

## News briefs

Prime Minister Trudeau says an employment program will be worked out during a series of federal-provincial meetings that will culminate in a first ministers' economic conference in February or March. He says the program will be accompanied by other changes in the economy designed to make sure Canada stays competitive in world markets. These would include alterations in the country's wage, price and cost structure. The Prime Minister recently concluded talks with provincial leaders during a five-week cross-country quest for economic and constitutional reform.

Canada has agreed to contribute \$33 million to the initial resources of the International Fund for Agricultural Development. IFAD, one of the major initiatives proposed by the 1974 World Food Conference, will use its resources to promote agricultural development in developing member states of the United Nations.

A \$500,000 Canadian-owned racehorse, kidnapped from Clairborne Farm, near Paris, Kentucky on June 25, was recovered by the FBI on December 9. Acting on a tip from someone seeking a \$25,000 reward, the investigators discovered Fanfreluche, a mare pregnant by Triple Crown winner Secretariat. Owned by Montrealer Jean-Louis Levesque, Fanfreluche placed second in both the Canadian Oaks and the Queen's Plate in 1970 and was *The Daily Racing Form's* 1970 Canadian Horse of the Year. She should deliver her foal in February.

In order to halt a growing tourism deficit, the Federal Government will establish a tourist advisory board with representatives from the tourist industry's regional offices.

*Canada Weekly* is published by the Information Services Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa, K1A 0G2.

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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.*

*Ähnliche Ausgaben dieses Informationsblatts erscheinen auch in deutscher Sprache unter dem Titel Profil Kanada.*

## A year of memories, celebrations

The year 1977 marked several Canadian anniversaries. Among them:

- The *Halifax Gazette*, Canada's oldest newspaper, was 225 years old on March 25.
- Laval University celebrated its one hundred and twenty-fifth year on December 8.
- Seventy-five years ago, during December, the first radio message from Britain to Canada was transmitted, *via* Cape Breton.
- Canadian Press marked its sixtieth year on August 31.
- Air Canada celebrated its fortieth anniversary.
- The Canadian Broadcasting Corporation made its first telecast 25 years ago.
- On May 17, the city of Montreal observed its three hundred and thirty-fifth birthday.
- It was 25 years ago, on February 28, that the first Canadian (Vincent Massey) was appointed Governor General of Canada.
- Manitoba began exporting wheat to Britain 100 years ago.
- One hundred and twenty-five years ago, on July 8, a great fire destroyed much of Montreal.

## Tenth anniversaries

A decade ago:

- The tallest hotel in Canada, the Château Champlain (38 floors), opened on January 11.
- Yellowknife became the capital of the Northwest Territories.
- The Canada Winter Games were staged for the first time (in Quebec, from February 11 to 18).
- On April 1, bush pilot Robert Gauchie was discovered, 58 days after his plane had crashed 60 miles inside the Arctic Circle.
- Prime Minister Pearson announced the creation of the Order of Canada on April 17.
- *O Canada* became the national anthem on April 12.
- April 27 was the official beginning of Expo 67. There were 1,472,000 visitors in the first three days.
- On May 29, it was announced that army, navy and air force uniforms would all be green.
- The building occupied by the National Library and the Public Archives opened on June 20.
- Ten years ago, Canada celebrated its centennial.

Solicitor-General Francis Fox has announced three steps designed to bring the security services of the RCMP under tighter control. In future all new operational policy of the services must be approved by a committee composed of the RCMP commissioner, deputy commissioners and the security service director-general. The existing security service operational priorities review committee will be strengthened and an operational audit unit will be created with authority to examine all service operations.

The Federal Government has introduced legislation to replace the Atomic Energy Control Board with a more public-oriented Nuclear Control Board responsible only for health, safety, security and environmental matters relating to nuclear development.

Preliminary estimates by Statistics Canada indicate that the average income of Canadian families reached \$19,110 in 1976, an increase of 15 per cent from \$16,613 in 1975. In terms of real purchasing power the increase was 7 per cent. These figures do not represent average income by all Canadians since a significant proportion are not members of families but are classed as "unattached individuals". The average income of this group in 1976 was \$7,521, up 14 per cent from \$6,595 in 1975. The average household income (of families and unattached individuals) is estimated at \$15,816 in 1976, up 15 per cent from \$13,805 in 1975.

The Canadian national sky diving team won two of three gold medals at the world sky diving championship which ended on December 1 in Australia.