

pean correspondent for the *Globe* and is based in London.

Pierre Turgeon

Montreal writer Pierre Turgeon was presented the award for fiction for his French-language work *La première personne*. The novel tells the story of a man who leaves his family, job and country to assume a new identity in Los Angeles and there experiences a tragic destiny as a victim of his own evasion. Mr. Turgeon published his first novel in 1969 and has worked as a journalist, literary critic, playwright, novelist and scriptwriter for films. He has been director general of the Sogides publishing house since 1979.

Michel Van Schendel

De l'oeil et de l'écoute, for which Michel Van Schendel won the prize for poetry, is a collection of poems on the major themes of love, war and country. Mr. Van Schendel was born in France and immigrated to Quebec in 1952 where he became a journalist and literary critic. He has worked for publications such as *La Presse*, *Cité libre* and *Vie des arts*. Mr. Van Schendel is currently a professor of literary studies at the Université du Québec in Montreal.

Maurice Champagne-Gilbert

Maurice Champagne-Gilbert received the award for non-fiction for *La famille et l'homme à délivrer du pouvoir*. The book is the result of 20 years of research and teaching by Mr. Champagne-Gilbert and also reflects his participation in private and government organizations active in the field of human rights, the family and children's rights. Mr. Champagne-Gilbert, who holds a Ph.D. in literature and a diploma in psychology and philosophy has devoted his career to studying the psychological, social and political relationships between men and women.

Canada Weekly is published by the External Information Programs Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2. Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to the editor, Joanna Kerr.

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.

News briefs

Agriculture Minister Eugene Whelan recently met with U.S. Agriculture Secretary John Block in Ottawa. "Agriculture in our two countries is deeply interlinked. We sell about \$1.2-billion worth of agricultural products a year to the U.S., and we buy from the U.S. about \$3-billion worth. We have a lot in common, and a lot of mutual problems," Mr. Whelan said. Most of the talks centred on agricultural trade issues. As well they discussed acid rain and agricultural pesticides.

British Columbia lawyers have agreed in a narrowly decided referendum to invite lay people to participate in their profession's internal government for the first time. They voted 1,038 to 975 in favour of appointing non-lawyers to their governing body of benchers, a group of senior barristers who administer the affairs of the B.C. Law Society.

West Fraser Timber Company Limited and Eurocan Pulp and Paper Company Limited, both of Vancouver, have signed an agreement for West Fraser to buy 40 per cent of Eurocan from its Finnish parent, Enzo-Gutzeit Osakeyhtio, for more than \$100 million. West Fraser also gets an option to purchase within ten years a further 10 per cent of Eurocan, a producer, at its Kitimat complex, of unbleached kraft paper and linerboard. West Fraser is the second largest British Columbia interior lumber producer.

Telesat Canada has awarded three contracts worth more than \$3 million to Digital Telecommunications Limited of Mississauga, Ontario, for three earth stations known as light route time division multiple access stations and for 12 transportable earth stations and additional channel units for Telesat's twin route system.

The number of Americans crossing the border to fill up their tanks with cheaper gasoline is increasing, according to Statistics Canada. Preliminary figures show Americans making same-day car visits to Canada in March numbered 2.5 million, 49 per cent more than in March 1980. Preliminary figures show that 2.9 million Americans visited Canada in March, 39 per cent more than a year earlier. The increase was primarily due to the increase in one-day car trips.

The federal and New Brunswick governments have signed a one-year extension to an agreement designed to improve the skills of workers in the province. This is the first such extension to be signed in the current round of negotiations between the federal and provincial governments to replace expiring agreements on adult training. Under the extension, the Canada Employment and Immigration Commission will contribute \$19.9 million towards training courses given in the province's community colleges and other training centres and industrial training carried out by employers.

The Ontario budget was presented to the Legislature on May 19. Highlighted in the budget were increased taxes on personal income, cigarettes and alcoholic beverages, and increased health insurance premiums.

A \$20-million program under which about 600 buyers of new homes in Nova Scotia will be able to get low-interest mortgages over a fixed 25-year term was announced recently by the Nova Scotia government. The rates will range from 11 per cent to 15.5 per cent, depending on the buyers level of income. The program will be for families with adjusted incomes below \$30,000 annually.

General Motors of Canada Limited said it will sell 3,500 1981 Chevrolet Malibu passenger cars to the automobile state enterprise of Iraq. It valued the order at more than \$30 million. The company said this order is in addition to the previously reported sale to Iraq of 10,000 Malibus valued at more than \$90 million. GM said the cars would be assembled at its Oshawa plant.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) has announced the signing of a \$2.5-million (U.S.) line of credit to support the sale of Canadian goods and services by various Canadian exporters to Philippine Investment System Organization (PISO) of Manila, Philippines. The line of credit is intended to assist Canadian exporters competing for sales in the Philippines by providing the Philippine buyer with a simple and easily accessible credit facility through the PISO.

A father-and-son canoeing team from Winnipeg recently reached Cancun in the Caribbean. Don Starkell, 48, and his son Dana, 20, left Winnipeg in a 6.5-metre canoe last June for the 11,000-kilometre (6,800-mile) trip. Starkell said both he and his son are healthy and elated after travelling around the northern tip of the Yucatan Peninsula.