

Cultural arts (Continued from P. 2)

first really Canadian festival. Since that was what the Canada Council was set up to subsidize, we knew that we could have them where it counted. Right from the beginning, we knew that when we applied and showed that we could do it, then they had to come forward with the funds.

The Canada Council, among other federal agencies, the National Film Board included, and many others, has from the beginning been decentralizing our artistic effort; has been doing the travelling across the country, the interchanges and the exchanges in our galleries, our theatres, our concert halls which make sense of the country. So, to talk about decentralizing the artistic agencies in this country, for me makes very little sense at all.

What it really means is weakening them all, because then there would not be the resources to put into any to make them of really national importance and scale in size....

I think there is a way to solve all these problems, finally. Parliament has set up, in all these cases, boards — boards of trustees, public trustees to run these organizations, and Parliament has said to them: "You have the job of making the decisions that we don't want to make as politicians, because these are artistic decisions we would rather get out from under and leave them to you." But governments must then, if they do that, hold the boards accountable to Parliament, and the board of trustees must in turn hold the organization responsible to them. That includes the boards of such organizations as the Confederation Centre

[in Charlottetown]. The Confederation Centre must be responsible to its board: the board of the Centre when it applies to the Canada Council or any other organization for money must be accountable to it. The staff of Canada Council must be responsible to the board of Canada Council. The minute we try to short-circuit that chain of command and go straight to the politicians, I suggest not only are we in trouble, but I think the politicians are in great trouble.

The American writer Lewis Mumford, one of the most clear-sighted of modern prophets, once said: "The final test of an economic system is not the tons of iron, the tanks of oil, or the miles of textile it produces. The final test lies in its ultimate products — the sort of men and women it nurtures, the order, beauty and sanity of their communities."

News briefs

In a meeting between premiers of Canada's five eastern provinces and governors of six New England states, Premier René Lévesque said that by the early 1980s Quebec could be exporting the equivalent power of 20 million barrels of crude oil a year to the New England states, in units of electricity.

The computer services industry showed a profit for the third consecutive year, according to a survey compiled for the Canadian Association of Data Processing Service Organizations. The 39 companies' combined pre-tax profits for 1978 were \$11.2 million (\$8.5 million in 1977) a 4.7 per cent return on revenues.

Domestic sales of North American-built cars rose 6.2 per cent to 477,238 units in the first half of 1979 from the corresponding period of 1978, according to figures released by the auto companies. Truck sales were up 3.4 per cent to 191,626.

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Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el título Noticiero de Canadá.

British Columbia companies will be able to sell their surplus power under changes to the Energy Act introduced in the B.C. Legislature. The proposed changes lift restrictions classifying as a utility any firm that sells more than 15 per cent of the power generated for its own use. This is the first step in a comprehensive energy policy the Government hopes to outline in September, said the province's Energy Minister.

Canada had a trade surplus of \$216 million in May, up from a surplus of \$115 million in April, Statistics Canada reports. Preliminary figures show that exports rose 5.4 per cent to a seasonally-adjusted \$5.13 billion while imports rose 3.4 per cent to \$4.91 billion.

A consortium of three firms, two from Montreal and one from Vancouver have signed a contract for a major assignment in Indonesia, the Bukit Asam Coal Mining and Transportation Project. The project will be carried out in two phases and will have a capital cost of \$250 to \$350 million (U.S.). The consortium consists of Montreal Engineering Company Limited and Canadian Pacific Consulting Services Limited (both of Montreal) and Swan Wooster Engineering Company Limited of Vancouver. Montreal Engineering will act as the leader of this joint venture. The consortium will provide engineering services for Phase I of the project.

CAE Electronics Ltd. of Montreal has been selected by United Airlines to develop and manufacture a DC-10 flight

simulator for the air carrier's flight crew training. Valued at \$5 million, the United Airlines order brings to 14 the number of commercial flight simulators now under development at CAE's Montreal plant. At present the company has DC-10 simulators in production for KLM and Singapore Airlines. In 1978, CAE won more than 50 per cent of the commercial flight simulator orders announced worldwide.

Quintette Coal Limited of Toronto has entered into an agreement to sell Romania up to 30 million tons of metallurgical coking coal. The 20-year contract is worth \$1.8 billion.

CP Air plans to extend its guaranteed air fare plan to international flights originating in Canada or the U.S. The plan, introduced in April for domestic flights, protects travellers who purchase advance tickets against fare increases announced before the flight. Government approval is still required.

When Jack Semler, who lives near Ottawa, takes his hounds and horses out for a run, the party is accompanied — for the first kilometre or two anyway — by a female swine, named (simply enough) Pig. For the most part, the dogs don't mind her. The older canines are not too friendly, but Pig has established a fast friendship with another of Semler's pets, a two-year-old Dalmation named Chico. "Right away she cuddled up to him. They have a blue blanket inside (the house), which they both sleep on," says Mr. Semler.