

LOCOMOTIVE SURFS ON MAGNETIC WAVE AT 300 MILES AN HOUR

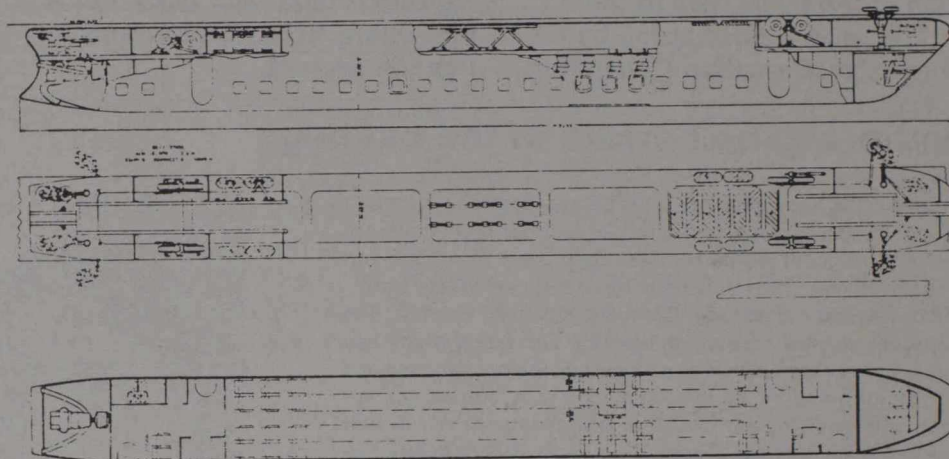
A proposal by three Canadian universities for a new mode of high-speed transportation is raising hopes that getting from Toronto to Montreal within the lunch hour may become a reality.

The Canadian Maglev Project, a development program shared by Montreal's McGill University, Queen's University, Kingston, and the University of Toronto, is rapidly gaining international recognition as one of the most promising proposals yet for a ground transportation vehicle using magnetic fields to both support and propel it.

The downtown-to-downtown trip should take no longer than one-hour-and-a-half, compared to three-and-a-half hours by air and four-and-a-half hour by Turbo train.

The implementation of such a system, which would involve not only construction of a vehicle, but also of miles of special guideway, is still many years away, and would have to be preceded by an extensive engineering design and testing program. But, according to Gordon Slemon, professor of electrical engineering, who heads the U of T group of the Maglev team, nothing stands in the way of proceeding but the decision to commit the necessary resources and get the necessary work done.

"What we are saying," Slemon declares, "is that as far as we can see, all the fundamental problems have been solved, and



that we can demonstrate the technical feasibility of it beyond any reasonable degree of doubt. Moreover, our preliminary studies show the system would be economically justifiable. Looks like a plane

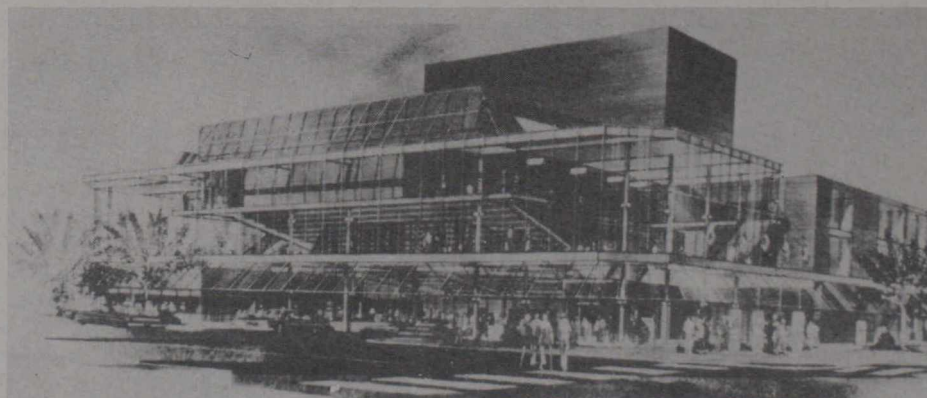
The kind of vehicle envisaged would resemble a Boeing 707, about 35 metres long, 3.2 metres wide, seating 100 passengers four abreast. It would speed along an elevated, flat-topped concrete guideway at 300 miles an hour.

Canada looks towards new coal age

Canada is once again looking to coal to help solve its energy needs. With oil becoming scarcer and dearer, coal is looking better than it has for many years. And Canada has coal in abundance. Geologists estimate there are about 110-billion metric tons of coal lying under Canada's surface, of which about 50 billion tons are recoverable using current technology. The greatest concentration of coal is in Alberta, which has about 22 billion tons of accessible coal. Another 18 billion tons are in British Columbia with the rest in Saskatchewan and Nova Scotia.

An official of the federal Department of Energy, Mines and Resources, Phillip Read, says it should be Canada's policy to substitute coal for oil as much as possible in the thermal generation of electricity and also as a fuel.

Edmonton's new Citadel—a theatre of glass



The Citadel Theatre, a three-theatre complex enclosed in glass in Edmonton, Alberta, opened with a production of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* directed by resident artistic director John Neville. The 90,000-square-foot complex, final

cost estimated at \$6.3-million, was financed partly by the Federal Government, the government of Alberta and the municipality of Edmonton, with \$2.8 million from private subscriptions.