

**Prices per Canadian gallon  
in April 1978**

	Heating oil (including all taxes) cents	Gasoline (taxes in brackets) dollars
Paris	92.2	2.53 (1.55)
Stockholm	75.6	1.90 (1.24)
London	81.2	1.63 (.81)
New York	69.1	.86 (.23)
Ottawa	58.3	.89 (.34)

ly \$100 million in OIC payments over the next six months. Since January 1974, consumers who rely on imported crude oil, mostly in Quebec and the Atlantic provinces, have received indirect subsidies of about \$4.9 billion.

Since the Federal Government began regulating domestic crude oil prices in April 1974, the wellhead price has moved from \$3.80 a barrel to \$11.75 as of January 1978. During this time the wholesale price of gasoline was permitted to increase 44.2 cents a gallon. However, prices rose on average by only 39.4 cents.

In fact, Canadians have been paying lower prices for their gasoline and heating oil in the past four years than consumers in other western nations. The table above illustrates the comparisons that existed this spring.

**The new working class**

More than half a million students will leave Canada's educational institutions during 1978 and become available to the labour force. The projected total — 605,300 — is down from last year's estimated 615,300. By 1986 the number of school-leavers should drop to 508,000.

Despite the decline, the number of students seeking work will remain high in the near future. This, combined with larger numbers of working women, will result in continuing rapid growth of the Canadian labour force, which over the past decade has had the highest growth rate of major western industrialized countries.

A rough exploratory calculation suggests that continuing expansion of the work force could require 250,000 to 285,000 jobs a year to keep unemployment to 8 per cent until 1980. After that — with smaller numbers entering the labour force — unemployment could be

reduced to 6 per cent by 1981 with the creation of 230,000 to 270,000 jobs a year. To reduce the rate of 6.5 per cent by 1980 would perhaps require 335,000 to 370,000 jobs a year. The Canadian economy has generated an average of 260,000 jobs annually since 1970, ranging from an average 360,000 a year during the strong expansionary period of 1972-74 to 190,000 a year since 1975.

**Well schooled labour force**

Recent school-leavers have more education than their predecessors. In 1966, 19 per cent had at least some post-secondary education, compared with 37 per cent in 1976 and a projected 42 per cent by 1986. This rise, combined with the retirement of older workers who generally have less education, has rapidly raised the educational attainment of the labour force. The percentage of all workers with completed or partially completed post-secondary education grew from 13 per cent in 1961 to roughly 30 per cent in 1977, and is expected to reach 36 per cent to 40 per cent by 1986.

Unemployment among 15-24-year-olds is high (14.5 per cent in 1977 compared with 5.8 per cent for those 25 and over). However, average 1974-77 spring unemployment rates show that better educated job-seekers are more likely to find work. About 23 per cent of 15-24-year-olds with elementary education were unemployed, compared with 13.5 per cent of those with secondary school education, and 5.4 per cent of degree-holders.

Not all post-secondary graduates fared equally well in the job hunt, however, and many may be underemployed. Ontario surveys show that 1974 and 1975 graduates in disciplines such as business and engineering had lower unemployment rates and higher starting salaries than graduates in the humanities and behavioural and social sciences. The rapidly increasing number of post-secondary graduates in the 1970s has coincided with a decreasing need for elementary-secondary school teachers and a recent slowdown in job creation in the government and other sectors. As a result, job prospects for many graduates have worsened, and are not apt to improve before the mid-1980s.

**Planning careers**

Recent enrolment trends in colleges and universities indicate a swing towards career-related programs such as business, commerce, engineering, health and the

technologies, and away from general arts and science.

In general, little change in total post-secondary enrolment (613,000 in 1977) is expected until the early 1980s, after which the declining number of 18-24-year-olds may cause a drop. University enrolment has already fallen in some provinces (notably Ontario) in 1977. Elementary enrolment, which reached a peak of 3.8 million in 1968, was down to 3.4 million in 1976, and is projected to reach 3.0 million in the early 1980s. Secondary enrolment reached its summit, 1.7 million, in 1976, and is expected to fall 23 per cent to 1.32 million by 1986.

**Canada on Soviet TV**

CBC TV journalist Ab Douglas, host to a one-and-a-quarter-hour Canada Day program on Soviet television, was asked by producer Stanislav Pahkrovsky to "talk about Canadians, not French and English and all that".

"Start off by telling the Soviet people about your national holiday, what people do on that day and what it means," he told Douglas, whose article on the visit appeared in the *Ottawa Journal* of July 13. Douglas says he had no intention of "injecting" the national unity issue into the program.

The screening included a film on the construction of the CN Tower in Toronto; a potpourri of Canadian art; part of a film called *This is Canada*; an animated film produced by the CBC French Network; and a performance by Les Grands Ballets canadiens.

**Toxic chemical ban**

The first step towards a total ban on the import and use of toxic polychlorinated terphenyls (PCTs) in Canada has been announced by Environment Minister Len Marchand.

Proposed regulations to ban the chemical, which accumulates in food chains, are to take effect October 1.

In the past, PCTs have been used commercially in adhesives for weatherstrip backing, in paints, and as plasticizers for urethanes. They have never been manufactured in Canada, and have not been used in this country since 1976.

The ban will ensure that there will be no further import of PCTs into Canada.