

they were ultimately responsible.

Air transport within Canada was almost non-existent and international flights were either cancelled or re-routed to the United States.

The Prime Minister, speaking on national television on June 22, said that the extended use of French in Quebec air space would not be implemented until a commission of inquiry had completed studies on safety and bilingual air-traffic control.

Transport Minister Otto Lang and representatives of the airline pilots and air-traffic controllers were holding discussions to try and resolve the situation.

### Canada helps Mexican farming

In an effort to cut the cost of milk and meat to Mexican households, Government scientists there are starting a three-year program to increase forage production in an experimental area, which can serve as a production model for the whole country. Canada, through its International Development Research Centre, will support the project with a grant of \$330,000.

Although Mexico has large grassland resources, these have so far not been developed and the country imports large quantities of animal products, as well as feed concentrate for its own livestock. As a result, consumer prices are higher than they might be if the domestic dairy and beef industry were developed.

Experiments will take place mainly on land at the Torreón research station in northern Mexico, and at five sub-stations. But there will be close links with the University of Alberta, which will provide a project adviser, a consultant and will offer postgraduate training to three Mexican scientists involved in the project.

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### Special train to the opera

"Opera train" package tours will be available from Montreal to Ottawa this July on the afternoon of every night of grand opera at the National Arts Centre during this summer's Festival Canada. Price will include return transportation, hotel accommodation and choice seating at one of the Centre's three Festival operas.

The 14 nights of Festival opera include six performances of Mozart's *The Marriage of Figaro*, five of Tchaikovsky's *The Queen of Spades*

and three of Rossini's *Le Comte Ory*. Transportation will be provided from Ottawa Station to one of the city's best hotels within walking distance of the NAC, and patrons may return to Montreal on any of five trains daily. Return transportation, accommodation and a seat at the opera are being offered for \$38.50 a person, based on a shared double hotel room; single rooms are \$13.50 extra.

This service, while unique in Canada, is similar to that enjoyed in other countries — the opera train between Chicago and Ravinia Park, in the United States, for example.

### News briefs

■ British Columbia's new minimum wage, effective June 1, at \$3 an hour, is the highest in Canada, followed by Saskatchewan and Quebec, at \$2.80.

■ The 11 employees of the student society of Simon Fraser University, B.C., have negotiated a unique contract benefit — five days off with pay in the event of marriage breakdown.

■ Bell Canada proposes to issue \$60 million (U.S.) of debentures in Europe, with a coupon rate of 8.75 per cent. They will be dated July 15, 1976 and will mature July 15, 1986.

■ The Federal Government spent \$4.04 billion and had revenues of \$2.01 billion during the first month of the 1976-1977 fiscal year, the Finance Department announced June 21.

■ Alberta announced a new coal policy, June 21, which includes a complex system of royalties that could net the province \$23.2 million in the first year, compared to \$900,000 expected this year.

■ The Metro Toronto Zoo, with more than 3,000 animals and 710 acres, will be complete when the Canadian animal domain opens this month. Among new acquisitions are a rare \$52,000 male Indian rhinoceros, two baby black rhinos and dall (Arctic) sheep. In all, there are 367 species.

■ Eighty-year-old Salvation Army member Ann Byles, who refused recently to accept her Ontario Medal for Good Citizenship, changed her mind when told by Premier William Davis that she would be representing many other unsung workers in her field by accepting it. Miss Byles' reason for refusing

was because the only thanks she would accept would be from God. She has been helping chronically ill patients for 43 years.

■ Saskatchewan expects revenue from uranium mined in the province to reach \$120 million by 1981, according to provincial Mineral Resources Minister Edward Whelan.

■ The Ste-Therese, Quebec, plant of General Motors of Canada Ltd, Oshawa, will become the sole source of production in North America for GM's 1977 subcompact cars.

■ The CBC television network is quoting rates for 30 seconds instead of one minute for commercials, recognizing the trend towards shorter advertising time.

■ A new ice-cutting rig, capable of year-round operation in Arctic waters, is being designed for use by Panarctic Oils Ltd for an expanded program of exploration and development.

■ Bank of Canada Governor Gerald Bouey says the Bank intends to revise downward its target growth for money supply because the current target range of between 10 and 15 per cent for narrowly defined money supply is "becoming outdated."

■ Canada will continue participating in the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights for a further six months ending November 30, and in the United Nations Force in Cyprus for another six months ending December 15, following a request from the UN Secretary-General. There are about 150 Canadians serving in the Golan Heights and 515 in the peacekeeping force in Cyprus.