

## College enrolment drops

Enrolment in Canada's colleges and universities will be down by 1.1 per cent this fall, the third consecutive year that post-secondary enrolment has declined, Statistics Canada has predicted.

About 362,000 students are expected to begin university this fall and 248,000 college enrolments are anticipated.

Federal statisticians foresee another substantial drop in post-secondary enrolment in the 1980-81 school year. At that time, enrolment in universities will drop to 354,000 and in colleges to 244,000, says the agency.

Other highlights of the 27-page statistical analysis of post-secondary education include:

- In response to declining enrolment, the number of full-time university teachers will drop — but only by 100 persons. There are expected to be 32,500 teaching positions in universities.

- Despite declining enrolment, the number of college instructors is expected to increase to 20,000 from last year's 19,800.

- This will be the first year since the early 1950s in which the number of bachelor degrees awarded will drop. There will be 89,000 this year, compared with last year's 89,300.

- There will be an increase in post-graduate degrees granted. The number of master's degrees will increase by 400 to 13,000 and the number of doctorates will go up by 80 to 1,880.

- Total spending on education will increase in the coming school year to \$19.7 billion from \$18.5 billion last year. This represents about 8 per cent of the country's total annual spending on all goods and services. By 1980-81 the cost is projected at \$21 billion.

- The cost of post-secondary education in the coming year is estimated at \$5.4 billion compared with \$5 billion last year.

## News briefs

**Prime Minister Clark** has approved a plan to lend historical furnishings to the John G. Diefenbaker Centre at the University of Saskatchewan in Saskatoon. The centre is constructing reproductions of the Prime Minister's Office and the Privy Council Chamber, as they appeared during Mr. Diefenbaker's tenure. Some of the furnishings will be on permanent loan, others will be duplicated by the University and returned. Among the pieces to be duplicated are a Cabinet conference table, and the desk which once belonged to Sir Wilfrid Laurier now used in Mr. Clark's Centre Block office.

**Copper, nickel and gold** production in Canada fell in May from a year earlier, but output of silver, lead and zinc rose. Copper production totalled 45,179 tonnes in May, down 34.5 per cent from 69,025 tonnes a year earlier. Primary nickel production totalled 8,116 tonnes in May, down 44.4 per cent from 14,601 tonnes in May 1978. Gold production totalled four million grams in May, down 6 per cent from 4.3 million a year earlier. Silver production totalled 102,357 kilograms in May, up 17.5 per cent from 87,144 in May 1978. Refined lead production totalled 18,041 tonnes in May, up 4.4 per cent from 17,273 a year earlier. Refined zinc production totalled 54,223 tonnes in May, up 29.3 per cent from 41,937 a year earlier.

**Air Canada** fares on international flights are to rise by as much as 13 per cent following agreements reached in Geneva recently by members of the International Air Transport Association, an airline spokesman said in Montreal. A Montreal-Paris, one-way ticket would rise from \$501 to \$566 under the new rate structure, he said. A Toronto-Nassau flight would increase from \$174 to \$191.

**The relocation of 19 federal units** has been cancelled or deferred and only nine approved, Treasury Board President Sinclair Stevens announced on July 27. He calculated that the new program would save at least \$200 million, 2,500 man-years in temporary employment and 350 permanent positions which would have had to be created.

**The U.S. Department of Transportation** has awarded a \$215,000-contract to Urban Transportation Development Corporation Limited (UTDC) of Toronto to modify the design of the fixed-axle trucks

used in the rapid transit cars of the Chicago Transit Authority. UTDC's modification will make the trucks steerable and thus eliminate wheel squeal and substantially reduce noise levels and wheel-rail wear.

**Dominion Bridge of Montreal** has received two contracts for structural steel, one from H.A. Simons Overseas Ltd. of Vancouver for 3,200 tons of steel for a paper mill in Czechoslovakia, and another for \$3.6 million from the James Bay Energy Corporation for steel for a power station.

**The Quebec government** plans to provide \$26 million for a plan to convert one of the Laurentian area's largest ski resorts into a sports and recreation centre. The Fédération des Caisses d'Entraide Economique, an association of more than 60 credit unions in the province, is expected to complete negotiations shortly to buy Mont Tremblant Lodge's ski centre, golf and tennis facilities and waterfront from its current owners.

**Sister Marie Rose Durocher**, a Montreal-born nun who founded the congregation of the Holy Name of Jesus and Mary, was declared venerable by Pope John Paul II recently. This is an official acknowledgement by the Roman Catholic church that Sister Durocher is being considered for canonization. The congregation which she founded has 3,500 sisters working in primary and secondary schools across Canada and the United States as well as in Africa and Brazil. Sister Durocher died in 1849 at the age of 38.

**Shareholders** of Great Canadian Oil Sands of Edmonton approved on August 22 a merger with Sun Oil Company of Toronto to form Suncor Incorporated, the fifth-largest oil company in Canada. The new company will have combined assets of about \$1 billion.

**The innards of bagpipes** are under examination by a physics professor at the University of Western Ontario to find out whether current bagpipes are as good as those made years ago. Pat Taylor, an avid piper for 35 years, is observing the activity of the reed in the drone pipes, which produce the music. The reed in the pipes, while almost identical to a clarinet reed, trembles in an unusual manner producing a double resonance. Professor Taylor says his experiment is a diversion from his usual work — researching the use of guided electrons to study iron content in a particular type of protein.

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