

Presenting Canadian foods

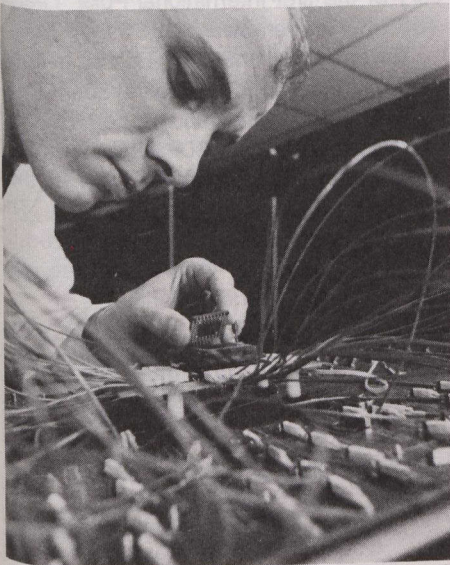
In March, Canadian food products, which are increasing in popularity in the United States, will be featured at a number of food fairs in the country. The events are expected to offer Canadian food product exporters good opportunities for expanding sales in the US multi-billion dollar market.

One retail food show will be held on March 5 as part of "Salute to Canada Week", February 28 to March 10, in Atlanta, Georgia. The salute will include a six-day tasting and sampling of Canadian products, hosted by the Canadian consulate general.

In New York City, Canada's mission will participate in the tenth annual New York Metro Food Service Show, March 25-27, sponsored by the New York State Restaurant Association. The event is expected to attract more than 300 exhibitors.

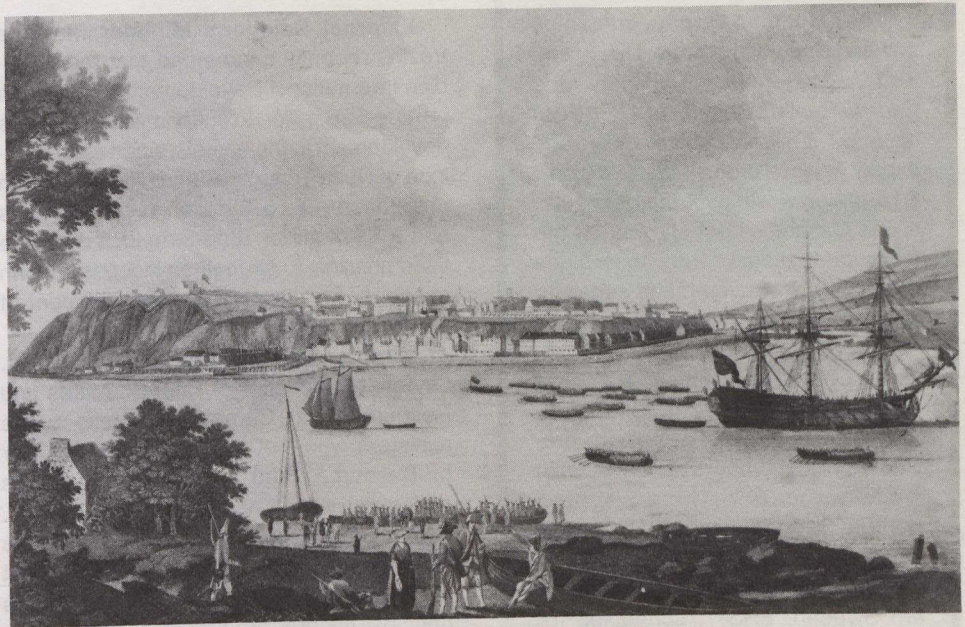
Another solo event, the March 25 Minneapolis Food and Beverage Fair, is being organized by the Department of External Affairs in Bloomington, Minnesota. Members of the American food trade interested in Canada as a long-term source of supply for food and beverage products, are expected to attend the show.

Rapid circuit testing



Working with the most advanced integrated circuit tester in the world, Bell-Northern Research (BNR) scientist Robert Hum prepares to evaluate the quality of a new BNR-designed very large scale integrated circuit. The system can perform 11 520 million tests per second on a chip with 288 pins that connect the chip's internal circuitry to a surrounding protective package.

Exhibition goes back to our roots



Public Archives of Canada

View of the town of Quebec, 1761, by Richard Short.

Taking Root, an exhibition of historical documents illustrating Canada's history from 1700 to 1760, is being presented at the Public Archives of Canada in Ottawa until March 23. It is the second exhibition in the series *Records of Our History* and has been designed to travel across the country.

The documents include maps, engravings, paintings, seals, medals manuscripts and printed material and reflect seven main themes: exploration and discovery, population and settlement, government, wars, economy, society and religion.

The exhibition has been designed to travel across the country and therefore copies, not originals, have been used. They have been selected from 29 Canadian, American and European institutions. Many of the hand written papers are unedited and have rarely been viewed except by historical researchers.

A book illustrating more than 200 documents from the period, including those in the exhibition, has also been published. It contains a review of the period, introductions to the themes and sub-themes and a description of the records by historian André Vachon.

Economical wood stove fights pollution

Erwin Fernbach and Robert Guerriere of Ryerson Polytechnical Institute in Toronto have developed a wood stove they claim will burn a third fewer logs than a conventional one and cause 80 per cent less pollution.

The inventors have recently been awarded a US patent for the stove and they are currently negotiating a licensing agreement with a Canadian stove manufacturer. The first step will be to build several prototypes. Professor Fernbach estimated that a commercially available model will be ready in two years.

In the new stove, rather than burning, the wood smolders slowly — a process Professor Fernbach likened to the technique used to make charcoal briquettes. The poisonous carbon monoxide and other toxic hydrocarbons in the hot, thick, black smoke it gives off is then broken down into less harmful carbon dioxide.

This transformational cleansing is achieved by passing the noxious fumes through two filters coated with palladium that act as a catalyst causing the gases to change. The catalyst-induced changes in the black smoke also release energy that otherwise goes up the chimney during wood-burning.

After it has passed through the two filters, the hot air — at 500 to 900 degrees Celsius — travels through a complex heat-transfer system. Professor Fernbach said the process is so efficient that the air coming out of the chimney is only 70 to 75 degrees. This exit temperature compares with 400 degrees for an ordinary fireplace, and 200 for a typical modern wood-burning stove.

"This means you should be able to load the stove once a day," said Professor Fernbach. It is also possible that the stove pipe could be made from plastic, he added.