

### Canadian park named for American frontiersman

The name of Jasper Hawes is not to be found in any Canadian history book, but he has a more impressive monument than any of the famous Canadian heroes. Jasper Park, covering 4,200 square miles in the foothills of the Canadian Rockies, is named after this American frontiersman, who was one of the early settlers in the area.

Jasper Hawes was one of those Americans who became chronic wanderers after the West was opened up at the end of the War of Independ-

ence. He left his Missouri home and travelled west, eventually entering what is now Alberta about 1805. He was a trapper for several years in the rich and virgin territory of the Athabasca Valley, and became an agent for the Hudson's Bay Company, which at that time had jurisdiction over the entire Canadian West. Because he was a Hudson's Bay agent, his cabin became a focal point for the other trappers and settlers and was known as Jasper House.

Jasper remained in the valley for about a dozen years. He married a Cree woman who bore him ten children. But inevitably the settled life began to

pull, and the old wanderlust returned. He headed for the Pacific Coast, loading his family and belongings on a raft to make the dangerous passage down the Fraser River. Unfortunately, his seamanship was not equal to the task and the entire family perished in one of the Fraser's turbulent rapids.

However, the name of Jasper remained alive in the region, and when the Canadian Government set aside the area where Jasper House had stood, making it Canada's largest national park, it was named Jasper Park. That was in 1907, almost a century after Jasper Hawes had died. (From *Canadian Scene*.)

### News briefs

- The Federal Government received support from all parties in the Commons on June 8, when Transport Minister Otto Lang tabled a report recommending expansion of bilingual air-traffic control to Quebec's St. Hubert airport, under visual flight rules only. The interim report by a commission of inquiry also recommended that all aircraft flying through airspace controlled by Mirabel and Dorval airports near Montreal and St. Jean, Quebec, be provided bilingual services. Previously, unilingual French pilots were forced to skirt this area. The commission gave no recommendations for providing bilingual take-off-and-landing services at Dorval and Mirabel.

- The Conference Board in Canada predicted on July 14 that the national economy would show a strong growth of about 5¼ per cent in 1978 in which the gross national product is forecast to expand by 3 per cent.

- The Economic Council of Canada has released a study that says there is no evidence to support the commonly-held notion that wage increases

can be held down by allowing unemployment rates to rise.

- A Swiss group, opposed to the annual seal hunt in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, plans to build a \$3.5-million synthetic seal fur plant at Blanc Sablon, Quebec, near the Labrador border. Frank Weber of the Weber Foundation, said the plant would employ 400 workers but the main purpose of the investment was to put an end to the annual harvest of seal pups in the Gulf. He said the plant would come into operation in late 1978, and would turn out finished synthetic fur coats and other products.

- The premiers of Quebec and Newfoundland have agreed to set up a committee to explore possible joint development of energy resources in Labrador and northeastern Quebec.

- Crown corporations will be asked to make faster progress in promoting women to positions of responsibility, Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau said in the Commons on July 11. He was replying to a question from a Progressive Conservative member who said that the federal advisory council on the status of women had attacked most Crown corporations for their poor record in naming women to management.

- On June 14, Canadian Broadcasting Corporation President A.W. Johnson issued a 90-page policy statement "Touchstone for CBC", a plan for greater Canadian content in the Government-owned network and its subsidiary television and radio affiliates. Johnson stated that the CBC is ready "to lead this principal cultural force of the country in the battle for Can-

adianism". Johnson calls for increasing the number of Canadian shows on the CBC by adding a half hour of Canadian prime-time programs each year for five years until there is 80 per cent Canadian content (two-thirds of current programming originates in the United States). The report also advocated the creation of second English and French channels on cable TV and recommended a second, commercial-free CBC channel to deliver thoughtful and innovative programming. Finally, Mr. Johnson suggested broadening the scope of Radio-Canada, the French network, to include events from outside Quebec.

- Stock prices rose in June, producing a modest increase in the value of trading on Canadian stock exchanges. But trading volume continued to lag, as it has all year, according to figures compiled by the Toronto Stock Exchange. Last month, \$673-million worth of securities traded on the Toronto, Montreal and Vancouver exchanges. That value was 7 per cent higher than in May and more than 8 per cent above the June 1976 figure. However, last month's volume of 94 million shares traded was down by just over 1 per cent from May and down 19 per cent from last June.

- A total of \$2.2 million will be pumped into the Newfoundland fishing industry this year under the federal-provincial inshore fishery development program, half of which will be spent in the further development of the north-west coast herring fishery. □

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