969. The cumulative total for the first two months was 2.0 percent higher than in the same months of last year. The marriage rate for the month was 5.3 per 1,000 population.

The 14,184 deaths recorded in provincial offices during February, brought the total number registered for the first two months of 1970 to 29,190, an increase of 3.5 per cent from the 28,216 registrations for the corresponding period of last year. The death rate for the month was 8.7 per 1,000 population.

NEW ROSE MAKES THE SCENE

Martin Frobisher shrub-roses, developed by Dr. Felicitas Svejda, a plant-breeder on the staff of the Canada Agriculture Research Station at Ottawa, will be available to home gardeners for the first time this spring. (1)

The Martin Frobisher is one of the very few winter hardy shrub-roses now available in Canada, and the first of several Dr. Svejda hopes to develop.

The new rose has been tested across Canada and at Milwaukee, Wisconsin and Palmer, Alaska. Nurseries have been increasing their supply to the point where several now have enough shrubs for sale to gardeners who wish to plant them this May, while several other nurseries expect to have them available within the next two years.

Reports from Northern Ontario to Alaska indicate that Martin Frobisher roses are doing better than Dr. Svejda dared to hope. The plants are so hardy that they are surviving without cover in areas where winter cold has hitherto killed most shrub-roses.

In addition, people who have tested the roses say the plants are vigorous, healthy and the flowers extremely fragrant.

The plant blooms from June until the first frost, putting out soft, pink double blooms about two inches in diameter. The flowers are two-toned with darker shades near the base of the petals.

The Washburn Farm and Nursery of Palmer, Alaska reports that Martin Frobisher is "...one of the most outstanding roses we have grown and has brought more comment and question than any other we have had...".

The Beaverlodge Research Station, specializing



The hardy Martin Frobisher shrub-rose

in northern agricultural research, will be planting some Martin Frobisher roses as far north as Fort Vermillion, in the Northwest Territories.

Plants have already been established at the Royal Botanical Garden at Hamilton, Ontario, and in the city square at Mount Royal, Quebec.

(1) See also CWB, Vol. 23, No. 49, dated Dec. 4, 1968, P. 3.

LAKE ERIE FISH O.K. FOR SALE

Reports that commercial fishing has been banned in Canadian waters of Lake Erie because of mercury are without foundation, according to the federal Fisheries and Forestry Minister, Mr. Jack Davis. Neither has there been any ban imposed on the export of Canadian fish caught in the lake.

Mr. Davis stressed that all catches from Lake Erie were being checked by the Department of Fisheries and Forestry to ensure that federal food and drug standards were being met. No fish samples from Lake Erie tested by his Department had exceeded the safe level of mercury, the Minister stated, and as a result substantial quantities of Lake Erie fish had been released for sale.

However, both commercial and sport fishing were banned in Lake St. Clair and the Detroit and St. Clair Rivers on April 6 by Ontario authorities because the level of mercury in fish samples exceeded federal food and drug limits. Earlier, Mr. Davis had ordered all catches held for testing.

TB DRUG UNDER STUDY

A new drug that appears to be one of the best available in the treatment of tuberculosis, has come under study in Canada at the National Reference Centre for Tuberculosis in Ottawa.

Rifampicin, or Rifampin as it is called in North America, was reported on in a paper given by Professor Vito Nitti at the twentieth International Tuberculosis Conference held in New York last autumn. The drug was developed by a pharmaceutical firm in Milan, Italy.

The purpose of the Canadian study is to investigate the efficacy and safety of Rifampin in the treatment of pulmonary tuberculosis. It is being administered in combination with ethambutol to patients resistant to primary antituberculous drugs.

Patients will be studied at centers across Canada. Each patient's treatment lasts eight months, at the end of which the results will be analyzed and submitted to the Department of National Health and Welfare as part of the evidence used in determining

whether the drug can be released in Canada.

The importance of using Rifampin in combination with another drug was stressed by Dr. Leslie Eidus, head of the National Reference Centre for Tuberculosis. When Rifampin is administered alone, nearly one third of patients become resistant. However, when used in combination with other drugs, the results are much more satisfactory. In a study reported by Professor Nitti, Rifampin, when used with isoniazid, was successful in converting all of 43 patients from sputum positive to negative by the sixth month. Bacterial resistance had not developed in any of these patients by that time. When Rifampin was used in combination with ethambutol, conversion was also 100 per cent for 44 patients; with streptomycin, 92 per cent conversion (35 of 38 patients) was attained.

Rifampin will offer new hope to a number of chronic patients. These patients have become resistant to primary antituberculous drugs and have remained sputum positive despite extensive treatment. This means that for years they have been unable to live normal lives or to work regularly. It is hoped that during this introductory clinical study of Rifampin, a large number of these patients will be converted from sputum positive to negative.

VIEW OF AGRICULTURAL POLICY

A recent issue of *Business Review*, published by the Bank of Montreal, expressed the view that the serious decline in Canadian wheat sales and the resulting damage to the Prairie economy indicate that far-reaching changes in agricultural policy are necessary.

But the *Review* warns that there are "major hurdles to overcome in shifting resources from the highly-specialized field of growing wheat into other equally specialized areas....The next few years will be no easy time for Canadian agriculture and for the policy-makers who shape its destiny".

At present, export sales are falling, world wheat markets are glutted, and it is estimated that, by the end of the 1969-70 crop year (July 31), Canada's stocks of wheat will amount to 950 million bushels, almost double the estimated annual domestic con-

sumption and expected export sales. This is a reversal of the situation in the mid-Sixties, when there was concern over Canada's ability to fill contracts for the sale of huge quantities to the Soviet Union and China. According to the Bank of Montreal, improved technology - better equipment, hardier crop varieties, increased use of pesticides - has expanded Canadian wheat production. However, it has also brought increased crops in other countries that can now use locally-produced grain in baking and milling instead of depending on Canada's high quality wheat.

PRAIRIE ECONOMY AFFECTED

The drop in wheat sales, says the *Review*, has had serious repercussions on the Prairie economy. Since 1967, there has been a 19 percent drop in total farm cash receipts on the Prairies. In 1969, while retail sales rose 6 per cent in the country as a whole, the gain in Manitoba and Saskatchewan was only 1.5 per cent; in Saskatchewan there was a 2 percent decrease.

The *Review* contends that the wheat-acreage reduction plan for 1970 recently announced by the Federal Government is an important but short-term step toward changing Canada's agricultural policy.

Under this scheme, farmers who reduce wheat acreage below 1969 levels and increase the amount of fallow and forage land will receive compensation payments. A maximum of 1,000 acres for any individual producer will be eligible. Also wheat delivery quotas for the 1970-71 crop year will be based not on wheat acreage planted but on the amount of land left in summerfallow and perennial forage.

The *Review* says that, if the Government's scheme has maximum impact, as many as 22 million acres will be taken out of wheat production this year and almost no wheat will be grown. "While this will alleviate the immediate problem by helping to reduce stocks, it will provide only a short breathing space for longer-term policies to be formulated."

"Clearly," the bank concludes, "Canada's agricultural product mix will be changing markedly in coming years and, while wheat will no doubt continue to be a very important crop, it will no longer be so overwhelmingly dominant on the Prairies as it used to be."