

Cellist Gisela Depkat performs July 20, Cleo Laine and John Dankworth, August 3, and August 24 Canadian folksinger Bruce Cockburn ends the series. The popular Music at Midnight concerts will be presented again this year at Gallery Stratford and Master Classes will be given by Steven Staryk, violinist; Barry Tuckwell, French horn; and Ray Still, oboist.

### War memorial honours women

Funds for a memorial statue to women who served the British Commonwealth in wartime are being raised by the Women's Tri-Service Veterans' Association in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

The statue, to be erected on land west of the Winnipeg Cenotaph at a cost of some \$50,000, depicts women of the three former services standing back to back.

To date, the volunteer women's association has received \$29,000 in donations from legions, veterans' associations, ex-service personnel, the Ontario provincial government, the City of Winnipeg and from various fund-raising programs.

The unveiling of the memorial is planned for next summer to honour the more than 100,000 women who served the Commonwealth during the wars.

### Report on food prices

Food prices have been rising at a substantial pace in recent weeks following four months of significant easing from the upward trend of 1973 and 1974.

In the early months of 1975, Canada experienced a considerable decline in the price of many important foods, including meat, vegetables and sugar.

*Canada Weekly* is published by the Information Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to (Mrs.) Miki Sheldon, Editor.

*Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.*

*Algunos números de esta publicación parecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.*

*Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.*

The reasons for these decreases were discussed in the Food Prices Review Board's last quarterly report, released at the end of May.

### Meat

Much of the recent increase can be attributed to a significant turnaround in the price of meat, particularly beef. The increase in retail beef prices has generally reflected higher auction prices for live cattle and dressed carcasses. In Toronto, for example, average prices for A1 steers increased from the \$38-\$40 per hundredweight range in mid-March to the \$51-\$53 range in the week ending May 23. Toronto prices for dressed A1 steer carcasses climbed from around \$72-\$74 to \$97-\$99 per hundredweight over those in the same period.

Part of the increase appears due to seasonal factors. There usually is a rise in beef prices during the summer although the rise this year was earlier than expected.

Pork prices also rose in the past two months. Here again, increases in producer prices have been the most important factor. Dressed hogs (Index 100) selling in Toronto for between \$50-\$54 per hundredweight in mid-March sold for \$60-\$65 per hundredweight in the last week of May. The number of hogs marketed in recent weeks fell sharply from earlier levels, owing to the relative scarcity phase of the so-called "hog cycle".

### Fruit and dairy products

There has also been a significant increase in the price of fresh fruit, which is normal for this time of year. The rise has been most notable for apples, citrus fruits and bananas.

Prices for dairy products rose sharply during the past two months. An increase in the federal support price for industrial milk caused a rise in the price of butter. Fluid milk prices were raised by milk marketing boards in Ontario, British Columbia and Prince Edward Island.

Fresh vegetable prices have been rising. Potato prices, which had been falling in the early months of 1975, are now firm while prices for carrots and onions have risen.

The only offsets to these increases have been declines in the price of sugar, and, to a lesser degree, of eggs.

### Metric conversion goes ahead

The Metric System of Units began in Canada on April 1, when the media started broadcasting temperature readings in Celsius degrees rather than Fahrenheit degrees. The following are target dates for further conversions:

- Autumn 1975 – Sugar to be packaged in metric sizes.
- September 1975 – Precipitation reports (rain in mm, snow in cm) to be given in metric measurements.
- Early 1976 – Automobile speedometers to be marked in km, if necessary.
- Summer 1976 – The Olympics, to be held in Montreal, will use the metric system.
- March 1976 – Prepackaged fresh fruits and vegetables to be sold in metric measurements.
- September 1976 – The shoe industry to convert to metric sizes.
- September 1977 – All road signs in Canada to be converted to the metric system.

### Sex of unborn children

*(Continued from P. 2)*

not become a matter of routine in the near future. However, ultrasonic screening during early pregnancy is currently standard practice in the Royal Victoria Hospital to assess pregnancy "well-being" and confirm or determine "dates".

In a recently published paper, Dr. Stocker reported that in 210 cases where ultrasonic examination was carried out during early pregnancy and for which the final outcome is now known, assessment of reliability of the procedure revealed that in 96.2 per cent of the cases, the technique was useful diagnostically.

Despite the fact that nothing can be done to alter the fact, Dr. Stocker feels that the majority of parents are extremely curious to discover the sex of their infant before it is born and would probably be pleased to be told. However, the usefulness of ultrasound techniques to determine pregnancy complications far outweighs its importance as a sex-determining technique and Dr. Stocker intends to continue to concentrate his research on applications of medical significance.