

News briefs

Consultations between Canada and the Union of the Soviet Socialist Republics, that took place in Ottawa on November 14-15, covered a range of arms control and disarmament matters as well as international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and efforts to promote the non-proliferation regime. The USSR delegation was headed by Ambassador Vladimir F. Petrovsky. Stephen Heeney, director general of the Bureau of Energy, Transport and Science, Department of External Affairs, led the discussions on international co-operation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy and non-proliferation, while Louis Delvoie, director general of the Bureau of International Security and Arms Control, led the discussions on arms control and disarmament.

Minister of Energy, Mines and Resources Pat Carney has announced natural gas export licence amendments to allow six Canadian companies — Alberta and Southern Gas Company Limited, Pan-Alberta Gas Limited, ProGas Limited, TransCanada PipeLines Limited, Westcoast Transmission Company Limited and Sulpetro Limited — to export gas to US buyers at negotiated prices. Under the new amendments, the companies expect to sell an additional 11.3 billion cubic metres of gas, earning

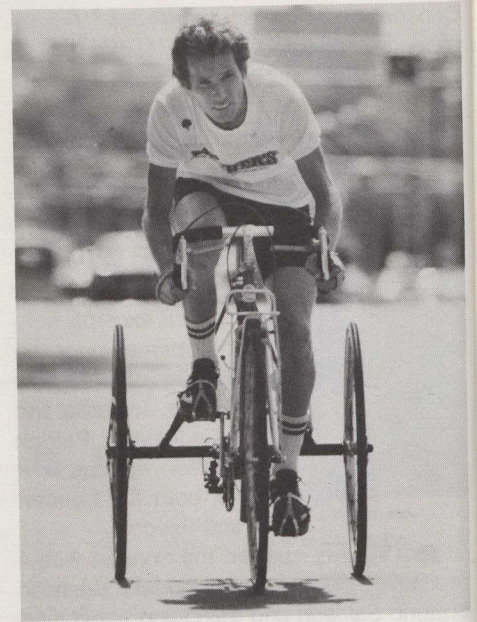
\$1 billion (US) more in export revenue, than they would under government-prescribed export prices.

Prime Minister Brian Mulroney has announced that the government will place a minimum tax on the rich in the next budget due to be brought down in April 1985. Neither the income level of a minimum tax nor the size of the tax have been determined, but a discussion paper is expected to be ready early in 1985.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) and the National Bank of Canada (NBC) have signed two financing agreements totalling \$10.1 million (US) to support sales by the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) to The Republic of Ecuador. EDC is lending \$8.596 million and NBC is lending \$1.517 million to support sales of teaching aid equipment and related services by Lab-Volt Limited of Montreal to two agencies of the government of Ecuador.

Governor General Jeanne Sauvé was invested as a Companion of the Order of the Red Cross in recognition of her "distinguished service to the people of Canada". The Red Cross set up the order in 1984 to honour those who have made "significant contributions to its work, or who have rendered valuable service in the cause of humanity". There are three categories: companion, officer and member.

Tricycle trek for MS



Richard Beecroft

Multiple sclerosis (MS) sufferer Richard Beecroft of Ottawa, Ontario is currently on the second leg of his round-the-world tricycle trip through Europe to publicize the disease and to help local MS societies raise money.

Multiple sclerosis is an incurable disease that attacks the central nervous system. Its symptoms include slurred speech, fatigue, dizziness, loss of balance and numbness.

Mr. Beecroft, who has completed an 11-month tour of North America, (see *Canada Weekly*, September 28, 1983), expects to travel 17 700 kilometres throughout Europe over the next ten months.

"I don't raise money myself," he said in an interview, "but I work with MS societies." He has no organized financial support, depending instead on the generosity of strangers. He travels with a tent and camping equipment.

Mr. Beecroft expects to pedal a further 4 800 kilometres in Australia, covering about 75 kilometres a day. He also hopes to do some cycling in Asia.

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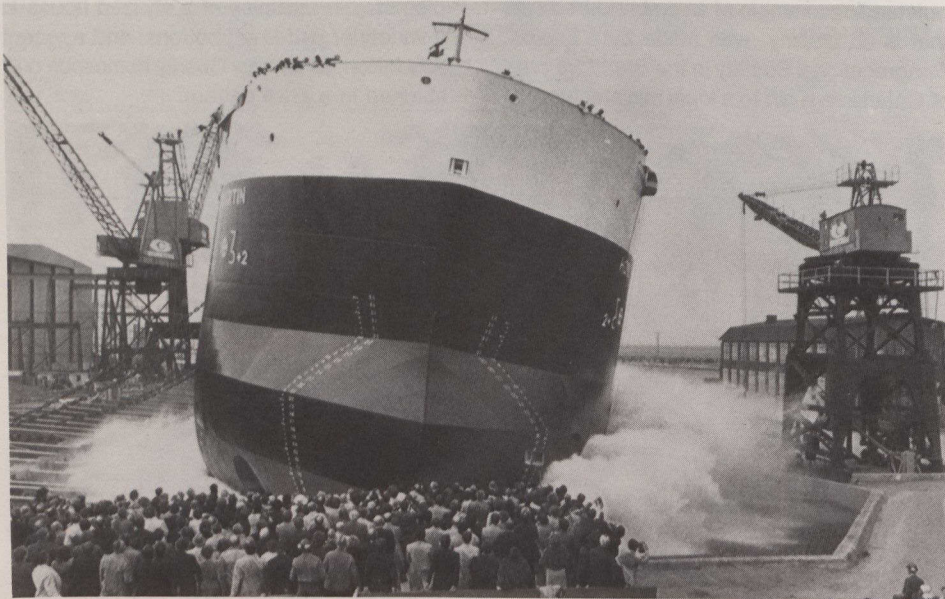
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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiario de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.

Splashdown of gigantic ship causes near tidal wave



The MV Hon. Paul Martin, the largest ship ever to be side-launched in Canada and the largest ship built at the Collingwood Shipyards in Collingwood, Ontario, was launched on November 1. The 225-metre, self-unloading bulk carrier, was designed to carry a variety of cargoes that can be unloaded at a rate of 6 000 tonnes an hour. The \$40-million vessel was named after Liberal Senator Paul Martin and christened by his wife, Eleanor, at the launching ceremony.

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