

backed Syncrude project) will have high priority. Resource reports on coal and uranium were also issued during 1977. Resource evaluation is under way in many provinces and, as an example, last year a federal-provincial undertaking of uranium reconnaissance, totalling \$1.06 million, began in Newfoundland.

As an alternative to insecure imported oil, electrical development is highly important to the Atlantic provinces. This was recognized in offers of federal assistance in the formation of a Maritime Energy Corporation, for improvements in electrical-transmission ties, and for preliminary work on major hydro-development in Newfoundland. Nova Scotia was also given \$9.2 million in federal assistance to develop other fuels, especially coal, to replace oil.

Federal funding of research and development of solar and other renewable energy forms was increased by 94 per cent in the 1977-78 fiscal year, over that of the preceding year.

New legislation was introduced to define more clearly responsibility for health, safety, security and environmental regulation of nuclear power. The disposal of nuclear wastes was also the subject of a

report to the Federal Government by an independent panel, which concluded there were good prospects for safe disposal of wastes and urged that work on a national disposal plan commence immediately.

Pricing and investment

As the result of an agreement with the provinces, Canadian crude oil prices rose by \$2 a barrel to \$11.75 from June 1977 to January 1, 1978. A corresponding increase in natural gas prices was implemented. Domestic prices remained well below world prices despite this.

The increased cash flow to producing companies is being monitored. Under prospective legislation, the monitoring will be mandatory and will enable the Government to ensure that a significant portion of the increase is invested in exploration and development.

Assistance in electrical development continued with a \$193-million federal loan to Manitoba to assist in movement of power from the Nelson River. Under an agreement with Quebec, construction of a federally-backed heavy water plant in that province is to continue to provide heavy water for Quebec nuclear power reactors.

Thailand buys aircraft

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently signed a financing agreement of \$7.6 million to support the \$8.9-million sale by Canadair Ltd. of Montreal, of two CL-215 aircraft, spare parts and related services to the Royal Thai Navy. The airplanes, equipped with navigational aids, will be used for search and rescue work by the Royal Thai Navy in territorial waters bordering Thailand.

Of the first 50 CL-215 planes produced by the federally-owned aircraft manufacturer, 37 have been exported. The remaining 13 were sold in Canada.

The Thai order, which represents some 188 man-years of employment for Canadians, involves eight major sub-suppliers.

Fee system for 200-mile zone

Canada will collect some \$10 million in fishing fees from foreign vessels allowed to fish in the 200-mile zone in 1978.

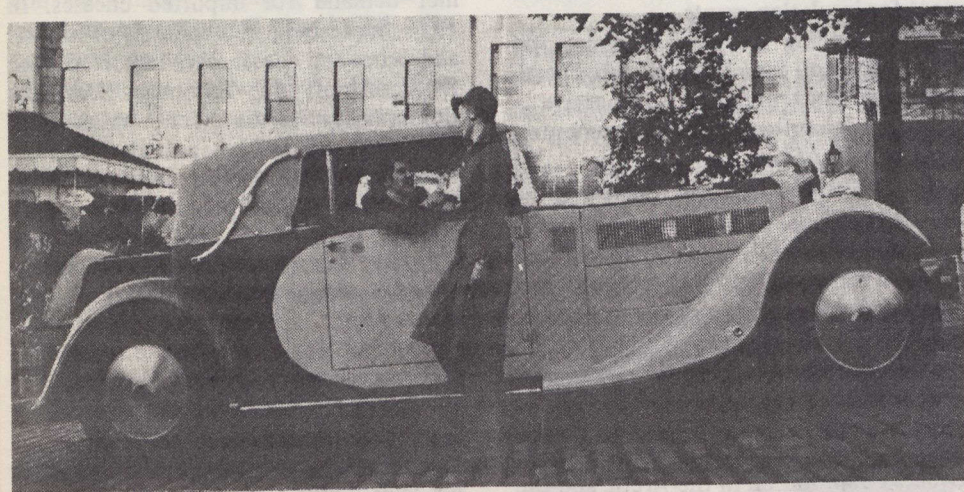
Under the new fee system, fishing vessels or vessels supporting the foreign fishing fleets will pay \$1 per gross vessel ton for access to the zone. In addition, fishing vessels will pay a fishing fee based on the size of the vessel for each day spent fishing.

Foreign fishing vessels on which Canada will be placing observers from time to time in the coming year will be required to cover costs of salaries and other expenses of these observers.

The Federal Government, which specifies on its licences where, when, and how long vessels can fish, secured court convictions last year against vessels that strayed from their assigned area or fished beyond their authorized dates.

The number of foreign fishing vessels expected to be licensed for the zone in 1978 will be about 500, down 10 per cent from the number in 1977. Before the 200-mile zone came into effect, about 1,500 foreign vessels fished off Canada's coasts each year. The Federal Government now issues foreign fishing licences mainly for capelin, argentine, grenadier, silver hake and other species that the Canadian fishing industry does not use in full. The consensus developed at the Law of the Sea conference and bilateral agreements with major fishing nations oblige Canada to share unfished stocks, as is done by other nations with 200-mile zones.

Spaceman presides at Montreal's international motor show



Charles M. Duke, United States astronaut, was honorary president of the tenth International Auto Show in Montreal, this month. Mr. Duke was also pilot of the lunar module that landed on the moon. His presence lent emphasis to a special model that was an exact copy of the electric lunar vehicle used in Apollo XVI and XVII missions.

Visitors showed much interest in the Quebec-made Marathon 300, on display. It was one of 15 North American firsts out of the 300 vehicles from 25 manufacturers in the show. The vehicle is powered by electricity.

(Above) Hy Hidelstein's creation, Renaissance, also built in Quebec, was another hit of the exhibition. Resembling one of the Torpedos of the Thirties, its chassis and mechanical operation are similar to that of a Model "T" Ford. While it attracted much admiration, its price - \$50,000 - prohibited much else.