

thopters and windmills. By 1968, he had moved into creating his own model jet, working from photographs without making drawings or calculating measurements.

In 1969, Mr. Favro's interest in the general principles of machine evolution led to his work with "projected reconstructions". These works, using the illusory effects of light rather than paint, included *Van Gogh's Room*, a construction made after a visit to the Van Gogh Museum in Amsterdam in 1973. This is a three-dimensional model of Van Gogh's two-dimensional painting, *Vincent's Room at Arles*, with further distortions in the flattening of the floor and subsequent adjustments in the tilt of bed and chair, so that a slide of the painting could be projected on it.

More recent constructions include *The Flying Flea*, an actual airplane model of wood and cloth, and *Sabre Jet*, a 55 per cent scale, as well as *Windmill Electric Generator* and a project for Mr. Favro's great-uncle's dream: a *Perpetual Motion Machine*.



*Van Gogh's Room (1973-74), a three-dimensional model of Van Gogh's two-dimensional painting Vincent's Room at Arles, with adjustments to allow a 35-millimetre slide of the painting to be projected on it.*

## News briefs

**Major industrialists** from many parts of the world will gather in Toronto October 27 at Ontario's Trade Horizon conference. Organized by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the conference is part of Ontario's contribution to the first Canada Export Trade Month this October. About 800 Ontario manufacturers and business people are expected to participate. Guest speakers for the event will be from India, Sweden, Colombia, Singapore and Canada.

**The Export Development Corporation** has approved export credits insurance and export financing transactions supporting potential export sales of \$321 million to 60 countries. Goods and services involved include wood and pulp products; construction, agricultural, automotive and aeronautical equipment; minerals, grains; rubber; underground transmission cable; variable depth sonar subsystems; steel rails; aircraft engines; goods and services for a dam project; teaching aid equipment and services; forged steel valves, and digital telecommunications equipment and related engineering services.

**The annual Canadian inflation rate** stayed at 5.5 per cent in August, for the second month in a row, according to Statistics Canada—slightly more than half the 10.5 per cent rate of August 1982. In August 1981 it fluctuated between 12

and 12.9 per cent. The Consumer Price Index rose to 118.5 in August from 117.9 in July, and 112.3 in August 1982. Base is 100, for 1981.

**J. Tuzo Wilson**, renowned geophysicist, has been appointed chancellor of York University, Toronto. Dr. Wilson, director-general of the Ontario Science Centre, is widely recognized for his modification and advancement of the theory of continental drift. Prior to joining the Ontario Science Centre, he was the principal of Erindale College and professor of geophysics at the University of Toronto.

**Peter M. Roberts**, former ambassador to Romania, has been named Canadian ambassador to the USSR. Mr. Roberts, originally from Calgary, joined the Department of External Affairs in 1955 and has served in Moscow, Hong Kong, Saigon, Washington and the Canadian mission to NATO, Brussels. From 1970 to 1973 he was Press Secretary to the Prime Minister and from 1973 to 1979 was Assistant Under-Secretary of State, Cultural Affairs, at the Department of the Secretary of State. He became ambassador to Romania in 1979.

**The federal government** is contributing \$11.4 million toward a new centre for training high-technology workers in Toronto. The centre, to be established at Ryerson Polytechnical Institute, is scheduled to have an enrolment of 350 by the 1986-87 academic year. Students

will be trained in areas such as computer-assisted design and manufacturing, robotics, lasers and fibre optics. Ryerson is to contribute \$1.1 million to the total of \$12.5 million to be spent over the next three years.

**Ellis-Don Ltd.** of London, Ontario has been awarded the contract for construction of Canada Place at the Expo '86 world's fair in Vancouver, Canada Place Harbour Corp. president Kenneth Bream has announced. Canada Place will include the Canadian pavilion at Expo '86. The pavilion will be converted after the exposition to a trade and convention centre and cruise ship terminal.

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