

News briefs

Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau has announced that there will be no general election until the fall or possibly next spring. The Government's five-year mandate expires next year. Mr. Trudeau said that rather than go to the polls at this time, he felt that Canadians preferred the Government to find remedies for the problems in the economy.

A first cargo contract has been signed for the M.V. *Arctic*, Canada's first ice-breaking bulk carrier to operate out of the Arctic. The 28,000-ton vessel will carry about 81,000 tons of zinc-lead concentrate to Antwerp or Rotterdam this summer from mines in Strathcona Sound, 70 miles east of Resolute under an agreement just concluded. The agreement has been reached between Nanisivik Mines Ltd., of Calgary and Canarctic Shipping Company, Limited, a joint industry government company composed of Federal Commerce, Canada Steamship Lines, Upper Lakes Shipping and the Federal Government.

Agriculture Canada has designed and built a tractor for work in Newfoundland's unique peatland conditions. It incorporates features that give it adequate flotation for the wet peatland conditions and ability to work in ridged row crops. It also has the capacity to operate light-to-medium power equipment such as rotoridgers and root crop harvesters. The design is simple enough that the peatland tractor can be made at local machine shops at prices competitive with other farm tractors.

The Canada-France Joint Commission on Scientific Co-operation held its second meeting in Ottawa on May 4 and 5. The two parties signed a memorandum of understanding involving the French Institut national de la Santé et de la Recherche

médicale (INSERM) and the Medical Research Council of Canada, and agreed to further co-operation in specific sectors such as environment, agriculture, urban affairs, transportation, biomedical research, oceanology. They also exchanged views on space policy and remote sensing.

Lorne Reznowski, a 49-year-old professor of English at the University of Manitoba, has won the leadership of the Social Credit party by a vote of 356 to 115. The fluently bilingual candidate, who received support from the 250-member Quebec delegation May 7, hopes to become the first Social Credit M.P. outside Quebec to be elected to the House of Commons. Reznowski plans to run in the Winnipeg riding of St. Boniface in the next federal election.

Alvin W. Dixon, a native Indian from White Rock, British Columbia, has been appointed for two years as a commissioner of the International Pacific Salmon Fisheries Commission. The Commission, composed of representatives of Canada and the United States, is responsible for regulating the sockeye and pink salmon fisheries of the Fraser River, conducting research and apportioning the salmon catch equally between Canadian and U.S. fishermen.

The 1978 Johann-Georg-Zimmermann prize for cancer research has been awarded to Dr. Phil Gold, who recently became the first director of McGill's new Cancer Research Centre (see *Canada Weekly*, dated May 10, P. 2). Named after an eighteenth-century Hanover physician, the prize-giving foundation was created in 1972 by the Deutsche Hypothekenbank of Hanover. It has made seven previous awards, all to European researchers. Dr. Gold, an eminent immunologist, already has received widespread recognition for his pioneer research in identifying and investigating carcinoembryonic antigens of the human digestive system, leading to the radioimmunoassay now used in many parts of the world.

Farmers in southern Manitoba may soon have a new cash crop. It's the Monarda plant, rich in the fragrant oil, geraniol, which is used as a base in the production of some soaps. Until now it has been grown only as an ornamental under common names such as wild sage, horse mint or bee balm. A spice company in the United States has expressed interest in the plants and Agriculture Canada researchers at Morden, Manitoba are looking into the feasibility of growing

commercial acreages of the new crop. They have already developed a hybrid Monarda variety that yields more than 90 per cent geraniol, the highest level known in the natural state.

Twenty Royal Canadian Army cadets will visit West Germany during the 1978 cadet exchange from July 20 to August 17. They are expected to receive their German counterparts at the Cadet Summer Training School at CFB Borden, Ontario from July 8 to 20. While in Germany the cadets will be involved with cultural activities, participate in an international youth festival in Hanover, visit Berlin and take part in swimming and recreational training activities, with their hosts, members of the Deutsche Sport Jugend.

Canada recently contributed \$200,000 to the United Nations Fund for Drug Abuse Control, a voluntary fund established in 1971. The fund supports activities to control the supply of illicit drugs and to reduce the demand for drugs through treatment and education. Previous contributions from Canada total \$1.2 million.

Transport Minister Otto Lang said recently that there had been general support for the proposed independent commission to investigate fatal accidents in transportation areas under federal jurisdiction. The proposed Canadian Transportation Accident Investigation Commission was outlined in a discussion paper tabled last August in Parliament. Its goal would be to seek out transportation system deficiencies which lead to accidents.

Canada will probably begin to install new microwave landing systems at airports in 1983, but will investigate the possibility of an earlier start if costly changes can be avoided, a Transport Department official says.

Montreal Canadiens were leading Boston Bruins two games to nil on May 17 in the National Hockey League's Stanley Cup seven-game final. Guy Lafleur scored the winning goal for the Canadiens on May 16, breaking the 2-2 tie. In the first game, played on May 13, Montreal beat Boston 4-1.

Gina Lollobrigida and her actor husband Rossano Brazzi raised \$725,380 during a recent weekend telethon for Toronto's Villa Colombo, a home for the aged, (see *Canada Weekly*, Vol. 5, No. 38) and Columbus Centre, a community centre for arts, sports and recreation.

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