

child's first permanent molars can be properly treated is fairly short; if they are not treated within six months after eruption, 60 per cent of these teeth may be unsuitable for treatment. Another limitation is that it can only be applied to the chewing surface of posterior teeth. Unfortunately, the major portion of decay occurs in the areas between the teeth where sealants cannot be applied.

Further research is still required, but fissure sealants have already been accepted and applied by a number of dentists in North America. Provided the application procedure is strictly adhered to the material will almost certainly stay in place for at least a year.

Nickel project in Brazil

Baminco Mineração e Siderurgia, S.A. (Baminco) of Brazil has announced that The International Nickel Company of Canada, Limited and a German consortium composed of Metallgesellschaft AG of Frankfurt and Exploration und Bergbau GMBH of Düsseldorf have entered into a participation agreement to determine the feasibility of developing lateritic nickel deposits at Barro Alto, in the state of Goiás, Brazil. Baminco is a Brazilian company that holds rights to acquire mining concessions over the Barro Alto deposits.

Baminco has been conducting geological and metallurgical work since 1970 to determine the potential of the Barro Alto deposits. Under the agreement, work on the deposits will be continued and expanded. Baminco will mine a representative bulk sample of the ore for shipment in 1974 to Inco's research stations at Port Colborne, Ontario, for testing.

The agreement gives Inco and the German group equal interests in the project and in Baminco, in which the German companies have held a controlling interest.

Canadian oil price may double

Energy Minister Donald Macdonald has revised upward the Government estimates on oil costs after the present price freeze is lifted. He estimates that the price of Canadian oil may go up 100-150 per cent at the wholesale level by mid-year.

Beef import surtax lifted

Arrangements for terminating the surtax on beef by February 10 were announced to the House of Commons on January 4 by Finance Minister John Turner. The tax would, he said, be phased out in three instalments beginning January 14.

The surtax was imposed November 3 owing to unusually large imports of cattle and beef which were threatening the stability of the market and endangering future production of cattle and beef in Canada.

The temporary surtax was 3 cents a pound on imports of live cattle and 6 cents a pound on beef. "Effective midnight January 13," stated Mr. Turner, the surtax on live cattle will be reduced to 2 cents a pound and the surtax on imports of beef to 4 cents a pound. A further reduction, to take place at midnight January 27, will reduce the surtax to 1 cent a pound on live cattle and to 2 cents a pound on beef. The surtax will no longer apply as of midnight February 10."

The tax had been imposed to deal with a temporary situation resulting from the marketing of large numbers of cattle from the United States, which had been held back from the market during the U.S. price freeze that ended early in September.

New Brunswick-Massachusetts trade and tourist co-operation

Premier Richard Hatfield of New Brunswick and Governor F.W. Sargent of Massachusetts, U.S.A., signed a trade promotion and tourist development agreement last month which calls for mutual assistance in the marketing and display of manufactured goods.

Massachusetts agreed to assist New Brunswick manufacturers in making marketing contacts in the state and to assist provincial government agencies in arranging displays of New Brunswick products in shopping centres throughout Massachusetts.

The U.S. state will also participate in efforts to alleviate technical problems encountered by New Brunswick truckers hauling to and from Massachusetts.

In return, New Brunswick agreed to assist Massachusetts in identifying, arranging and supporting development

displays in the province which will incorporate the sale of products manufactured in the state.

The province will also supply Massachusetts with a list of agents and distributors and make contacts on behalf of state manufacturers, particularly for the sale and distribution of roses and other flower products.

In tourist development, New Brunswick will assist Massachusetts in the showing of short films on television within the province which portray the state as a major year-round tourist attraction.

The agreement also calls for further talks concerning the possibility of a joint tourism advertising campaign in connection with the summer games in Montreal and a review, on a commodity basis, of government purchasing in an effort to eliminate preferences between the two jurisdictions.

Plans set for new aviation museum

Trustees of the National Museums of Canada have approved the planning for a new aviation museum to house the national aeronautical collection. The proposal has yet to receive Cabinet approval for funding and location.

The sketches are being prepared on the basis that a site adjacent to Ottawa International Airport will be chosen.

At present, most of the 90 or so aircraft are exhibited in three aging, wartime hangars at Canadian Forces Base Ottawa North. Others are located at Uplands airport, the War Museum and the National Museum of Science and Technology.

Air Marshal C.R. Dunlap (retired), president of the RCAF Memorial Fund, stated that the collection deserved a "suitable display building which must be fireproof and waterproof, because these aircraft are priceless and irreplaceable." He added that the proposed building should be air-conditioned, because old aircraft were susceptible to damage by changing weather. The Rockcliffe hangars are neither air-conditioned, fireproof nor weather-proof.

The air marshal said that the RCAF Memorial Fund committee was considering the allocation of funds towards the cost of a commemorative foyer in the proposed building.