
Cultural review (Cont'd from P. 2)

ing for instance of the Capital Cost Allowance. The 100 per cent capital cost allowance for Canadian films and videotapes has proven to be a vital stimulus to Canada's film and television production industry. In response to developments in the industry and in the investment community, my officials have been consulting with representatives of both, with a view to determining what changes to the criteria governing certification might be desirable to strengthen the industry's stability and to encourage the production of films reflecting more openly the Canadian way of life....

Also related to film production is the need to review the principle and criteria governing our co-production agreements. The Canadian Film Development Corporation has been working on this subject and of course it involves negotiations with foreign countries with whom we have agreements....

News briefs

Dr. Jacques Genest, head of Montreal's Bioethics Research Centre, has won the Royal Bank humanitarian award and \$50,000, the bank announced recently. A specialist in the causes and treatment of high blood pressure, Dr. Genest is a pioneer of medical research in Quebec. He founded the clinical research department of Montreal's Hotel-Dieu Hospital in 1950. More recently he formed the bioethics centre to study ethical problems of a scientific world that now can create new forms of life through gene-splicing or modify human life by, for example, allowing parents choose the sex of their offspring.

The Royal Bank of Canada announced that it has formed a new division to

expand its capability to finance world trade and provide more assistance to Canadian exporters. The world trade and merchant banking group will be based in Toronto under executive vice-president Geoffrey Styles, who is currently based in London as chairman of the Royal's European-based holding companies. Styles said the creation of the new division means the Royal is placing greater emphasis on trade-related activities, which account for about 20 per cent of all the bank's financing.

Shell Canada Limited of Toronto plans an \$11.5-million ungrading of its 25-year-old Winnipeg refinery. C.W. Daniel, president, said Shell is expanding the refinery's capacity — as well as building a new Edmonton refinery — so the company can meet increased western Canadian demand for its products.

Air Canada plans to build a \$15.5-million maintenance hanger at Toronto International Airport as part of a Canada-wide construction program. In addition, the publicly-owned airline said it would build a \$15-million maintenance hangar at Winnipeg as part of a more than \$30-million construction program over the next three years in Montreal, Edmonton, Quebec City and Halifax.

The Export Development Corporation (EDC) recently signed a U.S. \$25-million line of credit to facilitate future sales to Mexico's state-owned electric power commission. The line of credit is extended to the Commission Federal de Electricidad (CFE), the United Mexican State's agency responsible for power generation, transmission and distribution in Mexico. In making the announcement, EDC said that discussions indicate there are possibilities for Canadian exports to be utilized in Mexico's fifth electrification program, part of CFE's ongoing procurement to maintain the country's power generation, transmission and distribution system.

Davie Shipbuilding Limited of Lauzon, Quebec has signed a contract with Global Marine Drilling Corporation of Houston, Texas, for construction of two offshore jack-up platforms valued at \$35 million each. Scheduled for delivery in late 1981 and mid-1982, the rig orders are the eighth and ninth obtained by the Quebec shipyard since June 1978. Seven orders have been placed by Global. The first two rigs are already in operation with Global in the Gulf of Mexico. The order book calls for three deliveries this year, three in 1981 and one in 1982.

The first exchange of university faculty members between Canada and the People's Republic of China will begin at McGill University this autumn. Initial exchange involves four McGill professors who will spend a year in China and two Chinese professors who will join the McGill faculty for the same period.

Two Ontario students Jordan Herst of Forest Hill collegiate in Toronto and Azad Abdollah of W.D. Lowe secondary school in Windsor stunned Ontario education ministry officials by scoring 100 per cent marks in all six of their mandatory Grade 13 subjects. "In the 20 years I've been checking the lists submitted by high schools, we've never had any with six 100 marks," said George Mills, a ministry official. "It's an amazing accomplishment." The highest previous mark for final exams in Ontario was 99.8 per cent.

Sixteen crew members of the Canadian Forces destroyer *Huron* were honoured recently for helping to save the lives of 21 crewmen from the *Maurice Desgagnes*, which sank in a storm off Nova Scotia in March. Admiral John Allan, commander of Maritime Command, presented the *Huron* men with certificates of achievement in recognition of their role in rescuing the crew of the Quebec-registered vessel. The *Maurice Desgagnes*, travelling from New Orleans to Sept Iles, Quebec with a load of railway ties, was damaged in a storm and started to sink 75 nautical miles southeast of Halifax.

Pratt and Whitney Aircraft of Canada Ltd. has sold its first *PT6* turboprop engines to China as negotiations continue between the company and Chinese aviation officials on possible co-production of the engine in China. A Pratt and Whitney spokesman said China has ordered four of the *PT6* engines to be used for aircraft development purposes.

A bride and groom from Meaford, Ontario on Georgian Bay, will always remember stopping for gasoline en route to their honeymoon destination. Danny Shaw and his bride were stopped by provincial police who had been alerted by an attendant at the service station who had found a note written in lipstick on a paper tissue under the gas cap that read: "Help, I'm being kidnapped!" Despite his protests, Mr. Shaw could not convince police that the 19-year-old girl in the car was his wife. The couple eventually continued their journey after police called Meaford Police who vouched for the pair.

Canada Weekly is published by the External Information Programs Division, Department of External Affairs, Ottawa K1A 0G2.

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Cette publication existe également en français sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

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

Alguns artigos desta publicação são também editados em português sob o título Notícias do Canadá.