

## Energy

### World Energy Conference planned for Montreal

The World Energy Conference, an international non-profit organisation founded in 1924 and dedicated to promoting the development and peaceful use of energy resources, will hold its 14th Congress at the Palais des Congrès in Montreal from September 17-22.

Meeting for the first time in Canada, the Congress represents the international energy planning summit for the 1990s. Close to 3500 energy leaders from 79 countries will meet in Montreal to discuss the social, economic, environmental, and technological issues which will face energy decision-makers over the next decade. In this context, energy refers to oil, gas, coal, hydroelectrical, nuclear, biogas, wind, and solar energy.

Conference sessions will feature the views of world-ranking authorities and senior energy planners in keynote addresses discussing the challenges involved in providing safe, secure energy supplies while protecting the environment. Round table forums will debate the crucial issues confronting the energy community today. Strategic long-term issues that will come to the fore over the next century will also be examined.

An international exhibition held concurrently will allow leading exhibitors in the energy field to display world-class energy technology. Delegates may also participate in the 17 study tours planned for the week following the Congress and visit energy installations across Canada, ranging as far north as the Beaufort Sea, and including Hydro-Québec installations in the James Bay region.

The Congress programme is available from the Organising Committee of the 14th Congress of the World Energy Conference, 2 Place Félix-Martin, Montreal, Quebec H2Z 1Z3.

## Politics

### Liberals and New Democrats now looking for new leaders

John Turner ended five years as leader of the federal Liberals when he announced in May that he was quitting. His departure was 'in the best interests of the party', he said.

Turner, 60, returned from self-imposed political exile in 1984 to win the party leadership, served briefly as Canada's 17th Prime Minister, but then suffered two election defeats.

He expects to stay on as leader until autumn and will remain Member of Parliament for Vancouver Quadra for 'the immediate future'. A Liberal Party convention is scheduled for October in Calgary.

Meanwhile the New Democratic Party has said it will meet November 30 to December 3 in Winnipeg to choose Ed Broadbent's successor. Mr Broadbent announced in March that - after nearly 14 years and against advice of friends and colleagues - he was resigning as leader, saying it was 'time for renewal'.

### Liberals win in provincial elections

Newfoundland's voters ended the Conservative Party's 17-year hold on power in the province when, during the recent election, they gave the Liberals 32 of the 52 seats in the House Assembly. The Tories elected 20 members, while the New Democrats lost the two seats they held at dissolution. Conservative leader Tom Rideout, premier for about a month after taking over from Brian Peckford, says he will lead a tough opposition.

Meanwhile, in Prince Edward Island, the Liberals won a resounding victory in that province's recent election when they took 30 out of a total of 32 seats.

The standing at dissolution had been Liberals 22, Conservatives 9, vacant 1.

## Business

### Bombardier to buy Short Brothers

Bombardier, the Canadian aircraft and mass-transit manufacturer, has been selected by the British Government to acquire Short Brothers of Belfast.

As part of its purchase commitment, Bombardier has agreed to carry out a major capital investment programme at Shorts, and to provide a business plan which will ensure that Shorts has a viable future.

Bombardier recently acquired Canadair from the Canadian government and has since made it profitable. Under its new ownership, Shorts is expected to help develop Canadair's R J regional routes jet. Canadair already has more than 95 firm orders for the jet from airlines around the world.

### UK company invests in British Columbia

Mission Electronics plc - the UK-based producer of audio equipment and computers - has located its new North American operations in British Columbia.

Mission, well known for its expertise in the area of innovative products, had made a breakthrough in the design of a portable computer. It felt the prime market for the computer would be the United States, so it decided that manufacturing should take place in North America.

Its main site-selection criteria included an area where the government had a positive attitude towards economic growth through high technology; where sound fiscal policy was a priority; where an established knowledge-based industry already existed; where the lifestyle was conducive to attracting the calibre of people to ensure continuing growth; and where there is already a reservoir of talented, qualified personnel.

British Columbia was able to meet all of these criteria - with the added bonus of being home to three universities of international renown, as well as several technological institutions producing the kind of graduates that high-tech industries need.

It is expected that Mission Cyprus Corporation - the name of Mission's new BC company - will employ 70 people in its first year, increasing to about 300 people by the end of the third year. The total investment amounts to about £7 million.

## People

### E P Taylor dies at 88

E P Taylor, the Canadian industrialist, died on 14 May in the Bahamas. He was 88.

Taylor, who built an international empire from a small Ottawa brewery, was also a successful horsebreeder and racer. Among his champions was Northern Dancer, the first Canadian-bred horse to win the Kentucky Derby and one of the most successful stallions in the history of the sport.

The federal government recognised Taylor's talents during the Second World War when he worked as a 'dollar-a-year man'. In that capacity he filled many roles - executive assistant to the minister of munitions and supply; vice-chairman of the British Supply Council in North America, buying wartime supplies for Britain and Canadian chairman of the joint war aid committee.

He was rewarded by being made a Companion of St Michael and St George, the highest British honour for a Canadian citizen.

## Culture

### Festival of Canadian contemporary music

Canadian Productions Limited and the Canadian High Commission in London are planning a festival of contemporary Canadian music, to be held from September 30 to October 7 at London's South Bank Centre.

In addition, selected events - such as films, workshops and lectures - will be held at Canada House in Trafalgar Square. Many of these events will then tour the UK and the rest of Europe.

The eight-day festival will feature some of the best in Canadian contemporary music.