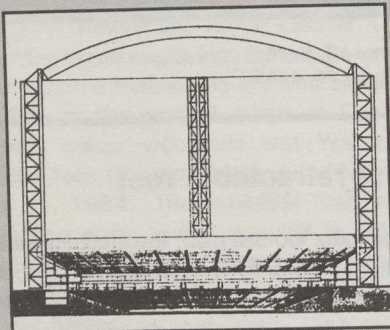
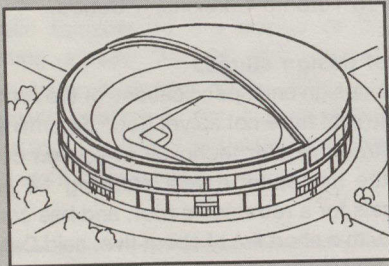


Possible roof designs

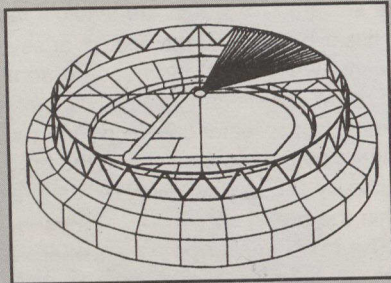
Sketches of three of the several retractable roof designs being considered for the stadium in Toronto.



Air truss



DAF Indal



Geiger fan

a diameter of 129 metres. Toronto's stadium roof, however, must cover a diameter of 213 metres. The difference in size requires the modifying of existing technology.

Commercial financing

The cost of the new stadium is estimated at between \$130 million and \$150 million. The main financier will be a private sector consortium, headed by Trevor Eyton, chief executive officer of Brascan Ltd. The 13-member consortium which will contribute some \$70 million, includes: CN Rail, Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce, Imasco Ltd., George Weston Ltd., Hiram Walker Resources Ltd., Olympia and York, Imperial Oil Ltd., John Labatt Ltd., Coca Cola Ltd., McDonald's Restaurants, Trilon Financial Corp. and Merrill Lynch Canada. Another partner is to be announced shortly.

The province of Ontario will supply

\$30 million from lottery funds as well as any cost of the retractable roof that exceeds \$34 million. Metropolitan Toronto will be asked to match the provincial contribution with \$30 million.

Construction of the stadium is expected to start in the fall of 1985, with the roof installation starting in early 1987.

Increased oil and gas drilling

The *Daily Oil Bulletin* recently released figures showing that more oil and gas drilling took place in Canada in 1984 than in the record year of 1980.

In western Canada, the East Coast and Arctic frontiers, 9 031 wells were drilled in 1984, up 31 per cent more than in 1983, when 6 860 were drilled.

The total includes about 160 service wells, used to overhaul existing production wells. Total metres drilled rose 28 per cent, reflecting a continued high number of shallow-depth wells in the over-all total. Exploration drilling, including deeper holes, reached 2 790 wells, an increase of 714.

Biomass power plant for Guiana

Biodev International Inc., formed by the SNC Group and the Nouveler Group to design and build biomass-fed power plants has signed its first international contract.

The \$9-million contract is for a 6.7-megawatt installation for Électricité de France at its Degrad des Cannes power station in French Guiana. Using sawmill waste and tropical wood, the unit is expected to save Électricité de France an estimated \$3 million a year in heavy oil costs.

The new gasification technology of using biomass to produce energy, was developed by Omnifuel Gasification Systems Limited of Toronto and adapted by Biosyn, a subsidiary of Nouveler Inc. of Montreal.

Producing energy from biomass is considered by many as a promising way for countries dependent on imported oil to become self-sufficient in energy. The feedstock can be wood, peat, straw or bagasse and the biomass produces a gas that can be used in a diesel engine as a substitute for oil or natural gas. This technology could generate the export of an estimated \$200 million worth of equipment over the next ten years.

Under the contract with Électricité de France, Biodev International will supply the biomass gasification equipment and a French manufacturer, Alsthom-Atlantique, will supply the diesel engine and generator.

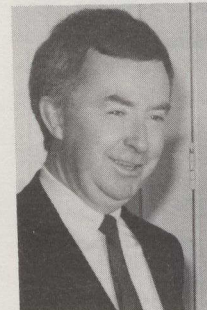
Alsthom-Atlantique has developed a diesel engine compatible with gas produced from biomass and has signed an agreement with Biodev International to jointly market this type of power station.

Nouveler Inc. is a holding company specializing in energy conservation and new energy sources.

The SNC Group is a leading engineer-constructor operating in Canada and internationally that is pioneering a number of processes for biomass gasification.

More trade urged with Mexico

Secretary of State for External Affairs Joe Clark, in his first official visit to Mexico in mid January, emphasized trade matters in



Joe Clark

his talks with President Miguel de la Madrid, Foreign Relations Minister Bernardo Sepulveda, Trade Minister Hector Hernandez and Communications Minister Daniel Diaz.

"We have a solid basis of friendship on which to build, and I firmly believe that the challenge before us now is to search out every opportunity to weave an even closer partnership in the economic, trade and investment fields," Mr. Clark told a luncheon audience at the Mexican foreign ministry.

During the visit to Mexico, Mr. Clark's first official visit to Latin America, he proposed precise steps to expand the relationship between Canada and Mexico. He said the two countries have close political relations that are not reflected in economic exchanges.

To help meet interest payments to foreign banks, Mexico has had to cut imports by two-thirds since 1981. Canada's continued efforts to maintain or increase trade with Mexico have meant that Canadian imports in the country haven't dropped as sharply as those of many other countries.

In the first nine months of 1984, Canada imported \$1 016 billion in Mexican goods, mostly oil and automotive parts, while Mexico imported only \$248 million in Canadian goods.

Both Mr. Clark and his Mexican counterpart, Mr. Sepulveda, praised each other's commitment to peace, world order and economic justice.

Mr. Clark expressed strong support for Contadora peace process in Central America. Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia and Panama are the four members of Contadora group.