

CANADA URGED TO END FAVORED NATION STATUS

44-2411138
Matter May Be Brought Up
When Parliament Meets

SEQUEL TO U.S. TREATIES

Totalitarian Lands Due to
Benefit by U.K.-U.S.-Dom-
inion Accords

By F. C. MEARS.

(Gazette Resident Correspondent.)

Ottawa, November 23. — Severance by Canada of its trade treaty relations with the three dictator countries—Germany, Italy and Japan—is being widely urged in the country, and it is certain there will be a demand when Parliament opens, not only from the radical groups but also from some Conservatives, that the federal Government take this step.

Hitler's pogrom, its imitation in Italy and the insolence of Japan toward democratic interests in China are rapidly solidifying the active alliance of the British Commonwealth with the United States, and the two trade pacts signed last week have brought this relation with dictatorships more closely into focus.

Because the fiscal concessions extended by Canada to the United States in the new agreement will automatically go to the dictator countries, as Canada has most-favored-nation relations with them, Canadian business people are urging that this Dominion take steps to terminate the "MFN" basis of trade with the dictators, so that Canadians will not be giving the Japanese the same opportunity of selling to Canada as is given to Americans.

Canada's textile and rubber industries especially have suffered heavily from Japanese competition. The ridiculously low cost of production in Japan is a serious handicap to producers in this country, and it is argued that that handicap should not be increased by extending to the Japanese the same trading privileges as are given to the United States. The same argument applies in the case of Germany and Italy.

EMBARGO LONG SOUGHT.

In every session of Parliament for the past three years radical members have demanded an embargo on the shipment of war materials to Japan. They have sought to stop exports of such valuable metals as nickel, lead, zinc and scrap iron, which have been bought by Japan in large quantities. It is worth recalling that during the brief period of commercial hostilities in 1935, when the maximum tariffs were applied, Japan continued to buy these war supplies in almost the same quantities, simply because they were essential for the waging of the war on China.

Up until the signing of the trade pacts the source of the demand in Canada for embargoes against Japan, which might be called sanctions in a less happy time, were largely sentimental and, to an extent, moral, but it has become clear now there is a sounder reason for such a step. The demand is based on plain economic reasons. Canada will be needlessly exposing its trade and industry to the unfair business practices of Japan and Germany particularly.

The United States is taking a vigorous lead in Pan-American circles against the propaganda of Hitler and Mussolini and Japan in South America and Mexico, and more particularly against the unfair trade practices of the dictators in Latin America. Secretary of State Hull has been outspoken in his condemnation of Hitler's barter system, and it is chiefly against these commercial practices of the dictators that American statesmanship is now directed, and upon which most of the policies devised at the coming Pan-American conference in Peru will be centred.

Canada has had trade treaty relations with Italy since 1924, and the agreement of that year involved an exchange of most-favored-nation treatment. At times, especially during the war in Ethiopia, it was practically inoperative, but it never was terminated. Similarly, the provisional arrangement with Germany, made by Hon. W. D. Euler in 1934, is still effective, and up to date it has proved of considerable mutual benefit. The trade treaty with Japan has been in existence for a number of years.

House May Meet Jan. 12

Ottawa, November 23.—(P)—An announcement may come after tomorrow's Cabinet Council of the date Parliament will be called, and the general belief is that January 12 will be chosen.

Government machinery is speeding up in preparation for the session and it is expected at least two meetings a week of the council will be held from now until the holiday season. Until this week the general practice has been to meet only on Tuesdays since early summer.

Parliament assembles always on Thursday. It has already been announced by Prime Minister Mackenzie King that the opening would be either the first or second week in January. Since the first Thursday is January 5, which would not give much time for members of distant ridings to spend the New Year holiday at home, January 12, the second Thursday, is believed to be the most likely date.

Other matters that may be disposed of at tomorrow's meeting of the Cabinet include selection of a new Chief Justice for Ontario and the filling of a vacancy on the Ontario Appeal Bench, a change in

immigration policy to provide for reception of Jewish refugees from Germany, and further details of the plans for next summer's visit of King George and Queen Elizabeth.

Resignation of Hon. N. W. Rowell as Chief Justice of Ontario was received some time ago although announced only yesterday. Presumably consideration has been given the selection of his successor and an early appointment would appear likely.

Yesterday the Prime Minister announced his Government was considering not only the part Canada would play in caring for Jewish refugees but the treatment to be accorded those in Canada with a visitor's permit who now find that their return home would plunge them into serious hardships.

This subject has been before the Government for some weeks and some announcement on the policy to be adopted will be expected shortly. Three German refugees in Quebec were given six-month visitor permits today.

The sub-committee of deputy ministers and others appointed to arrange the programme for Their Majesties' visit to Canada next May has been instructed to complete its work as quickly as possible so that the details may be completed before the end of this year.

Reports are being made to the Cabinet committee of senior ministers regularly and in turn dis-

cussed by the Cabinet as a whole when opportunity permits.