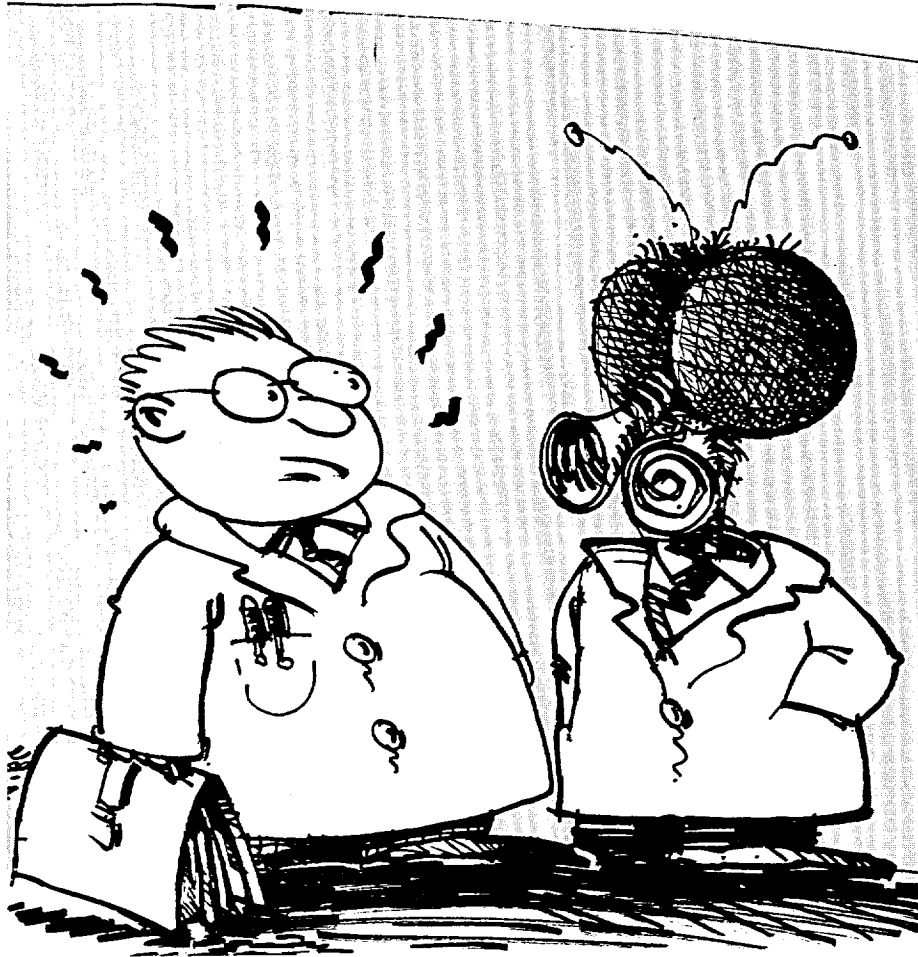


RESEARCH IN CANADA (continued)



Why am I doing research on flies?

Given its small population, Canada also has been making progress, although its R&D spending has not been increasing as fast: 22 years ago, 0.9% of GDP was being spent on research and development, as opposed to 1.3% in 1984. Clearly, there is further need for improvement, if we are to reach a self-renewing level of economic wealth. At the present rate of increase, this goal is still 40 years away; annual increases of at least \$140 million (in constant 1985 dollars) will be necessary in order to reach that objective in 20 years.

This should be a matter of serious concern to all Canadians, if our country is to be able to continue helping other nations toward prosperity □

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JOBS AND COMPUTERS

Computers have not necessarily eaten up jobs and squeezed employees out of companies, says a new report on technological change.

In fact, many companies retrained their workers to handle the new technology, and transferred employees as company operations changed to accommodate the technology, says the report released by the Economic Council of Canada.

Nearly three-quarters of about 1 000 companies across the country surveyed by the Council said they have added some new computer operation between 1980 and 1985. Most involved office changes by adding word processors, personal computers and larger networks.

The findings reveal that more women than men were affected by the changes, since women make up a larger part of the general office staff. About 16 per cent of women were using some form of computer system in 1985 compared with 12 per cent of men.

Of the 946 companies surveyed, 72 per cent indicated they needed newer, different work skills as new jobs were created or as old ones were modified. About 60 per cent of the companies met that need by retraining staff. One third recruited new employees but also retrained their current staff.

Companies seeking new employees mainly hired computer programmers and systems analysts □

(Excerpted from The Ottawa Citizen, September 29, 1986.)