

adian or foreign." In addition, he commented, "large touring groups such as big bands and dance companies will be exempt from the new provisions as will star performers in all sectors of the industry."

Proposed employment visa regulations require that Canada Manpower be satisfied that employers have considered available Canadian talent before giving a contract to a foreign performer. The Department will depend on the cooperation of and advice from groups in the community such as unions, employer organizations and cultural associations.

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### New pennies to be smaller

Beginning in January 1978 Canada will mint a new one-cent coin. The new coin, reduced from the present 19.05 millimeters to a diameter of 16 millimeters, will retain the design of Queen Elizabeth II, created by Arnold Machin. The reverse of the coin will have a new design consisting of the digit "1" surrounded by 12 miniature maple leaves. The year and the words "Canada" and "cent" will also be engraved on the reverse.



The decision to reduce the size of the coin was made for economic reasons since production costs including minting and the price of the metal exceeded the nominal value. To this effect, Part II of the Appendix to the Currency and Exchange Act has been amended by the Governor in Council to change the weight of the one cent coin from 3.24 grams (50 grains) to 1.8 grams (27.78 grains).

The mint has renewed contracts with El Salvador and Costa Rica for the production of circulating coins for their countries. Twenty million coins will be minted for El Salvador and six million for Costa Rica, for a combined value of

\$250,000. The mint has also been informed by New Zealand that its offer for the production of 210 million circulating coins has been accepted. The new contract, worth about \$3.6 million, will extend over three years.

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### Interim pollution contingency plan with Denmark

Canada and Denmark recently signed an interim marine-pollution contingency plan applicable to the waters of the Labrador Sea, Davis Strait, Baffin Bay and Nares Strait, which separate Canada and Greenland. The plan, an inter-agency arrangement between the Canadian Coast Guard and the Danish Ministry for Greenland, is intended to provide a co-ordinated response to oil pollution caused by off-shore drilling accidents. Under the plan, each side is obliged to allow observers of the other to monitor clean-up operations in its own waters and, in the event of potential or actual transfrontier pollution, representatives of the two agencies are to ensure the co-ordination of clean-up plans.

The contingency plan is an interim arrangement only, pending further discussion between the two governments on the question of financial responsibility for an incident in the waters of one state that causes damage in the waters of the other.

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### Optimism for economic growth in all provinces

According to the provincial economic forecasts of the Conference Board in Canada, all provinces will enjoy a faster rate of growth in 1978 than in 1977, with the strongest recovery taking place in the Atlantic provinces.

Ontario's growth rate next year will be faster than that of any other province with a 5.5 percent gain in real domestic product, compared with a 3.4 percent rise this year. Construction activity will be particularly strong and the unemployment rate will drop slightly to 6.9 percent from an average of 7.1 percent this year.

The Quebec economy will show an improvement in 1978, with the province's unemployment rate declining to 9.3 percent compared to an average 9.7 percent

in 1977. However, its economic growth will still be slower than the average for Canada as a whole.

The Board is forecasting a reduction in the national unemployment rate to 7.7 percent in 1978 from an average of 8 percent in 1977. National economic growth is expected to help speed up employment growth to 2.9 percent from a 1.9 percent gain this year.

There should be particularly strong growth in construction, transportation, communications and utilities industries, with some additional improvement in manufacturing and service sectors. Agricultural output will reverse its 1977 decline but is not expected to approach the near record levels of 1976. A modest advance is forecast for mining, while forestry will sustain the high levels achieved as a result of strong growth in the previous two years.

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### Mental health research

Dr. Nelson Cauthen and Dr. Donald Bakal, both of the University of Calgary, have received grants from the Alberta government to continue their respective examinations of the relation between biological and environmental factors in behaviour.

Dr. Cauthen, who is currently involved in the "detection of genetic predisposition to schizophrenia", hopes to isolate schizophrenic patients from those who are predisposed to the illness but who remain clinically normal. By studying both groups, he may be able to prescribe environmental conditions that will prevent those with the predisposition from developing the disorder.

Dr. Cauthen suggests that "in the case of schizophrenia, competencies, for example job skills, may help the individual cope with a potentially crippling psychobiological inheritance".

Schizophrenia, which includes a number of mental and behavioral disorders, such as the tendency to retreat from reality, is one of the most frequently ascertained psychiatric syndromes.

Dr. Bakal plans to continue his treatment of chronic headache sufferers with biofeedback techniques, and hopes to determine whether there is a common basis for muscle contractions and migraine headaches, both still generally considered to be of separate origin. He does not think that "a severe headache is a