

have operated in the market to maintain orderly conditions. This has involved some loss of reserves during the recent period of decline in the exchange value of the Canadian dollar. However, our reserves remain substantial, and we have the capacity to supplement them substantially should the need arise. We will continue to follow our floating exchange rate policy. I am convinced that confidence in the basic value of the Canadian dollar can best be promoted by sound domestic policies....

Higher production solution

Mr. Speaker, we must realize that these are difficult times for Canada both economically and politically. But these are also challenging times because Canadians must rededicate themselves to the building of a stronger, more prosperous and more united country.

The solutions to our problems are not easy and they will not all come from government. We must realize not only that the resources of government are limited, but also that we do not want in Canada the type of society where everything comes from the State. Therefore, there will not be any large new social programs nor greatly increased government spending. To maintain our standard of living, all Canadians must learn to work harder, to be more efficient and to be more productive.

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We must adopt once again the spirit of those who built this country, a spirit of adventure and initiative, a taste for risk, and the determination of the explorer. This is the challenge we must meet.

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Yukon health services transferred

Health and Welfare Minister Monique Bégin recently announced the transfer of responsibility for Yukon medical services from the Federal to the Yukon territorial government. Arrangements for the transfer, scheduled to be completed by March 31, 1978, will cover six hospitals, three health stations and nine health centres along with 250 employees who will be given the opportunity to transfer. The transfer includes the delivery of health services to status Indians in the Yukon, for which the Federal Government continues to retain ultimate responsibility.

Until now the Federal Government has provided services to all residents of the Yukon. Under the terms of the new agreement, a five-member health services review board will be established, made up of three members representing the Yukon Indian Brotherhood, one representing the Territory and one representing the Federal Government. The board chairman will be elected from among the three Indian representatives. Indians will have representation on all hospital boards.

The board will survey Indian health care in the Yukon, promote native participation in the health-care system, recommend any changes in the service agreement, investigate complaints, co-ordinate regional native alcohol-abuse programs, and assess native health needs.

The agreement will also establish a training program to increase Indian employment and involvement in the territorial health-delivery system. The federal Department of Health and Welfare will immediately begin recruiting and training 15 community health representatives to work in health care.

Third Meeting of Canada/Belgium Mixed Commission

The Mixed Commission provided for under the terms of the Cultural Agreement concluded between Canada and Belgium in July 1967, held its third meeting in Canada from October 17 to 21.

During the past year, Belgo-Canadian cultural relations have established further scholarship exchange, and new links and exchanges between Belgian and Canadian university faculties. Participants in this year's meeting discussed plans for a growth in exchanges of persons in the academic and socio-cultural sectors and an increase in the promotion of artistic creativity.

At the time of the meeting of the Mixed Commission the "Théâtre expérimental de Montréal" performed in Belgium, at Liège and at Louvain-la-Neuve. Reciprocally, the "Théâtre de Zygomars" (from Namur) gave performances in Quebec, New Brunswick, Ontario and Saskatchewan.

Japan and Canada exchange information on accounting practices



On September 2, 1977, the chairman and three members of the Accounting Committee of the Japanese House of Representatives, with two parliamentary staff members, met with Bill Clarke, M.P. (Vancouver Quadra), a member of the Public Accounts Committee of the House of Commons, and House of Commons personnel, to exchange information on the procedures and practices of the Accounts Committees of both countries. The visit was one of a continuing series of exchanges between Canadian and Japanese parliamentarians. Mr. Clarke (extreme left) is shown in the photo with (from left to right) Mitsugu Haga, chairman, Accounting Committee; Susumu Isoda, staff member; Shigeru Hara and Kosei Amano, members of Accounting Committee; Keizo Kikuchi, staff member; Kyusho Niwa, member, Accounting Committee; and Alistair Fraser, Clerk of the House of Commons.