

## News briefs

**Jacques Cossette-Trudel** and his wife Louise Lanctot have been sentenced to two years less a day for kidnapping British Trade Commissioner James Richard Cross in 1970. Judge Yves Mayrand also imposed a court order on them not to talk to the press, give interviews or make public statements for three years.

**Lower beef prices** and a moderation in other food cost increases helped slow the 12-month inflation rate to 8.9 per cent in June, down from 9.3 per cent in May. Statistics Canada said food prices were 11.7 per cent higher than they were a year ago, compared with more than 17 per cent in March. A 4.7 percent decline in the cost of beef in early June and a slowdown in other food price increases were responsible. The agency reported

### First visit to Africa

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es-Salaam, Tanzania on August 9 for a two-day visit. Mr. Clark met with Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere to discuss Canadian aid.

Tanzania is the largest recipient of Canadian assistance in Commonwealth Africa. Canadian aid to Tanzania is primarily in the fields of transport, electricity transmission and agriculture and over the next five years some \$150 million will be committed to projects in the transport and rural development sectors.

The Prime Minister completed his African tour with a brief one-day visit to Nairobi, Kenya, where he met with President Daniel arap Moi. Until recently Canadian assistance to Kenya concentrated on technical assistance, government administration and education, but now increasing emphasis is being placed on rural development projects.

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that over-all food prices showed the smallest monthly increase since last November, rising 0.5 per cent. This compares with increases of 2.5 per cent in March and February.

**Petro-Canada's profit** increased to \$13,740,000 last year from \$9,515,000 in 1977, according to the Crown corporation's annual report. Operating revenue of \$174.3 million includes \$70 million generated by Pacific Petroleum Limited, purchased last November. Production of oil and natural gas liquids averaged 27,200 barrels a day before royalty. Gas production averaged 83.6 million cubic feet a day.

**The Export Development Corporation** (EDC) has approved loans, surety and export credits insurance and a foreign investment guarantee totalling \$232.18 million. They are to support prospective export sales of \$285.05 million to 18 countries: Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kenya, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Britain, the United States, the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia. If commercial contracts are made final, the EDC expects export sales to create or maintain about 11,906 man-years of employment in Canada and will involve 211 exporters and major suppliers across Canada.

**Niagara Gas Transmission Limited** of Toronto, a subsidiary of Consumers' Gas Company of Toronto, has signed a gas purchase contract with Transcanada Pipelines Limited of Toronto for 28.24 million cubic feet a day between November 1, 1987, and October 31, 1995. The contract, along with an earlier one signed with Transcanada for 8.1 million a day through October 31, 1987, covers the natural gas Niagara has proposed to export to affiliate St. Lawrence Gas Corporation in New York under an extension of an existing licence.

**British Airways** will use a special air corridor to operate the first commercial Concorde supersonic service from Canada on September 1, according to a company spokesman. It will be a one-way, one-trip flight between Toronto and London, England, at a fare of \$1,069. British Airways is making 75 seats available for passengers for the return flight to London through the travel agents, American Express Company of Canada Limited. Concorde, which has a cruising speed of 1,350 miles an hour, has made courtesy visits in the past to Calgary,

Montreal and Toronto but this will be the first commercial service from Canada.

**Alberta Liquor Control Board** stores raised the price of Canadian vodka, rum and Scotch whiskies recently in the second round of price increases in as many weeks. Board officials said the increases were caused by higher distillery prices. Expensive Scotches rose the most in the latest round of price increases, averaging 70 cents a 710-millilitre bottle. Almost all Canadian rums went up by about 4.5 per cent, while all Canadian vodkas rose between 45 and 50 cents a bottle.

**Quebec will receive \$48,674,000** for job creation next winter through the fourth and final phase of the Canada Works program, Supply and Services Minister Roch LaSalle has announced.

**The National Energy Board** authorized exports of 1,161,008 barrels of gasoline in June, up 60 per cent from 725,532 barrels authorized for May. The board also authorized exports of 1,904,599 barrels of diesel fuel and other middle distillates, up 57.6 per cent from 1,208,252 barrels licenced in May. The export licences are mostly for shipments this summer to Europe and the United States.

**Canadair Limited of Montreal** has received a \$6.1-million contract from the Greek Ministry of Agriculture for two CL-215 water-bomber aircraft, spare parts and service. This is the fifth sale of water-bombers by Canadair to Greece since 1973. The Export Development Corporation has lent Greece \$5,163,750 to make the sale possible.

**Ratna Ray**, associate director of the conditions of work branch of the federal Labour Department, has been appointed head of the Women's Bureau for Labour Canada. Previously, she was executive secretary for the Task Force on Canadian Unity.

**The day of electric bagpipes** has dawned. Scottish piping instructor Finley MacNeill, who has been using electric pipes for instructional purposes at the Gaelic College in St. Ann's, Nova Scotia, this summer, says they are here to stay. Rather than blowing air from the lungs into the pipes in the traditional manner, "you switch it on and away it goes", says Mr. MacNeill. He says that while he is in favour of the electric pipes as a teaching aid, he does not foresee the day when pipe bands will plug in to electrical outlets.