

Specialty sports roadster built

Production of a plastic-bodied sports roadster whose lines go back to the late 1940s has begun near Toronto, reports Ken Romain in the *Globe and Mail*, May 15.

The *GRX Aurora*, described as Canada's only two-seat roadster, is powered by a Ford Motor Co. of Canada Ltd. 302-cubic-inch V-8 engine and weighs slightly more than 2,000 pounds.

The car, priced at \$28,000, was unveiled at the company's plant in Richmond Hill, just north of Toronto. The vehicle was designed, developed and built by Aurora Cars of Richmond Hill, a subsidiary of a holding company, Grove Ridge Industries Ltd., backed by private investors.

Wayne Stevenson, president, who did the early engineering, said the *Aurora* meets all government-mandated safety, emission control and fuel economy standards, providing 26 miles to the gallon. He said it took three-and-a-half years to develop the car.

The cars are hand-built, using mainly Ford parts, but also with some parts manufactured by the company.

Six cars have been sold and negotiations are under way with a Chicago car dealer, Carl Haas Inc., to take 30 and with a Ford of Canada dealer in Toronto to take ten, according to Mr. Stevenson. Cars will be sold through selected dealers.

Initial production is scheduled at 50 cars a year, of which 75 per cent will go to the United States. Output later is expected to rise to 100 a year.

Blind mechanic amazes

Toronto recently hired its first blind mechanic. Nick Panteluk, 25, repairs lawnmowers for cutting grass in city parks. He uses a relatively standard tool kit and engine instruction manuals printed in braille.

His boss, purchasing department official Maurice Dinneen, said he was amazed at the dexterity the Saskatchewan-born tradesman showed during an aptitude test last December for the job.

"With an absolute minimum amount of instruction, Mr. Panteluk was able to recognize a 21-inch heavy-duty commercial Lawn Boy mowing machine, check it over to make sure it was functional, fill

the gasoline tank, turn on the supply valve, prime the fuel system, operate the controls and start the machine, to the amazement of all who witnessed."

The only one who doesn't seem astonished by it all is Mr. Panteluk.

In 1975, he was accepted for a 40-week small-engine repair course at Centennial College in Toronto and received his tradesman certificate in 1976.

It was not until January 1978 that he managed to land a job as a jack-of-all-trades with a federally-sponsored boat-building firm.

He was laid off last October and recently was offered the job with the City of Toronto.

The man who helped him get the job, Bill McKeown, an employment officer with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind, says Mr. Panteluk is very much the exception among employable blind people. Blind people in Canada suffer from an unemployment rate of about 80 per cent.

Mr. Panteluk, who wrestled for Canada in the 1976 Handicapped Olympics in Etobicoke near Toronto, is a big, strong, highly motivated man. "A lot of other people would have just given up," Mr. McKeown said.

Canadians operate orphanage

To the passer-by Rua Rodrigo Lobato, 109 is just another family home in Sumaré, a middle-class residential area in Sao Paulo, Brazil. But its inhabitants — 15 children, a nanny and a housekeeper — make it unique.

It is Lar Infantil Canadense, an orphanage operated by a group of Canadian women and their international friends in Sao Paulo. Bought and paid for by the Canadians, it is a home for poor Brazilian children placed there by the Juvenile Court.

The women, all volunteers, buy the food, clothing and furnishings, and provide special schooling. To keep the home running they must raise the equivalent of \$1,000 a month. They do this by holding garage sales, fashion shows and similar fund-raising events.

Adeline Landau-Remy, president of the Canadian Women's Society, which operates the orphanage, said most of the volunteers are wives of foreign executives working in Brazil. They learn Portuguese quickly after they arrive in Sao Paulo and find working for the children in the orphanage most rewarding.

Symbol of peace travels around the world



Reverend Patrick Moore (right) of the Scarborough Foreign Mission in Toronto, sits next to the World Pilgrim Statue of Our Lady of Fatima enroute to Port of Spain, Trinidad where he will begin his twentieth trip around the world in his thirty-second year of travel. Reverend Moore will continue to carry the statue, uncovered, by land, sea and air, as a symbol of peace around the world until 1982.