

The chemical agent, Lorcon-Silvex, is mixed with the water that is picked up by the CL-215 twin-engined aircraft through a special on-board injection system developed by Aerospatiale of France and modified by Canadair Limited of Montreal, Quebec. When the mixture is released into the air, it becomes a foamy white blanket that clings together as it falls on its target.

About 40 per cent of the foam is absorbed by trees and plants and the rest seeps down to the ground and penetrates up to 25 centimetres into the undergrowth to prevent fires from burning underneath. Little foam is vaporised and the mixture smothers much of the fire's smoke.

The mixture has been successful fighting fires in France and Spain. It has also been employed by the British Columbia forestry ministry for use on large fires.

People

BC premier decides time right to retire

Premier Bill Bennett of British Columbia says his job is done and he is quitting public life. He made the announcement at a news conference, catching even his own cabinet by surprise.

The shock came a scant three weeks after Bennett stood with Prince Charles and Princess Diana at the opening of the Expo 86 world's fair — widely viewed as a launching pad for a 1986 election campaign and a bid for a fourth successive term of office. But Bennett, insisting it is time for political renewal, said: 'The time to have changes within a party is when things are good.'

He has been succeeded as premier by Bill Vander Zalm, 52, who was sworn in on August 6. Vander Zalm also assumed the finance portfolio.

The Premier said that his decision to take over the finance portfolio reflected his determination to take a 'hands-on' approach in sharing the province's financial and economic development policy.

'I have some innovative ideas and strategies to bring about new employment for British Colum-

bians and the operations of the Finance Ministry are very closely linked to those plans', he said.

The transfer of power ended a Bennett family dynasty that began when W A C Bennett — Bill Bennett's father and founder of the Social Credit party — led the Socreds to office in 1952.

For 30 of the past 34 years, a Bennett has been at the head of the party and government in British Columbia. The New Democratic Party held office from 1972 to 1975.

Vander Zalm, who beat 11 other candidates to win the party leadership, promised an open and honest government that will listen to the people and resolve conflicts through co-operation.

He said he will hold meetings with business, labour and community groups in every region of the province as part of his commitment to govern by consultation.

A new morality for government was a major theme in his first address as premier. He said he wants to ensure there are conditions and guidelines that 'leave no doubts whatsoever in the minds of the public as to the ethics and integrity of those who serve in public office.'

Paul Rousseau appointed Saskatchewan agent general



Paul Rousseau has been appointed agent general in London for Saskatchewan. After accepting his appointment, Rousseau resigned his seat in the Saskatchewan legislative assembly.

A former cabinet minister in the Saskatchewan government, Rousseau was first elected in the 1978 provincial general election. Born in 1929 in Fort Frances, Ontario, he completed his primary and secondary education

there. He moved to Regina in 1960. He is the former president and general manager of a car dealership. He and his wife, Janine, have five daughters.

Maple Leaf Luncheon Club starts drive for members

The Maple Leaf Luncheon Club has started a new drive to increase membership. The club was founded in 1927 to foster stronger business, family and social links in the Anglo-Canadian community. Membership is extended to anyone, regardless of nationality, who has connections with Canada. Many members are associated with Canadian businesses, the Canadian High Commission and provincial houses.

Luncheon meetings are normally held on the third Tuesday of the month. Members are encouraged to invite guests. Most luncheons have been held at the Cafe Royal in Regent Street, London but venues are varied for special occasions.

Annual events include the Christmas cocktail party and the June International Day at Epsom races, when tickets are made available for the members' enclosure.

Sports

Winter Olympic tickets already on sale

More than 1.5 million tickets for the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary, priced between \$15 and \$75, went on sale September 30. Jim McGregor, co-ordinator of the ticket sales programme, says it is the first time that tickets to a Winter Olympics have been available 17 months before the sporting events begin. All sales during the first few months must be by mail order.

The Games are scheduled for February 13-28, 1988.

Culture

Shaw papers for University of Guelph

The University of Guelph in Ontario has acquired a \$100 000-plus collection of recordings, books, notes and

manuscripts by George Bernard Shaw.

The university also houses the archives of the Shaw Festival, the only theatre devoted solely to the work of the Dublin-born playwright, who died in England at the age of 94.

The collection belonged to the American scholar and writer, Dan Laurence, literary adviser to Shaw's estate. It includes all known recordings of Shaw's voice, about 200 photographs (many dated by Shaw), and an excellent collection of play proofs used for rehearsals, with changes in the text made by Shaw and the actors.

BBC 3rd programme celebrates Canadian Music Year

In the first week of September, coinciding with the visit to the UK by the Toronto Symphony, the BBC broadcast 22 programmes, either by Canadian artists or containing works by Canadian composers. Highlights included the first broadcast by the BBC Welsh orchestra (conducted by Andrew Davis) of Glen Buhr's *Beren And Luthien*; a recital of Canadian violin music given by Dennis Simons, the Canadian leader of the BBC Philharmonic Orchestra; music by Claude Vivier, recorded at last year's Almeida Festival; and a performance of Serge Garant's *Quintet* played by the *Société de Musique Contemporaine du Québec*. The Stravinsky concert from the Edinburgh Festival and the London Promenade concert by the Toronto Symphony Orchestra were also broadcast.

Walter Susskind, director of The Toronto Symphony, 1956-65

In our last issue, relating the history of The Toronto Symphony, a reference to Walter Susskind, the orchestra's director from 1956-1965, was erroneously omitted. Under his guidance the orchestra's repertoire was expanded, including first performances of a number of Canadian works, as well as first performances in Canada of works from the international repertory. He was also responsible for the foundation of the National Youth Orchestra of Canada.